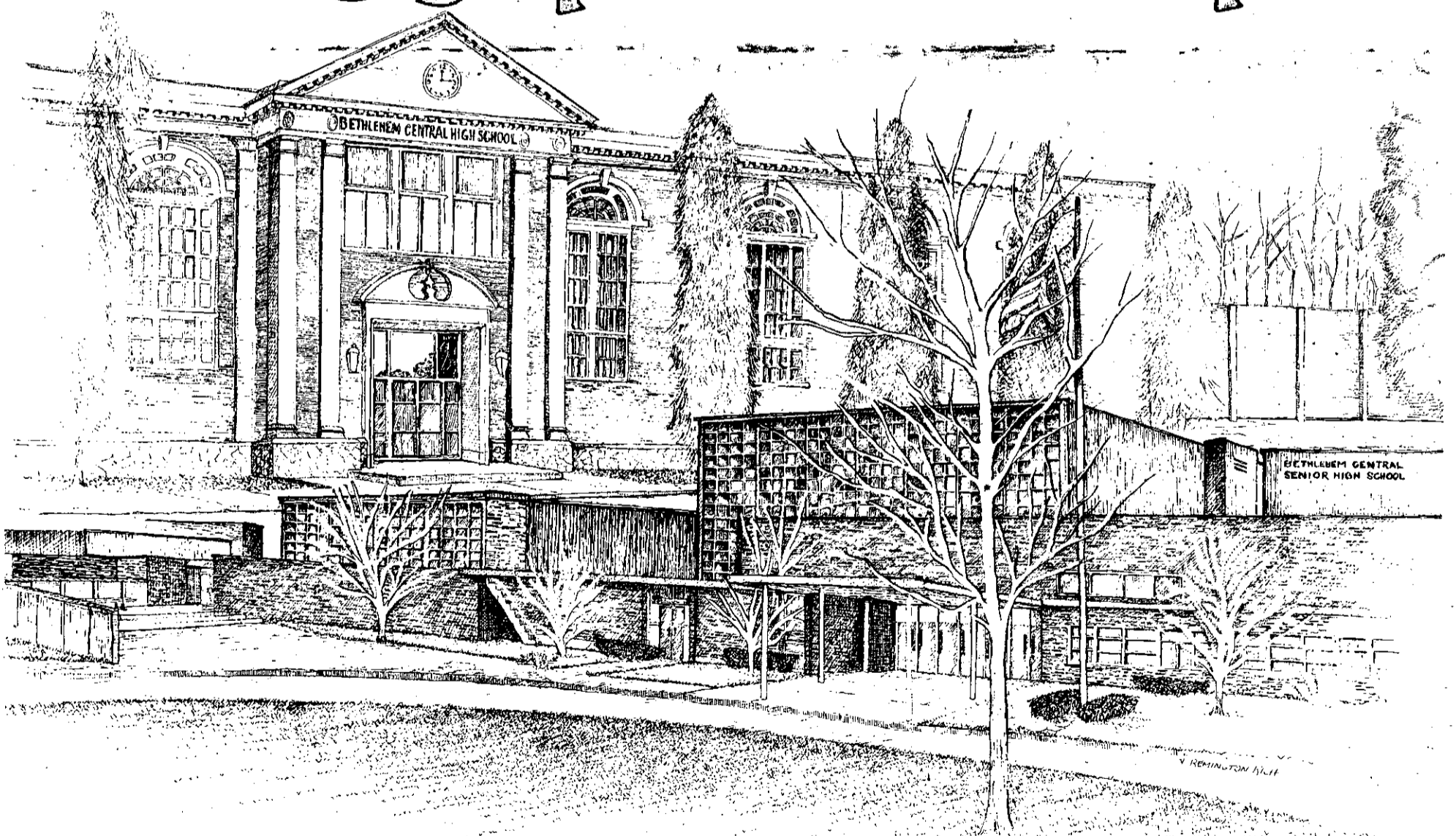


THE SPOTLIGHT

March 7, 1984
Vol. XXVIII, No. 10

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

Fifty Years of Excellence 1934 — 1984

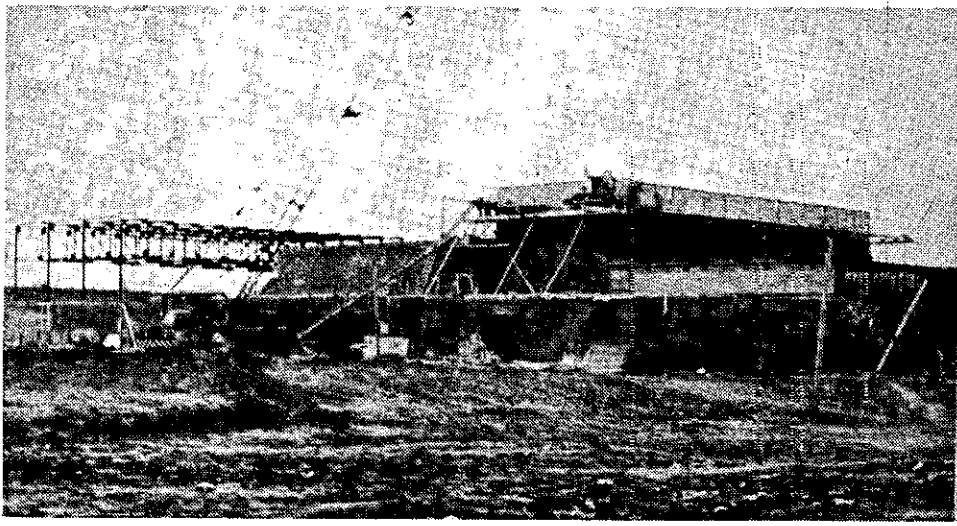


***How the new high school
was built despite opposition***

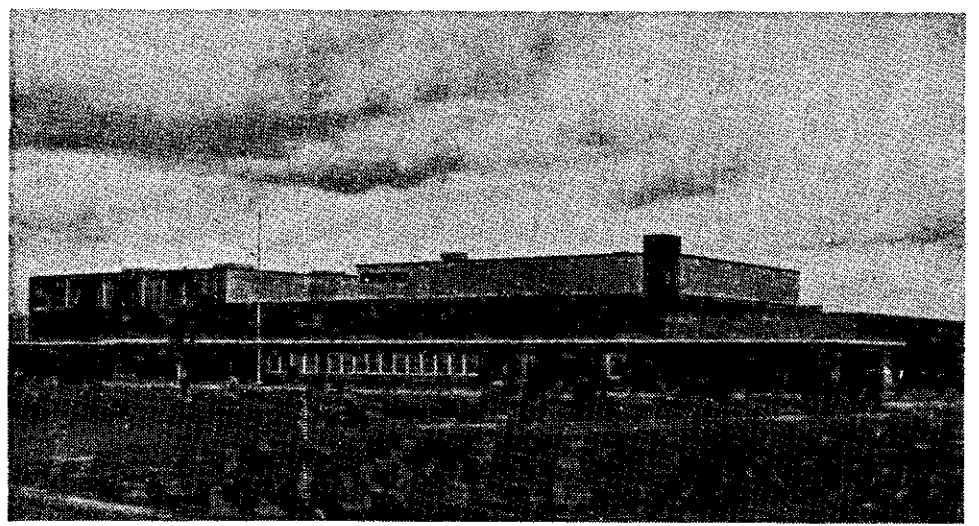
The graduates remember

***The district's schools —
how they grew over the years***

50 years of volunteers



Rome wasn't built in a day and neither was the Bethlehem Central High School, which



gradually took on its final form and opened its doors to hordes of eager students in January, 1954.

High school necessary, but controversial

From the 1954 Bethlehem Central High School yearbook:

"For close to a decade there has been a growing need for larger facilities for the Senior High School. The Junior-Senior High building was built for 550 students. In 1951 almost 800 students were attending classes there, and 1,250 students are forecast by 1959."

Hamilton Bookhout, supervising principal, school attorney John Glenn and architect Henry Blatner were the three principal movers and shakers in the district in the early and mid 1950s. Together they faced problems generated by the World War II baby boom with vision and determination, sometimes against very vocal opposition.

In 1950, the board of education retained the services of Blatner, a prominent Slingerlands architect, to design a new senior high school on Delaware Turnpike at Van Dyck Ave. That same year the voters of the school district authorized the purchase of the land. It was announced that a vote would be taken the following summer to authorize the board to issue bonds totaling \$1,850,000 for the construction of the new school.

Led by Bookhout, a group of citizens worked to persuade the townspeople to vote in favor of the new school. They were opposed by the "Citizens' Committee for Sensible Schools," who felt that the school was too extravagant, and that the idea of expanding the existing facilities had not been completely investigated.

The vote, held on May 28, 1951, was 2,008 for and 1,220 against the new school. Since a state law required that any issuance of bonds by a centralized school district that totals over 10 percent of the assessed valuation of the district

must receive a two thirds vote of the citizens, the motion was defeated. A second vote was held on June 20, 1951, in which the district failed once again to gain the necessary majority. This time the vote was 2,086 to 2,072.

The stalemate persisted until December, 1951, when the board announced that the bonds had been reduced to \$1,800,000 and the assessed valuation of the town — due mainly to the construction of a new steam electric plant by the Niagara Mohawk Power Company in the district — had risen to the point where a simple majority was necessary to approve the issuance of bonds. Since this majority had been reached twice, construction was begun after review of the case by the Commissioner of Education on April 14, 1952.

The proposed date for completion was Sept. 1, 1953, but during the spring of

1953 strikes and heavy rains put the construction far behind.

Moving day came January 18, 1954. The week before, the teachers were in a turmoil unpacking. For the students, moving was comparatively easy; they merely shoveled out their old lockers, gathered what was recognizable and stuffed it into their new ones.

The first days in the new building were a jumble of assorted impressions; bright halls; low ceilings; rooms that were too hot or too cold; clocks that showed different times — none correct — in different rooms; bells that didn't ring; beautiful views of the Helderbergs surrounded by sky and mud; fishing taught in the boy's gym classes and knitting taught in the girl's gym classes while the gymnasium was being completed; schedules that were constantly being shuffled and reshuffled. Everything was different except the people.

But since this vital element was the same, school, for the most part, remained unchanged.

BCHS Alma Mater

*Near the mountains silent splendor
And the Hudson wide,
Nobly stand our Alma Mater
Filling us with pride.*

*Sing the praise of Bethlehem Central;
Fight to bring her fame;
Conquer all who dare to challenge;
Glorify her name.*

*Though we pass outside her portals
When our days are through,
Orange and Black, her grand old colors,
We will honor you.*

Alfred Marston
Class of 1936

The changes at Bethlehem Central

By Charles A. Gunner
Principal

The more things change the more they stay the same! Can such a paradox be true? How much has Bethlehem Central High School changed over the past 50 years? Is the Class of 1984 that much different than the Class of 1934?

What are some of the things that haven't changed? Well — the yearbook is still the Oriole; the school motto, "Quanti Est Sapere," and the school emblem are still the same; Black and Orange are still the school colors and the words of the Alma Mater are unchanged; the STAR is still the school newspaper and the school design is identical; the students still serve detention for coming late to school; and the 1934 graduating class, which was made up of 40 bright, enthusiastic and well-motivated great young people took similar Regents examinations as did the Class of 1984.

Although in its first year, Bethlehem Central High School earned a reputation as one of the best schools in the region. Students are still encouraged to believe that life is happier if we rejoice in having gained a new truth instead of mourning over a lost effort.

Now for what has changed. The original Bethlehem Central High School is now the Bethlehem Central Middle School. Students first entered our present school in January, 1954. Of the 74 students who started with the Class of 1934 only 40 graduated. The Class of 1984 will have 309 graduates, three more classmates than the class started with.

Back in 1934 more students participated in interclass activities and clubs than in interscholastic activities. Bethlehem Central High School was in the now-defunct Hudson Valley Interscholastic League and now we compete in the powerful and prestigious Suburban Scholastic Council League. School clubs were very popular but there were no TV sets and very few students had cars to drive to school. The National economy was just emerging from the great depression and most people were more cautious with their money. Naturally, the twenty-four members of the very fine faculty of 1934 have retired and have been replaced with our ninety-three excellent staff members. The graduates of the Class of 1934 didn't take SAT's, PSAT's, ACT's and Regents Competency tests. Nevertheless, 52 percent of them planned to enter college, just as approximately 80 percent of the Class of 1984 plan to do. The music of our Alma Mater is different but the words and pride in their meaning remain unchanged.

Carl Booth, valedictorian, and Helen Brew, salutatorian of the Class of '34 clearly stated that "in order for a system of



High School Principal Charles A. Gunner

education to exist in any form, three conditions are requisite: something to teach, someone to teach, and someone to be taught." The citizens of Bethlehem and the Board of Education have provided the fine resources for something to teach. The faculty has given their time, effort and caring dedication to teaching. The graduates have given their attention, inquiring minds and enthusiasm for learning. All these requisites have been present over the past 50 years for each graduate's preparation toward the future "to be a success or failure, as they themselves make it."

The community, the staff and students of the past fifty years can be justifiably proud of their school and their own personal accomplishments. I am confident that the past, present and future Bethlehem Central High School students' welfare is secure because they have learned that knowledge is superior and they practice love of family, community, nation, God and each other.

The valedictorian of the Class of '34 said, "The end does not crown our work, but knowledge grows as it goes." Therefore, I conclude the future and promise of Bethlehem Central High School remains unchanged — 50 more years of excellence.

I am grateful and proud to be part of this great school community!

Our thanks . . .

This special supplement to *The Spotlight* was truly a community effort. We thank our contributors for sharing their memories of life at Bethlehem Central through the last five decades. Our thanks also to Arlene Ainsworth, Dorothy Hosey, Thomas E. Mulligan, Pat DeCecco, Nancy Relyea, William Morrison, Cheryl Marks Stees, the staffs at the Bethlehem Central Educational Service Center and the Bethlehem Public Library and the many people in the Trivillage area who helped locate and identify persons, photographs and facts.

Our special thanks to Norm Cohen, who coordinated the entire project.

Our cover picture of the two Bethlehem Central High Schools is by Virginia Remington Rich of Slingerlands, well known for her pen and ink drawings of local scenes. The artist, an alumnus of Bethlehem Central, has donated the original work to the variety show committee. Three hundred 11 by 17 inch prints on heavy-textured white bond are on sale for \$10 each. Call Dorothy Brown at 439-1817 to order a print.

Parting words five decades apart

By Carl B. Booth
Valedictory, Class of 1934

Members of the Board of Education, teachers, parents and friends:

Under favorable conditions, seeds depart from earth, which is new to them, and relinquish unyielding roots. In like manner, we, the graduates of the Class of 1934, in leaving this new institution, uprooted, submit to you our final words of farewell.

Since every circumstance is accompanied by attitudes, we also possess certain sentiments in departing. From the standpoint of abandoning the environment of past experiences and association, we are profoundly regretful. But with the view of future goals, our minds are sanguine.

The feelings are motivated by a definite reason, which finds expression in education. In order that a system of education may exist in any form, three conditions are requisite, namely: something to teach, someone to teach and someone to be taught. The first necessity has been provided by the residents of this district and by our Board of Education, who have contributed both the various curricula and this wonderful edifice, Bethlehem Central High School. The next essential is found in the faculty, who have given their time and efforts in our behalf. Finally, we comprise the third group, and, as graduates, we extend our hearty gratitude to you who are donors.

Thus Classmates, whether our several pathways conduct us to the marts of industry or to the realms of higher education, may we... resolve to employ consistently that which we have learned, and to accomplish our utmost.

To a liberally educated person, Thomas Huxley once ascribed the attributes of self-control, correctness of thought, versatility, a love of beauty, and harmony with nature. Although, in many respects, our development is still inchoate, we have perceived these characteristics. We are determined, however, not only to perceive, but also to execute. For such intellectual cultivation, as that to which we have been exposed, engenders the scientific foresight of Edison, Shakespearean comprehension, and the idealism of Tennyson.

Thus, classmates, whether our several pathways conduct us to the marts of industry or to the realms of higher education, may we, imbued with the desire to follow in the vestiges of our Guide, resolve to employ consistently that which we have learned, and to accomplish our utmost.

Whereas we shall never bid farewell to education in its literal sense, we do render our parting to you.

"Finis non coronat opus nostrum, sed scientia cressit enndo. Sic, valet!"

That is to say, "The end does not crown our work, but knowledge grows as it goes. Thus, farewell!"



Under his senior picture it was said, "Carl is one of those in the class who studies. We knew when Freshmen that he would be Valedictorian. 'Booty,' in spite of being active in tennis and interclass basketball, manages to keep his average above 99. Carl likes to use big words, and we suspect that he sits up nights looking them up. Some day we are going to carry a dictionary with us so we can understand him. We know that he will go a long way and make something of himself with his ability to think and reason things out." Carl's stated goal was "to attend Union College," and the Class Prophecy placed him as "a medical missionary in Madagascar."

Carl Booth did graduate from Union College in 1938 and earned his Medical

Degree from Albany Medical College in 1942. After serving in the U.S. Army in the Pacific in World War II, he returned to practice neurology at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Boston, then in New York City where he has been ever since.

In 1949 he married Patricia Morrison from Ossining, and the couple now resides in Yonkers. Carl has never been to Madagascar, although he is on the faculty of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. "I suppose I have mellowed in my use of big words," he says.

By Raymond Graf
1982 Commencement Speaker

Graduation...Commencement...Those words have a funny ring to them. What to say at a graduation? Hmm, perplexing.

I could talk about...well, for starters, let's take the actual word, graduation. To graduate. What does it mean? The American Heritage School Dictionary (with which I did most of my assignments in the past year) defines *to graduate* as such: *to go from one stage to another, usually a higher or better one.*

This, in itself, may be inaccurate. For one, I'm not sure if what we graduate to is or could be any better than the last four years here at our beloved BC. For the other I'm not sure if *everyone* in this room could graduate to a *higher* stage anywhere.

Yet, this aside, graduation carries special meaning for the individual because the high school experience was itself such an individual experience.

For some, high school meant hard work. Hours sitting in front of books, "burning the midnight oil," missing important social events to study. School for them was not all fun. It was often cold, sometimes grueling but often a fulfilling four years.

For others, particularly in this, our senior year, school was as one actually said, a "country club." These students tended to get more of a social learning experience through interaction with others, the rationale being, "Hey, if I'm in school I must be learning something."

Still others, and I like to think most of us fall into this category in some way, created a skillful blend of work and play. They found school both interesting and fun. In fact, it was a little hard for me to think of something to say tonight because I don't think I really wanted to graduate yet...I've been having so much fun!...Some of my teachers know this first hand.

Then what does graduation really mean? For many, graduation is the end of one grueling academic period, signalling the beginning of another grueling academic period of two to eight long years and is no more of a relief than, perhaps, a change of scenery.



Raymond Graf addressed his fellow graduates and parents at commencement in June, 1982.

For others, and I wish these folks the best of luck, it's a leap into the "real" world of job hunting, income tax and other assorted fun things. Graduation, to some of these people is a relief, largely because they will now gain some autonomy. I worry about these people because I have a feeling none of them know quite how tough it is out there.

For me, graduation is a chance, by going to college, to right some of my academic wrongs and to try to make a future for myself. This prospect more than mildly frightens me, too.

In one way, leaving Bethlehem Central is going to be a sad experience. Old, stable and safe relationships are going to lose some of their closeness as we go our separate ways into new and different environments and this is certainly going to be a little sad as we have made many friends and shared many great times over these past four years.

In another way, leaving Bethlehem is going to be a relatively painless if not downright enjoyable procedure. I can't say that I will terribly miss getting detention for being late to homeroom, or "School-Wide Writing Day" or SAT's, but these were very minor parts of my total school experience and I think that I speak for most of us when I say that the good of high school greatly outweighs the bad...okay, let's say half and half.

Seriously, I think as the graduating Class of 1982 we owe many thanks to many people. To our teachers (both those who were kindly and those who ruled with iron fist), for trying to teach us to think; to our administrators for keeping us in line...when they could; to our parents for providing that necessary scholastic incentive (whether it was money or a little shoe leather in the behind); and last but not least we should thank ourselves, the Class of 1982, for making it this far and leaving an unerasable mark on this school. I wish everyone graduating tonight good luck in life and I hope everyone lives up to the definition of graduation. We made it, kids!!

Ray is currently at Plattsburgh State in his second year. He is pursuing courses in music and communications.

In 50 years, a school system built from scratch

During the Dutch Colonial period in New York State, generally placed between the 1600's and the onset of the American Revolution in 1775, academic excellence was not held in high regard by the early settlers of this area. The patroons held the belief that the commoners needed only to be literate enough to earn money to pay taxes. The thrust of education in that time was toward

religious instruction. In fact, it was noted by State University at Albany professor Jonathan Tenney that Peter Stuyvesant himself suggested that the "outhouses," presumably referring to outbuildings, of government buildings were good enough places for the commoners' schools.

Stuyvesant's successors were more farsighted than he and began laying the foundation for "50 Years of Excellence"

by raising the educational expectations for their children. One such figure in our local history was W. Jack Weaver who is credited in a *Knickerbocker News* article with being "the father of the Bethlehem Central School District." It was Mr. Weaver who, on Dec. 4, 1929, at a meeting of the Elsmere-Delmar Community Association, suggested that the district consider the concept of centralization.

At that period in local history there were several factors making centralization a practical step toward the betterment of the district. In 1927-28 the viaduct on Delaware Ave. spanning the Normanskill Creek made the Bethlehem area easily accessible to the City of

(Turn to Page 4)

□ A system from scratch

(From Page 3)

Albany. The population of the Tri-Village area was rapidly expanding.

The Clarksville School facility was deteriorating and inadequate, as were other community school buildings. Also, at the time there were no provisions for high school age students in the Bethlehem system, so that all older children were sent to Albany-based schools for their secondary education on a contractual provision of services.

Consequently, the local residents were receptive to Weaver's recommendation, and on April 25, 1930, 239 out of 273 residents voting agreed to establish Bethlehem Central School District. The new entity was formed by combining Delmar, Elsmere, Slingerlands, Houck's Corners, Van Weis and Bethlehem Center-Glenmont-Normansville.

Weaver was made the first president of the Board of Education and on May 6, 1930, with a beginning roster of 866 pupils and 42 teachers, the board voted for an operating budget of \$44,000. Assessed valuation of property in the district at the time was \$5,200,000.

On August 1, 1931, Olin Bouck, then the principal of the Delmar School, assumed the position of superintendent of the First Supervisory District of Albany County with the state Education Department. Bouck served as superintendent of the Bethlehem Central School District until his retirement in 1961.

