

THE SPOTLIGHT

DO NOT CIRCULATE
December 19, 1984
Vol. XLV, No. 51

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland



Area residents have enjoyed a variety of Christmas activities during the past week. Members of the cast of *The Nutcracker* and *Princess Pirlipat*, left, take a bow at the successful conclusion of their Thursday night performance at Slingerlands Elementary



School. The Bethlehem Central High School Choraliars, conducted by Joseph Farrell, sang at Wednesday's Interfaith Tea at the Delmar Methodist Church.

Tom Howes photos

She goes to bat for seniors

By Ann Treadway

If you're a Town of Bethlehem resident 60 or older, you've got a friend at Town Hall. She's Karen Pellettier, coordinator of the town's senior citizens program.

Under her guidance, the program has mushroomed in recent years, with a shift in emphasis from occasional social get-togethers to a wide array of both recreational opportunities and services for specific needs.

For the past 30 years, there has been a town-sponsored Senior Citizens organization, but until recently it consisted of about 50 people who got together once a month for card games and conversation. Today the organization has a 259-member roster, many of whom meet at Town Hall every week for various social activities.

And Pellettier's outreach efforts have helped to ease or enrich the lives of many more local residents in the over-60 age in volunteers, including many older men and women who are happy to donate their time to projects that aid their peers.

Most of the 24 volunteer drivers of Bethlehem's Senior Van, for example, are retired men who spend one day a month picking up and delivering local Senior Citizens to the group's

weekly meetings, various clinics also held at Town Hall, or to local shopping plazas.

The 11-seat van, obtained by the town last April, travels about 100 miles every weekday and has provided "a new freedom" for many older people in our community, Pellettier said during a recent interview in her Town Hall office, a converted storage room.

A number of those who use it to do monthly shopping are relieved, she explained, that they no longer have to depend on children or neighbors for transportation. She quoted a widow from South Bethlehem as saying that her son can now visit her "because he loves me, not just because I need something."

About 10 older women volunteer their talents once or twice a month in the Senior Citizens office, helping with the typing and filing necessary to keep records up-to-date. Another indication of the program's expansion, however, is that the town has recognized the need for a secretary for the office and will hire one next month.

Karen Pellettier will also increase her work schedule starting next month from half-time to 60 percent. She expects the program's growth to

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Karen Pellettier and Bethlehem Senior Citizens, including Dorothy Cook, left, and Viola Knapp, right, enjoy a Christmas party at the Normanside Country Club on Dec. 12.

Tom Howes

Delaware Ave: no promises, but . . .

Board airs 'first stage'

There were no promises, but again and again town officials told the skeptics — don't worry, we haven't forgotten Delaware Ave.

The occasion was a public hearing by the Bethlehem Town Board last Wednesday on an extensive change in the town's zoning code. Despite its size, the change accomplishes only two things: a rearranging of the uses permitted in the various commercial, industrial and rural zones; and an extension of the site plan approval process to cover virtually all changes in commercial districts.

There were no objections to these changes, and it is likely they will be approved by the town board at its next meeting, Dec. 26.

But, despite Supervisor Tom Corrigan's attempts to confine the hearing to the changes at hand, the focus was clearly on what is not in the new ordinance.

"There was a great deal of confusion as to what we would be responding to today," said Lucy Dunne, an Elsmere resident and neighborhood activist. "No one knows the whole picture."

"I think we are addressing that at a later time," replied Corrigan. "This is a step to get into the task force."

When? Edward Kleinke, the town's planning consultant, is in charge of translating the recommendations of the Delaware Ave. Task Force, made last spring, into legal language. He explained that the revision of the use lists, which eliminates the "pyramidal-type structure" formerly employed, is a necessary first step to implementing later changes recommended by the task force.

Among those recommendations still to be tackled are changes in the sign code, buffer zones for the Elsmere Elementary School and for residential areas on either

side of Delaware Ave., and specifics on how Site Plan Review will be administered for commercial properties.

Kleinke said some of those changes are in draft form, while others are waiting to be drafted. All will go through an internal review before being presented to the town board.

"I don't really have a time frame," he told the audience. Later, he added: "I don't want people to have the impression that any of these things are being forgotten."

The hearing was held in the town hall auditorium in anticipation of a large crowd, but attendance was sparse.

Bernard Harvith, a member of the task force and also a member of the Bethlehem Central school board, reminded the board that the task force had made very specific recommendations for a buffer zone for the Elsmere School.

"I think that was a very high, quick priority, and I think it's been a long time," Harvith said. And, in an indirect allusion to several recent informal comments by town board members regarding the possibility that the school might some day be moved elsewhere, Harvith noted that the school board has never entertained any such thought.

Sandi Hackman, of the Upper Delaware Ave. Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the new Site Plan Review section, "an important step, and it's taken too long to get there."

Site Plan Review drew the only detailed question of the evening, a query on what changes in an existing commercial building will trigger the full review. The ordinance says only that a "significant

(Turn to Page 3)

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Home of hamlet's founder

George and Kathleen Bragle have made a warm and comfortable family-style home at 1575 New Scotland Rd. in Slingerlands for themselves and their three young children. Even though this house, the oldest in the village, is now their home, they cannot escape the responsibility they feel to carry on the heritage of the Slingerland family that occupied the house for so many years in the past.

Being teachers and scholars as well as concerned community-minded citizens, the Bragles appreciate deeply the historical heritage of their house and have a genuine desire to preserve everything that will help to tell the story of the old home and its illustrious as well as more commonplace occupants.

To give the reader some background of this house we must go back and take a brief look at the early Dutch family named Slingerland

TIMES REMEMBERED

Allison Bennett



1665, on farm land that is still occupied in part by some of the descendants of Teunis Cornelise Slingerland. As with all families, the urge to do better than their forebears or the lure of changing locations and situations keeps some members moving away to new opportunities. Such was the case with John Albert Slingerland, born in 1768 during the colonial period in the steep-roofed stone and brick Dutch-style farmhouse sitting amid the cornfields above Feura Bush. Undoubtedly he, too, had inherited the pioneer spirit of his ancestors, and at an early age he decided to leave the Onesquethaw and make his own passage

stipulation of yearly rental fees to the Patroon, lies today in the very heart of the hamlet of Slingerlands.

After establishing himself on his acres and building a small dwelling house he married Leah Britt on Feb. 3, 1799. She was the daughter of Frederick Britt, a Revolutionary War veteran who had settled on a farm along the Feura Bush road near present-day Delmar. John Albert's father, Albert, born in 1733, was also a Revolutionary War veteran, serving in the Third Regiment, Albany County militia, under Colonel Schuyler.

The first house of date on the Slingerland farm property at 1575 New Scotland Rd. is a structure constructed circa 1790 and adjoining the present main structure at the rear. The Bragles call it "the barn" because it has been in various stages of remodeling and restoration over the years by successive owners, but it is still not habitable for today's living standard. It is Kathleen Bragle's dream to someday make this early dwelling into a usable room for her family. The great chimney and fireplace fill the back wall of the structure and the exposed beams indicate the early construction. There is a large attic or sleeping loft in the second story. Also behind the large main block of the house facing the highway is another wing containing the present dining room and kitchen. This wing was also an addition to the 1790 structure, probably constructed when John Albert and Leah Slingerland were raising their family. Their children were: Magdalen, Elizabeth, Hester, Frederick, Albert I., John I. and William Henry.

All of these male children attained positions of prominence in their community, but the one we are concerned with in this



John I. Slingerland

article is John and Leah's son, John I. Slingerland. He became one of the family's most distinguished members. He was born on the home farm and lived there all his days. John I. was distinguished in that he served in the New York State Assembly in 1843 and again in 1847-49. He had always espoused the cause of the Whig Party. By 1855 however, Thurlow Weed in New York united the fledgling Republican and Whig parties into a single organization, rallying all men who opposed the spread of slavery. The main issue which had called the Republican party into being was to prevent the spread of slavery into the western territories of the United States. Slingerland had always been an advocate of temperance, the extension of the western territories and an opponent of the extension of slavery. In 1856 he was a strong advocate for the nomination of John C. Fremont for the presidency by the newly formed Republican Party. In essence we can say that John I. Slingerland was one of the founders of the Republican Party.

(To be continued)

Norman Cohen's book *Family Matters* now available at *The Spotlight*

Hearing

(From Page 1)

change" in the facade of a building requires review.

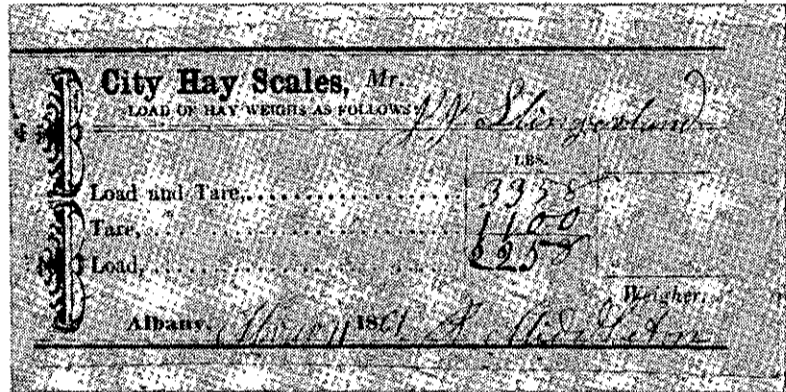
"Well, we've all wrestled with that one," admitted Kleinke. "It will depend on the individual case." He said he expects Building Inspector John Flanigan will ask the planning board to decide whether it wants to review changes that could be eligible until there is a body of precedent established.

Yule lights taken

Four Delmar residents reported the theft of outdoor Christmas lights to Bethlehem police over the weekend, according to police reports. The lights reported taken were from homes on Darnley Green, Murray Ave., Borthwick Ave. and Orchard St.

Card, cash missing

A Delmar woman who reported to police that she had lost her pocketbook while shopping at Delaware Plaza called back later to say the purse had been returned to her, but a credit card and the approximately \$20 in cash that it had contained were missing, according to Bethlehem police reports. Another credit card was still in the pocketbook, as were personal papers, police said.

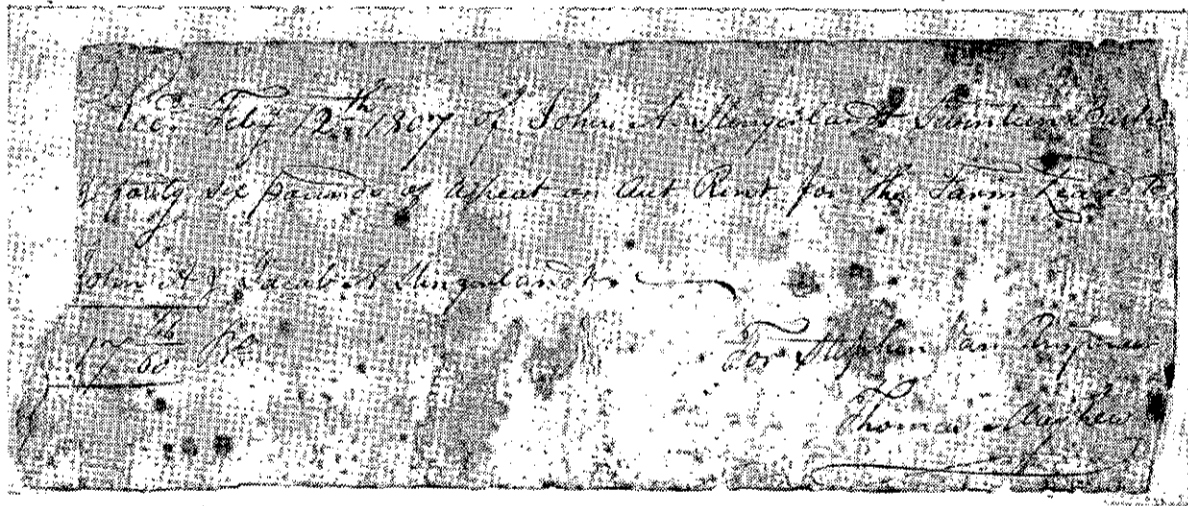


A receipt for a load of hay taken into Albany for sale by John I. Slingerland in March, 1861.

gerland that has left so many descendants in our own immediate area up to the present day.

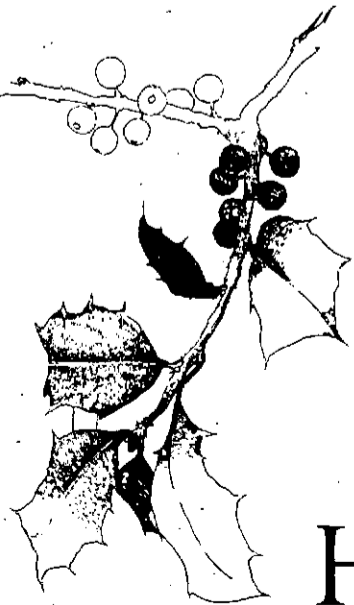
The earliest members of the Slingerland family settled along the banks of the Onesquethaw Creek above Feura Bush about

through life on the sand flats nearer to the city of Albany, about the year 1790. Accordingly, he took a lease from the Patroon Van Rensselaer and settled on a farmstead along the Albany-to-Schoharie road. The fertile fields that he bought, along with the



This receipt, dated Feb. 12, 1807, acknowledges payment of 17 bushels and 46 pounds of wheat as rent for the farm leased to John A. Slingerland by the patroon Van Rensselaer.

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(518) 439-4949

A caroling tradition

Local residents are again being asked to join in serenading the Bethlehem area with yuletide songs and helping to raise funds for the Albany Ronald McDonald House, a home away from home for the families of seriously ill children under treatment at capital district medical facilities.

Nancy Martin of Elsmere views her participation in the project as "a very heart warming experience. We have a real enjoyable time doing something for others."

"Caroling encompasses all of the themes traditionally associated with the Ronald McDonald House, particularly togetherness. It is our way to help spread some of the holiday cheer to these faced with adversity this Christmas season," said board member and project coordinator Jack Mulvey.

This year caroling will continue through Dec. 23. This is one of the organization's few fund raisers during the year.

Volunteers should call Cathy Conway at 439-6045 for caroling

kits. The kits contain information on Ronald McDonald House, a collection canister and a badge.

The friends of Ronald McDonald House thank all those who have participated in part years and hope that former volunteers and new volunteers will be seen caroling this year.

Tax deductible donations, with checks payable to The Albany Ronald McDonald House — Christmas Carolers, may be sent to Albany Ronald McDonald House, 139 South Lake Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12208.

Making choices

Counseling and Training Associates (CTA), a group of certified reality therapists, will present a program entitled "Better Choices III" at Bethlehem Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. William Glasser, author of *Take Better Control of Your Life* and founder of CTA, will speak at the gathering.

All are welcome. For information call 439-5391 or 439-9311.

□ Karen Pellettier

(From Page 1)

continue and that her job will someday become full-time.

For now, though, she's got as much as she can handle. When she was hired as the town's first senior citizens coordinator in 1978, it was for only a few hours a week. "I knew Phil Mahar from my weekly night out playing volleyball at the Middle School," she said, "and one day he asked me if I'd be interested in serving as sort of a liaison between the town and the senior citizens group that existed then."

The idea was mainly to ensure that the desires of the older population were considered in the town's recreational programming. But finding that many of these residents also need other types of services, Pellettier has added more and more over the past six years.

A native of Elsmere and daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Charles Kaulfuss, the senior citizens coordinator is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Green Mountain Junior College. She and her husband, John, live in Elsmere close to where she grew up and have three children, Suzanne, 13, Michael, 9, and Katie, 4.

Although Karen Pellettier typifies many young wives and mothers in our community, she also appears particularly well-qualified to fill the role she took on through a chance acquaintanceship. Besides being energetic and well-organized, she obviously cares very much about helping people — and the caring itself means a lot.

Betty Chesser, a long time member of the Senior Citizens group that meets every week, said Pellettier does a good job because "she has a nice way with her and a lot of patience." She also pointed out that Pellettier is concerned about the needs of all senior citizens in the town, not just those who are active in the meeting group.

Pellettier said what she likes best about her job is "working with people," especially on a one-to-one basis, and what she likes least is the paperwork, so she's very glad to be getting a secretary.

The growth of the Senior Citizens program in Bethlehem is due in large part to its coordinator's willingness to take on new tasks, but it also reflects the aging of the community, a microcosm of this trend throughout the country.

At the time of the 1980 census, about 4,500, or 19 percent, of the Town of Bethlehem's approximately 24,000 residents were at least 60 years old. It's probably safe to assume that by now more than one-fifth of Bethlehem residents can claim Senior Citizen status.

Many, of course, are healthy, active, and self-sufficient, but some, especially among the very aged, need various types of help to make their lives easier.

In addition to the newly-acquired Senior Van, the services now available to Bethlehem's 60-plus population include: free legal clinics once a month, free blood pressure clinics once a month, a food pantry for emergency needs, visits to the housebound, discount passes and I.D.'s for a variety of uses, a food coupons exchange, a books and magazines exchange, and pamphlets and referral information on government aid programs such as food stamps and HEAP for those who qualify.

In the summer months, there's also a "Bumper Crop" program, through which local gardeners, mostly retirees, share their overabundant supplies of fresh vegetables with others who can use them.

Free cheese from the federal government's surplus food program is also dispensed to local residents who qualify through the Senior Citizens office.

For older people who don't need goods or services, but instead friends and fun as an antidote for loneliness, the Town of Bethlehem offers trips and tours, travelogues, a crafts group, movies, bowling, sing-a-longs and seasonal parties such as the Christmas party held last Wednesday.

Anyone wishing detailed information about programs and services available to Bethlehem's senior citizens should call the office at 439-4955. If Karen Pellettier isn't there at the time, she'll get back to you.

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Ring in '85 at gala

A New Year's Eve gala is planned for 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Bethlehem Central High School, sponsored by Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited. The rock band Alias will perform in the gym, while popular dance music will be played in the cafeteria. A buffet breakfast will be served after the new year is rung in. Tickets at \$2.

may be purchased at the high school, middle school, town park office or at the door.

Four cars hit deer

Four car-deer accidents were reported to Bethlehem police this week, according to police records. Two of the four occurred on Rt. 32.

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Void With Other Offers



Juniper Field is cleared for Jan. 9 public hearing

The proposed Juniper Field subdivision on Elm Ave. opposite the Delmar Bypass will be allowed to skip a full-blown environmental impact statement because mitigating measures will offset any negative aspects of the project, the Bethlehem Town Board decided Wednesday.

The board set Jan. 9 at 8 p.m. for a public hearing on developer David Siegal's proposal to rezone the 58.7-acre property from A and AA Residential to Planned Residential Development status. Siegal has proposed to build eight single-family homes and 282 apartment units.

The decision to skip the full impact statement came at the recommendation of the town's planning consultant, Edward Kleinke, who reported that all interested agencies had commented on the environmental report done by the developer, that none wanted to be "lead agency" and that there had been no major objections to the report.

There was, however, one disagreement. Both the state Department of Transportation and the

Albany County Department of Public Works took issue with Siegal's traffic analysis, noting that the developer did not issue standard criteria for trip generation. But DOT ran its own analysis and found its traffic projections within "acceptable" limits anyway.

Kleinke told the town board that in his opinion if the developer adheres to the proposed "concept plan," phases the development in over a period of time and agrees to limit density, there will be no "significant" effects that would require an environmental impact statement. The concept plans shows single-family housing and a recreation area between Elm Ave. and the multi-family area, a single access point from Elm Ave. to the development, construction of 1,700 feet of highway along the southerly boundary of the property (an extension of the bypass with limited access), and natural buffering between existing residences and the development.

If the land is rezoned to PRD, Kleinke said, the "mitigating

measures" will be made a part of building project approval.

The town board also learned of a development in another controversial subdivision plan, the proposed Norman's Gate Subdivision off Euclid Ave., Elsmere. After the Planning Board turned down the proposal last year, the developers sued and the two parties agreed to bring in a third party to determine whether the soil in the area, which fronts on the Normanskill ravine, will support the houses.

A report from Clough, Harbour and Associates concludes that the site is adequate to support development in the "plateau area", but should be restricted in areas with significant slope. The report also suggests a drainage plan.

Clough, Harbour said further test borings, costing \$3,300, were necessary. The board forwarded the report to the developers, who are paying for the studies.