At his retirement, a *Knickerbocker News* article quoted Bouck as saying, "Our system is good, but there's always room for improvement." Bouck's quest for excellence during his 45-year career as an educator was reflected in his own stated personal goal, "to work toward providing every child with the opportunity to be educated to the limit of his ability," a goal

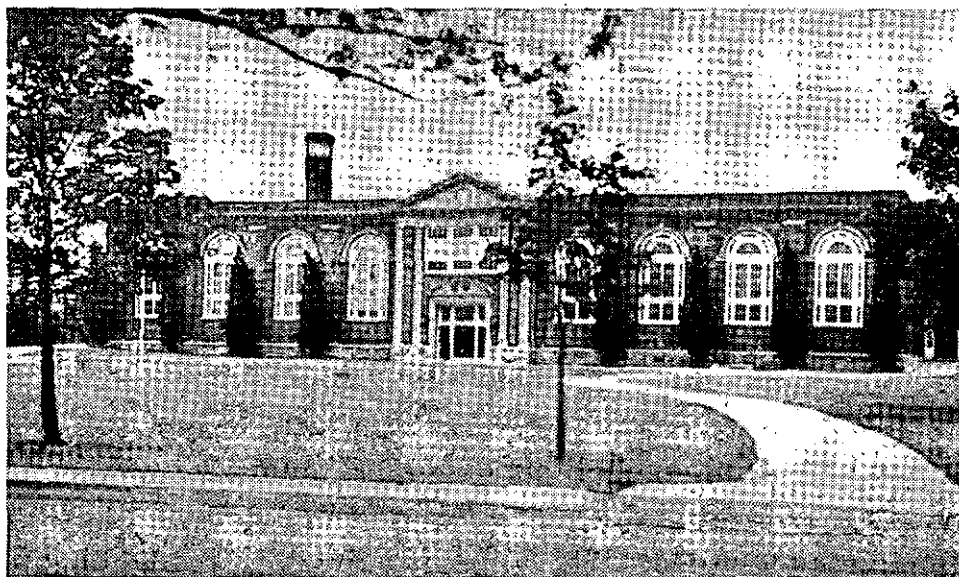
that has been restated in the recent past by our current school administrators.

Another Bethlehem educator who profoundly affected the quality of Bethlehem School was Hamilton Bookhout, who served as the second supervising principal of the high school from 1938 to 1964. Bookhout is credited in Feb. 1964, *Times Union* article with having "practically singlehandedly led the district out of obscurity to a position of pre-eminence in the state." The same article also suggested that "Mr. Bookhout can be held partially responsible for the development of the community," because an influx of residents during the 1940's and 1950's was attributed to the growing reputation of excellence achieved by the school district under his leadership.

It was that dedication of Bookhout and several other town residents that led to a \$7 million expansion, including four new school buildings and additions to some of the older ones, thus comprising our current education plant.

1937 EDITORIAL — by Gladys E. Newell, Social Science teacher to whom the 1937 Oriole was dedicated. — "Because of the ease with which the dissemination of propaganda is possible at the present time... movies, newspapers, magazines, and the radio—constantly present material skillfully devised to sway public feeling... Therein lies your challenge—to advance with open minds, unhampered by prejudice and strong in purpose."

1956 STUDENT COUNCIL — "The council's biggest achievement this year was the establishment of a new chartering system for clubs. Now no club can exist unless... registered with the student council."



What is now the Bethlehem Central Middle School had a serene aspect when it opened as the Bethlehem High School in 1932.

Today's middle school was district's first high school

Bethlehem Central Middle School began as the district's first high school in 1932. It was also the first building to be constructed as part of the recently centralized Bethlehem Central School District.

The district was headed by Superintendent Olin Bouck, and the supervising principal for those early years was Heath Coons. Coons had a teaching staff of 24 covering the traditional academics as well as commercial studies, agriculture and Latin. In 1938 Coons was replaced by Hamilton Bookhout who served for more than a quarter century in that position.

As the area population increased, the need for a larger facility was identified, leading to the development of the new high school. During the construction of that facility, which is now the Bethlehem Central High School on Delaware Ave., the district was forced by overcrowding to organize the school day at the Kenwood Ave. building around double sessions. High school students attended their classes from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. while the junior high classes met from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Teachers had to share their classrooms and faculty meetings were held mid-morning.

In 1957-58, after the transition to the new high school building had been accomplished a few years earlier, a major addition to the Kenwood Ave. plant nearly doubled its size to accommodate the junior high enrollment. Included in the expanded areas were the pool, a music wing, the girls' gymnasium, and the rear building that housed the cafeteria and shop classes.

During this period weekly guidance meetings were held in every homeroom to promote personality development and good citizenship. Homerooms were also required to present one assembly program to the entire student body each year.

The conversion of the junior high school into a middle school was initiated with a proposal for district reorganization submitted in July, 1965 by Engelhardt, Engelhardt and Leggett, an educational consulting firm. The firm recom-

mended that the district be restructured by providing separate facilities and programming for elementary grades from Kindergarten through fifth, for middle school grades sixth through eighth, and a high school from ninth grade through the twelfth.

The proposal required a major expansion of the Delaware Ave. high school to accommodate 2,000 students, thereby enabling the junior high to reorganize along the lines of an intermediate, or middleschool, concept for which guidelines were being developed on a national scale.

Under direction by the board of education and the leadership of Richard Moomaw, the superintendent of the district at the time, staff members met with parent groups and on Sept. 14, 1965, following these study groups' recommendations, the board voted to adopt the Engelhardt proposal. On March 22, 1966, a voter referendum confirmed the board decision and approved the necessary funding for reorganization by a count of 1,114 to 476.

For the next two-and-a-half years many individuals from the school and the community met to plan and organize the middle school concept. In the summer of 1968 several changes in leadership occurred. Nicholas DeLuca left the Administrative Assistant post and was replaced by David Murphy. When William Kinsley retired in August, Frederick Burdick was named principal and inherited the responsibilities for the final leg of the journey toward making the middle school a reality.

In October, 1968, Burdick reported to the board that a teaching team had been organized and was operational at the school. Following staffing adjustments among the elementary, junior and senior high schools, the board of education announced on May 26, 1969, that the Kenwood Ave. facility had been officially designated as the Bethlehem Central Middle School. It opened its doors in September, 1969.

As the years pass
your accomplishments
grow

Congratulations
BCHS

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A Special Congratulations to
Bethlehem Central
High School

from

THE SPOTLIGHT

Classmates remember...



By Jean Frey Adams
Class of 1936

I REMEMBER...

Dancing to the music of the Johnny Hauf Band at the afternoon tea dances, wishing I could be dancing with the violin player.

Marching with the annual circus drill corps and being its "Major Domo."

Playing basketball with girls' rules (no crossing the center line).

Being voted secretary of the first Student Council.

Being initiated into a sorority and having some wonderful times with my caring sisters.

Babysitting for twenty-five cents an hour.

Teachers who taught and inspired me — Miss Gage, Mr. Hritz, Miss Newell.

The friendships I made and kept through the years.

The boy I met and married 44 years ago.

Memorable, happy years and we look back on them with fondness.

After working various jobs, Ed and Jean married in 1940 and raised five children. Ed spent his career as Office Manager at the Agway Feed Division, Port of Albany, while Jean returned to the workforce in 1970 as an account clerk for the BC Board of Education, where she continues to serve on a fulltime basis.



By Edward (Brud) Adams
Class of 1936

I REMEMBER...

Playing the violin in the Johnny Hauf Band.

Participating in the annual circus held in the school which involved the students and teachers.

Playing basketball mostly from the bench (I was usually ineligible).

Being voted president of the first Student Council.

Being initiated into a fraternity — having our own frat house and being a part of some very meaningful meetings.

Working as a helper to Mr. George Lauer, Head Custodian.

People I respected and learned from — Principal, Heath G. Coons; secretary, Lillian Skillman; teacher, Andrew Hritz.

Clubs I enjoyed belonging to — Hi-Y, Harmonica Club.

Participating in the Hi-Y minstrels. Meeting a girl who is still my wife.



Mr. and Mrs. Edward Adams

1944 SENIORS — "Here we would like to mention those boys who would have graduated with us this year, but who, instead are in the service of our country. They are Orlando Benedetto, Donald Halsdorf, Ted Moody, and Dick Smith. To these boys and to those of the Class of 1944 who are in service or soon will be, we wish the very best. Our thoughts will be with you."

1937 TENNIS — "Last year's tennis team, under the guidance of Mr. Beik, went...undefeated. (Robert) Snook and (Harold) Yeomans were sent to Boston for the Interscholastic National Doubles and Snook was sent to Forest Hills for the National Singles."

Excellence still the target

By Lawrence A. Zinn
Superintendent of Schools

The celebration of Bethlehem Central High School's "50 Years of Excellence" provides us all with an opportunity to reminisce with pride. It also reminds us of our great responsibility to continue the tradition and keep our sights set upon the target of excellence.

As a school district (K-12) we have been aware of the need for continual review of the extent to which we are properly balancing our efforts to emphasize the important factors of an excellent school system. I have referred to those efforts as "actions for excellence," and I want to share some of them with you here.

One of the essential factors is to have clearly defined goals, and those are in place (recently updated by a staff and community group). Next, our coursework is continually evaluated and updated. The capstone is selection of staff, and great care is taken in this area to

attract, retain and inservice all staff members.

Then, to maintain a position on the leading edge for our graduates, we have raised standards. At the high school this is reflected in recently revised graduation requirements, including the requirement that students carry a minimum of five courses each semester; the addition of more Advanced Placement courses; and the new and rigorous liberal arts program option. The high school also subjected its program to evaluation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and gained accreditation with ease.

But, this 50-year celebration for a high school is also a celebration for a community of parents, students and others who know the value of a fine education and who have provided the support required. This community support is the rock upon which excellence was built and the base that will hold it in place for the generations of students to come.

BCHS 50th ANNIVERSARY Variety Show Ticket Order Form

- Friday, March 9, 8 p.m. # of tickets _____
 Saturday, March 10, 8 p.m. # of tickets _____

Tickets are \$3. Make checks payable to PFO BCBS 50th.
 Mail this form and check to: Nancy Mackey,
 155 Dumbarton Dr., Delmar, NY. 12054.

Name _____

Address _____

Tickets can be picked up at the Box Office the night of the performance.

Congratulations
 on
50 years
 of
Excellence to the
Community



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'It could have been a scary time'

By Clifford H. Casey
President, Class of 1944

The all-consuming memory of the 85 graduates of the Class of 1944 is World War II. We were freshman on Pearl Harbor Day and sort of grew up with the war. It was a war you could take sides on. We believed in our side and showed it. Shortages of sugar, gasoline, meat or shoes were taken for granted. We had ration books. You bought War Stamps in homeroom. One June morning, the whole school was called to a somber assembly program as our troops went ashore at Normandy.

Everyone had family and friends in service, and they were scattered all over the world. A few of those little gold stars showed up in windows and we knew who they all were. You were shocked to learn of the death of some guy that sat next to you in a class last year.

It could have been a very scary time, but it wasn't. (We lived in a strong, supportive community and felt safe. I never even thought of losing the war).

Like kids everywhere, we didn't know any better, and thought we were having a great time.

We lived in a strong, supportive community and felt safe. I never even thought of losing the war.

The district was small, with only 5,000 residents. The school had 600 students. You knew everybody in town, and it was hard to get away with much. There was a part-time policeman, but he wasn't needed very often.

Half of the students lived near enough to walk to school. Many of us went home for lunch. There was a cafeteria. I remember with pleasure an occasional chance to buy a sandwich and carton of chocolate milk there. School buses were not run by the school, but by The United Traction Company. Kids who used the buses were given special school tokens.

Sports were about as today. There was no pool. Football was of the six man variety and made for a wide open game. A basketball game was a sport *and* social event. You stayed for the dance afterward.



Clifford Casey, 1984

No records were broken by track and field, but we did have a guy who could high jump 5-10 on a good day. It was hard to get coaching staff. The draft board saw to that.

Social life was pretty good. Very few students had cars because of scarce gas, tires and parts. If you could get the family car for an evening, you were doing well. We walked a lot. A wise move was to locate a girlfriend who lived around the corner. Few of us ever did. Dances were held at the school, the music live and of the "big band" type.

Drugs were no problem. Cigarettes took their toll. Most of the controlled substances that we have today had yet to be discovered. War-time beer was available if you tried. The trouble was its low alcohol content. Overhydration wore you down long before the nervous system became seriously involved.

It was widely believed (and hoped for) that the addition of aspirin to coca-cola produced a compound of unparalleled value. If one could induce a date to take a swallow or two of this concoction, its persuasiveness plus any god-given talent of your own could turn an everyday trip to the soda fountain into an event beyond the wildest dream. I've never heard of a success, but, no doubt, the work goes on. Today I believe that two aspirin before breakfast reduce the



Clifford Casey, 1944

risk of stroke or heart attack, but that's about it. A far cry from 1944!

Sometime during our junior year, the citizens found out that the youngsters were making poor use of their spare time. We were standing around the Four Corners talking to each other, or sneaking up to Charlie Sanders' place in Slingerlands. It came to pass shortly thereafter that we were provided with a structured environment in which to spend Saturday nights, dancing, playing games and eating healthful snacks. We kids went along with this for quite a while. I still have the rusted knob from the front door of the hall.

Sometime during our junior year, the citizens found out that the youngsters were making poor use of their spare time.

It has been my experience that every generation rediscovers this great truth about each 10 years. The idle youth play along. Then, somebody steals the door-knob and things lighten up for 10 more years.

Like most BC students, we received an excellent education. The faculty was small and knew us by name and deed. They prepared us well for what came later

in life. Some still live among us.—I'll always remember Mr. Hall telling us, with straight face, that in his youth the sides of a triangles had been called limbs, and not legs. One high point of my life came when an English teacher wrote me a letter with a glaring sentence structure error in the first paragraph.

Speaking for my friends of 1944, I salute the school of today. You have grown in size, moved the building and teach more than we ever dreamed of. You have TV monitors, jet planes interrupt lectures and you deal with sub-atomic particles as commonplace. However, I suspect that the students and teachers are the same. Only your names have been changed, and a Friday afternoon looks as good as it ever did.

Ed. note: 1944 Class Prophecy: "At a circus sideshow, Clif Casey was dressed in 'a yellow and orange coat and a red tie' and was assisting David Martin in selling their bottled concoction, 'Ye Ol' Vermont Horse and Bed Bug Liniment,' except that Clif wore a sign around his neck proclaiming 'I am from Maine!'"

Clif's goal was to attend Union College and enter the medical field, which he has accomplished. He practices in Voorheesville.



1942 EVA MARIE SAINT — Her nickname was "Bubbles," and her stated goal was to attend Bowling Green and become a teacher. That goal was reflected in the Class Prophecy where she was pictured as a teacher who was "talking over the problems of students and the advantages of progressive education." A Senior Ad offered: "Learn how to really laugh! Consult Eva Saint." She was a cheerleader, secretary of the Student Council, member of orchestra, chorus, dance, operetta and various sports, but there was neither mention nor hint of acting interest, activity or her career-to-be."

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The rich history of BC volunteers

Parental and community support of Bethlehem Central Schools is a long-standing tradition. Many, many hours have been shared with the district through PTA activities, volunteer programs and citizens' advisory committees formed to study selected issues.

School lunches and Student Theater were both started in the 1930's through volunteer efforts. According to a 1951 issue of *Central Highlights*: "The elementary (school) lunch program began in the early 1930's on a parent volunteer basis, and school by school was grown into a paid personnel appointment."

In 1944 the Delmar PTA served soup, sandwiches and cocoa, and in 1947 the Slingerlands PTA, in cooperation with the board of education, began serving lunch. By 1951 paid staff were working at Delmar, Elsmere, Slingerlands and the high school. Volunteers (parents and teachers) still served lunches in Clarksville and Bethlehem Center.

Student Theater was started in 1939 by members of elementary school PTAs. Student Theater provides a series of cultural programs for pupils throughout the school year.

PTA groups have long been vital support groups for the schools, as well as forums for parenting and special interest programs. (Nationally the PTA was founded in 1897.) Their support has taken many forms and the programs have been varied.

In 1951 Clarksville fathers built a stage at their school, and in Bethlehem Center (now Bethlehem PreSchool) the PTA held its annual Christmas ham dinner for the children. In 1952 the Slingerlands PTA contributed \$1,400 to the school over a two-year period to purchase library books. For a number of years the Delmar PTA sponsored a spring clothing sale of children's outgrown clothing. The PTA kept 20 percent of the selling price. During the same time period it was traditional for the folks of the Elsmere PTA to sponsor a Spring dance.

For a period in the mid-fifties, there were regular meetings of parents of preschoolers to study social, intellectual and emotional development of young children, held under the auspices of the elementary PTAs.

A difficult task for any program committee is finding interesting speakers for monthly programs. There has been no lack of variety in PTA-sponsored programs in Bethlehem Central schools. A sampling from the 1950's includes: Civilian Defense in Delmar (Delmar, 1952); Modern Trends in Education (Elsmere, 1953); This is Your FBI (Slingerlands, 1953); Movie Censorship and The Control of Tooth Decay by Water Fluoridation (Slingerlands, 1954); 20,000 Years Of Comics (Delmar, 1954); Reading (Bethlehem Center, 1955); and a talk by the Community Ambassador to Yugoslavia (Clarksville, 1955).

In the ensuing years, the PTA groups have been diligent in their efforts to provide programs of interest to the parents and to have fund-raising events to supplement school budgets.

Ever since grade mothers first baked cookies for a class party and mothers were recruited to accompany a class-trip to the State Museum, there have been volunteers in the district. The volunteer program started formally in the fall of 1965 after a Citizen's Advisory Committee made a two-year study of "program needs and possibilities." The volunteers were first used in the six elementary schools and have since expanded to the middle and high schools.

In the beginning years, volunteers numbered fewer than 100; there were over 1,000 last year. In 1966 one volunteer taped a series of dramatic readings for an English class and another wrote, narrated and rehearsed a play on posture for the physical education department.

Fifteen years ago, during the 1968-69 school year, 110 volunteers gave 3,797 hours, working with handicapped children, playing the piano for school choirs, assisting in the libraries, along with other duties. Chairwomen of the district's volunteer program have included Ann Patton, Jeanne Vogel, Joyce Strand and Susan Dax. The current chairwoman is Janet Whitaker.

Last year 1,005 volunteers spent 19,835 hours in the district schools. One of the

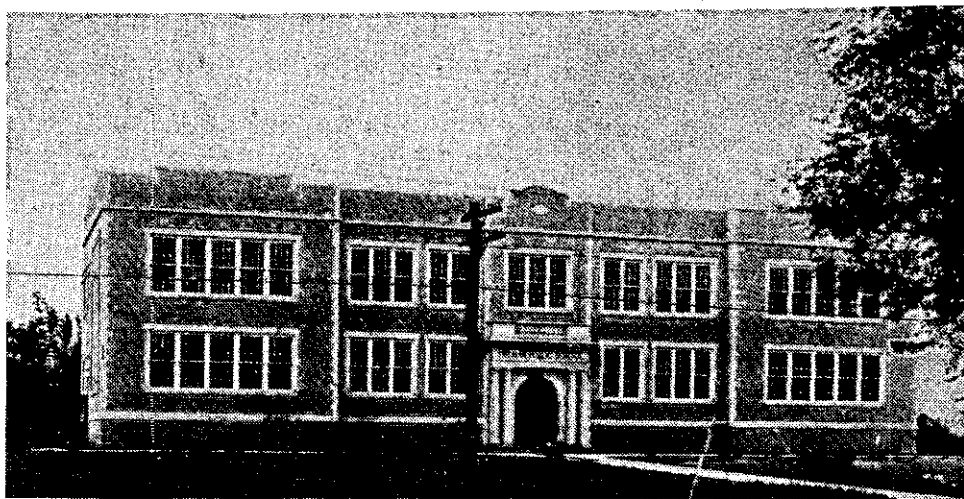
major differences since the volunteer program began almost 20 years ago is that it is no longer solely a group of mothers. Fathers, grandparents, older students and community residents are helping in the schools. Their duties have "come of age" too. Volunteer assignments include helping students use computers, and fund raising efforts of the PTA groups have helped to purchase computers and software.

Fifty years ago when mothers first served hot lunches, the parents were answering a need within the school and giving of themselves. That tradition continues to the benefit of the students, the schools and the parent/volunteers.

Cheryl Marks Stees

1946 TOWN TALK — In announcement of the hiring of four new teachers, the article stated, "We have been fortunate in obtaining the services of these four excellent men teachers for the High School," Mr. Bookhout declared, "but unless suitable housing arrangements can be made we will lose them before the end of the term." Anyone knowing of a vacancy in the near future may contact Mr. Bookhout at the High School, 9-919."

1984 WHEREAS the 1934 Yearbook lists 15 courses in the high school curriculum, the 1984 Student Handbook consists of 67 pages of course offerings.



The Delmar Public School opened in 1925 to meet the needs of the World War I baby boom. Now the building serves as the town hall.

Delmar school had many uses

Although the Delmar School is no longer used by the Bethlehem Central School District, it holds a significant position in the hearts of those who taught and learned there during its 49 years as a school building.

It was built in 1925 and housed grades one through twelve until the completion of the High School on Kenwood Avenue in 1934.

Olin Bouck, the school's first principal, had come to Delmar in 1925 at a starting salary of \$1,000 per year.

After 1934, the school housed kindergarten through grade six; and in 1954, a \$146,000 addition to the building was constructed.

Dorothy Hosey, a fourth grade teacher at the Delmar School from 1944 to 1974, recalls that the building was originally constructed to house high school students. This posed problems for its younger students who were unable to see out of windows without standing on tip toe or kneeling on chairs.

The Delmar School was closed in 1975 and is now the Bethlehem Town Hall.

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THE
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They opened the new school

By Robert Dixon
President, Class of 1954

Among all the things high school seniors had to think about, the BCHS Class of 1954 had a certain pre-occupation with the "new school." It had been a dream promoted by Mr. Bookout and others for several years, and we were vaguely aware of its being approved in 1952. Then we watched it grow, visited the site "after hours," hoped we would get the chance to go there, were told we probably wouldn't; then finally learned "moving in" would happen in January of 1954!

After 5½ years of split sessions, shared lockers, basement lunch rooms, crowded hallways and, for many of us, an "in-town" school, we moved to the wide open spaces — beyond the village borders.

It was an enormous building, to some a country club of futuristic progressive education, with a fireplace inside, a patio outside of the library, a swimming pool and one floor (no stairs) that stretched for "miles."

Everyone became a "new kid," even the experienced faculty like Messrs. Edsall,

But we took it pretty much in stride, suspecting it was "none-too-good-for-us." The whole town was improving . . .

Hall, Terhune, Freudenreich, Camp, Miss Newell — even Mr. Bookout!

But we took it pretty much in stride, suspecting it was "none-too-good-for-us." The whole town and nation were growing and improving now that WWII and Korean War were over and "Ike," the Republican, was President.

We still had the Toll Gate, a wall to lean against outside Isdell's at the Four Corner's, White's, the library, the Delmar Theater, dances at the fraternities and sororities. We began to feel the pressure from the town fathers, however, about



Robert K. Dixon, 1954

loitering at the Four Corners and "owning" the Sigma Kappa Delta house off Hudson Ave; and the town police seemed to be getting more organized against impromptu drag racing.