In other action, the board:

- Approved the Crossroads water extension, which will in-

More help needed

Residents of the Delmar area have contributed approximately \$500 to help Jackie Valentine purchase a \$3,745 transmitter, according to Valentine's daughter Debra Mero.

Mrs. Valentine was a resident of Delmar until Multiple Sclerosis forced her to move to Eden Park Nursing Home. On Nov. 1, doctors at Westchester County Medical Center implanted electrodes in Mrs. Valentine's brain. With a receiver implanted in her chest wall and the special transmitter, Mrs. Valentine no longer experiences the violent tremors associated with her illness.

Because of expenses associated with her illness, Mrs. Valentine has used all her savings and is unable to pay for the transmitter. Her medical insurance does not cover the expense of the transmitter. Mrs. Valentine's nurse at Eden Park Nursing Home, Mary Keeley of Selkirk, initiated the drive to raise funds for the purchase of the transmitter.

Persons wishing to help may send a donation to the Jackie Valentine Fund, c/o Debra Mero, 62 Seaman Ave., Castleton-on Hudson, N.Y. 12033.

clude about 1,000 feet of new water line along Beacon Rd. south of Wemple Rd. to serve the Crossroads subdivision. The line is being financed by the developer.

- Accepted a deed for highway right of way along Orchard St. from owners Norris McFarland and Howard Nolan. The right of way will permit a water line to be installed in the area.

- Awarded bids on a number of chemicals and materials for the

Department of Public Works.

- Approved the hiring of Roger Griffiths, currently a DPW employee, as the town's fourth building inspector, a position created in the 1985 budget. Griffiths has experience in contracting and plumbing, and will be schooled in building inspection.

- Approved a dumping permit for Harold C. Grumme for property on Mosher Rd. in Glenmont, with conditions.

Board grants variances

After a lengthy public hearing to consider the installation of a drive-in window at the Elsmere McDonald's restaurant, the Bethlehem Board of Appeals at its Dec. 8 meeting made some quick business of other matters. The board:

- Granted a rear yard variance to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hoffman to permit an existing deck at 43 Axbridge La., Delmar.

- Granted a side yard variance to Stephen Bub to permit construction of a chimney at 50 Burhans Pl., Delmar.

- Informally approved a special exception to permit a five-year

extension of time for construction of the Woodhill subdivision, Rt. 9W and Feura Bush Rd., Glenmont.

Tabled discussion of a public hearing held to consider Donna Lee's request for a special exception to permit a dog kennel at 1691 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

- Authorized a request for the town board to reappoint Thomas W. Scherer to a five-year term on the board of appeals. The board reappointed Scherer as secretary and Charles Fritts as chairman for 1985.



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AFFILIATE OF J. P. JONAS INC.

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Sat. & Sun. 11 AM to 2 PM.
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If you're looking for a perfect fresh tree - We have them! Nursery grown picture perfect. Priced from \$17.00

Enjoy Free Coffee while you are selecting your tree.

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ARRANGEMENTS

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Priced From **\$788**

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\$388

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Alcohol and cars don't mix

Bethlehem Police Chief Paul E. Currie reminds Bethlehem area motorists that having a happy holiday means moderation when it comes to the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Currie quoted national statistics to emphasize the problem. At least half of all traffic fatalities in this country involve alcohol as a factor, he said. Moreover, a large majority of fatal holiday accidents are associated with drinking.

The chief cited a few holiday party tips that have been endorsed by the International Association

of Chiefs of Police.

As either a host or guest, remember that it takes the average person at least one hour per drink to eliminate the effects of alcohol. It takes time to sober up and nothing else helps.

If you're the host, close down the bar at least an hour before guests leave and offer food and coffee as a "nightcap."

If a guest has drunk too much have another partygoer take that person home, or call a taxi.

In addition to moderation in

the consumption of liquor by anyone planning to drive later, Currie added the following tips:

Use good sense in driving to shops on last-minute errands.

Have your vehicle in top shape for operation in winter driving conditions.

Currie added that the department will be out to protect other motorists from those who ignore traffic laws or drive after drinking. "We may not win popularity contests, but we are determined to see that all our laws are strictly and fairly enforced," he said.



Thirty new members were honored at the Delmar Progress Club's Holiday Tea on Dec. 10 at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. The new members were greeted by Mrs. Clifton C. Thorne, president, and Mrs. Richard C. Benjamin, membership chairman.

Spotlight

Elected at 5 Rivers

Five Rivers Limited recently conducted its annual meeting at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center. New members elected to the board include Patrick Martin and Thomas Zolezzi, both of Delmar.

Martin, a former fish and wildlife technician with the state Department of Environmental Conservation, is a regional representative for the Ruffed Grouse Society, an international non-profit organization that promotes forest and wildlife management.

Zolezzi is special counsel to the state Board of Elections, and is a former state assistant attorney general.

If The Spotlight doesn't come on Wednesday, call 439-4949

Inquirers find absentee ballots still are absentee

The mystery of the missing Bethlehem ballots is likely to remain just that — a mystery.

Investigations by the Albany County Board of Elections and officials at the Postal Service's main facility on Karner Rd. in Colonie have apparently turned up no clues as to why at least 25 Bethlehem residents who requested absentee ballots for the Nov. 6

election never received them.

Missing ballots at this point total "25 or 26" — there may be others we don't know about, a board of elections spokesman said Friday. The board asked the Post Office to investigate after receiving complaints that the ballots were requested but not received, and after confirming that the ballots were recorded as having been mailed, the spokesman said.

But postal officials say they have very little to go on. "They haven't uncovered anything, nor have they found the material," said the election board spokesman. "I told them to keep looking and if they do find it, don't mail it."

Country club fire

A gasoline spill caused a fire Thursday morning at the Normanside Country Club, on Salisbury Rd. in Delmar, according to Elsmere Fire Chief Anthony Morrell. No one was injured, and the blaze was quickly extinguished when fire fighters arrived at the scene shortly after 9 a.m., he said. The fire reportedly started when gasoline was accidentally spilled near a kerosene heater in a work room at the club.

Morrell noted that kerosene heaters are legal for use only in one- and two-family homes. He emphasized that users should not leave them unattended and that the heaters should not be used in basement areas.

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LINENS

By Gail

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For Sally and Tom, for Aunt Kate, for Grandma or sister Sue . . . Johnson's has a card to fit the mood and the holiday spirit.

Wrap our Christmas . . .

With gift wraps, ribbons and bows from our large selection

Get set for Christmas Parties and Christmas Dinner . . .

With plates, cups, napkins, table covers, plastic tableware and decorations from our festive collection.

Get set for New Years Eve

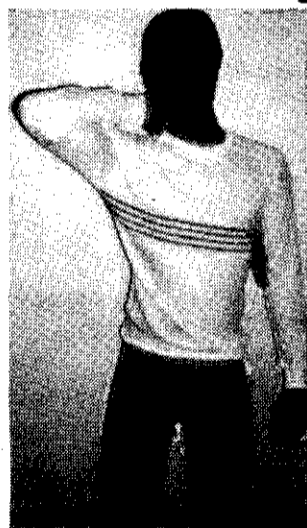
With party invitations, paper goods, decorations, streamers, party hats and noisemakers.

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Harry Adams
Connie Baker
Anna Caswell
Ann Conley
Karin Dagneau
Lorraine Engleman
Claire Fein

Jane Gosstula
Art Hatch
Bob Jackson
Dave Jarvis
Kathie Kaplan
Betty Kerrigan
Martha Martley

Helen McLean
Fern Moran
Margaret Pollard
Betty Reno
Jean Sutter
Diane Tangora
Rudy Troeger

Tom Tuite
Paul Vander Mel
Fred Weber
Bill Weber
Sharon Woolford
Bill Zautner



School track is right on track

By Charles Casey

The Voorheesville Central School District will have a track by the end of 1985, if the board of education continues its present pace.

The board has asked Superintendent Werner Berglas to consult an architect to begin plans for the track. According to Berglas, there will be several weeks of planning and advertising for the project. He added that a referendum would be put to district voters in mid-March. Board President John McKenna said he will schedule formal action on the track proposal for the board's next meeting.

To be eligible for state aid, the track project must be coupled with capital improvement of the school buildings. Such improvements include work in the boiler rooms to reinforce and cover an existing layer of asbestos insulation and replace water valves and acoustic ceiling tiles.

The cost to the district will be about \$125,000, according to Berglas. Including a contingency budget of \$30,000, the total cost of the track and capital improvements may reach \$350,000. Berglas said he expects between \$185,000 and \$190,000 in state aid.

Business Manager Roger Lewis discussed the possibility of installing a prefabricated building to house track equipment. According to Lewis, the cost of such