Despite the new building, the people were the same, and we had developed a kind of closeness expressed partly through nicknames. I wonder how many 1954 people still go by "Abbie," "Bugs," "Harvey," "Potty-Dotty," "Grid," "Hop-a-doo," "Hoolie," "Humph," "Oomphie," "Lew," "Frenchie," "Jack," "Juicer," "Jeddy," "Mickey," "Pap," "Hot-Rod," "Weeder," "Fritz," "Stork," "Bobbie." or



Robert K. Dixon, 1984

"Tobias." I'm still "Tim," but the 'boys' don't wear their hair as short, nor do the 'girls' wear crinolines or put their sweaters on backwards.

There were only 124 members in our class. Most of us had been together since the seventh grade. Delmar was not yet a magnet for transient middle/upper-middle class families. Most of the houses had been built and/or occupied by the same families prior to World War II. As I look back, I realize we were amazingly homogeneous; but what differences there were seemed important to us — clothing styles, school grades, athletic ability,

ity or not, going steady or not, going to college or not. These issues made up our lives. Drugs were not part of the scene, but we did struggle with beer and booze, cigarettes, some vandalism (Halloween-style stuff) and occasional fights, cars and what was called "boy-girl relations" or "dating." Dealing with those issues was scary, fun and confusing. But we were pretty sure that no one did that better than we did at BCHS.

A 1958 graduate of Hamilton College, Robert K. (Tim) Dixon attended the Drew University Theological School and graduated from the Episcopal seminary in New York City in 1961. He served as priest to several Episcopal parishes in New York City and Northern New Jersey for the next 20 years.

After a recent career change, Tim has returned to live in Elsmere with his wife, who is originally from Albany, and their three sons. He is now in the insurance business in Glens Falls with his brother Bill, BCHS Class of '51.

1964 ORIOLE EDITORIAL — "The environment for Bethlehem Central students is protective; it is coddling . . . A public school thirty years ago was a dingy building characterized by the musty, chalk-like aroma of the oil-soaked classroom floor. For us, school represents the freshness of new paint, gleaming terrazzo, vast picture window expanses, the fibreglas desks in pastel shades . . . Things are easy for us . . . Does the luxury of our lives breed indolence? Does opulence stimulate failure or success?"

50th



YEAR



Teachers attended this orientation program luncheon at the new high school building in 1955.

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The Elsmere Elementary School present size. 1948 and 1964 brought it to

The 'new' Elsmere school built before district formed

The present Elsmere school, built in 1927, replaced the original building located on the corner of Elsmere Ave. and Poplar Dr., across from St. Stephen's Church. The original Delaware Ave. building consisted of six rooms, for grades one through six, and a gymnasium. During the 1930's, many high school dances were held in the new gymnasium.

Arlington Smith, principal of Elsmere School from 1932 to 1942, was initially hired to serve as both acting principal and teacher of sixth grade at a starting salary of \$2,000.

In 1948, the Elsmere School was expanded, at a cost of \$342,000, to include a library and seven additional classrooms.

By 1963, the existing building needed remodeling and redecorating, and additional space was needed. A \$290,000

bond issue was authorized, and a new addition that included three classrooms, a kitchen and a new shower and locker rooms, was completed in 1964.

A Bethlehem Central *Highlights* from that time extends congratulations to the teachers and to the principal, Richard J. Herrmann, "upon their success in maintaining the instructional program of the school, even though they have been inconvenienced by the construction work in progress."

1960 SENIORS — "The Senior Play (The Boyfriend' directed by Mr. Feldman and Mr. Zeh), presented for a revolutionary two night run, was the first musical comedy to be staged at B.C.H.S."

1944 SPORTS — This was the year eleven man football was introduced into B.C.

Remembering players who led BC to glory

In the days before TV, Nam, two-income households, Don Camp and Jack Whipple, the big sport in high school was football. In the Fifties and Sixties Bethlehem Central teams held their own against the best of the Capital District.

Art Ritchko came to Delmar in 1959 to take over the head coaching job from Joe Guerrero and structured some glory years. When a reporter asked him which were his best teams, his mind flashed back to 1961.

"We were undefeated, and we had our final game at Hudson," he recalled the other day. It was a night game, and both teams were undefeated. We won a close game, even though our kids had trouble adjusting to the lights for the first time."

Paul Bradley was the quarterback and that was his junior year. The following season BC went 6-1-1 with Bradley, Dave Busick, Sal Pipito, Dale Carpenter and Frank Sterrett among others, losing only to Shaker and tying Niskayuna.

"There were a lot of good ball players in those years," reminisced Ritchko, who retired from football with another unbeaten team in 1978, unbeaten, that is, until the Section's first 10th-game play-off. He's still coaching varsity baseball.

"There were a lot of good ball players in those years," reminisced Art Ritchko, who retired from football with an unbeaten team in 1978. He's still coaching varsity baseball.

But back to the glory days.

"We had a good bunch in '59 — Dave Guerrero, Ed Klink, who went to West Point, Price Chennault, the linebacker, Pat Dorsey, James Hanlon, Gordon Henry. We won the Suburban Council. Then there was Jimmy Montrose, who led the scoring in the Capital District several years; Dean Allen, the captain and quarterback, who was killed in Viet Nam; he went to Indiana on a swimming scholarship. Then came Billy Jones, the running back. He played with Klink and

Guerrera and set a scoring record that stood for many years. He later died of cancer."

The 1960 team, according to school records, lost the opening game to Niskayuna, then won the remaining six.

"That was an outstanding group in the early Sixties," Ritchko went on. "We had Dave Blanchard, Steve Rogers and Dave Chenault, who all went on to be starters in New England colleges. Blanchard started for BU, Rogers for U-Mass and Chenault was a sophomore starter at Brown and later captain of the team as a linebacker. They all played on the same team here."

In that era also were such luminaries as Ed Perry, quarterback who went on to the University of Buffalo and later had a tryout with Dallas in the NFL, and Craig VanDecar.

Ritchko continued:

"VanDecar was also a good baseball player, a good hitter, and Greg Mulleavy (Pittsburgh Pirates infielder, later a major league manager) came to Delmar to talk to him and to Ed Perry. In football, Gary played with Jimmy Shea, an outstanding athlete who played for Buffalo in college. They were the team that we took up to Burnt Hills — they were undefeated and we upset them."

Ritchko, whose teams in the 20-year span won more than 70 percent of their games, has coached baseball since coming here. This year will be his 25th season.

"Paul Bradley also played baseball. He was captain of Colgate. We won the Sectionals with him and Rogers and Perry and some others. We had good teams over the years. Chenault played, also Sean Egan, one of the best catchers we ever had. Joe McNamara was an outstanding pitcher, had a hop on his fastball. He had a tryout with the (Kansas City) Royals. John Mileson played at William and Mary, and in later years there were Dave Spence, a good third baseman, Billy Karp, Mark Kleinke, Jack Dalton...oh, a lot of good players. I just wish I could mention them all, and I know I've skipped some really good ones."

After all these years, Art, you're forgiven.





Some things don't change. 50 years ago, students at Elsmere School still needed a crossing guard to get across busy Delaware Ave. Clyde Irons was the guard in the Knickerbocker Press photo from the 1930s.

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1974: 'Part of a vanished era'

Susan Elbow
President, Class of 1974

As I think about my high school days only 10 years past, I'm struck by how much of what I remember already seems part of a vanished era. Unemployment had yet to dominate the news, and career was more often used as a verb than as a noun. Computers were still the province of scientists, and the one terminal that arrived senior year begged for users. Patriotism was out — we stopped saying the Pledge of Allegiance during home-room — and progressive education was in. College was still affordable, and while I remember being very concerned about the state of the world, there seemed little reason to be concerned about my own personal welfare.

There was plenty of turmoil on that national scene during those years — the ideologically charged election of 1972, the Viet Nam War, the Arab-Israeli War, the oil embargo, Watergate — but for the most part the Kent State brand of student activism was over. Peace decals on notebooks and the backs of jackets were popular freshman year, and soul food

A succession of academic and nonacademic innovations governed our daily schedules.

dinners and The Club testified to lingering political causes. But it was the apolitical side of the counter culture movement that dominated. Long hair, hip-hugger jeans and very "casual" clothes were universal. I can't remember wearing a skirt more than a dozen times after freshman year.

A succession of academic and non-academic innovations governed our daily schedules. The covered sidewalk outside the entrance area became a smoking area. One of the classrooms was turned into a senior lounge complete with a much-coveted soda machine. Other classrooms were designated resource centers that students were encouraged to use for further study in a particular discipline.



Susan Elbow, 1974

Modules and electives were introduced in English and Social Studies, independent studies could be done off school grounds for credit, and health class, which introduced sex education, became a mandatory state requirement for graduation. Even gym came up for an overhaul and reemerged coeducational and in modular form.

Perhaps my most striking memory of those years, however is of the bomb scares. For a while they were a daily occurrence. I don't remember ever taking them seriously or being frightened. There never appeared any reason for them — they weren't attached to any cause. Most likely they were just a ruse to get us out of the classroom, and that they managed to accomplish pretty well. The bell would ring, word would pass through that there was a bomb scare, and we would all troop outside to stand around shivering in the snow and cold while the building was searched. They became so much a part of the daily routine they spawned a new fashion: keeping one's coat on all day. Even after the threats ceased, people still wore their coats indoors. By that time heating oil shortages due to the oil embargo and walking outside between the old and new wings made it practical; the new midi and maxi coat styles made it fashionable.



Susan Elbow, graduating from Smith College in 1978.

Today it's become popular to repudiate the relaxation of rules and liberal curriculum of my high school days. I feel lucky, though, to have had the freedom not to be practical and not to be overly concerned about immediately choosing and pursuing a career. And vivid memories of sweating through a Mr. Symula take home exam, agonizing over a composition for Mrs. Adler, or writing research papers for Mr. Keetz tell me that, despite the bomb scares and academic experimentation, BC managed to educate me pretty well.

Susan Elbow graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Smith College in 1978 with a Bachelors Degree in history. Following college she worked for two years at the Institute of Politics in Cambridge, Mass., and was active in a number of political campaigns. In 1981 she received a masters degree in American political history from the University of Rochester and in 1983 she received a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Susan currently works as a management trainee with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and lives in Brooklyn.

1944 HISTORY — "Like a tide the annual Christmas Festival came... success. We gone — again a tremendous Musical Director Mr. Truitt acting as Mrs. Sydney Smith the 12th time, and efforts of a cast of overcoordinating the Festival played to an audience of people, the at 1500 on the nights of Decemestimated 18. The theme, "Send Out Thy Light Town of Bethlehem," was realized in dollars and cents as school and town contributed \$1,238.79, the second highest total in history, to the White Christmas Fund."

1944 HISTORY OF THE CLASS OF 1944 — "It was this year (1943) that the 'No Smoking' rule came into effect, clearing the girls' and boys' rooms of smoke and butts, but causing a path to be made to the bushes off the grounds.



An extra curricular activity at the high school, circa 1935 or 1936. These Bethlehem Central students constructed the bobsled following the Olympic design, according to the Knickerbocker Press. From left, Austin Miler, Ted Price, instructor Kenneth Maxon, John North and Don Cronk.

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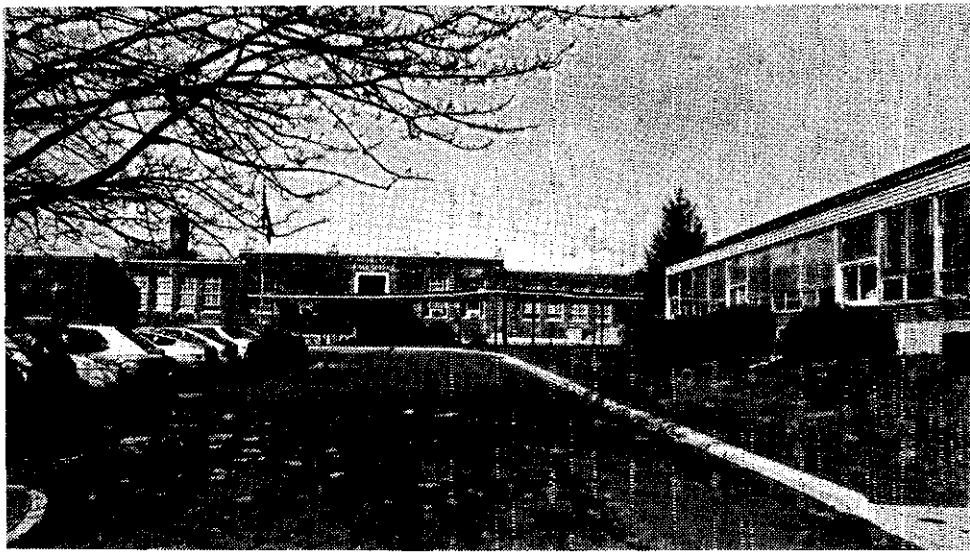
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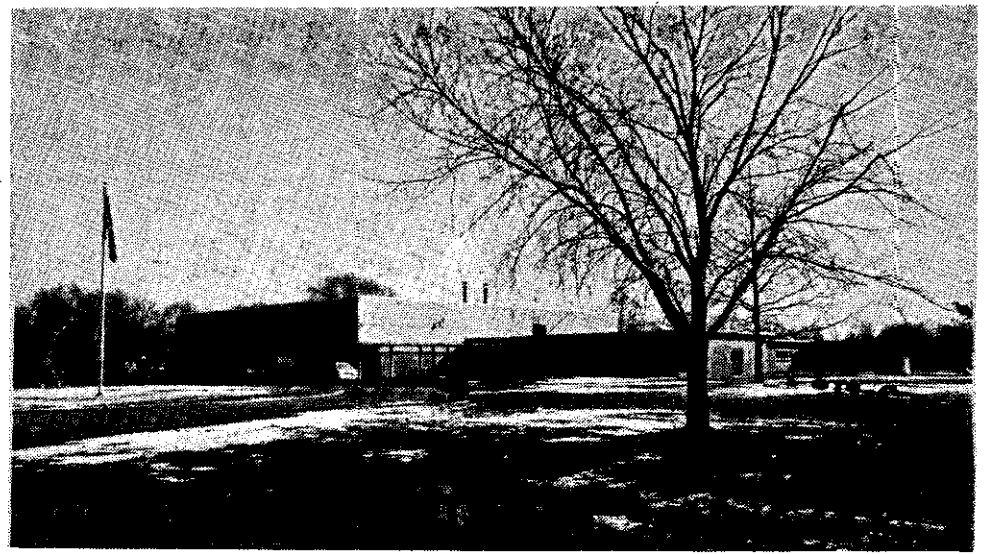
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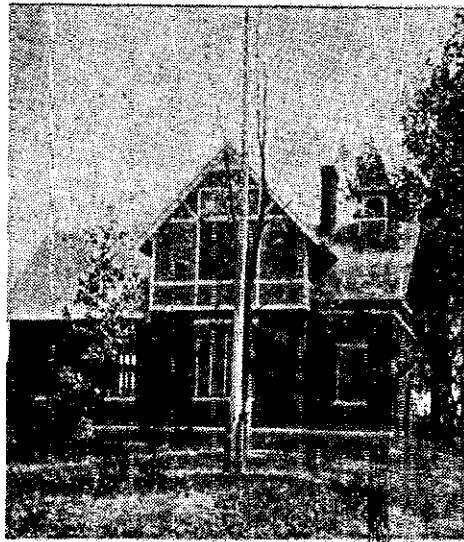
Slingerlands school built in 1940, enlarged in 1954

The present Slingerlands Elementary School, built in 1940 at a cost of \$120,000, replaced the wooden Victorian building at 1500 New Scotland Rd.

In November, 1941, the children and teachers moved into the new building which boasted a gymnasium-auditorium, a kindergarten room and six more classrooms.

Although there was no cafeteria in the new school, mothers of students prepared soup in a back-stage kitchen to supplement childrens' lunches brought from home. Several years later, a kitchen and cafeteria were added.

In 1954, a \$419,500 addition to the school provided a new library, kindergarten room, nurse's office, and five additional classrooms.



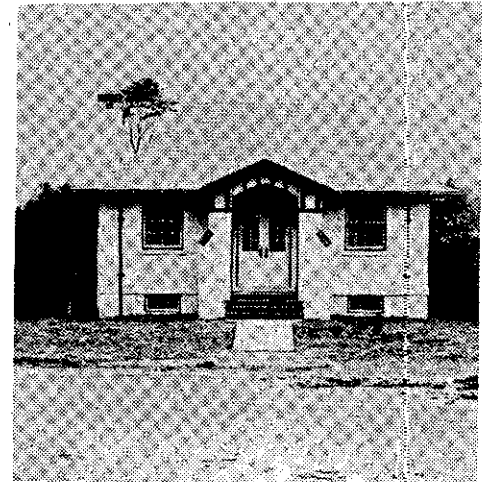
The old Slingerlands School, District Nine, was on New Scotland Rd. opposite the Community Methodist Church. Built in the 1870s, it was torn down to make way for an apartment house.

Glenmont had two homes

The Glenmont Elementary School was organized in July 1956, and Mrs. Grace Erkson was appointed principal.

Until their new building was opened, two first grade classes, two second grade classes, and the principal's and secretary's offices were located in the Bethlehem Center School. In order to oversee all the other classes which made up the Glenmont school, Mrs. Erkson became a traveling principal — the Hamagrael school housed two third grade classes; two fourth grades were located at Elsmere; two fifth grades were at Slingerlands; sixth grade was at Delmar, and two kindergarten sessions were held at the Methodist church in Slingerlands.

On May 6, 1957, the Glenmont Elementary School, built at a cost of \$645,000, opened its doors to 267 pupils, 12 classroom teachers and support staff.



Prior to the formation of the central school district, this building on Feura Bush Rd. served Bethlehem Center. The building made way for the present Bethlehem Center building, which was sold by the district several years ago and now is owned by the Bethlehem Pre School.

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In pursuit of excellence

As a school system celebrates its survival through time, its also attempts to mark the passage of that time with notches of quality. For it is not only survival that drives us to send our children to the schoolhouse each day, but the hope and the belief that education will lead to a higher degree of survival.

To our occasional dismay the earning of a higher degree bestowed by our educational system is at times worth little more than the paper on which it is printed. Pockets of failure — be it an uncooperative parent, an unruly child, a burned out teacher, an incompetent administrator or an inadequate budget — unravel pieces of the fabric that are woven together by the strong threads of academic excellence.

For any system to survive, educational or otherwise, it must strive for excellence. Such striving is what enables the system to absorb its failures, make good on them, and prevent them from reappearing in the future. In this regard, it is difficult to find a system that has survived in the absence of higher and higher degrees of excellence as defined by the participants of that very system.

Many of us complain about education today. Students claim boredom with courses they deem irrelevant. Parents take offense at heavy-handed discipline as well as indifferent laxity on the part of school officials, both sides of the fence. Teachers feel isolated on the front line without support from their boards, administrators or their students' parents. Communities at large complain about lower standards of performance despite

Family MATTERS

Norman G. Cohen



higher and higher taxes to support their school system.

In the midst of these skirmishes, most of which are spawned by everyone's pursuit of excellence, are the recipients of both the fruits and foibles of our school systems, our children, the students. For them I have a few suggestions as to how excellence may be defined and, consequently, pursued.

Excellence is:

- Getting back the term paper you wrote on a topic about which not a single reference could be found in the library, and reading the teacher's comment across the top of the title page, "Excellent research."

- Continuing to raise your hand in class after a small clique of less academic classmates accused you of being "a brain" who was making it harder for them to get a good grade.

- Spending most of the evening before a final exam convincing your close friend to get professional help for an emotional crisis, and then receiving a lower mark on the exam for not having studied as much as you would have.

- Doing a few household chores, then putting in a full school day, going to work at the local fast food restaurant, practicing for your piano recital, finishing your homework before bed, then doing it all again tomorrow.

- Making a key tackle that prevents the other team from scoring a game-winning touchdown, in spite of your sore shoulder.

- Performing your bit part in the Senior Play with a touch of the flu.

- Showing up to work on the dance committee even though you just broke up with your steady who is also on the committee.

- Applying your general knowledge of a course to a bunch of test questions that are based on unassigned material and getting them right, rather than complaining about the teacher being unfair.

- Returning from a special weeklong vacation trip with your family and with

that week's homework assignments all caught up.

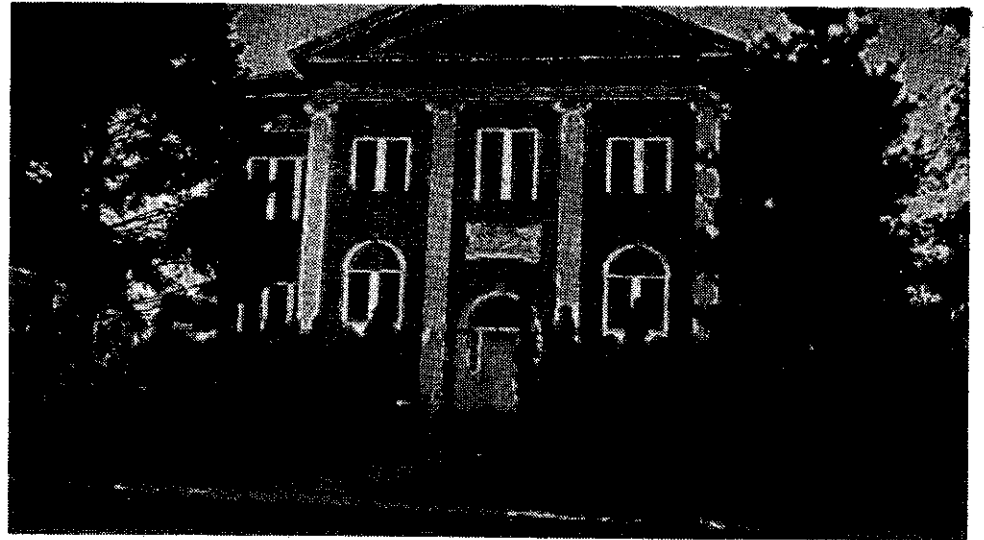
- Getting extra help from the teacher, studying with friends, and cramming all for a course you don't particularly enjoy and are nearly failing, and receiving an "A" on the final exam.

- Being asked to stay after English class where the teacher personally returns your creative writing assignment and, with a tear in her eye, says, "It touched me."

- Enrolling in summer sessions instead of going cross country with your friends so that you can replace your "C's" with "A's" to get accepted by the college you really want to attend.

- Attending the 25th reunion of the class in which you ranked well below the average, and after a long, unexpected and heartfelt talk with the fellow who had been voted "most likely to succeed," someone you hardly knew back then, you loan him a sizeable sum of money to help him through a period of unemployment.

- Remembering the good and the bad in your schooling, and doing something to make it better for today's children.



The first Delmar School was built around 1840. It was replaced around 1870 at the same site, on the corner of Kenwood Ave. and Adams St., by what is now the Masonic Temple. This photo was taken in 1936.

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The Clarksville School, opened in 1948, replaced three one-room school buildings in the area.

Clarksville sprouted wings

The Clarksville School, built at a cost of \$208,000 on land purchased from George Teiling, was opened in September 1948. Its students came from three, one-room school buildings located throughout the area. John Hamil was the principal and the fifth grade teacher.