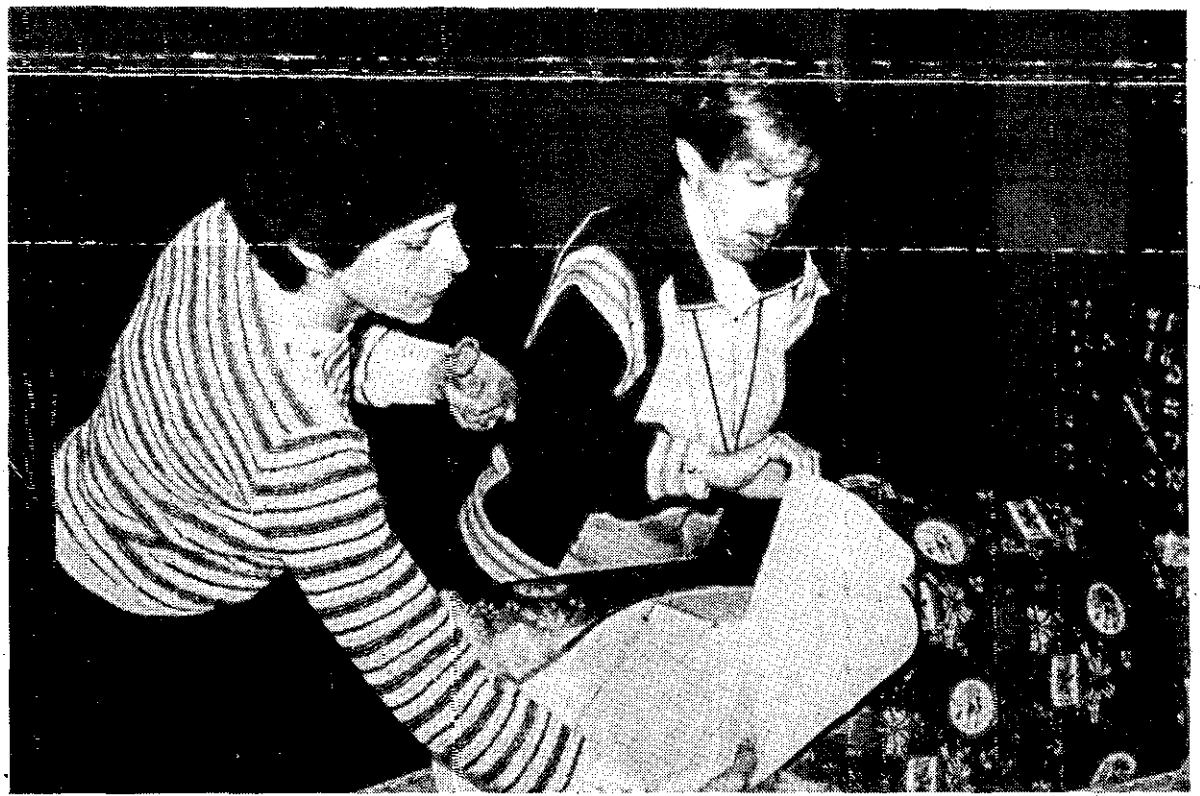
VOORHEESVILLE

a building would be about \$6,000, considerably less than other types of structures.

The board also reached a consensus that a sum of money, perhaps \$5,000, be made available to award mini-grants for special courses. The mini-grant concept, proposed by Berglas, would enable teachers to instruct beyond the normal curriculum, with the grant money being used to cover extra expenses of materials and teaching. The board will take formal action later.

Parents whose children will be attending nonpublic school must now file a request by June 1 in order for the district to order and supply the necessary textbooks. The board approved the deadline but made allowances for extenuating circumstances. An exception may be made for a family that moves into the district during late summer, for example.

In other action, the board accepted the resignation of teacher Charles Abba and food service helper Mae Duncan. Gregory Medina and Thomas Mahoney were appointed to the positions of custodial worker and school bus driver, respectively.



Barbara Coons, left, coordinator of the Adopt-a-Family program at the Voorheesville Elementary School, assists Ferne Horn in wrapping gifts to be

distributed by the Albany County Social Department.
Lyn Staff

Junk car law being enforced

New Scotland officials have started to enforce the town's newly enacted junk-car ordinance, after giving prospective violators a modest grace period.

Walter Miller, town building inspector, said a number of citations in several sections of the town have been issued in the past two weeks. More than half of those cases have already been

NEW SCOTLAND

marked closed after property owners complied with stipulations. In the law, Miller said, and of the residents who have been issued a second notice, only one has indicated he would resist the cleanup under the new law.

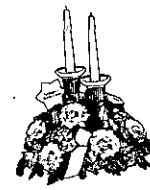
Miller said inspection will continue to be made in other sections of the town in the next

several months. A number of residents, he added, voluntarily removed unsightly vehicles before the inspections got underway.

New Scotland enacted the so-called junk car ordinance, which requires residents who maintain unsightly and inoperable vehicles that are visible from public roads or from a neighboring dwelling to apply for a junkyard permit. The ordinance was adopted last June after more than two years of draft revisions and public hearings.

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	New Wine Cask Golden Chablis	4 Ltr.	\$8.99	—	\$7.99
GALLO	Chablis, Burgandy Rhine Rose, H. Burg. Pink Chablis	3 Ltr.	\$7.49	MAIL IN \$1.00	(\$3.99)
		750M	\$2.99	—	\$2.59
E&J GALLO	Rose Chenin Blanc Fr. Columbard	1.5 Ltr.	\$5.49	MAIL IN \$1.00	(\$2.99)
	Johannisberg, Riesl Sauvignon Blanc Gewurtztraminer	1.5 Ltr.	\$5.99	MAIL IN \$1.00	(\$3.49)
		750M	\$3.99	—	\$2.99
JACQUES BONET	Champagne Ex. Dry, Brut, Cold Duck	750M	\$3.79	—	\$2.98
INGLENOOK NAVALLE	Chablis, Burgandy, Rhine, Rose	1.5 Ltr.	\$5.99	—	\$4.99
SEBASTIANI	Gab., Sauvignon, Zin Frandel	1.5 Ltr.	\$8.29	—	\$6.99
CARLO ROSSI	Burg, Rhine, Chianti, Rose, Pink Cha.	4 Ltr.	\$6.99	—	\$5.49
ALMADEN TAYLORS	Blanc De Blanc Champagne Ex. Dry Brut	750M	\$9.79	—	\$5.99
		750M	\$7.99	MAIL IN \$1.50	(\$4.49)

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Voorheesville News Notes



Lyn Staf 765-2451

Holiday at the library

The holidays are in full bloom at the Voorheesville Public Library, where Hannukah crafts and a movie will take place today (Wednesday), followed by Christmas crafts and movies on Thursday. Both programs begin at 4 p.m. and all are invited.

A reminder that pre-school story hour will end on Dec. 21.

The vacation week will also see much activity when movies for the younger set will be shown. *Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day* and *The Cat in the Hat* will be shown on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 26-27 at 10:30 a.m. In the afternoon, *the Legend of the Lone Ranger* will be shown on Wednesday, Dec. 26, and *Summer Stock* with Judy Garland will be shown on Thursday, Dec. 27. Both movies start at 2 p.m. and are free. All are welcome.

The library's annual fine-free week will run from Wednesday, Dec. 26, until Wednesday, Jan. 2. During that time all overdue books may be returned without penalty, and people who have outstanding fines on record at the library may "clean the slate" by paying half the fine after it has been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Bake sale a success
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Voorheesville Fire Department netted \$225 on their Election Day bake sale. The proceeds were donated to the Albany County Burn Fund, which benefits the

Burn Unit of Albany Medical Center.

Scouts go caroling

Cub Scouts of Voorheesville Pack 73 will add to the festivities of the season when they go caroling on Thursday, Dec. 20. The choristers and their families will leave the grade school parking lot at approximately 6:30 p.m. to spread good cheer and Christmas goodies to several Voorheesville residents. The cookies the boys will distribute were baked by the boys themselves this week during their den meetings.

After caroling the scouts will return to the grade school for hot chocolate and a brief awards ceremony. Following along with the monthly theme of helping others, the scouts will also present food boxes to the St. Matthew's Human Concerns Committee.

Food Bank seeks help

Speaking of Human Concerns, the group, which is based at St. Matthew's but serves over 20 area families of all demoninations, is looking for people to help with a project in progress by the Regional Food Bank.

The Food Bank, which serves as a clearing house for large quantities of food solicited from distributors, manufacturers and producers, is sorting and weighing salvage food products donated by the Golub Corp. The sorting takes place on a weekly basis on Wednesday evenings and on Fridays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at a warehouse located in the

Northeastern Industrial Park on Depot Rd., Guilderland. The food is then distributed through local food pantries such as the one at St. Matthew's. Anyone interested in helping with the project is asked to call Kathy Johnson or Mark Quandt at 463-3544 for details.

For those interested in a gift in line with the spirit of Christmas, the Food Bank will send a Christmas gift card confirming that a donation of \$5 or more has been made the name of the donor. The money will be used to help feed the needy during the Christmas holiday. Call the food bank at 463-3544.

Christmas at village churches

In light of the true meaning of Christmas Voorheesville's two churches will celebrate Christmas with a number of services.

St. Matthew's Catholic Church will hold masses on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve the children's mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m., the folk group will play at the 7 p.m. mass and the Christmas Choir will sing at the 10 p.m. mass — only one mass will be celebrated on Christmas Day — at 11 a.m.


At the First United Methodist Church a family worship service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, including carol singing and the reading of the Christmas Story. A second service on Christmas Eve will be the traditional candlelight service at 11 p.m. On Christmas Day a worship service will be offered at 11 a.m.

In holiday concert


William Petroni, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Petroni of Slingerlands, appeared in the Elmira College Department of Music's holiday concert.



Cara Nolan, a second grade student at Voorheesville Elementary School, delivers juice and a doughnut to teacher Pat Thomas during the Dec. 13 St. Lucia's Day celebration. Lyn Staf



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Merry Christmas & Season's Greetings

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Every Tues. & Thurs. See Details in Store

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The Spotlight — December 19, 1984 — PAGE 9

Board: Get wish lists in order

By Theresa Bobear

After hearing district principals present budget proposals with increases ranging from 45 percent on down, the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Board of Education instructed the administrators to return Jan. 14 with a list of priorities.

Superintendent of Schools Milton Chodack began the district's first special budget meeting by explaining that the building budgets presented by the principals included all items requested by the teachers as mandated by the teachers' contract.

Chodack reminded the board that furniture for the buildings would be included in the buildings and grounds budget. He said computers would be presented as a special proposition to the voters.

Victor Carrk, principal of RCS Senior High, presented a budget reflecting a 44.98 percent increase. Carrk said the budget includes a 146 percent increase for the school's science department, a 61 percent increase for the language department and an 80 percent increase for the athletic department.

Specific items adding to the

budget increase include \$21,000 in requested texts, a \$9,000 film processor, \$6,000 in equipment (including a printer, equipment for a Pascal course and equipment needed to computerize the Level III mechanical drawing course), audio visual equipment, a \$28,000 lighting system for the football field, a \$5,000 scoreboard for the gym, \$5,400 for various athletic uniforms, and almost \$1,000 for cheerleading uniforms.

Carrk said the budget also proposes spending for certain departments. He explained that a memo was distributed to each and every teacher requesting him to submit a list of items needed for effective programs to be included in the building budget.

Robert DeSarbo, principal of the junior high, presented a budget that reflected a 15.74 percent increase. DeSarbo said the budget included proposed increases of 15.6 percent for the English department, 49 percent for science, 76 percent for social studies, 37 percent for health, 27 percent for languages and 62 percent for industrial arts.

Proposed items adding to the increase include new English paperbacks and new English,

science, social studies, health and German texts for various grades. The budget also includes start up funds for a new industrial arts course.

Principal Albert Keating of the A. W. Becker Elementary School said the proposed budgets for the district's three elementary schools reflect an increase of approximately 20 percent over last year.

Keating presented a \$71,350 budget for his building, which included the proposed expenditure of approximately \$4,020 for math texts and supplies, \$5,310 for science texts and supplies, and an additional \$1,000 for the school's specialized learning workshop. Keating said the budget reflected a 19 percent increase for the music department to provide instruction and texts for the fourth grade.

"Now is the time for some parameters," Chodack said to the board after hearing the presentations. "I see some new items," Board President Anthony Williams commented. "I wouldn't be prepared to let them fly as they are." Williams suggested that the principals reduce the quantities of items requested and still keep the new ideas.

When Williams suggested that the principals follow a 10 percent

guideline for increases and justify any additional items, he met with resistance from some other board members. Board member Wayne Fuhrman said he would not be prepared to set an arbitrary percentage without looking at other parts of the budget. Board members Marie Muller and Robert Van Etten said they could not ask the taxpayers to face an increase of 10 to 15 percent.

Chodack emphasized the fact that the district's building budgets account for only about \$500,000 of a \$10 to \$11 million budget. He said that the buildings are where the action is. He described spending at the buildings as being of primary importance. Considering the rising costs, Chodack said an increase for the buildings of less than 10 percent would not be reasonable.

Bus, car collide

A Voorheesville man, 20, was charged with failure to yield right of way after the vehicle he was driving was involved in a collision with a Bethlehem Central school bus early last Tuesday on Brockley Dr. in Delmar, according to Bethlehem police reports. There were 11 children on the bus, but no injuries were reported to police following the 7:30 a.m. accident.

High honors at RCS

The following students with cumulative averages of 90 percent or more have been named to the high honor roll at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Senior High School.

Grade Twelve

Dorothy Arnold, Sandra Barger, Meridith Bryant, Tina DeCastro, Chris DiPerna, John Dwyer, Dawn Flint, Susan Gleason, Andrew Guthrie, Richard Hotaling, Annette Motley, Lisa O'Brien, Stephen Oliver, Dana Pickett, Patricia Sandgren, Cheryl Scalzo, Carrie Selkirk, Roger Sevilla, Diane Stewart, Michelle VanAlstyne, Steven Vasto, Beth White and Garth Wright.

Grade Eleven

Stefanie Blish, David Brown, Edward Carras, James Carroll, Patricia Downes, Scott Keating, Rhonda Newton, Tina Patterson, Lynmarie Wass de Czege, Stefanie Zetterlund.

Grade Ten

Rebecca Bull, Joseph Cacckello, Paul Curley, Joanne Cuzdey, Raymond Denny, Stephen DiAcetis, Christine Doyle, Colleen Farrell, Theodore Fink, Lori Fullum, Mary Gleason, Scott Gottesman, Patricia Guthrie, Tracy Klein, Kenneth Koonz, Lisa Korzatkowski, Seth Kunz, Patrick McCormick, Kris Moak, Jacqueline Mulligan, Wendy Nolan, Tim Penk, Marvin Powell and Patricia Surrano.

Grade Nine

Robin Baker, Jennifer Bolen, Jill Burrows, Catherine Crewell, Bray Engel, Erich Hester, Brian Olby, Lisa Pass, Nichole Quay, Tammy Samsel, Celia Shubert, Richard Thayer and Matthew Weinert.

Honor roll

The following students have been selected to the honor roll at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Senior High School for the first quarter of the school year. Students must have a cumulative average of 85 to 89 percent.

Grade Twelve

Cindy Barbour, Kim Bremigen, Gary Carleton, Maria Carrk, Kim Frsal, Lisa Griffith, Susan Hager, Donna Hamilton, Loren Heffernan, Ronald Hotaling, Amy Jacobs.

Also Majorie Kleinbans, Donna Marshall, Loraine Mormile, Judi Mulligan, Brenda Newkirk, Barbara O'Neill, Melissa Patterson, Jill Penk, Lynn Powell, Rebecca Ross, Sandra Sherman, Susan Stahlman, Tammy Stumbaugh, Stanley Tomek, De Tran, Wendy Trenchard, Lisa VanAlstyne, Michelle VanKampen, Christine Wade.

Grade 11

Rebecca Arrieta, Keith Berger, Sethann Bogardus, Chester Bolen, Tina Boyere, Kim Daley, Andrew Felter, Karen Finch, Brian Harple, Greg Irwin, Wendy Jones, Lisa Kane.

Also Brad Keeny, Michelle Kellam, Debra Lawrence, Barbara Lawson, Tim Margiasso, Pauline Mayo, Divina Pannone, Claudia Rowe, Brian Stumbaugh, Shirley VanAlstyne, Diane Weidman and Jill Williams.

Grade 10

Andrew Casale, Paul Caswell, Nancy Conrad, Jeff Distin, Kevin Famularo, Suzanne Fekete, Bruce Fourman, Joanne Goes, Michelle Goes, Bart Gottesman, Jon Gregware, Randy Hotaling, John Irving.

Also Amy Kane, Julianne Kelley, Holly Kennedy, Debra Kosowsky, Sherrie LaRose, Catherine LeClerc, Kelly Millet, Ken Newkirk, Marisa Nunziato, Paula O'Connor, Evelyn Octaviano, James Ritter, Daniel Rose, Marie Setford, Raymond Sgroi, Shelly Snyder, Michael Taylor, Lance Tucker, Anthony Williams and Michelle Zinzow.

Grade 9

Theodore Austin, Tracy Bullock, Kerry Chapman, Michael Frazzetta, Nadine Feasel, Elizabeth Harris, Lori Harris, Tonia Heil, Mark Henry, Connie Hollenbach, Lisa Holsapple, Lori Jacoby, Brian Keating.

Also Michelle Layman, Jacqueline Legere, Brian Leonard, Cheryl Lopez, Lisa Mayo, Kim Narzyski, Kim Nelson, Cassandra Newell, Karen Pickup, Todd Racine, Lisa Ray, Jennifer Rodd, Catherine Stoddard, Laurie Sutton, Lisa Tuscano, Alfred VanAlstyne and Alisa Wagner.

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Barbara Pickup 767-9225



Time out for music

As Christmas gets closer and the pace seems to quicken even more, sometimes we need a little reminder to slow down and enjoy this special time of year. Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Junior High School has been busily preparing for a winter concert for this Thursday evening, Dec. 20. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade bands, the Select Chorus and the Chorus, under the direction of Kenneth Tyrrell, will present a program of Christmas and seasonal music starting at 7:30 p.m. in the senior high auditorium. Musicians and singers hope area residents will take time from their busy schedules to attend this special program. Admission is free.

Carolers set for Saturday

The sound of music will ring out again on Saturday, Dec. 22, when the "Adults Only" Fellowship group of the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem will be Christmas caroling through the streets of Selkirk. The group plans to leave from the church parking lot on Rt. 9W in Selkirk at 7 p.m. They will go caroling and then return to the parsonage for a Christmas party. There will be refreshments and a white elephant gift exchange. The gift, which should be wrapped, is to be an item that's been stuck away in the basement or attic. Each person will be asked to contribute 50 cents to cover the cost of refreshments.

DAR honors student

Three teens were recently honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. On Dec. 8, DAR Good Citizens Awards were presented to Susan M. Gleason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gleason of Glenmont, a student at the RCS Senior High School; Eileen M. Crandall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. John Crandall, Jr. of Albany, a student at Albany High School; and Joseph L. Cohen, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Cohen, Sr., of Albany, a senior at Guilderland High School. The students were given pins and certificates jointly by Hannakrois and Old Helderbergh NSDAR chapters. The meeting and program were held at the Bethlehem Elks Lodge of Selkirk.

Mrs. Henry Cook, state DAR citizen chairman, was principal speaker.

DECA helping others

The RCS High School D.E.C.A. Chapter is involved in a community service project for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The canister drive began on Nov. 19 and will continue until the end of April or until all the canisters are full. Each club member distributed five canisters to local businesses. By the end of the drive, the club expects to have raised between \$1,000 and \$1,500.

The RCS chapter started off the year with election of club officers. They are: president, Steven Vasto; vice president, Charles Zeoli; treasurer, Tricia Sandgren; secretary, Lisa Riley; historian, Christine Flynn; parliamentarian, Pamela Schwarz.

Teens create wonderland

"Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly" — and the youth of South Bethlehem United Methodist Church have done just that. With evergreens and an incredible 25-foot-tall Christmas tree they've trimmed, they have transformed the church sanctuary into a Christmas wonderland. The teens also have been helping to prepare for the many special events scheduled during the Christmas season.

One of the events planned is the youth Christmas program to be held this Sunday, Dec. 23. The covered dish supper and program will begin at 4 p.m. at the church on Willowbrook Ave.

A Christmas eve service will also be held at the church, starting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24. The service of special Christmas music will be illuminated entirely by candlelight. The service will be led by the Rev. Kenneth Miller. The community is invited to attend both events.

Church plans service

A Christmas eve service will be held at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem on Monday evening, Dec. 24. The Rev. Allan Janssen will conduct the candle lighting service, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend this special service at the church, Rt. 9W in Selkirk.

District Elections

In the only contested fire district election in the area, William James won back a seat on the Elmwood Park Board of Fire Commissioners, defeating incumbent Floyd Van Zandt, 125-80. James lost his seat last year. In other fire district elections last week:

- Henry Kleinke won another five-year term as commissioner of the Delmar district, 43-2, and John Angerame won a three-year term as treasurer of the district, 44-1.

- Thomas W. Smith won a five-year term as commissioner of the Slingerlands Fire District, and Walter J. Roberts was reelected treasurer. Both votes were 20-0.

- In Elmsmere, Kenneth E. McNary won a five-year term as commissioner, 32-0, and W. Gordon Morris was reelected treasurer for another term, 24-0.

- In the Selkirk Fire District, Joseph G. Keller was reelected to another five-year term as commissioner, 36-1.

The New Salem Fire Company held elections for fire officers. Newly elected officers are: Gordon Pinney, chief; Louis Donato, assistant chief; Bill Hummel, captain; Joe Sala, first lieutenant; John Conley, second lieutenant; Doug Shearer, administrator; Joseph Sangiorgi, secretary; Ed Igoe, treasurer; Fred Carl, chief engineer; Glen Carl, director of property, and Larry Cross, director of membership.