In 1954, a new wing, to which the main offices were moved, was added at a cost of \$182,500. This addition made space available in the original building to start a school library.

By 1963, the school was again in need of more space, and a second wing was added. This new wing accommodated the library, which, by then, had more than doubled its resources. Because the construction was not completed until December, 1963, the new fully stocked library was used as a fifth grade classroom. The library traveled from room to room on a book truck pushed by the librarian.

At one time, the Clarksville school housed an experimental state-funded pre-kindergarten program that was considered quite successful in giving the

children a preparation for their formal kindergarten experience. The school also pioneered the Outdoor Education program at Lawson's Lake, which is now used by other elementary schools in the district.

1934 HISTORY — "We have the honor of being the first class to graduate from this new building, and also of being responsible for the formation of a standard ring design for the school. We hope other classes will remember us for those two reasons, if not for anything else. We know that no other class could ever be happier than we have been or more sorry than we to leave this school."

1937 BACHELOR'S CLUB — "Because of its large size, the bachelor's club is divided into two groups, alternating their cooking activities. The culinary ability of the club was shown when they entertained this year."



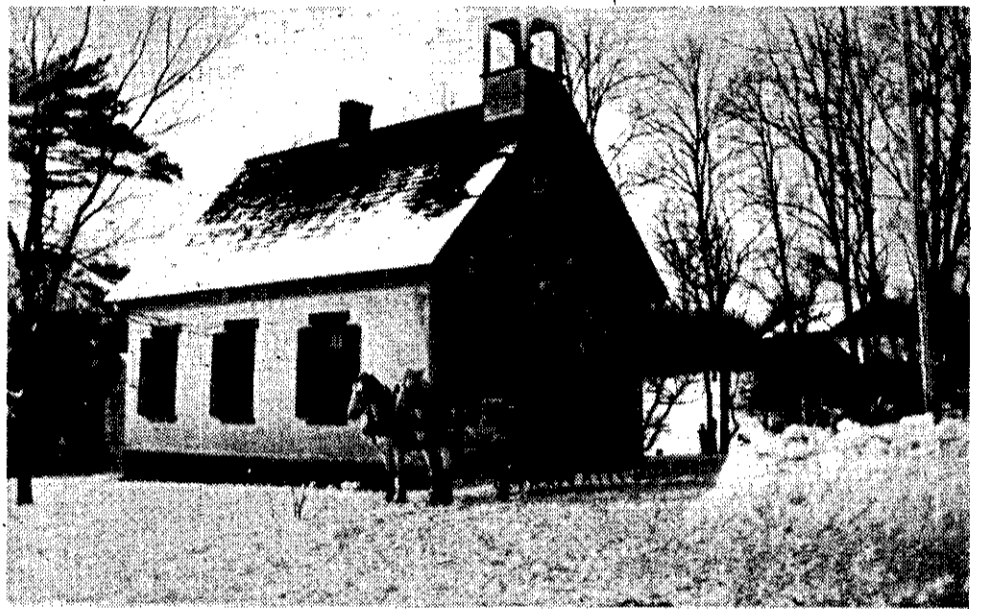
Hamagrael has replaced Delmar as the village's central school.

Hamagrael opened in 1954

Construction on the Hamagrael Elementary School was begun in October, 1953. When the school opened in 1954, classroom furniture had not yet arrived, so the children sat at folding tables to pursue their academic studies. In addition to learning the three R's, the children received some informal vocational edu-

cation from the crew of carpenters, plumbers and electricians still at work in the classrooms.

Until the cafeteria opened in January 1955, children brought lunches from home and ate in their classrooms under the supervision of their teachers.



A horse and sleigh stand on what is now Rt. 144 in front of the Van Wie's Point School. The building, opposite Wheeler Rd., was later a residence.

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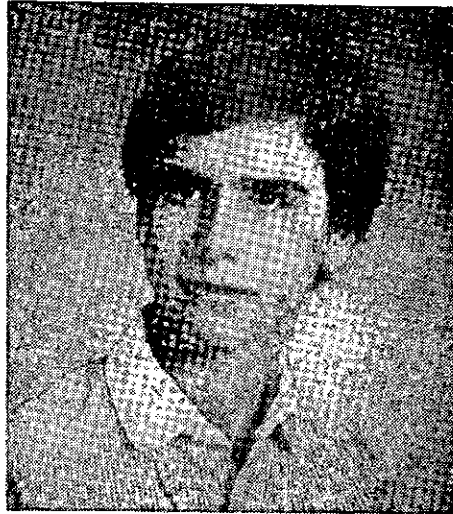
By Julie Ann Sosa
President, Class of 1984

To the average adult in the town, BCHS typically connotes a sprawling building surrounded by green fields and banked by Delaware Avenue.

The 309 seniors graduating in the Class of 1984 would define BCHS as many other things. To a few, it is a brick and cinder-block symbol of a responsibility that mercifully will come to an end in June. To others, it has been the means of gaining admission to the Class of 1988 at the ivy-covered college of their choice. Still, they would all agree the BCHS is much more than a place; it is people — students, faculty and administration.

Although Bethlehem might be a conservative and tranquil community, its high school is a microcosm of the world. The student body is small enough to allow everyone to know almost everyone else and his or her reputation, but it is rich enough to include students from Delmar and Slingerlands as well as Sweden and Afghanistan. There are some who prefer to wear denim and black leather, while others are always in Fair Isles and button-downs. There are smooth-talking politicians who run the student government, theatrical performers who preside over Stage 700, budding broadcast journalists who coin phrases like "the Bethlodome" on the morning P.A. system, and liberal intellectuals who have just organized a club against nuclear arms. Although the competition that comes with the athletic and scholastic enthusiasm can be bitter, especially in the junior year, it is self-generated.

It is no wonder that freshman nurtured by the Middle School arrive with a serious case of "big schoolitis" on their first fall day of high school. Tradition is very important for Eagles to learn and



Julie Ann Sosa

comply with. Some annual events, like the raucous and rowdy "Freshman Day," are initiations, while others, like the weekend marathon of "Senior Cut Day-Senior Ball-Saturday Morning Breakfast," are swan-song rewards.

I'm going to miss Bethlehem Central. Gone will be its relative security, the enthusiasm and humor of its principal, Charles Gunner, who taught me in philosophy class and annually leaps over obstacles in the "Anything Goes" competition; the teachers and the advanced placement courses that exposed me to the terrors of college before I ever got there. Most of all, I'll miss my classmates, the camaraderie born of co-surviving our Saturday morning SAT's, the late nights and early mornings spent organizing class fundraisers, the flying food and loud music of the cafeteria, and all the telephone conversations and heated classroom discussions we continued over 12 years.

I'm going to miss Bethlehem Central very much.



The 1936 student council at Bethlehem Central High School gathered round the desk in faculty advisor Irene Sutliff's office for a Knickerbocker Press photo. From left, Robert Snook, Harold Yeomans, George Mosall, Edward Adams (see Page 5), Howard Engel, Donald Smith, Miss Sutliff and Alfred Marston. In the rear are Donald Jones, Jane Goewey, Harry Swartout and Frank Stapf.



In another visit to the high school, the Knick snapped student Harriet Klapp practicing her shorthand as an aide to Principal H.G. Coons. The caption: A trained secretary will be available for a good position when Harriet Klapp graduates...

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Watch the decades roll by

On March 9 and 10 more than 200 community members including BCHS alumni, students, parents, faculty and administration will present the 50th Anniversary Variety Show at the Bethlehem Central High School auditorium. The production, under the direction of Pat DeCecco, will take the audience on a nostalgic journey through the past 50 years, complete with period music, dance and other entertainment.

As the curtain rises on the 1930's a George Burns impressionist will reminisce about being 18 again. Later in the segment some members of the graduating class of 1934 will relive their graduation day as they are presented awards by their former Social Studies teacher, Miss Gladys Newell.

The 1940's sequence will feature numbers made popular by Frank Sinatra, the Andrews Sisters and a poignant rendition of "I'll Be Seeing You" as sung by Pat Eckhardt.

The cast will jitterbug into the 50's as the audience views local renditions of Elvis Presley, Pat Boone and Johnny Ray. The "Friendship Singers" will sing the hit tune "Mr. Sandman," and Janice Romero will perform the ballad "If I Loved You."

"Rock Around The Clock" will usher in the 60's, the era of the Twist, Flower Children and Camelot. This segment will also pay its respects to the memory of John F. Kennedy, assassinated in 1963.

"Chorus Line" will change the mood into the 70's with dancers clicking their heels and tapping their toes to the music of the BCHS Dance Band. Following the "Supremes," and other highlights of the decade, the 50th Anniversary Chorus will close out the segment with "I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing."

In the final segment of the show, the 80's will provoke many touching memories as the Anniversary Chorus leads the audience in singing the "Old Alma Mater," followed by the BCHS Marching Band setting the stage for 51 graduates marching on stage to the playing of the "New Alma Mater."

The Variety Show committee has undertaken three fundraising projects to underwrite the cost of the venture. Tee-shirts designed by Joan D'Ambrosi featuring the BCHS Eagle are available by sending \$5 to Barbara Dorsey, 39 Peel St., Selkirk, 12158. Also, a pen and ink montage depicting the old and new high school buildings (reproduced on our cover) was donated by well-known local artist, Virginia Remington Rich, a BCHS graduate. The limited edition print is available by sending \$10 to Dorothy Brown, Box 310, Delmar, NY 12054, and can be picked up at the high school a week after the order has been sent in. Finally, Bethlehem residents, BCHS graduates and any interested parties are invited to become patrons of the celebration by sending a \$5 donation. All checks are to be made payable to "PFO BCHS 50th."

Tickets for the Variety Show are \$3 each and are available at Paper Mill, Records 'n' Such at the Delaware Plaza and BCHS Box Office. The final dress rehearsal on the evening of March 8 will be open to senior citizens at no charge.

To bring the BCHS 50th Anniversary celebration to a fitting conclusion, a gala reunion will be held for all alumni and community members. Judy and Ed



Eric Stilan and Loretta Romero get into the spirit at a rehearsal for the variety show.
Tom Howes

Languish, co-chairmen of the event, have announced that on May 5 from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. dance music will be provided by the Moonlight Serenaders, Sound System and the BCHS Dance Band. The Soundastics, a BCHS singing group, will also perform, and there will be dance contests, sing-a-longs and a variety of other attractions.

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THE SPOTLIGHT

March 7, 1984
Vol. XXVIII, No. 10

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

BC board: a \$4.4 mil dilemma

By Caroline Terenzini

Building and Grounds Supervisor Bruce Houghton's six-year projection of capital expenditures for the Bethlehem Central School District adds up to a grand total of \$4.4 million. Faced with that impressive figure, the six-member school board is trying to decide which projects must be done when and how to pay for them.

Superintendent Lawrence A. Zinn told board members at a budget work session last Wednesday that the district "probably can't do all these (projects), even in six years." But the administration did, he said, want "to get some feel for whether you want to look at a bond issue — or can struggle along from year to year as we have been." The district has several financing options for capital projects available to it — through the budget, a bond issue, a bond anticipation note, a statutory installment bond and capital notes — but the real question seems to be whether to tackle the projects all at once or a little at a time.

"What absolutely has to be done this year" will cost \$219,000, according to Business Administrator Franz Zwickbauer, some \$35,000 more than the amount in the current budget for capital expenditures. In board member Marjory O'Brien's view, "The whole system is aging — like the rest of us. I don't know if we can keep hobbling along." For example, can the pool at the high school last long enough to warrant a repainting? Can the Middle School tennis courts hold



Theatergoers at the BC 50th anniversary show this weekend will see Sheila Fuller, school board president, and David Murphy, Slingerlands principal, do the Lindy.
Spotlight — Tom Howes

up without \$85,000 in repairs in the six-year projection?"

Board members had a number of other questions Wednesday. Could the sched-

uled drop in debt service payments over the next several years be reallocated to

(Turn to Page 2)

GE employees span the ocean

By Caroline Terenzini

It isn't easy packing up a family of five and moving them — and their furniture — across the ocean to a new home. But Ruud Trion did it, and they are all still smiling.

The Trions packed up last August in their home in Belgium after Ruud learned he was one of a handful of General Electric Co. technicians and engineers chosen for training at the company's plant in Selkirk in preparation for expansion of the GE plastics plant in Bergen op Zoom, Holland.

Ruud and Liesbeth and their three daughters — Marjo, 7; Astrid, 6, and Linda 4 — all but emptied their home in Belgium (a half-hour's drive from the plant in Holland) and set off. Their household belongings came by ship and the long transit time meant a five-week stay for the Trions at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge on Southern Blvd. One of the pluses there was the motel's pool, which the girls used daily.

The Trions are renting a home in Elm Estates; other Dutch families brought here by GE have rented homes in Delmar and Guilderland. The two older girls attend A.W. Becker School in Selkirk, while Linda is enrolled at Woodstream nursery school in Delmar. Despite some quick lessons before leaving Europe, the girls were at a loss in English at first.



Linda, the youngest Trion daughter, was busy making Valentines when the *Spotlight* photographer visited. Her mother Liesbeth, left, and father Ruud look on with sisters Astrud and Marjo.
Spotlight

"It was difficult for the teachers, too" Liesbeth said. She praised the Becker School's efforts to help the girls, which included putting them in nearby classrooms so they could get together during the day if they needed to, and providing language instruction for an hour daily with a special teacher. A scant six months after being thrust into a new world, the

girls all speak fluent English and even use English when they play together at home.

Ruud and Liesbeth learned English during their teen-age years in Holland, where students beginning at age 12 take three foreign languages, typically German, English and French. Ruud had been

(Turn to Page 3)

VOORHEESVILLE

Monday night meeting flap

A conflict of two important meetings on the same night has given candidates in Voorheesville's bubbling political cauldron a gnawing conflict — the campaign or the community?

For the seven aspirants for seats on the village board, the choice next Monday at 7:30 p.m. is between the highly publicized Meet the Candidates Night sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club, or the long-awaited presentation of a revised master plan for village zoning by the village planning commission to the village board.

Both Richard Lennon and Peter Luczak, rivals in the contest for mayor, termed the conflict of dates "unfortunate."

Lennon said Monday the revised zoning concepts to be presented to the board "is of critical importance to our village and has a specific impact on many of our residents." He said the Village Party candidates "will have someone from our slate at each function."

Luczak said Monday he and the two candidates for trustee running with him on the Peoples Party label had decided Sunday night to attend the candidates forum. Luczak added that if the conflict of dates cannot be resolved and one or the other of the meetings changed, he would be "glad to debate Dick Lennon any place, any time."

But Lennon said he would accommodate Luczak and participate in the Kiwanis program. In a statement Monday, he chided the Luczak slate for "accepting the opportunity to 'politic' rather than participate in a decision process crucial to those people taking office in April. Their mayoral candidate (Luczak) wasn't interested enough to show up at the first meeting to hear the people's comments, and now he won't make the last."

Luczak said that members of his support group "cover all meetings, board meetings or otherwise," and that "we will have representatives" at the village hall session Wednesday.

The candidates forum will take place at the American Legion Hall, next door to the village hall, starting at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

Richard Goliber, Kiwanis member in charge of the forum, said the program would go on "regardless of whether all the candidates are there."

When the Kiwanis program was scheduled, Goliber said, he was unaware of a conflict of dates. The date for the zoning session was set at last Tuesday's village board meeting.

Lennon indicated this week that his two running mates, Susan Rockmore and Daniel Reh, would attend the village zoning meeting instead of the Kiwanis forum. Rockmore is a member of the zoning board of appeals; Reh is a village trustee.

Of the seven candidates on the March 20 village ballot, the conflict of dates appeared to catch Reh in the most severe bind. Reh, an incumbent who has put in long hours working on zoning revisions as a trustee and former zoning board member, is embroiled in a rugged

(Turn to Page 6)

Child Find in Bethlehem

Spurred by the nationwide activities of an organization called Child Find, Sue Belemjian of Glenmont approached the Bethlehem Central School District last fall asking for its help in checking on absent elementary children. While a system is in place in the district for truancy checks on older children, there has been no similar follow-up for absent grade schoolers.

As a result of her campaign, the schools have asked parents to notify them if a child will be absent and, lacking such notification, will call the parents if a child is not in school. Mrs. Belemjian, the mother of two, said Bethlehem is the only district in the area with such a calling system.

Kindergarten sign-up

Kindergarten registration for the Bethlehem Central School District will be conducted the week of March 12. Each of the five elementary schools is sending information to the parents of children who will be 5 by Dec. 1 and are known by the school district. Anyone else with a child that age who needs registration

information should call the nearest elementary school.

Kindergarteners are assigned to schools on a districtwide basis and may not be attending the school nearest home. In this case, the district will assign a child to the "home" school for first grade. Assignments are mailed to parents about two weeks before school.

Solutions to Glenmont overcrowding are aired

Solutions to cramped quarters at Bethlehem's Glenmont Elementary School were aired Thursday at a meeting at the school that drew some 200 interested parents. The Parent-Teacher Association, headed by Judy Parry of Glenmont, had scheduled the session so options could be discussed. Parents also were asked for their suggestions and these were to be included in a presentation to the school board Tuesday evening.

Glenmont Principal Don Robillard outlined the options the district has come up with so far, which are: busing all kindergarteners to another school where there is space (possibly Elsmere or Hamagrael), construction of two interior rooms at the rear of the auditorium, partial redistricting, and major redistricting. The parents at Thursday's meeting, in weighted balloting, favored busing the kindergarteners elsewhere, although major redistricting was their second choice. Superintendent Lawrence A. Zinn said he favored constructing inside

rooms, "but the difficulty is that it costs money." Zinn also said he prefers, if possible, to have a "home" kindergarten in each elementary school.

It reportedly would take a year to effect major redistricting, but just how good a solution that is isn't clear. There is about a 20 percent "turnover" in the district population each year, according to district officials, which to some extent redistributes the children. Then, too, the process of aging means that a "bulge" in the school population moves through the lower grades to the middle school and then the high school, so while 80 percent of the population year to year stays put, the youngsters are moving through the schools and out.

The school board, in the process of developing a budget to present voters in May, will be discussing staffing at a budget work session Saturday, March 24, and what to do about the Glenmont school will be part of that discussion, Zinn said.

Caroline Terenzini

Budget dilemma

(From Page 1)

capital projects? Bernard Harvith wanted to know. Debt service for this coming year is nearly half a million dollars, but this figure will drop dramatically in the next several years. For example, the rehabilitation bond issue of 1976 — when the district last undertook a major building repair and update — will shortly be paid off. Harvith also was concerned about the cost of borrowing. According to one projection, "we're going to end up repaying almost \$5 million to get \$3 million," he said.

Board member Robert Ruslander wanted to know "what the tax rate would be with the necessary projects in the budget and with a bond issue. Isn't that a critical issue here?"

Mrs. O'Brien noted that revenue from a bond issue is dedicated to the purposes for which the debt is incurred, while attempting to finance the work through the budget could mean that the board "would find other uses for that money," she said.

If, when all things are considered, the board opts for a bond issue, "I think we should probably tell the public before they vote on the budget," Harvith said.

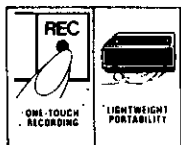
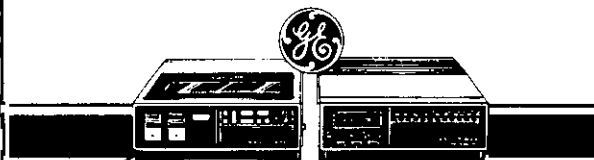
That vote is scheduled in May. A vote on the bond issue, if that is the chosen route, would probably be in the fall because the necessary paperwork could not be done sooner.

In other business at the budget session, the board went over the proposed allocations for the district transportation. Four buses are scheduled to be purchased by the district this year, at a cost of \$91,000 (down \$7,000 from this year's prices). In addition, Zwicklbauer asked the board to consider hiring an assistant for Transportation Supervisor Gardiner Tanner, saying, "We're one-deep as far as administration is concerned." Another proposed outlay is \$21,000 for a computer program that would do the district's bus routing, now done manually. Decisions will be made later, as the board weighs competing needs.

Time for public comment is on the agenda for each board business meeting and, in addition, board President Sheila Fuller has allocated five minutes at the beginning of budget work sessions for the public to address the board. The board was scheduled to meet Tuesday this week and its next meeting will be Wednesday, March 14.

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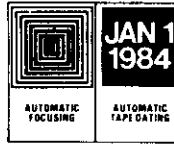
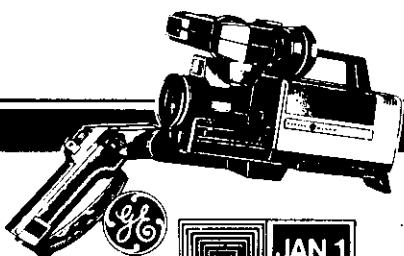


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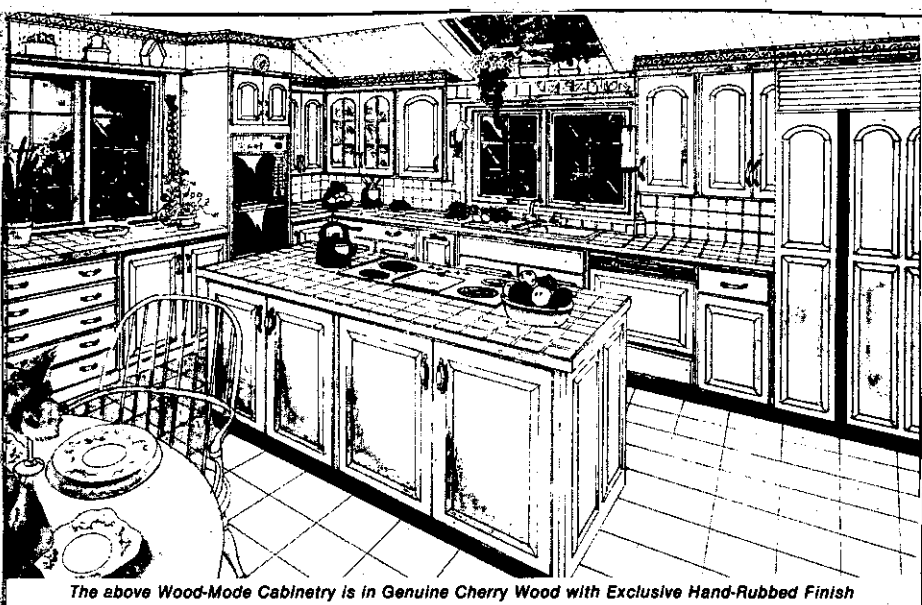
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H.E. Degreenia, Tennessee Gas Transmission Co. engineer, used maps and aerial photos to show New Scotland residents route options for the proposed natural gas pipeline looping the south end of the Vly Creek Reservoir. *Spotlight*

Town declines to seek rehearing on pipeline

The route of the proposed natural gas pipeline across private lands in New Scotland has been narrowed to two alternatives following a special meeting of the town board.