Keys found

A key case containing eight keys was found last Monday morning at Murray Ave. and Catherine St. in Delmar, according to Bethlehem police reports. Police are holding the case, which has the name Lee inscribed inside.

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The article in the Dec. 5 issue of *The Spotlight* by Judith E. Cox on the Guilderland school budget, which first appeared in the *Journal of the New York State School Board Association*, is copyrighted by the association. The copyright was omitted in *The Spotlight*.



FIRE FIGHTERS CORNER

Cathy Cooke

Fire and Rescue Calls from Thursday, Dec. 6 to Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Date	Time	Department or Unit	Event or Type Call
Dec. 6	7:19 a.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Vehicle accident
Dec. 6	10:04 a.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 6	11:57 a.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Personal accident
Dec. 6	2:05 p.m.	Delmar Fire	Gas in house
Dec. 6	2:05 p.m.	Elmsere Fire	Mutual aid with Delmar
Dec. 6	2:05 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Emergency standby
Dec. 6	5:59 p.m.	Voorheesville Ambulance	Unknown emergency
Dec. 6	6:38 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 6	7:18 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 6	8:00 p.m.	Onesquethaw Ambulance	Overdose or poisoning
Dec. 6	8:30 p.m.	Voorheesville Ambulance	Vehicle accident
Dec. 6	11:57 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Violence or mental case
Dec. 7	5:09 a.m.	Slingerlands Fire	Structure fire
Dec. 7	5:09 a.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Standby with Sling'land
Dec. 7	5:50 a.m.	Delmar Fire	Standby in quarters
Dec. 7	10:25 a.m.	Voorheesville Ambulance	Personal accident
Dec. 7	3:41 p.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Personal accident
Dec. 7	3:41 p.m.	Slingerlands Rescue	Personal accident
Dec. 7	9:24 p.m.	Selkirk Fire	Structure fire
Dec. 7	9:24 p.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Standby with Selkirk
Dec. 8	8:19 a.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Breathing difficulty
Dec. 8	4:06 p.m.	Slingerlands Fire	Vehicle fire
Dec. 8	5:28 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 8	7:41 p.m.	Delmar Fire	Wash down
Dec. 9	9:02 a.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 9	10:34 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Personal accident
Dec. 10	2:40 a.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Medical emergency
Dec. 10	12:54 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 10	9:08 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Violence or mental case
Dec. 11	8:43 a.m.	Onesquethaw Ambulance	Transport
Dec. 11	3:58 p.m.	Selkirk Fire	Structure fire
Dec. 11	3:58 p.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Stand by with Selkirk
Dec. 11	9:54 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Medical emergency
Dec. 12	10:48 a.m.	Onesquethaw Ambulance	Transport
Dec. 12	11:48 a.m.	Voorheesville Ambulance	Overdose or poisoning
Dec. 12	2:58 p.m.	DFD Rescue Squad	Personal accident
Dec. 12	3:57 p.m.	Bethlehem Ambulance	Personal accident
Dec. 12	10:00 p.m.	Onesquethaw Fire	Structure fire

Fire Fighters Corner welcomes items of interest to fire and rescue volunteers. Send information to Cathy Cooke, 321 Delaware Ave., Delmar 12054, or to *The Spotlight*.

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Student group needs volunteers

By Tania Stasiuk

Residents of the Bethlehem area pass hundreds of very inconspicuous, suburban homes almost every day and take no notice of them. Three houses in the community — one on Delaware, one on Kenwood and one on Kinderlane — are very different on the inside from most of the others. They are state-operated residences for mentally retarded children, adults and senior citizens.

These homes are provided by the state for mentally retarded "clients" who used to reside in state-operated institutions, but who have been approved to be involved in community activities. The clients in these suburban residences are in a homey atmosphere and receive more personal attention than those in state institutions. They can be trained more quickly to develop personal hygiene, food preparation skills, personal skills such as shoe tying, and most importantly, socialization skills.

A volunteer group from Bethlehem Central High School assists the staff of the homes in many of these programs. Students for South Albany Clients, or SSAC, work on weekends and holidays with the retarded individuals. The volunteers help to develop social skills in clients by setting examples

and encouraging client interaction.

SFSAC was established at Bethlehem eight years ago. The membership in the club peaked at more than 30. Unfortunately, with membership in the range of 10 to 12 at present, the group is unable to provide as many volunteer hours as are necessary. Any Bethlehem student aged 13 or older may join. Members can expect to help in community activities such as dancing at the Bethlehem Town

Hall, bowling, swimming at the Bethlehem Central Middle School, and other learning activities.

Volunteers are especially needed for the RESPIT program over Bethlehem's winter vacation. Activities are scheduled to continue through all of next week, including dance at the town hall this Friday, pre- and after-Christmas parties and bowling programs. Anyone interested in volunteering or joining SFSAC can contact Nina Lempert at 439-6747.

Garlic's power no myth, local researcher finds

Most 8-year-olds know that garlic wards off vampires, but Eric Block of Delmar, a professor of chemistry at the State University at Albany, has gone them one better. Block, working with other researchers, has found a chemical in garlic that is an anti-blood-clotting agent.

Block presented the findings this week at a meeting of the International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies in Hawaii. A report of the research also is to be published this month in *The Journal of the American*

Chemical Society.

The compound Block and his colleagues discovered has been named ajoene, from the Spanish work "ajo," meaning garlic. Tests with animals have shown the compound to be an anticlotting agent that is about as strong as aspirin, the researchers said. But it also appears to be more specific than aspirin, they said, giving promise of fewer side effects in future therapies for heart disease.

Block said a drug based on the garlic chemical could be tested clinically within a few years. Meantime, research may provide a more fundamental understanding of the process of blood clotting. For example, a compound related to ajoene has been found to accelerate clotting, Block said.

Block, who holds a doctorate from Harvard, came to the state university in 1978. The university has filed two patent applications based on Block's discovery of the garlic-derived compound. His research team included another university chemist, Saleem Ahmad; biochemists in Newark, N.J.; two hematologists in Venezuela and Dr. James L. Catalfamo of the state health department.

Ice blamed in crash

A Kingston man lost control of his car on an icy patch on Rt. 9W near McGee Rd. Friday afternoon and hit a light pole, according to Bethlehem police reports. The driver, 21, was taken by the Delmar Fire Department Rescue Squad to Albany Medical Center Hospital, where he was treated and released. The police report said his car flipped before it hit the pole, but then righted itself.



Mrs. Elizabeth M. Bergan directed the sixth grade choir before a packed house at the Bethlehem Central Middle School concert last Wednesday.

Tom Howes

Invitation to D&D fans

Recently the Bethlehem Public Library has been providing time and space for experienced gamers for a Dungeons and Dragons Club. The library is now trying to expand the club membership by inviting gamers of all ages and skill levels to play on a weekly basis.

The club meets once a week at the library on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For those who know little about the game but would like to learn, here is a brief summary: Dungeons and Dragons, commonly called D&D, is basically a fantasy role-playing game in a medieval setting. The game does not require a "board," but it does require paper, pencils, maps and a lot of imagination.

The player assumes the imaginary abilities and skills of a character created on paper by the player

himself. The player's character is led through imaginary adventures with other players by a referee called the Dungeon Master. The goal of the character is to overcome many different situations while gaining wealth, experience, and just living until the adventure is over. D&D involves monsters and magic, so you have to be cunning and thoughtful not to "lose."

If you wish to know more or would like to sign up for the club, please call the Bethlehem Public Library at 439-9314 and ask for the Children's Room. If you would like to join, it is necessary that you bring your own materials and it is preferred that you are between the ages of ten and 18; hopefully with at least one to two years playing experience.

Steve Jordan

Endangering charged

An 18-year-old Glenmont man has been charged with endangering the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor, for allegedly providing an alcoholic beverage to a 13-year-old, Bethlehem police reported. The man, arrested on a warrant in connection with the Dec. 1 incident, was released on \$500 bail.

Wallet recovered

A wallet containing 93 cents and personal items was turned over to Bethlehem police Saturday by a Selkirk man who found it at Delaware Plaza, according to police reports. The wallet was returned to its owner, a Huron Rd. resident.

A special card

The Regional Foodbank of Northeastern New York has invited area residents to participate in a Christmas project to feed the hungry. For each donation of \$5 or more, the foodbank will send a special Christmas gift card to a friend designated by the donor. The receiver of the card will also know the joy of giving. The Regional Foodbank will use the funds to supply food pantries and other non-profit agencies in a 10-county area including the Capital District.

For information call the Regional Foodbank of Northeastern New York at 463-3544.

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Frozen Topping - Regular or Extra Creamy
Birds Eye Cool Whip
One 8-oz. Cont. **59¢**
No Minimum Purchase Required With This Coupon
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Tropicana Orange Juice
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2 1/2" Min. 113 Size Lb. **59¢**

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Half Gal. Cont. **269¢**

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Kraft Parkay Margarine
1-Lb. Pkg. **59¢**

Turkeys Butterball 108¢
Swift's - 18 to 22 Lbs. Frozen Lb.
Swift's Ham 699¢
5-Lb. Can... Ea. \$10.99 3-Lb. Can
Chickens Roasting 88¢
Perdue or Holly Farms - Grade 'A' Fresh 5-7 Lbs. Lb.
Ham Steak 199¢
Grand Union - Extra Lean Trim Water Added Lb.
Calico Scallops 298¢
Fresh Grade 'A' - Small Tender Lb.
Cultured Mussels 99¢
Fresh Tender Lb.
Rib Steak 349¢
U.S.D.A. Choice Beef - Specially Trimmed Lb.
Ham 269¢
Saratoga Smoked
Tobin's First Prize - Bnls. Halves Water Added Lb.

Smoked Ham 119¢
Butt Portion
Grand Union's - Specially Trim. Water Added Lb.
Majesty Ham 799¢
Uncanned-Imported 5-Lb. Pkg... \$12.99 3-Lb. Pkg.
Smoked Ham 229¢
Whole Ham
Old Virginia - 7 to 9 Lbs. Lb.
Cocktail Franks 219¢
Plymouth Rock - Jumbo Pack 5-Lb. Bag Ea. Lb.
Sausage Meat 139¢
Krauss - Pork, Buy 1, Get 1 FREE 1-Lb. Pkg.
Sausage Links 99¢
Jones-Brown & Serve Orig. Beef or w/Bacon 8-oz. Pkg.
Steak-Umm's 259¢
Sandoz
All Beef - Frozen Lb.