At the conclusion of a two-hour dialogue with property owners and Tennessee Gas Transmission Co. officials, the town board officially bowed out of the matter, leaving the final decision on the route of the 30-inch line up to the company in private negotiations with landholders.

Supervisor Stephen P. Wallace called last Thursday's meeting to seek a consensus in the face of the March 5 deadline for filing a petition for a rehearing before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington, D.C., sponsors of the proposed pipeline.

After owners of two properties among those affected by various routes proposed for the 7-mile loop by-passing the Vly Creek Reservoir had agreed to meet with Tennessee Gas engineers, Wallace adjourned the session and told the near capacity audience:

"It's apparent that you people who are affected by the coming of the pipeline can achieve more by getting together yourselves and talking to the pipeline people than by filing for an appeal. I think it's obvious that the company is making a real effort to please as many of the property owners as possible and cause the least impact."

Of several alternate routes considered for the loop around the south end of the reservoir, company engineers reportedly

are leaning toward either a route roughly paralleling an existing power line or making a sharp angle around the reservoir to shorten the distance to the right-of-way of the present 24-inch pipeline.

In each case the company is committed to avoid private wells and springs as well as houses and barns, and to follow property lines to the maximum extent possible rather than cutting across properties.

In a presentation at last Thursday's session, the second in two weeks on the pipeline controversy, H.E. Degreenia, engineer in charge of the project, used aerial photos to trace the route options. Degreenia and several company associates also fielded questions from some 20 New Scotland residents.

Albert Miller, Sr., a prominent New Scotland farmer who is the third generation to work a farm on Clipp Rd., read a prepared statement that emphatically declared his opposition to a second route across his fields. In the statement, Miller said that when the original line was put through in 1951, he lost a valuable spring that provided water for his cattle. He also stated that "our fields have not been as productive" since the line was built across his property 23 years ago.

Several residents accused the company of shoddy practices during construction of the original line, notably as a result of extensive blasting of the town's thick limestone bedrock underlying much of the land in the vicinity of the reservoir.

Degreenia conceded that construction techniques in 1951 "were not as effective"

and pledged that modern practices have been refined through advanced technology.

"We can promise a minimum of disruption, and in much of the route you will never know we'd been there," he told the audience. "We've got to do that. "We're going to have a lot of people watching us."

A majority of the audience made it clear they preferred the new line to use the existing right-of-way across the reservoir, which supplies part of Bethlehem's water. The 1951 line was built several years before the reservoir appropriated land on each side of the Tennessee Gas right-of-way and flooded a section of the pipeline.

Bethlehem's request to divert the new line around the reservoir was supported by the Albany County Health Department and the state Public Service Commission, but the environmental assessment filed for the proposed loop did not include an evaluation of the New Scotland section.

Degreenia indicated he would confer with property owners this week in an effort to reach an amicable decision on whether to choose the so-called "power-line route" or the route he termed "the 90-degree route."

Construction is scheduled to start in July. The new line, which for the most part parallels the company's present line from the East Texas gas fields to the New England coast, is scheduled to be completed by November.

Picketing planned

William Cleveland, president of the Bethlehem Central Teachers Association, said Monday teachers plan to picket performances of the high school's 50th anniversary variety show on Friday and Saturday evenings. Negotiations on a contract with the district appear stalled at the moment, with no meeting of the two sides scheduled. The district's 230 teachers have been working without a contract since July 1.

Teachers lend a hand

A cadre of Bethlehem Central teachers will be answering telephones Sunday afternoon during public television station WMHT's membership drive. It will be the third year that Bethlehem teachers as a group have volunteered to help the station. Joan Barron, librarian at Elsmere Elementary School, said the teachers have volunteered to help the publicly supported station because Channel 17 programming provides a service to the district.

□ GE family

(From Page 1)

to the United States five times before, so he felt at ease, but for Liesbeth, "it was hard at the beginning, because you couldn't really say what you mean." But supermarkets are the same here and "you have to cook and clean no matter where you are," so her life has slipped into a routine, including weekly tennis sessions at Southwood Tennis Club.

There have been some surprises. For example, Halloween and Valentine's Day were brand-new to the Trions. But the girls got caught up in the spirit of those special days and went out trick-or-treating and later, while chatting with this reporter, Astrid neatly inscribed several dozen valentines. The family has made good use of area parks, but a trip to Lake George was a disappointment — "You can't get near the lake!"

Back home, there is no morning television and the children's programs there are more likely to be educational than those in the United States, although there are cartoons in Belgium, too. On Belgian evening TV, programs from England or America are common and German movies also are shown, all with subtitles. Some of Ruud's free time is spent at the keyboard of their home computer, where he wrote a family finance program that handles Belgian francs, Dutch guilders and U.S. dollars.

The plant at Bergen op Zoom, where there are some 1,000 workers, is being expanded because of the growing market for GE's plastics, including the thermoplastic resin Noryl. Uses for Noryl include in computers and business equipment, TV cabinets, instrument panels and hubcaps, among others. The expansion "is creating new work for Americans, too" Trion said.

While there are difficulties in being transplanted, the Trions are grateful for the helping hands extended by both GE people and neighbors. And America is growing in them: the children "are not too fond" of pizza, but their favorite restaurant is McDonald's. For Ruud, "the open spaces, the changes in the seasons, and the freedom" are attractions. "People in Belgium live close together," he said, "so they talk more and they fight more. Here, this is your home, your piece of the world. You've got a lot of freedom here to do what you want to do."

Nonetheless, the children miss their grandparents and their friends in Belgium, and Trion is a little wistful about the almost brand-new home they left behind. A house he and Liesbeth helped design and build. They plan to be back in time for Christmas.

THE SPOTLIGHT

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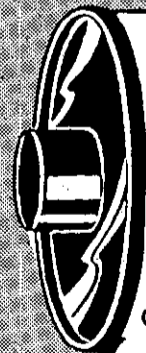
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PRD at end of Delmar By-Pass?

By Vincent Potenza

The Bethlehem Planning Board has been presented with plans to develop some 59 acres at the end of the Delmar By-Pass as a planned residence district that would contain some 336 units.

At its meeting last week the board informally heard from David Siegal plans that would call for the development of some 328 apartment units, to be divided between rentals and condominiums, and eight large single-family lots on the site, currently zoned AA-Residential. The development would include a recreation area consisting of a pool and tennis courts, Siegal said.

Board Chairman Charles Redmond noted that Siegal's plans made no provision for the possibility of extension of the by-pass to the west, and Siegal said he had spoken to the State Department of Transportation and was told there were currently no plans for the extension.

Edward Kleinke, planning consultant to the board, said he felt that a corridor of some sort should be left through the site nonetheless, and members of the board seemed to agree with him.

Siegal told board members that he thought allowing a corridor of the sort Kleinke proposed would render a significant portion of the land undevelopable. He found himself in the position of either doing nothing or assuming the highway would not be extended and moving ahead with plans for development, he said.

Redmond told Siegal the board would consider the matter and schedule further discussion with him for a later meeting.

The whole concept of planned residence districts again came up later that night when Redmond asked board members if they considered asking the town for the power to "cluster" buildings without recommending the zoning change to a planned district, something the board had begun to discuss at its previous meeting.

Under the zoning ordinance as it now reads, projects such as Siegal's can only be carried out in a planned residence dis-

trict, which entails a zoning change made by the town board.

This rezoning is made upon a "concept" presented to the town by the developer. Town officials say, however, that after the zone change the site is developable under any use permitted in the ordinance for the zone after a building project approval by the planning board. Some planned districts remain in town without any building project approval for a particular use.

The new power the planners may ask for is derived from Section 281 of the state Town Law, which allows modifications in setbacks and lot sizes in a zone without changing the permitted use in that zone.

Kleinke told board members that if they wanted the power there would be a need to draw up regulations similar to those now in effect for site plan approval. Board member John LaForte said he saw no reason to ask for the new power and all the attendant bureaucracy. If the board didn't like the idea of a zoning change, he said, it always had the option of turning it down.

After some discussion it was decided to ask the town board if all three boards at town hall could hear a presentation on Section 281 from a state official before any action was taken on the matter.

In other business, the board:

- Held a public hearing for a one-lot subdivision off McCormack Rd. near the Cherry Ave. extension in Slingerlands for the Mariana Trust. No one in attendance spoke in opposition to the proposal.
- Granted final approval for the Havenwood subdivision, 12 lots off N. Helderberg Pkwy. and Mayfair Dr., Slingerlands.
- Heard a presentation for Rene Facchetti, who proposes to subdivide two lots on Rt. 9W that will each contain a 14-unit apartment building. Each lot contains approximately two acres.
- Approved a site plan submitted by Fred and Bill Weber for a new garage to be located on their property at 262-264 Delaware Ave., Elsmere.
- Approved a site plan application from

Andrew Chajnyk' for a duplex to be constructed on Elm Place off Schoolhouse Rd., N. Bethlehem.

• Heard from Board Attorney Earl Jones that the change in building project approval requested at the previous meeting by Isaac Giwerc so that he could construct larger duplexes in Section 5 of the Skycrest (Elm Estates) subdivision was not necessary. Giwerc had already been granted that permission in the BPA, Jones said. The building department had apparently failed to notice it.

It was noted that the duplexes proposed for the section will be in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District, not partially in the Bethlehem Central School District, as reported at the public hearing for the BPA some two years ago.

Scheduled for the board's meeting yesterday (Tuesday), March 6 was an informal discussion of a proposal to develop 30 to 40 lots in the former Delwood subdivision on Rockefeller

Rd., Elsmere, by the Dime Savings Bank/Mechanics Exchange.

Scheduled for the board's March 20 meeting is discussion of a proposal by Howard Nolan and Norris McFarland, owners of Delaware Plaza, to subdivide some 92 acres on the north side of Delaware Ave. to Orchard St. No details of the plan were available last week.

Clarksville water set

The New Scotland Town Board is expected to authorize a permissive referendum for the establishment of a water district for Clarksville at its regular monthly business meeting tonight (Wednesday).

More than 75 residents of the hamlet attended a public hearing last Thursday at the Clarksville Community Church and heard Ronald LaBerge, the town's engineering consultant, present plans for the proposed system. The firm is evaluating several wells in the area as a source of water.

The \$3-million system would be financed by federal funds, \$987,000 by grant and \$329,000 by a 40-year loan at 7½ percent.



It was a perfect match. When Greg Jackson, left, treasurer of the Bethlehem Festival, saw the change collecting at the Delmar Stewart's shop, he asked manager John Lehman who it was for. Stewart's didn't have a recipient in mind, so Jackson had a gift for one of the town's least publicized charitable activities — about 15 pounds worth of silver. Tom Howes

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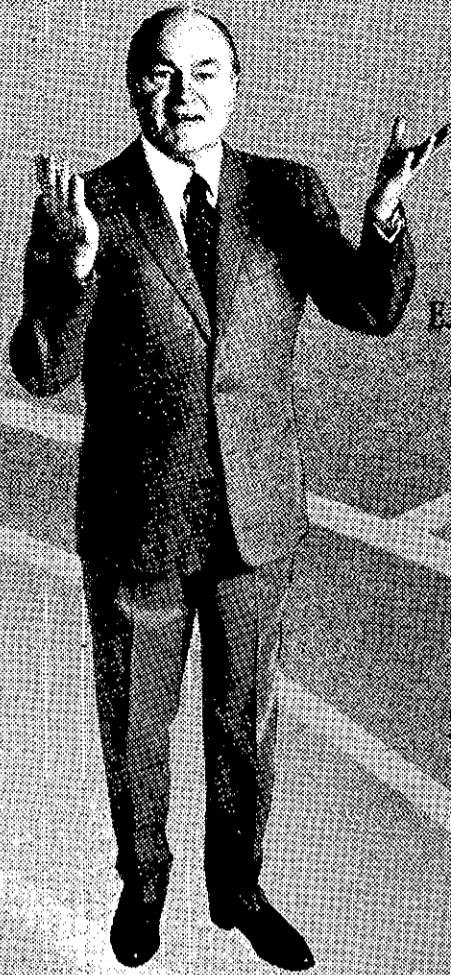
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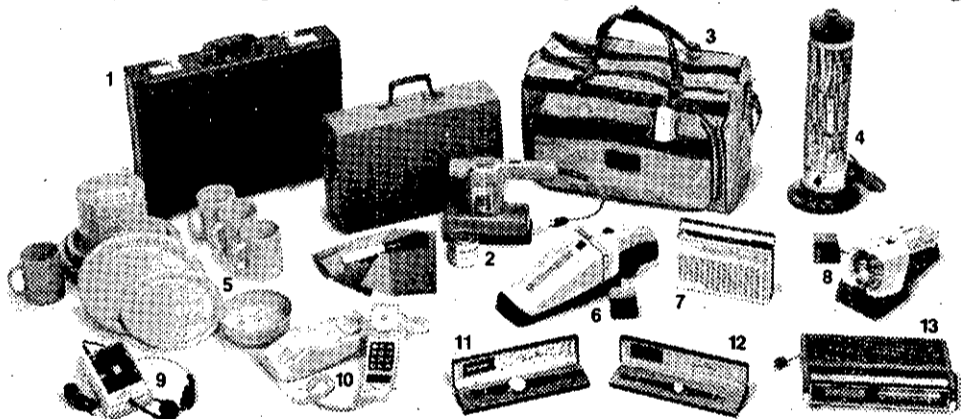
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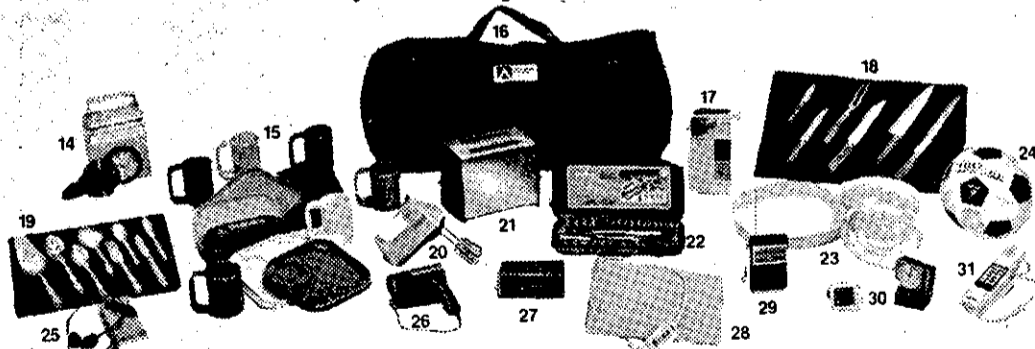
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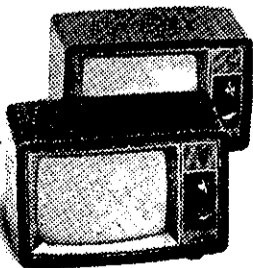
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Member FSLIC

Village board again says no to outside water use

By Tom Howes

Neither the presence of five of the seven candidates for village office nor the rapidly approaching March 20 election could generate much discussion at Tuesday's well-attended Village Board meeting. Approximately 20 people about twice the average number listened as the board hurried through its agenda, as well as a brief public hearing on federal revenue sharing options.

What discussion there was centered on topics that haven't happened yet or perhaps won't happen at all.

In keeping with current policy, the board denied a water tap request from Bernard J. Stempel of Winding Ln., who had hoped to build a home on New Salem Rd. this spring.

Mayor Milton F. Bates said the village doesn't give water taps outside the village.

"We represent the village," said trustee Daniel Reh. "We have to concern ourselves with the residents first." He added the board had seen a "lot of gyrations" to protect the water supply.

Trustee Richard Langford said "there's about seven miles of water lines outside the village that would have about the same problem Stempel has." Board member Douglas DeDe agreed, but said "those things need to begin to be explored."

"If we start giving out one tap, we'd be compelled to start giving out taps to other people," said trustee Larry Dedrick.

The board voted unanimously to deny the request.

In other action, People's Party mayoral candidate Peter Luczak recommended the board look into a bulk mailing permit to reduce the costs of village mailings.

Currently, the village sends out three or four village-wide mailings a year, at 20 cents per piece. With a bulk permit, which costs \$40 a year plus a \$40 initial fee, the per piece cost would drop to 5 or 6 cents, Luczak said.

Village Clerk Judi Gray said the village had already done some checking and does not qualify for a non-profit permit. That, apparently, differs from a bulk permit, though.

"It might be worth exploring with the postmaster," said Luczak.

Turning elsewhere, the board:

- Said it had no plans yet for a Salem Hills Filtration Plant public hearing. Bates said village negotiators were still determining the ongoing repair and maintenance figures involved, but that a basic purchase price had been reached. He did not reveal it.

- Announced a March 12 combined village board-planning commission meeting to discuss the village's zoning master plan. The time, not yet finalized, will be 7:30 or 8 p.m.

- Heard suggestions for federal revenue sharing projects. The village has \$17,000 in revenue sharing funds this year, which can be used for anything except lowering taxes. The ideas were: a leaf vacuum, sidewalk snowplow, fire engine, salt shed, gazebo and a community sign to publicize village events.

Train show Sunday

The annual spring model train extravaganza, the Capitaland Train Meet, will take place Sunday, March 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension, Albany. More than 125 booths and tables have been taken by dealers and collectors. Admission is \$1.50 for adults.



Voorheesville fifth graders Dan Tarullo, Sean Foley and Greg Gainer display "warm fuzzies" in front of the bulletin board outside their room. The project spearheaded by teacher Andrea Gleason and science coordinator Don Otterness involves the whole school in the fundraising effort for the Jeff Clark Olympic Fund. The furry creatures are made from sheep skins provided by Otterness from his farm, and are turned into the loveable pets by the children themselves.

Candidates forum

(From Page 1)

political struggle to retain his seat in the face of a highly organized challenge from Salem Hills neighbors Thomas Mensching and Philip Joyce.

Reh said on Monday that although he was "well aware that my absence from the forum could be politically costly," said he would be at the zoning session. "I am a village trustee, and there is no question where I should be that night," he added.

Reh said village officials have targeted March 27, the date for the final village board meeting of the present fiscal year, for adoption of the master plan. The reason, he said, is to avoid a long orientation process to familiarize the incoming village board with the revisions, particularly if three of the five members are new. The incoming board takes office April 1.

The restructured master plan for village zoning has been in the works for the better part of 10 years. The planning commission, headed by Robert Cureau, intensified its studies a year ago in the wake of new state mandates, including procedures for environmental quality review (SEQR) that has an impact on municipal zoning and planning.

Reh said this week that the revisions to the master plan, the first in more than 10 years, "are not major, but there are considerations for changing several areas from Commercial to Residential."

The planning commission held a public informational hearing last Monday night and a second session Monday of this week. The final report will be given to the village board next Monday, the same night as the candidates forum.

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Lenten study program begins March 14

A Lenten program of religious study entitled "An Adventure in Spiritual Reflection" is planned during March and April by the New Scotland Presbyterian Church and the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville. Two offerings will be presented on each of five Wednesdays during Lent. Group A, "Suffering in Faith," will be led by the Rev. Gregory Pike using as a text *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* by Harold Kushner. Group B will discuss "Spiritual Formation" led by the Rev. Richard Hibbert. They will use *Reaching Out* by Henri Nouwen as a text. Copies of the books will be available at the first session at a modest cost.

The series will begin on Wednesday, March 14, when an opening covered-dish supper will be held at the Methodist Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. The supper is open to everyone whether or not they are participating in the study program. Those who attend should bring a dish to share and table service. Child care will be provided. The classes will begin at 7:30 and end at 9 p.m. with both groups initially meeting at the Methodist Church.

The following three meetings — on March 21 and 28 and April 4 — will run from 7:30 to 9 p.m. also with Group A at the Presbyterian Church and Group B at the Methodist Church. The final session on Wednesday, April 11, will be held at the same time with both groups at the New Scotland Presbyterian Church, followed by a communion service at 9 p.m.

Registration should be made by March 12. To obtain information or registration forms, contact Rev. Hibbert at 765-2895 or Rev. Pike at 439-6454.

Voorheesville NEWS NOTES

Lyn Stapf 765-2451



Parenting topic

The final session of a series sponsored by the Voorheesville Parent-Teacher-Student Association will be Thursday, March 15, at the high school, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Dr. David Nevin, a child and clinical psychologist, will discuss "Parenting." All are welcome to attend.

Trash to cash

The Human Concerns Committee of St. Matthew's Church would like to change trash into cash with the help of the community. The group, which helped area families in need with food and fuel bills, is taking advantage of Price Chopper Supermarkets' label refund program and is collecting the unit pricing codes (UPC) on Price Chopper and Value Pac canned and frozen foods and paper products. Marie Hill, chairman of the group, said only the UPC's (the little lined and numbered codes on the label) are needed and they may be cut out, leaving the rest of the label intact. Those who would like to donate UPCs so the group may receive five cents apiece may leave the clipped codes at the back of the church. The drive will end March 25.

The next meeting of the committee will be Thursday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. at 154 Stonington Hill Rd. All residents of the community are welcome to attend.

Shamrocks in style

To celebrate "the wearing of the green," in style a St. Patrick's Day party is planned for Friday, March 16, in the

social area of St. Matthew's Church. A social hour is planned at 7 p.m. with a hot and cold buffet, including corned beef and salads at 8 p.m. followed by dancing to the music of Tom Thorpe from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. The ticket price of \$15 per couple includes the buffet, beer, set-ups and snacks.

Those wanting tickets may contact Mike Burns at 765-4390, Dennis Sullivan at 765-2440 or Tony Manning at 765-2412, or may stop at the church rectory between 9 a.m. and noon weekdays. Since seating is limited, those interested in attending should obtain their tickets as soon as possible, according to the chairmen of the event.

Finale for hoopsters

The basketball season may be gone, but it is not forgotten. On Thursday, March 22, there will be a dinner and program honoring the hard work and dedication of all the coaches and students who participated in the 1983-84 basketball program. The event will begin at 6 p.m. at the Bavarian Chalet in Gunderland. Tickets for the boneless breast of chicken dinner are \$9.50 a person and will be sold at the high school during lunch periods on Tuesday, March 13, and Wednesday, March 14. Those wanting more information may contact Sue Rockmore at 765-3661.

GOP to dine, dance

The eighth annual GOP dinner will be on Friday, March 23, at the Colonic Country Club. The prime rib dinner will be served at 8 p.m. followed by dancing to the music of "Changes." Tickets for the dinner are \$25 a person. For information of reservations contact Anne Carson at 765-2588 or Fred Edmunds at either 765-2075 or 456-3391.

Air bands again

Those who have never seen an "air band" shouldn't miss the opportunity this Friday, March 9, when the second annual Air Band Contest takes place at the Voorheesville High School. That night some 10 bands will perform "ingenious acts to popular songs in an attempt to portray the original groups as seen on

MTV, with the best act receiving a \$100 prize. There is a \$1.50 donation for the program, which begins at 7 p.m. Proceeds will go to several funds, including the Special Olympics. The public is invited.