Southern Yams 39¢
Cured for Flavor Lb.
Anjou Pears 59¢
Northwest - Extra Fancy Lb.
Walnuts 99¢
New Crop Inshell - Bulk Lb.
Chestnuts 179¢
Double 'A' Size - Fresh Imported Lb.
Rutabagas 19¢
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Radishes 499¢
Crisp & Spicy - Red 30 Size 6oz. Pkgs.
Onions 389¢
Bunches
Garden Fresh - Green

Corn 289¢
Cream Style or Whole Kernel
Green Giant - or Peas 17-oz. Cons
Prince Lasagna 59¢
Curly Edge 1-Lb. Pkg.
Gelatin Royal 4100¢
Assorted Flavors 3-oz. Pkgs.
Ritz Crackers 139¢
Nabisco - Regular 16-oz. Pkg.
Sunlight for Dishes 88¢
Liquid Detergent 22-oz. Cont.
Chicken of the Sea 69¢
Chunk Light Tuna - In Oil or Water 6 1/2-oz. Can
Scottissue 39¢
Bath Tissue - Assorted Colors 1,000 Sheet Roll

Spaghetti Mueller's 119¢
Regular or Thin or Elbows 2-Lb. Pkg.
Beans 149¢
Grandma Brown's
In Sauce 54-oz. Can
Thomas' Muffins 189¢
English - 12-Pack 24-oz. Pkg.
Life Cereal 149¢
Quaker - Regular 15-oz. Pkg.
Vlasic Gherkins 149¢
Sweet 16-oz. Jar
Viva Italian 7-Seas 129¢
Dressing 16-oz. Btl.
Fruit Cocktail 89¢
Grand Union 30-oz. Can
Clam Chowder 98¢
Snow's - New England 15-oz. Can

Family Pack Savings
SAVE 10 A LB. ON PKGS. OF 3 LBS. OR MORE
Pork Sausage 158¢
Fresh Italian Style - Hot or Sweet Ea. Lb.
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U.S.D.A. Choice - Boneless Beef Steak Ea. Lb.
Fresh Pork Steak 149¢
Shoulder Butt Ea. Lb.

THE CORNER DELI
IN STORES WITH SERVICE DELI
Baked Ham 168¢
In-Store Prepared - Fruited Half Lb.
Liverwurst 139¢
Granada - Deli Sliced Lb.
Pastrami 159¢
Deli Sliced Half Lb.
Chicken Roll 149¢
Weaver's - Deli Sliced Half Lb.
Turkey Ham 109¢
House of Raaford - Deli Sliced Half Lb.

DATE-LINE DAIRY
Orange Juice 148¢
Minute Maid - Chilled 64-oz. Cont.
Cream Cheese 79¢
Kraft - Philadelphia Brand Plain 8-oz. Pkg.
King Dips 49¢
Fr. Onion, Clam or Bacon & Horseradish 8-oz. Pkg.
Cracker Barrel 189¢
Kraft - Sharp Cheddar Stick 10-oz. Pkg.
Borden's Singles 168¢
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Assorted Flavors 1-Qt. Cont.
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In hard times, listen to the heart

He lay motionless in the bed wondering how he would awaken himself from a sleepless night. His body had been begging to sleep for weeks, but his mind would not grant permission. He subsisted on two-hour naps from time to time. He didn't need very much energy as it were, because he made few demands on himself. He was down, deep down depressed.

He had been unemployed for many months. In the beginning he had launched a fleet of resumes

Family MATTERS

Norman G. Cohen



and phone calls to friends, colleagues, mutual contacts, newspaper want ads, anyone who would listen. He registered at the State Employment Service, visited headhunters, flipped through microfilm job files at the public

library, and read books on career change.

In those early months with the buffer of vacation pay, cashed-in retirement funds and some savings, he regarded unemployment as a forced opportunity for change, for growth, for the new vistas of variety and the chance to taste some new spices of life. Now he was choking on the letters of rejection he received from employers he had written, met, followed up with a thank-you letter, called a few weeks later to see if they needed additional materials, established first-name relationships with their secretaries, and done all the right things.

His appetite waned. He began to shun spice, not only in his food, but in his life. Sustenance came in

silent agony. "It's not fair!" his mind screamed. "I'm not a bad person. I don't deserve this. My family doesn't deserve this!"

He jolted himself out of the bed, fumbled through the nightstand drawer for a pad and pencil, and began writing: "How I'd Like To Be Remembered." The words flowed out of the part of him that would survive beyond his life. They were written to anyone who really cared.

"I would like to be remembered not for any single thing, but for many, because I've not concentrated on any one skill long enough or hard enough to build a monument to mark my contributions, just some pebbles to

door, for wincing at highway carcasses of animals and crying whenever I was the one who produced them.

"I would like to be remembered for playing peek-a-boo with infants propped up in shopping carts, for playing ball with neighborhood kids on the street when I was in my 30s, and for being funny and silly and harmlessly unpredictable, and for infecting serious people with a bit of joy.

"I would like to be remembered for being able to wait patiently for a stutterer's next word, an old person's next memory and a little leaguer's next hit.

"I would like to be remembered for not having started any violence between people, save a few episodes of uncontrolled temper at home, for choosing meekness over might, withdrawal over aggression, privately flexed inner strength over demonstrative wit or ego, and for simply attempting to be a peaceful person to others and to myself.

"I would like to be remembered for being able to learn unfamiliar skills to hold unenjoyable, unsuitable jobs so I could provide for my family.

"I would like to be remembered for withstanding life's onslaught on feelings, and resisting the frequent temptations to turn them off, because it would have been easier.

"Mostly, I would like to be remembered for trying to hold God close to my heart, for trying to hear His words, and for trying to do what I thought He wanted since I never did quite hear Him."

He would sit in his chair, got a cup of coffee, and sat down to read what he had written. When he finished reading his own words, he realized they were not an epitaph, but a *raison d'être*, a reason for living. They were born of his deep commitment to caring for others, for himself. And from the darkness he had allowed to overshadow the love inside him, he flung open the curtains, and arose with the new dawning of sunshine. And I knew him, because he was me.

Their uncaring attitude affected him, and he began caring for himself less and less.

a coffee cup and a force-feeding with the family at dinner. His spirit began to succumb to stress cracks as he realized that most of the employers were not even bothering with the courtesy of writing him a rejection letter, but just letting him dangle from his threadbare existence day-to-day, week-to-week, month-to-month. Their uncaring attitude affected him, and he began caring for himself less and less.

Family and close friends reached out with tangible help. Their gifts of caring touched him, but also accentuated his own emptiness at being unable to provide for his own family. Their charity confirmed his own worthlessness in a mind overtaken by faithless, hopeless thinking.

His gloom invited morbidity into daily life. He reviewed his insurance policies, his will, the terms of his bank loans. He concluded that he was worth more dead than alive. He revulsed at his own thoughts and writhed in

point a path for those who happen to notice them.

"I would like to be remembered for winning the love of the girl I married, and holding it for the rest of our days.

"I would like to be remembered for loving my children, and liking them, and for loving them when I didn't like them.

"I would like to be remembered for bringing people together with a spoken or written word, a note or two of music, or an act of kindness or generosity.

"I would like to be remembered for being an important friend to a few people who needed my friendship on occasion, and benefited from it.

"I would like to be remembered for stopping on a highway to bring home a petrified kitten, for swerving off a back road while driving alone and hitting a ditch instead of an errant dog, for catching moths in my house and setting them free out the front

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SANTA'S COMING

To Delaware Plaza!!
Saturday, December 22nd

Santa will be at State Photo from 11 a.m. to noon and 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. There will be a Kodak Instant Camera demonstration from 12-4 p.m. on Sunday, December 22nd & 23rd. (There will be instant pictures and portrait packages available.)

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Focus On Faith

Rev. Gregory J. Pike

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland



In these all-too-familiar words of the biblical account of Christ's birth, there is a sad and timely story.

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled . . . And while they (Mary and Joseph) were there, the time came . . . And she gave birth . . . and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

"There was no place for them . . ." What a terrible thing to say about human beings — especially when one of those human beings is a very pregnant woman. And what a place it was they had to accept as "their place" for their first birthing room — a cattle shed and outhouse of a village inn. And how timely it is for us to consider how one estimate has it — approximately 20,000 people in New York State were homeless last night. Thank God for the Interfaith Shelter on Clinton Ave. in Albany. Its workers are helping some of the homeless.

A little commentary on the "no place" of a room that Mary and Joseph were given for obstetrics — and our difficulty in taking full account of the homeless in this country — might be the cry of the baby. Perhaps, just perhaps, Jesus' first sound was a scream. I can't imagine God entered this world cooing. And maybe, just maybe, Jesus' scream was for the homeless everywhere. Maybe, too, it was a comment God couldn't wait to make, now that he had our own voice to make it with. Or perhaps, and more heartening, it was simply the cry of a baby upon entering the world and especially so if you are a homeless human being.

A homeless human being. That is exactly what Jesus was. Moreover, like many of the homeless, they are not really listened to very much. Or, as in Jesus' case, they are not listened to for very long. Over all the noise in the inn and at a safe-smelling distance away, it's unlikely Jesus' scream was heard by anyone outside his immediate family.

It seems even after he grew up, none of his words were heard very well until after his last word, his dying word, which strangely echoed the scream-like quality of his first word. Mark's Gospel has it: "And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed his last." But his actual last words before the "loud cry" were, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Maybe, after you have asked that question, and received no answer, all there is to do is scream. It might be the most honest sound left to make.

Then, he departed this world from the same kind of place in which he entered it. It was another refuse area — the town dump, another "no place." It was where they crucified those, who for one reason or another, did not fit in with the rest of us. This "no place" quality followed him from birth to death. And during the time between his start and finish, it is recorded that he said, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

When you are a "no place" person, a displaced person, in general a nobody — which being born in a barn and dead on a

dump certainly makes you — what else is there to say about you, except these no-credit details of your coming and going? Nothing! Positively nothing! Unless, of course, you also happen to be the Very God. Or, unless that "no place" quality of yours is the selfsame quality of the Very God. Then, as with Jesus, there are not enough words to tell your story; or maybe it is that there are not words good enough to tell your story. In either case there have been countless volumes penned about this "no place" person who ironically came to give each of us some special place.