Wrestling Signup

There will be registration for Pee Wee Wrestling Thursday, March 8, from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the high school. Open to students in grades one through eight, the program begins on Tuesday, March 13 and runs through Thursday, April 12. Each wrestler will receive a time schedule at registration. To obtain more information about the program, or a registration form, interested parents are asked to call the grade school at 765-2382 or the high school at 765-3314.

Lunch rescheduled

Those senior citizens who were disappointed by the cancellation of the lunch that was originally scheduled. President Lois Crouse announces that the lunch of soup, tuna boats and chocolate chip cookies planned for that snowy day will be served on Wednesday, March 14. Those who have already signed up for that meal do not have to do so again. Others who are interested in taking advantage of the lunch special to be served at the senior citizens center before their craft meeting should contact her at 765-2109 as soon as possible.

Neighbors elect

The Feura Bush Neighborhood Association has elected Judith Wing as president and Bill Lilley as vice president. Other officers are Heidi Sengenberger, recording secretary; Marty Zaloga, corresponding secretary and Robert Smith, treasurer. At the next association meeting, in April, the agenda calls for discussion of a proposed park, a community cleanup day and pet control.

To hear talk on eagles

The Bethlehem Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at the Bethlehem Public Library. Ronald Dodson, Northeast representative of the National Audubon Society, will speak on "Last Stronghold of the Eagle."

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John F. Longley, left, of Slingerlands, whose amateur radio call sign is W2ANB, receives a plaque marking his 60 years of continuous membership in the American Radio Relay League, the national organization of amateur radio operators. Presenting the plaque at a meeting of the Albany Amateur Radio Association, of which Longley is a former president, is Bill Lowenberg, W200J, of Delmar, an assistant director of the League. Longley, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, worked on radar communications with the Army Air Corps in WWII and with the Bell Laboratories after the war.

RCS honor roll issued

Students with cumulative averages between 85 and 89 percent at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School have been named to the honor roll for the second semester. They are:

Grade Nine

Joseph Cacckello, Raymond Denney, Stephen DeAcetis, Theresa Frey, Lori Fullum, Mary Gleason, Jon Gregware, Patricia Guthrie, Kevin Hommel, Sherrie LaRose, Catherine LeClerc, Victor Manilenko, Kenneth Newkirk, Marisa Nunziato, Susan Penk, Marie Setford, Shelly Snyder, Michael Taylor, George Travis and Anthony Williams.

Grade Ten

Rebecca Arrieta, Keith Berger, Kevin Coons, David Court, Patricia Downs, Kimberly Farrell, Andrew Felter, Karen Finch, Ian Goodrich, Colleen Halloran, Amy Harris, Cary Hester, Scott Houghtaling, Gregory Irwin, Wendy Jones, Lisa Kane, Scott Keating, Margaret Lalor, Pauline Mayo, Leatta Mizener, Michael Mogul, Divina Pannone, Christopher Peterson, Susan Raynor, Richard Roberts, Jennifer Schultz, Henry Shoddy, Wayne Smith, Robin Spooner, Shirley VanAlstyne, Christina Watson and Mary Wickware.

Grade Eleven

Kimberly Bremigen, Meridith Bryant, Gary

Carleton, William Carroll, Christina DiPerna, Donna Dottino, Dawn Flint, Kimberly Frasl, Lisa Griffith, Loren Heffernan, Marjorie Kleinhans, Dana Leslie, Darin Marsh, Annette Motley, Judi Mulligan, Dana Pickett, Beth Raynor, Rebecca Ross, Patricia Sandgren, Richard Smith, Tammy Stumbaugh, Stanley Tomek, Michele Trombley, Alan VanWormer, Michelle VanKampen, Christine Wade and Kenneth Warner.

Grade Twelve

Larry Albertson, Paula Bartholomew, Jeff Bicono, Richard Christoph, John Frazzetta, Lisa Fullum, Marilisa Ingraham, Christine Jackson, Jacquelyn Janicke, Sharon Lalor, Peggy Lambert, Maria Libertucci, Sharon Losee, Robert Lydon, Judith Mahar, Lina Mizener, Dawn Mueller, Susanne Newell, Christine Persico, Jill Rafferty, Martha Roach, Kimberly Ruso, Dawn Salin, Tracey Samuels, Laura Smith, Patricia Smith, Deanna Tibertia, Dinh De Tran, Joseph Truttman and Christopher Williams.

Project Hope training

The Bethlehem-Coeymans unit of Project Hope, a treatment program for alcohol and drug abusers, was scheduled to provide training Tuesday to the faculty at the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central Schools with the goal of increasing awareness of alcohol and drug use among school children. The training is part of a pilot project offered to area school districts.

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Book fair at high school

Hodge-Podge Books, an Albany bookstore co-owned by SUNYA Prof. Frank Hodge and Gayle Doyle of Delmar, will provide the merchandise to be sold at the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk PTO's annual children's book fair. It will be held at the high school March 12 to 15, from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m.

At that time books will only be previewed, so that students can bring order forms home to discuss their selections with their parents. Among the classics offered will be books by Beverly Cleary, Judy Blume and Mother Goose.

Proceeds from the book fair will be used to purchase books for R-C-S school libraries. Volunteers interested in working at the fair should call Linda Marshall at 756-6421.

Soldier of 1776

Michael Kelly, an area resident and American Revolutionary War enthusiast, recently spoke to the seventh graders at the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Junior High School. Attired in the dress of an Albany County militia man, Kelly spoke of the role of the common soldier in the war for independence. Equipment of the foot soldier was explained and demonstrated for the students. The presentation was part of the seventh grade study of what was and how it affected the 18th century citizenry.

Lenten services today

Today marks the beginning of Lent, and area churches will be holding worship services to celebrate Ash Wednesday. The Rev. Allen Janssen, pastor of the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, will conduct services at 7:30 p.m. at the church, Rt. 9W, Selkirk.

Worship will also begin at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church of South Bethlehem, with services led by the Rev.

NEWS FROM SELKIRK AND SOUTH BETHLEHEM

Barbara Pickup 767-9225



Kenneth Miller. The United Methodist Women of South Bethlehem will not have their regular monthly meeting this evening because of the Ash Wednesday service.

Tales of restoration

Jean Balint, a member of the Bethlehem Historical Association, is inviting the public to a tour of her 1890 home, the Wynkoop House, by means of a slide-talk program. The program is scheduled for 8 p.m., Thursday, March 15, in the Cedar Hill Schoolhouse Museum, Rt. 144 and Clapper Rd., Selkirk. Recently the Balints have done restoration work on the house, which makes for some interesting stories. An informal discussion will be included to give the public the opportunity to ask questions. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Pancakes on Sunday

Whatever plans you may already have for this Sunday morning, you may want to set aside time for a home-style pancake breakfast. The Bethlehem Junior Grange will do all the work. The group is having a pancake breakfast this Sunday, March 11, at the Grange Hall, Rt. 396, Beckers Corners, Selkirk. Beginning at 7 a.m. with continuous serving until 1 p.m., they will be offering a menu that includes juice, pancakes, sausage, milk gravy, eggs, applesauce and beverage. Tickets are available at the door.

For eighth graders' parents

Victor Carrk, principal of the RCS Senior High School, and the senior guidance department will conduct an informational meeting for parents of eighth-grade students Thursday, March 8, in the senior high auditorium. The program, which begins at 7:30 p.m., will cover course selection, program planning and graduation requirements for students who will be in ninth grade this fall. Parents are to bring their students' scheduling handbook with them to the meeting.

Fish fry Friday

If you missed the fish fries the auxiliary of Selkirk Fire Co. #1 put on last fall, the women are sponsoring another this Friday evening, March 9, at the Selkirk Firehouse, Maple Ave. The dinner will begin at 4:30 p.m., with serving until 7 p.m. Take-out orders will be available, including fish, French fries, cole slaw and beverage. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. Your own containers for take-out orders would be appreciated. Orders may be placed in advance by contacting Elsie Wilsie, 767-9545, or calling the firehouse on Friday, 767-9951.

Everybody's a bit Irish

Everyone seems to be at least a little bit Irish when St. Patrick's Day arrives, and the Bethlehem Elks seem to be no exception. They've planned a very special evening for the occasion. They'll be celebrating "the wearin' of the green," Saturday, March 17, beginning at 7:30 p.m. with a family style corned beef and cabbage dinner and dance. Members and guests will enjoy music for dancing from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. provided by the original J.F. and Company. Tickets are available at the lodge, Rt. 144, Selkirk, or by calling Dave or Sharon Leonard, 756-9233.

Sunshiners to meet

The Sunshine Senior Citizens of Selkirk-South Bethlehem will meet Monday, March 12, at the First Re-

formed Church of Bethlehem, Rt. 9W, Selkirk. The program will begin at noon with a covered-dish luncheon. Any senior who would like to attend is invited.

Pops concert

The music department of the RCS Senior High School will present the annual pops concert Friday at 8 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. Seating will be cabaret-style and refreshments will be sold by the National Honor Society. Reserve seat tickets are available in advance from all music department members. General admission tickets will be available at the door.

Music for the evening will be provided by the jazz band, senior band, Senior Chorus and members of the cast for The Sound of Music." The public is invited.


House call unwelcome

A Ravena woman who lost control of her car early Friday on Elm Ave. in Selkirk found herself an unintended visitor at a home near the road. According to the Bethlehem police report, a car driven by Kathleen Conrad, 54, went off the road, hit a small tree and then crashed into the dwelling at 277 Elm Ave., which, police said, was occupied at the time. The residents reportedly were not injured. The driver was charged with unreasonable speed.

Harassing calls

A spate of harassing telephone calls in recent weeks has annoyed Bethlehem residents and put police on the lookout. In one recent case, a caller to the Capital District Psychiatric Center threatened suicide and gave another person's name. The CDPC advised Bethlehem police, who followed up on the call only to find it was a nuisance call.

Police said such callers can be charged with aggravated harassment and face court action. In the case of apparently random harassment calls, recipients are advised to contact NYNEX. If a pattern of such calls is found, the line will be tapped.



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THE SPOTLIGHT — March 7, 1984 — PAGE 9

Five Wednesdays

"Wonderful Wednesdays" will translate to "non-denominational community fellowship" during Lent at the Delmar First United Methodist Church. The five-part series, which extends from March 14 to April 11, begins with dinner at 6 p.m.

Afterward, adults can participate in discussions on the alternatives to violence, folk arts and crafts, a Bible study on the Book of Revelation, a good health and exercise workshop or classes on United Methodist Church history and mission. There will be a story hour, games and movies for younger children, and a discussion about understanding and building friendship, breaking up and loneliness for teenagers. Child care will be provided for preschoolers.

Only the meal, which is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children, is a church fundraising activity. For information, call the church at 439-9976.

Ash Wednesday service

The Faith Evangelical Church in Glenmont will observe Ash Wednesday with a service of holy communion and an imposition of ashes at 8:30 p.m. tonight. For information, call the church office at 465-2188.



Rev. Mark Bratrud of the Full Gospel Fellowship will be the first speaker in the Tri-Village Ecumenical Lenten Bible Studies series. Rev. Bratrud will speak Wednesday, March 14, at 10 a.m. at Delmar Reformed Church. His topic: "In the Beginning."

Your child's intellect

Hans Furth, an internationally-known child psychologist who studied with Piaget, will discuss children's intellectual development with parents on Monday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the Bethlehem Central High School. Admission is \$1. For information, call Cheryl Stees at 439-4921 (ext. 269) mornings.

Explore 2 faiths

An interfaith seminar on the relation between Judaism and Christianity is planned on six dates in March and April by Congregation Ohav Shalom and the Cathedral of All Saints. The seminar, titled "Root and Branch," will be conducted alternately at the synagogue and cathedral. Preregistration is required. For information, call the cathedral at 465-1342 or Ohav Shalom, 489-4706.

Congregation Ohav Shalom also has scheduled two speakers on related subjects. Prof. Lawrence Baron of St. Lawrence University will speak on "Righteous Gentiles — The Holocaust and Human Decency" on Friday, March 16, in the evening, and Prof. Peter Zaas of Siena College will speak on the origins of Judaism and Christianity and "A Jewish Perspective on Christianity" on May 18 and 19. For information, including times, call Ohav Shalom at the number above.

Prayer series set

The Ladies of Charity, diocese of Albany, will have a Lenten prayer series on four Tuesdays during Lent at St. Ambrose Church, Latham. The meetings will be at 10:30 a.m. March 13 and 20 and April 3 and 10. For information, call 439-5575.

Dance at St. Thomas

The St. Thomas Church parish will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a dinner-dance at its school auditorium on Saturday, March 17. The corned beef and cabbage dinner catered by Mendel's will be served at 7 p.m., and the dancing will follow from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. J.D. Rocco and Co. will be performing.

For information and tickets, call Eileen Brooks at 439-5896.

Seminars at church

The First Church in Albany (Reformed) has scheduled five Wednesday evening programs during Lent, beginning with a supper at 6 p.m. March 14 followed by activities and seminars for young children, teenagers and adults. Reservations for the supper may be made by calling the church office, 463-4449. The church is at N. Pearl St. and Clinton Square.

Speaking of prayer

Sister Sylvia Rosell, a Dominican from Stillwater, will talk about personal prayer Monday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church.

Sister Sylvia is one of the featured speakers for Lent and the second semester of RENEW which is entitled "Our Response to the Lord's Call." She will close the evening with a prayer experience. The community is invited.

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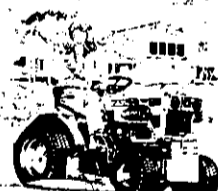
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If Christ returned today . . .

By Vincent Potenza

Father Pat sat listening with a look of awe. When Joshua finished, the priest asked him how he knew so much about the Church and the Christian life. Joshua just smiled.

Joshua, By Joseph Francis Girzone, 310 pp., Richelieu Court, 1983, \$12.

Joshua knew so much because He is Christ, returned to see what His Church is up to and how His legacy is being lived.

He is not impressed.

Joseph Girzone is a retired Catholic priest born in Albany 54 years ago who entered the seminary at 14 by his own choice, as he puts it. Ordained in 1955, he taught in the Bronx and in the mining community of Pottsville, Pa., then the seminary in Auburn, N.Y. He entered the Albany Diocese in 1964 and became involved in what he calls "community programs."

In Schenectady he was appointed to the Human Rights Commission and the Bishops' Criminal Justice Committee. More than once he negotiated with inmates under hostile conditions, including those at Dannamora. He also served on the review board for the Division of Youth.

But his last parish assignment was in Ravena, from where he retired six years ago under doctor's orders because of — surprise, surprise — high blood pressure.

"So since then," he says, "I've been trying to make my living writing books." And he laughs. Six years ago he wrote *Kara, the Lonely Falcon*, ("an allegory that's gone through two or three printings,") *Who Will Teach Me?* ("it's being used in conjunction with other instructional books and is based on Jesus' attitude rather than doctrine,") and *Diary of a Teenage Girl* ("kids request to read it in high school.")

And then there's *Joshua*, and that laugh again — it's almost self-effacing but not quite. At any rate from personal experience it's the last thing I would expect from a priest, especially a Catholic priest — such good humor.

And it's that laugh, both in Girzone and between the lines of *Joshua*, that's prompted me to write this extended review and probably get myself in trouble over a sensitive issue.

First of all let me say that as Literature — capital-EI — *Joshua* is lacking. It is not, for instance, the "novel" it contends to be, and the punctuation alone made me commatose. But, when all is said and done, that's my problem, and not one that's likely to hinder this book from becoming as successful as it promises to be.

Next I have to disavow complete objectivity — nobody is objective about religion so it's pointless to make that claim. But I do stake a claim on humanity, and it's the fact that this book is so full of that — the laughter — that kept me reading it, despite the punctuation.

Joshua the character, without saying so, thinks the Catholic Church is full of good intent but much too much hooy and that these days Jews are, in fact, better Christians than most Christians — if you define Christianity to mean living like Christ rather than just believing He was God.

The whole point of the book seems to be that Christ was never personally too hot on adoration — He was more into appreciation and action. These are subtle distinctions and Girzone goes to great lengths to make them. His Christ, Joshua, is sort of shy. He gets nervous and embarrassed when too much attention is directed toward Him. It's the "mortals" around Him who are the pompous twits that need to be adored and fawned over. Most of these characters in the



Fr. Joseph Girzone

book are "Men of God," and most of those are Catholic.

This is heady stuff for a priest, I thought, even a retired one, though I wasn't sure what that meant until I spoke to Girzone on the phone. Turns out it means what I thought it meant — you're still a priest, you just don't have to do a whole lot.

"I didn't try to get the *imprimatur* or *nihil obstat* (the official sanction of the Church stating the book is doctrinally pure, or at least harmless) because I thought it would stop me from saying a lot of things and would put the official reviewers on the spot."

No kidding. I can't imagine the Catholic Church, not the one I grew up in, no: even the one that has, according to traditionalists, debased itself since then by indulging in ecumenism, seeing this book as anything but dogmatically anarchic, if not outright blasphemous — though that, too, may be my problem.

But at the same time I find myself thinking that this book may articulate the feelings of a lot of people, saying things that need to be said — and, more importantly, heard. At the very least it articulates the feelings of a 13-year-old future book reviewer on the eve of his confirmation into a faith that seemed so dazzling specious it actually scared him.

Joshua, the character and the book, are not in the least scary. Neither is Girzone, who, it turns out, is Richelieu Court publishers. And since November of last year, *Joshua* has sold 40 percent of its original 5,000-copy printing. You can get one of those copies by sending the cost of the book plus \$1.25 for tax and handling to Richelieu Court, Aspen Heights, Slingerlands, 12159 or by ordering it at your local bookstore.



John P. McKenna, Jr.

Honored by Notre Dame

John P. McKenna, Jr. of Voorheesville will be honored by the Notre Dame Club of Northeastern New York on March 27 as the recipient of the club's "Notre Dame Award of the Year." The award will be presented at the annual Universal Notre Dame Night dinner at the Albany Hilton Hotel.

The Award of the Year is based on outstanding achievement in business or a profession, outstanding civic or religious leadership or contribution to the public's welfare, outstanding merit in the area of personal and family life, and distinguished service to the local club and to the University. The recipient need not be an alumnus of Notre Dame, but this year's recipient is a 1960 graduate of the university.

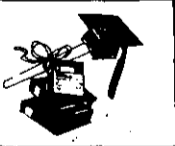
McKenna is president of the Voorheesville Central School District Board of Education and is past president of the Kiwanis Club of New Scotland and founder of its Youth Activities Program.

As president of the Notre Dame Club of Northeastern New York from 1981 to 1983, he reorganized the club, which received national recognition from the University for its outstanding achievements in 1983.

McKenna is director of the Division of Examinations and Staffing Services for the state Department of Civil Services. He and his wife, the former Mary Davita Manning of Albany, have five children. Kevin and Brian, graduates of Voorheesville High School, are currently students at the University of Notre Dame.

For further information regarding Universal Notre Dame Night, call Mariann Heinrich at 765-2234 or Lucille Thomas at 459-4857.

CLASS of '84



State University at Albany — Mary Briggs and Joan Johnson, both of Delmar (master's degree); Elizabeth Bennett, Victoria Junco and Amy Ludik, Delmar; Mary C. Oates, Voorheesville, and Linda R. Nielson, Slingerlands.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute — Michael J. Ruslander, Delmar, and Joseph J. Cillis, Voorheesville (master's degree).

Book on tap

The Bethlehem Public Library's book discussion groups meet on Tuesdays. The daytime group will review William Kennedy's Albany-based novel, *Billy Phelan's Greatest Game*, on March 13 at 10 a.m. The evening group will critique Maya Angenou's autobiography, *I Know What The Caged Bird Sings*, on March 20 at 7:20 p.m.

To request a copy of the books, call 439-9314.

Enlisted in prevention

Project Hope, a treatment program for alcohol and drug abusers, plans a meeting of representatives of business, municipal, government and human services agencies on Thursday at noon at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, in Selkirk. The so-called Triadic Roundtable is intended to strengthen working relationships among the sectors of society in the towns of Bethlehem and Coeymans.

A similar roundtable session is planned for the towns of Guelderland and New Scotland on Tuesday at St. Mark's Community Center, Guelderland. Another is planned for Albany and Colonie. The roundtables originated in 1982.

What made them go

Norman Brouwer, curator of the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City, will be the guest speaker at the Steamship Historical Society meeting on Saturday, March 10, at 8 p.m. at the Delmar Key Bank community room. He will describe "The Engines of W&A Fletcher Co. — Power for the Hudson River Steamers." For information, call Kearney Jones at 439-3335.

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Mary Pratt of Delmar, a freelance writer, will read from her fiction and poetry in the Bethlehem Public Library on Sunday at 2 p.m. George Kawas of Delmar, also will be among the readers of original work.

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

"Meet the Candidates Night," sponsored by New Scotland Kiwanis, Voorheesville American Legion Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunshine Senior Citizens, First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Rt. 9W, Selkirk, noon.

Children's Intellectual Development Program, for parents by child psychologist Hans Furth, Bethlehem Central High School, 7:30 p.m. \$1 admission.

Fiction Writers' Workshop, session 3 of 6-week course for adult authors, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30-9 p.m. Free; registration, 439-9314.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Tri-Village Peace Breakfast, First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 428 Kenwood Ave., 7 a.m.

"Billy Phelan's Greatest Game," daytime book discussion group, Bethlehem Public Library, 10-11:30 a.m.

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

Income Tax Assistance for Seniors, Glenmont fire house, Rt. 32, 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays through April 10. No appointment necessary; information, 439-3449.

Slingerlands Home Bureau, second day of each month, Delmar Reformed Church, 7:30 p.m.

Mothers' Time Out, Christian support group for mothers of preschoolers meets Tuesdays at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., 10 a.m. Free child care; information 439-9929.

Children's Book Fair, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School, 9-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m.

"On the Contrary: Literature by Men and Women About Men and Women," 6-part lecture series by SUNYA Professor Mary Arensberg, Bethlehem Public Library, 7-9 p.m. For \$25 registration, 457-3907.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Bethlehem Garden Club, Bethlehem Public Library, 1 p.m.

Tri-Village Ecumenical Lenten Bible Studies, first of six Wednesday sessions, Delmar Reformed Church, coffee hour 9:30 a.m., study 10-11 a.m.

Ben Benard, Albany A's president, speaks to Second Milers, First United Methodist Church, noon. Reservations, 439-1054.

New Scotland Elks Lodge meets at lodge, Rt. 144, Cedar Hill, 8 p.m. second Wednesday of month.

Red Men (oldest patriotic organization in U.S.), second Wednesday, St. Stephen's Church, Elsmere, 7:30 p.m.

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

District Choral Festival, part 1, Bethlehem Central High School, 8 p.m.

Church Covered Dish Supper, begins Lenten study series, Voorheesville Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.

Moonlight Walk, starwatching and owl-prowling by foot, snowshoe or ski, Five Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 7 p.m. Free.

"Wonderful Wednesday" Community Fellowship, 5-part Lenten series includes supper, study, discussion, movies and arts and crafts, Delmar First United Methodist Church, 6 p.m. Information, 439-9976.

Children's Book Fair, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School, 9-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

American Legion Luncheons, for members, guests and applicants for membership. Post Rooms, Poplar Dr., Elsmers, third Thursday, 12 noon.

District Choral Festival, part 2, Bethlehem Central High School, 8 p.m.

"The Wynkoop House," slide-talk by Jean Balint, at Bethlehem Historical Association meeting, Schoolhouse Museum, Rt. 144 and Clapper Rd., Selkirk, 8 p.m.

Children's Book Fair, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School, 9-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m.

Albany Audubon Society, owl discussion and bluebird project plans, Five Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 8 p.m.

Voorheesville PTSA, Dr. David Niven on "Parenting," Voorheesville High School, 7:30 p.m.

"How to Use Computers to Educate Your Kids," part 2, Bethlehem Public Library, 7-9 p.m. Free.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

St. Patrick's Day Workshop, mobile-making for children 6 and older, Bethlehem Public Library, 4-5 p.m. For \$15 reservations, Mike Burns at 765-4390.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day Dinner-Dance, Bethlehem Elks Lodge, Rt. 144, Selkirk, 7:30 p.m.

Las Vegas Night, "black-jack, dice, big wheel and joker 7" sponsored by Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company, Clarksville firehouse, 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Over 19 admitted.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner-Dance, for church parish at St. Thomas School auditorium, Delmar, 7 p.m. For tickets, 439-5896.

Open Amblyopia Screening, for preschoolers, sponsored by Tri-Village Welcome Wagon, Bethlehem Town Hall, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Nature Programs, "Bluebirds: A Long Trail to Recovery," 10 a.m., and guided spring walk, 2 p.m., Five Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar. Free; registration, 457-6092.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

"Individual Retirement Accounts: What Are the Options," workshop sponsored by County Cooperative Extension, Resources Development Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 7:30-9 p.m. for \$1 registration, 765-2874.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Legion Auxillary, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post #1040, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, third Tuesday, 8 p.m.

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

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

Albany Area Retired Teachers Association, meeting at Bethlehem Public Library, 12:30 p.m.

"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," evening book discussion group meeting, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

Junior Parents' Night, college admissions and job information, Bethlehem Central High School.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

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

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

"Tax Free Investments," slide program and lecture, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

AREA EVENTS & OCCASIONS

Events in Nearby Areas

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

"Franco - American Folk Music," lecture by Bernard Quimet, Albany Public Library, 7 p.m.

"The International Debt Crisis: Borrowers, Banks and the IMF," talk by SUNY Prof. Walter Goldstein, Albany Public Library, noon.

"How to Get Published," talk by area poet Joanne Seltzer, Hellman Library, College of Saint Rose, 392 Western Ave., Albany 7:30 p.m.

The Rt. Rev. Wilbur Hogg, Episcopal Bishop of Albany, begins Lenten preaching series at St. Peter's Church, 107 State St., Albany, noon.

Diabetes Classe, 4-part Wednesday series on disease's causes, symptoms and medications, St. Mary's Hospital, Troy, 7:30 p.m. Free; information, 272-5000.

"Employment Opportunities with New York State," talk at weekly meeting of Job Outreach, Human Resource Center, N. Lake and Central Ave., Albany, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Concerned Friends of Hope House, self-help and support group for parents of substance abusers, Capital District Psychiatric Center, 75 New Scotland Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m.

Mohawk Chapter, DAR, meeting at home of Mrs. Harry Bickford, Jr., 118 Latham Ridge Rd., Latham, 2 p.m.

Job Search Strategies, Evening Division workshop at Russell Sage College campus center, 55-6 p.m. \$5 registration for public; information, 445-1717.

1984 Motor World Show, more than 200 autos and exhibits through Sunday, Empire State Plaza concourse. Free.

Jawbone Reading Series, poets Gerry DiCarlo and Gary McLouth read their published work, SUNYA Humanities Lounge, noon-1 p.m. Free.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Christian Singles Over 25, covered dish supper, Loudonville Community Church, 6:30 p.m. Information, 797-3740 or 439-6733.

International Women's Day, film festival at State Museum, Empire State Plaza, 7:30 p.m.

International Fish and Wildlife Exposition, sports an wildlife show, exhibits and seminars through Sunday, Empire State Plaza convention center, noon-10 p.m. Admission \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Women's Council of Realtors Dinner, guest speaker Barbara Bartoletti of Delmar on "Legal Status of Women," Golden Fox Restaurant, 6 p.m. Reservations, 438-6287 or 462-0512.

Adirondack Mountain Club, meeting at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, 8 p.m.

"The Kingdom by the Sea - Journey Around Great Britain," Friends of the Library/book review, Albany Public Library, noon.

H. Douglas Barclay, chairman of state Senate Judiciary Committee on "Reorganization of the Court System in N.Y. State," Albany Public Library, 10 a.m.-noon.

"Sexual Revolutions: Past and Present," Tuesday Topic talk by historian Warren Roberts, State Museum orientation theater, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 12:10 p.m.

Association of Occupational Nurses, meeting at Cranberry Bog, Wolf Rd., Albany, 6 p.m.

Macy's Wardrobe Workshop, sponsored by Greek Ladies Philoptochos Society, St. Sophia Parish Center, 440 Whitehall Rd., Albany, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Shakespeare on the Plaza Acting Auditions, for "Tom Paine" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream, City Arts Office, 409 Madison Ave., 7-10 p.m.

Doane Stuart Founders' Day, chapel service for students, faculty, alumni and friends, at the school, Rt. 9W, Albany.

American Association of University Women-Zonta Club Program, dinner-discussion on "Status of Women," Albany Thruway House, Washington Ave., 5:30 p.m. Information, 439-7734 or 439-6979.

"Saudi Arabia and Jordan - Kingdoms at the Crossroads?" Great Decisions '84 discussion, Albany Public Library, noon.

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How the game is changing

Spotlight SPORTS

To experienced observers the game of basketball as played at the interscholastic level has undergone a noticeable change—a trend toward more physical, more aggressive play. Several weeks ago the *Spotlight* invited the three varsity coaches in our area and a prominent basketball referee to discuss recent developments in the game.

Participating were Gary Przybylo of Bethlehem Central, Chuck Abba of Voorheesville and Tim Tucker of Ravena, varsity coaches, and Bill Varno of Schenectady, immediate past president of the Section 2 board of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials.

Spotlight: Scholastic basketball today seems to cater to the big, strong players at the expense of the slick ball-handlers and the little guys who can shoot the strings out of the basket. How do you see this?

Tucker: Kids are quicker now. They'll grab a ball on a steal and be down the court so fast the official hasn't time to blow his whistle. Tony Pearson does this for us, and look at the Catskill guys. Albany High.

"The game of basketball has become far faster than any of us have known from our playing days. Teams are bigger and stronger."

Przybylo: Coaches are teaching kids to be more aggressive. In a zone, the kids are going out, not standing there. The front



Basketball coaches and officials can be compatible, as witnessed by a recent forum at the *Spotlight* building in Delmar on the topic of the changing complexion of high school basketball. Participating were, from left, Chuck Abba of Voorheesville,

Gary Przybylo of Bethlehem Central, Tim Tucker of Ravena and Bill Varno of Schenectady, immediate past president of area basketball officials and a prominent referee of Section 2 games. *Spotlight* — Tom Howes

men are in the post, and there's a lot of bang-bang. It didn't used to be like that.

Varno: The game of basketball has become far faster than any of us have known from our playing days. Teams are bigger and stronger.

Przybylo: There's so much more contact in rebounding. My guys aren't great jumpers, and they're not that big, but they bang.

Abba: Yes, but you draw whistles in traffic.

Przybylo: Yeah, sometimes, maybe too much, maybe not enough. The first four games we lost by a total of nine points, and we outshot them from the field.

Tucker: Don't talk to me about that. We've outshot everybody we've played from the field, sometimes by a big margin, and we've lost games.

Przybylo: A physical team will pay for it, though.

Varno: On the physical aspect, today's defenses have changed so much. In the zone, you used to set the zone by the foul line. Now it's brought out, and there's a lot of trapping.

Abba: Playing the run and jump you pick up a lot of fouls. We aren't a physical team, so we have to play the patient game, control.

Varno: The finesse is still there, still in the game, but it's gone a different way.

Abba: Teams nowadays use multiple defenses and the offenses have become more aggressive. It's tougher getting the ball to the pivot.

Spotlight: With all this contact, it seems the most controversial calls are on drives where the offensive player gets a call for charging or the defensive player for blocking.

Varno: It's never easy in the power game. If a defensive man gains an advantage or puts the offensive man to a disadvantage, then the defensive man is called for the foul. It's the same only vice versa with the offensive man.

Tucker: From the coaching standpoint, I look for consistency in officials.

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Przybylo: The college game has influenced the school kids. In high school the kids are more physical. They're using weight programs for the first time. The coaches keep changing their defenses and offenses. The whole philosophy has changed. It's tougher on coaches and officials.

Varno: There's so much action off the ball now. Years ago you attacked the zone by overloading. Now you go to the weak side. There's so many screens and down-picks, screens off the ball.

Tucker: Ten years ago an official could see all the players. Now he's screened so much himself he's got to have peripheral vision if he's looking for picks.

Przybylo: We play aggressive, but we often concede rebounds to avoid fouls.

Spotlight: Is the officiating as good as it was 10 years ago?

Varno: I'll have to say that there aren't as many quality officials as there used to be. I'm not talking about everybody, but in general they don't have the commitment, they don't study the rules, they're not in top shape.

Przybylo: Officials must take control of the game immediately.

Abba: That's for sure.

Spotlight: What about rule changes? Anything major?

All three coaches almost simultaneously spoke up to complain about the new rule limiting time-outs. Instead of five time-outs per game, coaches are now limited to two time-outs per half. Like football, you can't save time-outs for late in the game. It's a national rule change, not local.

Przybylo: It's a bad rule, the worst change yet.

Varno: It's designed to speed the game up and prevent the fourth quarter from becoming too lengthy.

Tucker: It doesn't. I take my two time-outs in the first half whether I need them or not. That isn't speeding up.

Varno: I still think it speeds up the game. I like it.

Przybylo: I'll tell you one thing, it makes it tougher to adjust to changing defenses or offenses when you can't call time and talk to the players. What it does is take more responsibility from the coaches and puts it on the players.

Nat Boynton

RCS vote ahead

A special election concerning class size in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District is tentatively scheduled for May 1. Some questions have yet to be answered — such as the costs of the options to be voted on — before a firm date can be set, according to school board president Prescott Archibald.

The Committee on Equalizing Class Size recommended purchase of portable classrooms or redistricting as possible solutions to crowding, particularly at the A.W. Becker School, but the ballot also is expected to include a choice of neither. The district serves more than 2,500 children.

Bowlers' benefit

Junior league bowlers are invited to enter a tournament series beginning the week of March 11 that will be a benefit for families whose children are receiving treatment at area medical centers. Del Lanes in Elsmere is the local bowling center participating in the tournament. "TV Tournament Time" eliminations are scheduled April 21, 22 and 28.

Car hits tree

Frieda Gillham, 59, of Delmar was taken to Albany Medical Center Hospital by the Delmar Rescue Squad after the car she was driving went off the road on Delmar Pl. and struck a tree. The police report indicated she veered to avoid another auto. She was treated at the hospital and released after the early evening accident last Tuesday.

Kids Fare returns

Kid's Fare, a children's entertainment series, will launch its spring series with weekend performances on March 10-11 and March 24-25. Curtains go up at 2 p.m. at the Harmanus Bleecker Center in Albany. Among the featured performers will be master-of-ceremonies and magician Jim Snack, Cranberry the Clown, guitarist-songwriter Paul Strausman, singer Rich Nardin and mime Rich Kuperberg.

Tickets are \$3 for children and \$4 for adults. Since the audience size is limited to 100, tickets can be reserved by calling Ric Chesser at 482-2826.

Police charge pair

Two Albany men were charged by Bethlehem police Sunday after an auto accident on Old Delaware Ave. in Elsmere. Charles G. Bingham, 31, was charged with falsely reporting an incident and obstructing governmental administration, while a companion, Kevin B. Lawton, 32, was charged with driving while his license was suspended and with unreasonable speed after their car hit an abutment on the old road that crosses the Normanskill. According to the police report, Bingham told the investigating officer that he had been driving the car, but police later learned that Lawton, who was picked up at his residence, was the driver. When police came upon the car, flames were coming from the engine compartment and no one was at the scene.

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



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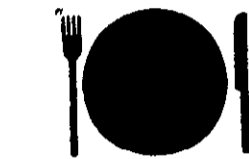
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Schulz leads BC's assault on Sectionals

By Nat Boynton

Never has a varsity team in any sport so dominated a championship event in this part of the state as did Bethlehem Central's swim team in the section 2 meet at the big Albany State pool over the weekend.

Dominated may be too mild a word for Jack Whipple's wrecking crew. They left the meet in shambles.

When the water quieted down, BC had won the meet with 111 points, the highest total ever compiled in the annual affair. Albany High was second, far astern with 39.

The Eagles' took first place in nine of the 11 events, the most for any team in the history of the championships.

Left in the scrap pile were three meet records, two Section 2 records and — most impressive — three Bethlehem school records.

Bethlehem's 14th Sectional crown in 15 years was also a record — 12 straight since losing to Shaker by a point in 1972. That one is safe for the rest of this century, and it's viable.

Saturday's lethal assault on the record books was led by Doug Schulz, the most devastating swimmer to emerge in Eastern New York since Bethlehem's Kenny Neff in the late Seventies.

The BC senior began his finest day with an awesome display of versatility, showing the four different strokes of the 200-yard individual medley in 2:00.2, a new meet, school and Sectional mark.

It was the third straight week that the Bethlehem ace had lowered the school record. He did 2:01.6 in the final dual meet against New Hartford and 2:00.5 in the Eastern interscholastic championships at Lawrenceville, N.J. Saturday before last.

The school and Sectional records that fell Saturday were his own. The meet record was Neff's 2:02.8 set in 1978.

Schulz closed out the day by anchoring Bethlehem's crack 400-yard freestyle relay team to another sweep of the record books. With him in this blitz were John Demarest, Knute Hvalsmarken and Eric Patrick. All were under 50 seconds.

The same quartet had written a new Section and Bethlehem school record a week earlier with a clocking of 3:17.4 in the Easterns. The Section 2 meet record was 3:19.3 set last year by Demarest, Dave Young, Matt Holland and Schulz.

Now the mark to shoot at in the future is 3:16.5.

The BC foursome will have one more chance to chip off a few more fractions. They will lead a contingent of 11 swimmers from Section 2 competing in the state championship meet in Syracuse this weekend. After that it will become part of the legacy left by two of the four: Schulz and Demarest will graduate in June.

The other record that was erased at Albany State Saturday also belonged to Bethlehem, and again it was by a BC swimmer. This time it was Pierre LaBarge, a sophomore, who swam the 500 in 5:00.8, clipping five-tenths of a second off the meet record set in 1981 by BC's Jay Henahan.

All those records, however, accounted for only three of the Eagles' nine firsts. They won the medley

Left in the scrap pile were three meet records, two Section 2 records and — most impressive — three Bethlehem school records.

relay with Jim Krajek, Scott Apicelli, Dave Young and Damen Woo in 1:44.4. Hvalsmarken won the 200 free in 1:48.2, his fastest time yet in that event, and Demarest shattered a 13-year-old Bethlehem school record with a clocking of 21.9 seconds in the 50-yard freestyle.

The old mark of 22 seconds flat was set in 1971 by Rich Bailey, who went on to swim for Indiana University.

Demarest also won the 100 free in a real thriller, touching out Dave Purrington of Guilderville by six tenths of a second. Demarest was timed in 48.12, the best of his career and just shy of the Section 2 record of 48 flat. Purrington was clocked in 48.18.

For Demarest it was especially sweet, avenging a loss to Purrington a year ago. The slender senior had trained hard all season to reclaim the trophy.

In the breaststroke it was Schulz again, 1:01.6. Melissa Martley won the Sectional diving crown with a superb effort in her last dive of the day, a back somersault with two twists. That pulled her into first place with 360.90 points, the first Bethlehem diver to win Sectionals since Mark McKneally in 1981.

The only two first places that escaped the Bethlehem blitz went to a Voorheesville swimmer. Chris Martin, a senior in his third season on the combined Guilderland-Voorheesville team, won the



John Demarest

butterfly in 55.3 seconds, and the backstroke in 55.74. Both were his fastest times ever.

Martin will swim both events in the state meet at Nottingham High School, Syracuse, this weekend. Bethlehem will contribute six swimmers to the Section 2 team against the best of all New York, the freestyle relay quartet plus LaBarge and Martley. Glens Falls is sending its medley relay foursome, Guilderland two (Martin and Purrington) and Queensbury one.

The meet at Albany State marked the farewell scholastic appearance for three swimmers who have been important cogs on the Bethlehem varsity since graduating from the Delmar Dolphins program. Scott Apicelli, Dave Young and Rob Leslie made the varsity as freshmen four years ago.

Two other seniors will swim under Bethlehem colors for the last time this weekend in the state championships. Their names: Schulz, Douglas, and Demarest, John.

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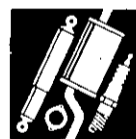
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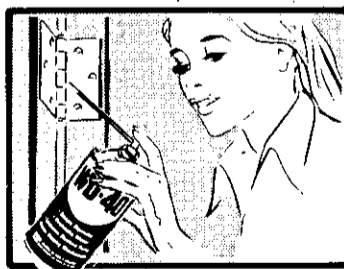
A 19-year-old Ravena man was charged Friday with criminal possession and criminal sale of a controlled substance (cocaine) after he allegedly

sold a gram of cocaine to an undercover officer. Bethlehem police withheld the man's name because he may be eligible for youthful offender status.



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Lady Eagles earn bye, home court advantage

By Julie Ann Sosa

Bethlehem Central's girls varsity basketball team closed the regular season with a 13-2 record that earned it the Suburban Council's Gold Division crown, a No. 2 ranking in the Council and a bye in the first round of the Class A Sectional tournament.

The Lady Eagles also earned the home-floor advantage in the quarterfinal round and were scheduled to face Bishop Maginn (8-6), ranked No.3 in the Big Ten, last night (Tuesday). Bishop Gibbons, the undefeated Big Ten champion co-seeded No. 1 with Colonie, looms in the semifinals if BC advances.

BC closed the regular season with easy wins over Burnt Hills, 40-28, and Guilderland, 51-37. Center standout Kim Zornow protected her 18-point game average by scoring 41 in just two outings. Fortunately for Coach Gene Lewis et al.,

RCS girls finish as winners

The RCS girls varsity basketball team finished their regular season Thursday with a victory over Waterford, 57-17. Chris Jackson was the leading scorer with a season high of 16 points. Janet Bourguignon, Tradey Griffin and Sheila Seery had 8 points each. The game Thursday had originally been scheduled for Tuesday but, due to a snow day, was changed. The home game versus Shaker on Thursday was cancelled and will not be played.

Seery was brought up from the JV to help out at center during the Sectionals. Freshman Terri Baker was also brought up to the varsity so the team has more able and ready players. One who isn't able and ready is Chris Persico, who broke her finger earlier in the season and will not play again this year.

The girls' defensive strategy throughout the season has been a 2-3 zone. However, it could possibly change to a 3-2 zone to combat the fine outside shooting of the teams they could face. Coach Betty Faxon says the girls need to box out opponents better to make more rebounds.

The Indian girls were scheduled to

BASKETBALL

Middleburg and Ravena called to ask for exhibition games that gave them experience playing against the 6-foot-1 Zornow; the symbiotic relationship allowed Lewis to experiment with a new lineup that the departure of senior star Beth McGaughan has forced him to use.

Senior Kelly Burke, sophomore Megan Bursey and Zornow will remain the team's proven nucleus. Battling for the two remaining starting positions will be tall freshman forward Liza Tonetti, promoted from the JV for her strong rebounding; junior Julie Liddle, back from an ankle injury; senior Terry Plunkett, hindered by an ankle injury, Karen Cleary and Karen Burke.

open the Sectionals with Johnstown at home last night (Tuesday). A victory would send them against the winner of the Hudson Falls-Schalmont game on Friday night at Shenendehowa.

Kevin Honimel

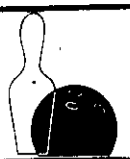
Road experiment

The state Department of Transportation is planning to add edge strips to Rt. 9W for about a mile and a half on either side of Wemple Rd. A DOT employee said an 8-inch stripe (rather than the usual 4 inches) is expected to be used in a pilot project to determine the value of the wider stripe in preventing alcohol-related accidents specifically.

Stolen car found

A car reported stolen two weeks ago in Delmar was recovered early Monday in a parking lot in Menands, according to Bethlehem police. The car was locked and the keys were in the ignition. Menands police reported.

STAR BOWLERS



Bowling honors for the week of Feb. 26, 1984 at Del Lanes, go to:

Sr. Ct. Men — Ed Plass and Bub Weber, 246, John DeFlumer, 565.

Sr. Cit. Women — Phyllis Smith, 202-544.

Men — Bob Joslin, 243, Frank Bishop, 677.

Women — G.G. Chrysogelos, 223, Diane Allsteadt, 578.

Major Boys — Bob Keegan, 206 - 541.

Major Girls — Tara McKenna, 179 - 512.

Jr. Boys — Kevin O'Brien, 217 - 538

Jr. Girls — Suzanne Brown, 170 - 481.

Prep Boys — Chris Drevojan, 186.

Prep Girls — Sue Cox, 171 - 424.

Fantasy and games

A program of fantasy and games will be offered by the Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department for parents and children aged two and three from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Fridays, March 16 through April 13, at the park office, Elm Ave. Park.

The goal is to teach parents better ways to relate to their children using exercise.

Pre-registration is required and can be made in person or by telephone (439-4131) at the park office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays beginning March 1. The class will be limited to the first 14 parents and children who register. There is a \$9 fee for each pair of registrants.

WRESTLING

Clark wins second crown

Placing another notch in his holster of wrestling achievements, Voorheesville High School's senior standout Jeff Clark captured his second consecutive state championship Saturday at Syracuse.

With an 8-6 victory over Anthony Melfi of Connetquot (Section XI), Clark successfully defended his 112-pound crown. Mike Himes of Queensbury and Jason Morris of Burnt Hills were the only other champions from Section 2. Despite the three championships, the Section 2 team finished seventh, unusually low for them.

By nailing down the title, Clark sealed his all-time Section 2 career victory record at 152 wins against 10 losses and a single tie. In compiling his second consecutive undefeated season with a 33-0 slate, Clark finished his five-year high school career with an awesome winning percentage of 93 percent.

Now that his illustrious scholastic career has come to an end, Clark has another goal on his mind — an Olympic medal.

Peter Fisch

Bulk gas stolen

A South Bethlehem resident told Bethlehem police Saturday that someone had removed some 158 gallons of gasoline from a storage tank on his property. There was no evidence that the locks on the tank had been tampered with, according to the police report.

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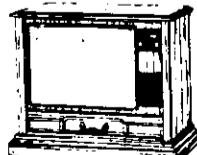
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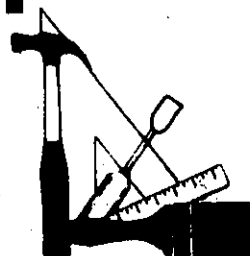
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Cortland's Mike Fasulo 'best in a decade'

In 18 years at the Cortland State men's track helm, Coach Joe Pierson has directed a bevy of talented thinclads, but the veteran Red Dragon mentor thinks senior Mike Fasulo of Delmar is his best long jumper in a over a decade.

"Fasulo is progressing well," said Pierson. "We hope to have him qualify for the NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships. He's the best long jumper we've had since Bob Devins in the early 1970s."

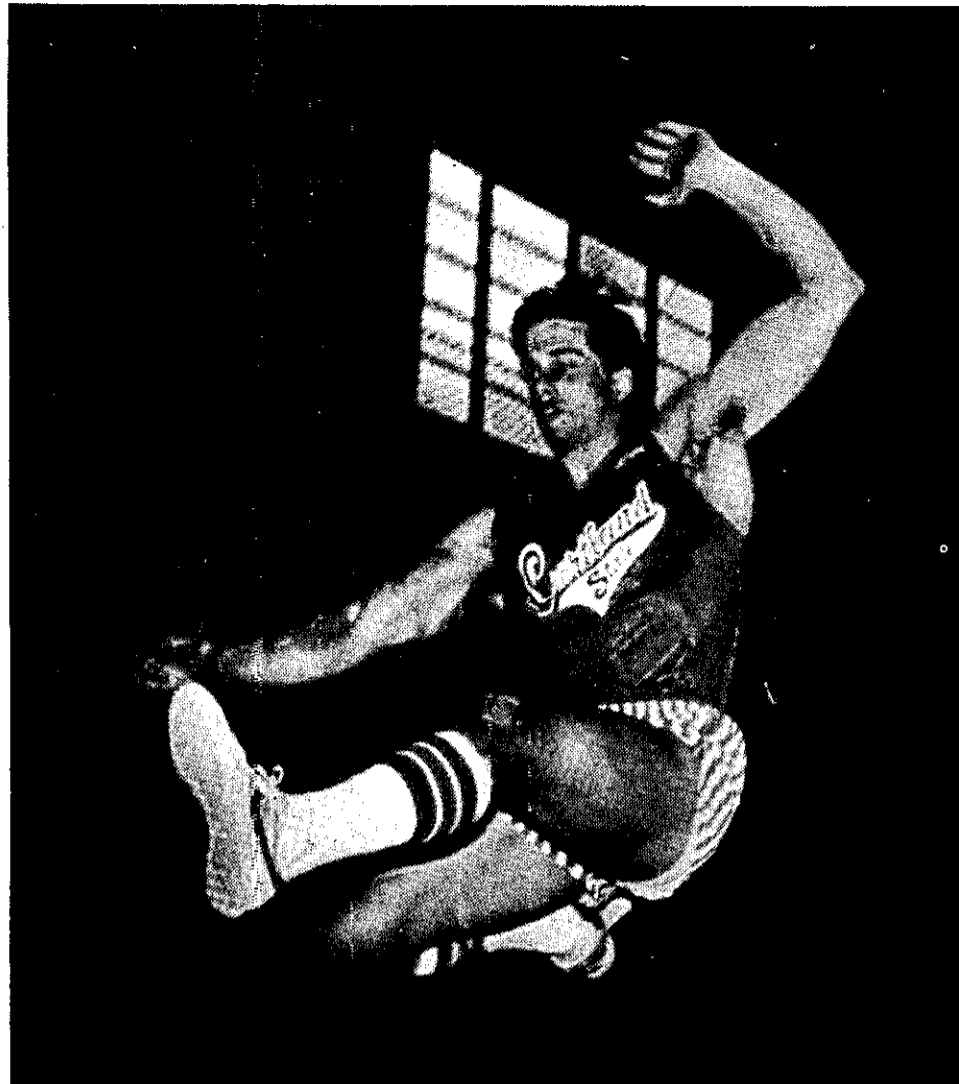
Fasulo, who qualified last year for the NCAA Championships at Wheaton College in Illinois, has already won three first places and two seconds in indoor competition this winter. The 1980 Bethlehem Central graduate knows he must better his career best jump of 22 feet 5 inches by eight inches to earn a return trip.

"I've dropped five pounds since December and I feel great at my present jumping weight," said a confident Fasulo, whose immediate goal is to capture the 1984 indoor track state long-jump crown. "I know that will be difficult, but I'd really like to win a gold medal at the States."

The New York State Collegiate Track and Field Association championships will be held at Hamilton College in Clinton March 16-17.

The 5-foot-10, 180-pound Fasulo participated in soccer and track in high school, but has geared his efforts solely towards track since entering Cortland State. This season, he has further honed his track pursuits. A sprinter and 400-meter relay team member on past Dragon squads, Fasulo will only long jump in 1984.

"We encourage seniors to concentrate



Delmar's Mike Fasulo in action at a recent Cortland State track meet.

on their best event," said Pierson. Fasulo would like to break Devin's school long jump record of 23-10 set in 1971, perhaps achieving that goal at the 1984 NCAA

Division III meet in Minnesota this spring. In any event, Fasulo, an art major, plans to attend an architectural school after graduation from Cortland.

TRACK

Meet brings out BC best

By Damon Woo

A meet of many personal best times and outstanding races was the story as the Bethlehem indoor track team entered its climactic Sectional contest. This year the team competed in the more competitive, large school division. The girls amassed 47 points en route to a fourth place tie with Colonie. The boys finished ninth, scoring 19 points.

The foursome of Anne Carey, Chris Ainsworth, Jen Warren and Colleen Nyilis constituted much of the girls' scoring. It was this quartet that gave BC its biggest boost, winning the 3,200-meter relay. Carey was the meet standout, finishing fourth in the 600 and second in the hurdles. In the 1,000 meter, Warren ran a personal best of 3:07.7 to give her second place. Nyilis took third in the 1,500 and Ainsworth third in the 3,000.

For the boys, co-captains Pete Hammer and Tung Cai led the way. Hammer provided BC with its only individual title, winning the 3,200 in an outstanding time of 9:38.2. Some controversy occurred when a heat of the 600 may have run an incorrect distance, giving Cai a fourth place instead of third.

As their season draws to a close, some members have extended their season by running in the state qualifiers, some even extending it more by qualifying for the state meet this weekend. Pete Hammer qualified for the state meet along with Jen Warren and Anne Carey. Carey, qualifying in the 600, made a considerable drop in her time to a 1:37.3. Ainsworth and Cai narrowly missed qualifying by placing

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third — only the top two finishers qualify for the state meet.

Paul Montanus and David Ashe also participated in the state qualifiers. Although neither qualified, each achieved a personal best in their respective events.

Coach Collen was pleased with the team's season. He commented: "The team was much better. There were some improvements and we developed more depth." Collen was impressed by Carey, Hammer and Warren. "They've come so much farther than most; their improvement has been great."

Adult fitness classes

The Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department will offer a physical fitness class, "Awake, Aware and Active," for adults from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mondays and or Thursday, beginning March 26 and continuing through May 3. The class will meet at the Bethlehem Central Middle School girls' gym and it will feature simple step and aerobic activities set to music.

Pre-registration is required and can be made in person or by telephone (439-4131) at the Elm Ave. Park office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays beginning March 1.

The program is open to residents of the Town of Bethlehem and Bethlehem Central School District and will be limited to the first 50 registrants. Fees are: Mondays or Thursdays only, \$8; Mondays and Thursdays, \$16.

\$11,000 for hopefuls

Jeff Clark of Voorheesville is among the 11 area Olympic hopefuls being aided by Price Chopper Supermarkets fund drive for the athletes. The campaign, with about a week remaining, has topped \$11,000. That amount has been raised by donations of deposit receipts from returnable bottles and cans, and by a five-cent donation from Price Chopper for each of its label bottles and cans returned. The expenses for Clark, a standout wrestler at Clayton A. Bouton High School in Voorheesville, have been estimated at some \$10,500 in his bid for an Olympic team berth this summer.

Moonlight walk

Nature by night will be the setting for a moonlight walk that will include owl-prowling and star-watching on Wednesday, March 14, at 7 p.m. at the Five Rivers Environmental Center in Delmar. Hikers, skiers and snowshoers alike are welcome to join the free guided tours along the center trails.

For information, call 457-6092.

BUSINESS



Joseph Siniski

Promoted by bank

Joseph A. Siniski has been promoted to an assistant vice president in the consumer loan division of Key Bank. Siniski began his career at Key Bank in 1977 and before his promotion was a collection officer.

A graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Siniski attended the Junior College of Albany. He serves as a consul for the Albany chapter of the American Institute of Banking.

A resident of Delmar, Siniski and his wife have a daughter.

Bank saluted

Home & City Savings Bank, with a branch in Elsmere, has been cited by the State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA) for its role in providing home financing in cooperation with the agency. The bank received nearly 5 percent of the \$375 million SONYMA raised in 1983 — the largest allocation to a savings bank in the state.

Business women meet

The Bethlehem Business Women's Club of Delmar will hold its monthly dinner meeting today (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. at the Albany Motor Inn in Glenmont. Betty Lombard from Roberts Real Estate will discuss "Points to Ponder in Buying and Selling Real Estate."

Learn about IRAs

Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's) allow taxpayers to defer taxes on current earnings while saving for retirement years, so they have become a popular investment option since the 1981 passage of the Economy Recovery and Tax Act.

The Albany County Cooperative Extension will school local investors in the money-saving IRA's with a workshop on Monday, March 19, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the County Resources Center in Voorheesville. Giving the workshop will be Marvin Elliott, manager of the Delmar Key Bank office; David Lomascolo, an account executive with Prudential Bache Securities; and Mary Sienkiewicz, an agent for the Cooperative Extension.

Registration is \$1. To sign up, call 765-2874.

Computer seminars open

Albany Business College is inaugurating a series of seminars for businessmen and women this month in its new Micro-Computer Learning Center. Using the IBM personal computer, seminars are offered in such topics as Microcomputer Fundamentals, Word Processing Fundamentals, Professional Word Processing, Beginning BASIC, and VisiCalc.

The seminars are offered in two full-day sessions or four half-day sessions, some on Saturdays and during the day. The first classes begin the last week of February, and will be repeated up to four times through April. For information, call 449-7163.

Advice for investors

The Bethlehem Public Library will host a free "Tax Free Investments" slide program and lecture on Wednesday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. Account executive John Pritchard will discuss the safety of insured municipals versus uninsured trusts and the difference between registered and bearer bonds. A question and answer period will follow the program.

For information, call the library at 439-9314.

Half-fare for job hunters

Unemployed area residents now may apply for Capital District Transportation Authority half-fare cards that may be used on any CDTA services, effective Monday, March 5. The program is intended to aid unemployed people who are using Department of Labor services in their job search. Applicants must be certified by the department as being unemployed.

Application forms are available at Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance and Job Services Offices in the four-county area: at CDTA's three area facilities and at CDTA schedule distribution sites.

Information on the half-fare program for the unemployed can be obtained by calling CDTA at 482-8822.

QUILT is 7

QUILT (Quilters United in Learning Together) will celebrate its seventh birthday with a meeting on Friday, March 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Delmar First United Methodist Church. Sandi Bard will be the guest speaker. For information, call Margaret Callahan at 477-9705.

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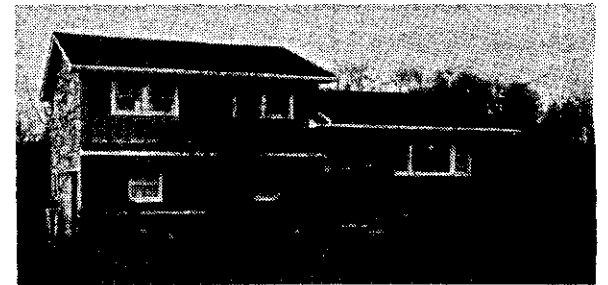
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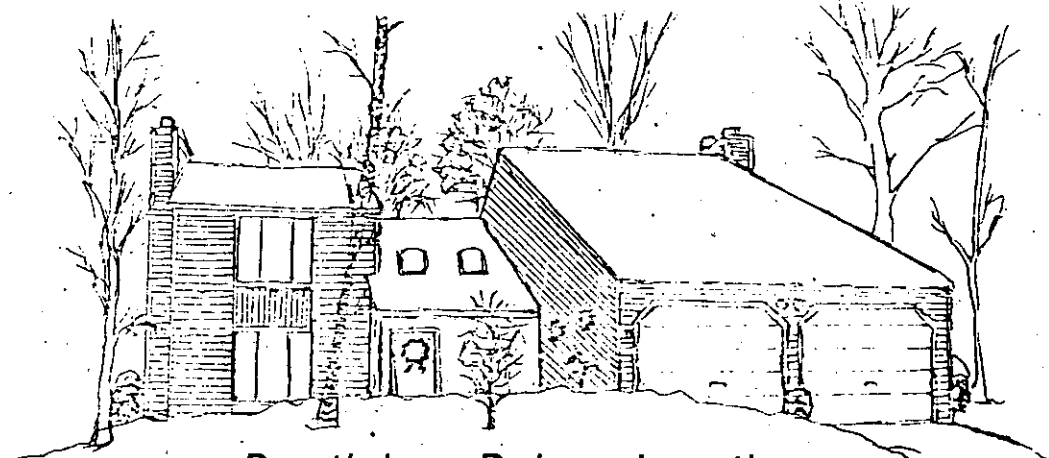
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'A beautiful model'

Editor, The Spotlight:

An Open Letter to Mrs. Pat DeCecco

Dear Pat:

I am writing this letter of appreciation and commendation before the show goes on! Your work as director of BCHS 50th anniversary variety show has been outstanding. There is no doubt in my mind that the show itself will be a huge success — it can't miss! More importantly is the success and effort you made to mobilize the community — to awaken its justifiable pride and awareness to what they have accomplished, what they have now and what they can do in the future.

It was so refreshing to see people from all facets of the community come together under your direction to do a community service. Yes, I know you will say you had a lot of good help — you did! However, it was your leadership, organization and collegial administration that was the enzyme causing the positive reaction by the community and bringing forth the good people you had to help you.

I am sure you are aware that you exude unbelievable energy that was contagious

to those who came in contact with your efforts. I realize that this leadership, and also the service and creativity you have given, has taken a toll on your private and family time. I sincerely hope that the community's appreciation will provide some measure of reward for your efforts.

I am not a "Polyanna," nor am I inclined to fantasize. However, I know I did see you take a small piece of grass-roots America — wake it up — shake it up — and shape it up — into producing a community service. Your "I-Can-Do-It" attitude is a beautiful model for all citizens of our community and our nation. We here in Bethlehem are fortunate to have you among us.

On behalf of the Bethlehem school community, I want to thank you and all who assisted you in your efforts and achievements — but most of all I want to thank you for being you!

Charlie Gunner
Principal

Bethlehem Central High School
Delmar

Thanks from scouts

Editor, The Spotlight:

The fourth and sixth graders of Girl Scout Troop 233 want to thank the members of the Bethlehem Police Department, the Delmar Fire Department and Delmar Rescue Squad for helping them with badge work. The girls are earning the Science in Action badge, and needed to learn how modern machines and chemicals are used by police, firemen and ambulance services.

Special thanks to Officer Jim Corbett and to Paramedics Ray Linstruth and

Paul Woodin, who gave the girls guided tours and answered their questions.

Susan Dax
Troop 233 Leader

Delmar

DAR, grateful

Editor, The Spotlight:

On behalf of the Tawasentha Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, I wish to extend a sincere thank you for your very fine publicity for our recent antique show.

I also wish to thank the many area merchants who contributed so generously of money and products to be used in our Kalico Kitchen, and Blue Cross for its Community Corner write-up in *The Spotlight*.

Lastly, to the many residents of the Town of Bethlehem and nearby communities go our heartfelt thanks for your continued patronage and support. We feel that we had superb dealers to display their wares, and that John B. Warner's appraisals appealed to many, as did the Lindemanns' glass grinding service.

We thank you all!

Gladys B. Amos
Regent

Glenmont

A musical thanks

Editor, The Spotlight:

This week, throughout the United States, thousands of communities are celebrating "Music In Our Schools Week." I would like to use this as an opportunity to thank the music staff of the Bethlehem Central School District for their dedication, their professionalism and their skill. My child's school years have been enriched by your efforts. I

would like to thank those teachers who have worked with my child at Slingerlands School and at the Middle School: Mary Jane Hughes, Ted Biernacki, George Smith, Sal Gangi, Sam Bozzella, Mary Blanchard and Marc Greene.

Most specially I would like to thank Virginia Spelich — a true professional, a great woman, a teacher's teacher. Her yearly productions are known throughout the Capital District. What most people probably *don't* know is that all work for these musicals is done outside of the regular music class. She deserves much praise for her total dedication to children. It is inspiring. The support that David Murphy, Slingerlands' principal, gives to Mrs. Spelich should not go unnoticed.

As a taxpayer in the Bethlehem School District, I am proud of the efforts of the music department. Thank you!

Name Submitted

Slingerlands


For 60 and up

A catalog listing educational programs for persons 60 or older is now on the shelves at Bethlehem Public Library. The seasonal Elderhostel catalog has more than 125 pages describing offerings on some 700 college and university campuses worldwide that participate in the non-profit network. The educational institutions design programs of one or more weeks during which hostellers live in dormitories, eat in the cafeteria, and use the school's library and other facilities while taking up to three non-credit courses. More than 70,000 persons participated in 1983. The library also has registration forms for anyone who wants to sign up right away.

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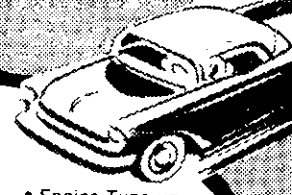

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Jung-Wortman

Mrs. Margaret Jung of Albany has announced the engagement of her daughter, Amanda Marie, to Robert H. Wortman of Kenwood Ave., Delmar, son of Robert E. Wortman of Delmar and the late Frances Wortman.

Miss Jung, also the daughter of the late William Jung, is an alumna of Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School and attended Mildred Elley Business School. She is employed as a customer service representative for Capitol Cablevision in Albany.

Her fiance graduated from Bethlehem Central High School and attended Hudson Valley Community College. He is employed as a welding apprentice for Empire Industrial Fabricators.

An October wedding is planned.

Flynn - Martens

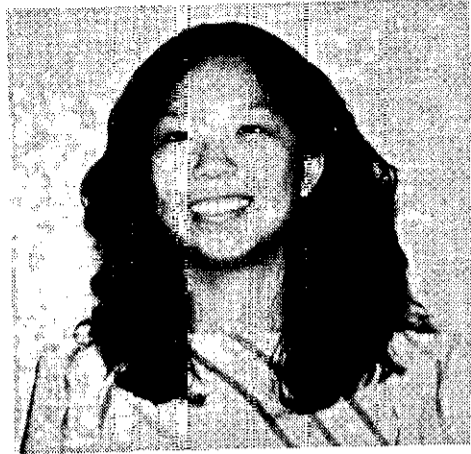
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Flynn, Sr., of Voorheesville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kelly J., to Martin L. Martens, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Martens of Scotts Bluff, Neb. The bride-to-be is a senior at Arizona State College at Tempe, where she is majoring in journalism. She will be doing an internship with the San Francisco Giants and Seattle Mariners during their spring training in Arizona. Miss Flynn is a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton High School in Voorheesville.

Her fiance also is a senior at the college and is majoring in industrial technology. He is a graduate of Scotts Bluff High School in Nebraska. The wedding is planned in June, 1985.

Student in Rome

David Briggs, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. David C. Briggs of Delmar, is studying in Rome under the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's semester abroad program. Briggs is a fourth-year architecture student at RPI.

DEAN'S LIST



Grace Shen

Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester — Grace Shen, Delmar (director's list)

University of Rhode Island — Cynthia A. Roberts and Ilene F. Shaw, both of Delmar.

Randolph-Macon Woman's College — Karen E. Rose, Delmar.

Clarkson College — Mary E. Tangredi, Delmar.

Cornell University — Susan C. Pike, Delmar.

Cornell University — Laura Briggs, Delmar.

Two in 'Who's Who'

Mary Schimanski of Delmar and John Harlan, formerly of Delmar, have been chosen for listing in the 1984 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*. Schimanski is a senior at Boston College and Harlan is an architecture major at Miami University.

Ecological rescue

Ian Schrauf of Delmar, a student at Paul Smith's College, Paul Smiths, N.Y., was among a group of college students who volunteered to help rescue two Adirondack ponds from the morbid effects of acid rain. The students recently donned gloves and goggles and helped spread lime over the frozen surfaces of Sunrise and Echo ponds in the Adirondacks. The 29 tons of lime used were paid for by area businesses, colleges and individuals, and are intended to neutralize the now acid ponds so they will once again be habitable by fish.

Contest for poets

The Russell Sage College Department of English and the James Wheelock Clark Library have announced plans for the fourth annual Women's Poetry Competition. The contest is open to 11th and 12th grade women currently enrolled in an area school. Deadline for entries is Feb. 29. For information, call 270-2237.

Their essays tops

Two Slingerlands residents were among the winners in the American History Month essay contest sponsored by the Gansevoort chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Hollis Brooks and Matthew Fleming are students at Albany Academy for Boys.

SENIOR CITIZENS



Following its weekly meeting, the Bethlehem Senior Citizens Organization will watch the Dustin Hoffman film "Footsie" on Thursday, March 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the Bethlehem Town Hall. Admission to the Silver Screen Presentation is free.

Spring fashion roundup

The SUNYA Women's Club will bring the residents of the Albany County Nursing Home up-to-date with its third annual spring fashion show on Thursday, March 8. Modeling the Boston Store fashions will be Myra Brickman, Barbara Cavanaugh, Rae Mossin, Esther Phinney, Dodie Seagle and Bonnie Wulff of Delmar. Peggy Zimmerman, also of Delmar, is the fashion coordinator and commentator. For information, call her at 439-9440.

Blood pressure clinic

The Town of Bethlehem will sponsor a free blood pressure clinic at the Bethlehem Town Hall on Tuesday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 7 to 8:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary for the monthly clinic.

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COMMUNITY CORNER

Spring Sports

One of those sure signs that spring will come is the fact that it's time to sign the kids up for the many youth activities available in this area. From wrestling to soccer to softball and baseball, there's something for nearly every child. Watch the *Spotlight Calendar* for times and places.

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THE SPOTLIGHT

Bethlehem, Pa.

March 7, 1984 25¢

The weekly newspaper
 serving the towns of
 Bethlehem and New Scotland



Led by senior Doug Schulz, Bethlehem Central's swimmers capped another undefeated season with a remarkable performance in the Sectionals. Page 16

BC capital needs put at \$4.4 mil

Page 1

NEW SCOTLAND

Pipeline compromise

Page 3

VOORHEESVILLE

Candidates spar over meeting date

Page 1



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