The deprived circumstances of Jesus' birth over against who he really was and is make up the height of contradiction. For isn't it hard to think of God Almighty as this unobtrusive in His actions? Yet, he couldn't have been born in a more out-of-the-way place. It is strange to think of God Almighty in such a helpless situation — peasant parents, no connections whatsoever to secure a decent place for the long night. The All-Powerful One could not have come in a weaker, more helpless setting than the one He chose.

This helpless-destitute theme has triumphed in the Christian faith. St. Paul, who wrote before



Bethlehem Community Church nursery school members Chris Gerger and Katie Smith, kneeling, and Brian Yovine, Shannon Bennett and Barbara

Lancaster admire the church's creche, with life-size mannequins. Tom Howes

any other New Testament writer and never mentioned the birth of Jesus, wrote that these profound contradictions were wedded to the mystery of God Almighty. He tells of God's answer to his prayer about a personal weakness as coming in these words, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." And then, he goes on to write, ". . . for when I am weak, then I am strong."

Again, these slashing contradictions are not easy to understand. But at least this much is clear: if you have felt how weak

you are in this world, or how low and despised you are in this world, and how homeless you are in this world, or would be except for the grace of God, then this "no place" person is in your place. It is a though God reached way down in the pile to be sure every last one of us who has ever been near a bottom or on it wasn't there alone, whether we knew it or not — or so that homeless birth seems to be telling us. It all fits with Jesus' name — Emmanuel, which means "God with us." And so He is.

Who knows? During this Christmas season we may all sense how

homeless we would be except for this incredible birth. And who knows? Perhaps, we may find ourselves reaching out to the countless homeless ones in this country for Christ's sake.

Allison Bennett's book, *Times Remembered* now available at *The Spotlight*

A Christmas Welcome

We warmly welcome all to join us in celebrating the feast of the Lord's appearance.

We welcome the stranger, the traveller, the guest.

We welcome the students home from college for a good winter's rest.

We welcome parishioners who have moved far away but are back for the holidays.

We welcome Catholics who have stopped going to church who are angered, hurt, bored or just on sabbatical. We hope you will join us and find new hope and inspiration to come back again and again!

We welcome all who bear the name Christian. Though we all share the burden of division, all of us find the Christ and his love in this feast.

Welcome to all: to you that share the banquet at the Lord's table, to you that remember the birth of the Prince of Peace in quiet hope.

Please join us in Christmas worship, and in our Vigil of prayer and hospitality. Christmas blessings!

Christmas Worship at St. Thomas
Christmas Eve (Monday)
5:00 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL EUCHARIST

Christmas night begins with this Mass, which includes a brief ceremonial lighting of candles throughout the church to mark the beginning of the Christmas Vigil.

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We cordially invite everyone in our town to join us during the evening hours between six o'clock and midnight to make a visit for prayer, for quiet time and for reflection in the candlelit church as we keep the Vigil of Christmas.

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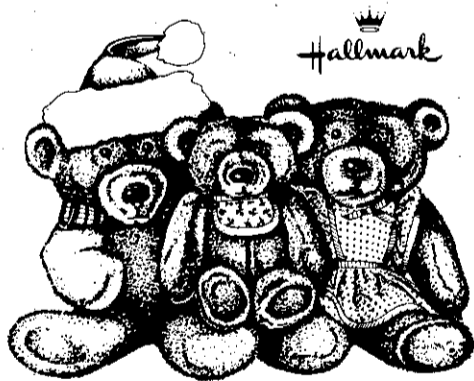
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She breathes life into St. Nick

By Caroline Terenzini

Few figures of myth are more beloved than kindly old St. Nicholas, aged yet ageless, with bright eyes promising a wonderful world of gifts and love. While St. Nicholas appears in many forms and sizes, among the most charming St. Nicks around are the diminutive figures created by the skillful hands of Elizabeth Ellsworth of Delmar using the needle art called soft sculpture.

For Santas, Mrs. Ellsworth creates a figure that almost might breathe, with nylon hosiery plumped with Fiberfill and dressed in velvet. Her St. Nicholas, perhaps eight inches tall, sport silky beards made from the fleece of a New Zealand Romney sheep and wear long robes trimmed in mink. Each Santa's pack is overflowing with tiny toys and treasures, also made by Mrs. Ellsworth. St. Nicholas, perfect in every detail, stands serenely under a glass dome, eternally ready to bring joy.

Mrs. Ellsworth made six Santas this year as gifts for family members. They are companions to dozens of other soft-sculpture figures she has created in the past five years, including an earlier St. Nicholas that was featured in the December, 1981, issue of the magazine *Better Homes and Gardens*. Her creations include peddler figures modeled after

dolls that were popular in 19th century England, where women and girls busied themselves creating the tiny objects the peddlers were selling. For example, Mrs. Ellsworth stitched a valentine peddler doll whose tray is filled with miniature paper and embroidered hearts. "You don't just stop with the doll!" she declared.

In fact, a doll usually "starts from something else I'm interested in and want to display," she said, such as a collection of tiny seashells for which she created a mermaid peddler. "I'm really primarily a designer," Mrs. Ellsworth noted. "Rather than make six of one doll, I prefer to make six different dolls. I'm really excited when I'm creating a new doll."

After graduating from the University of Kansas with a degree in interior design, marriage and motherhood followed. It was only after rearing two sons that she was able to indulge her interest in miniatures and needlework. Now, in addition to designing and creating soft sculptures and miniatures, she teaches classes, many sponsored by the Embroiderer's Guild, and also is a free-lance writer and photographer for a national magazine for miniaturists. Her teaching has taken her to distant cities, such as Denver, where she recently led a workshop for the Council of American Embroiderers.

The need to purchase supplies for a soft-sculpture workshop means Mrs. Ellsworth watches for sales at a local department store and then buys perhaps as many as 80 pairs of hosiery. "The sales clerks have never asked why," she said with a chuckle, "but you can see the puzzled look on their faces!" Other parts of the dolls are harder to find, such as the New Zealand fleece that provides the silky, curly Santa's beard. And still others are serendipitous. "I have a supply of wonderful things people have discarded — old lace, old fur," she said. "Treasures that can inspire a doll." For instance, the mink trim for the six St. Nicks robes came from an old mink collar. "I made six because that was the size of the collar," she explained.

She credits her parents with fostering her interest in art and design. "They exposed me to so many different things and then encouraged me in the ones I liked — that's a real art."

A resident of Delmar for 11 years, Mrs. Ellsworth was one of the founders seven years ago of Q.U.I.L.T. (Quilters United in Learning Together), which now has nearly 200 members. She also is active in LaMiniscala, a local group for miniaturists, as well as in the Embroiderers' Guild.



Elizabeth Ellsworth shares the joy of the season by creating soft-sculpture figures of St. Nicholas. Tom Howes

For cheese lovers

The Bethlehem Channel will present a program entitled "Cheese Lovers' Holiday" on Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m. During the hour Steve Lobel, owner of The Cheese Connection at Stuyvesant Plaza, will demonstrate the methods of presenting various types of cheeses. He will also discuss gift possibilities for various imported foods available at his store.

Grants for the arts

Two area non-profit organizations were among the 37 local cultural programs to receive grants from the state Council on the Arts Decentralization Plan for the Capital District. The Delmar Community Orchestra received \$500 and the Heldeberg Workshop received \$1,000 out of a total of \$39,000 awarded.

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AREA EVENTS & OCCASIONS

Events in Nearby Areas

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Child Care Discussion Group, hosted by Albany County Health Dept., led by pediatric nurse practitioner Katherine Gracely-Kilgore, 169 Mohawk St., Cohoes, 9:30-10:30 p.m.; South Ferry and Green Sts., Albany, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Slide/Tape Program, "Victorian House Colors: Exterior," sponsored by Capital Hill Improvement Corp., Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., 12:15 p.m. Free.

Holiday Music, Shaker High School band, noon-1 p.m.; RCS High School band and choir, 1-2 p.m.; concourse, south gallery, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Holiday Music, Columbia High School band, noon-1 p.m.; Lansingburgh High School concert band, wind ensemble and choir, 1-2 p.m.; concourse, south gallery, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Information Session, Empire State College, SUNY, 155 Washington Ave., Albany, noon. Information, 447-6748. Free.

Assoc. of Rental Property Owners, of Capital District, monthly meeting at Ramada Inn, Western Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 663-5089.

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Assoc., meeting for families, friends and interested professionals. Assemblyman Talon will discuss filial responsibility. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, 7:30 p.m.

Concerned Friends of Hope House, self-help and support group for parents of substance abusers, meets every Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Capital District Psychiatric Center, 179 New Scotland Ave., Albany. Information, 465-2441. Free.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

Holiday Music, Berlin Central High School choir, noon-1 p.m.; Gloversville High School jazz band, 1-2 p.m.; concourse, south gallery, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

Field Trip, Christmas bird count in southern Rensselaer County, sponsored by Albany County Audubon Society, Inc. Information, 439-0006.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

Bloodmobile, sponsored by Albany chapter of American Red Cross, Americana Inn, Albany, Shaker Rd., Colonie, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointment or information, 462-7481, ext. 276.

Sunday Service, with Rev. Dr. Howard G. Hageman of the New Brunswick Seminary of the Reformed Church of America, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 107 State St., Albany, 10:30 a.m.



Mary Blanchard conducted the sixth grade string orchestra during last Wednesday's Winter Music Festival at Bethlehem Middle School. Tom Howes

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Bloodmobile, Temple Beth Emeth, 100 Academy Rd., Albany, 9 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

Christmas Eve Festival, with choir and instrumentalists, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Albany, 9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Magic Show, with Jim Snack, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany 1 and 3 p.m. Free.

Slide/Tape Program, "The Victorian House: Identification and Conservation," sponsored by Capital Hill Improvement Corporation, Albany Public Library, 155 Washington Ave., 12:15 p.m.

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VISA

The pitch man cometh

By Nat Boynton

The Jim Coyne Traveling Show is back on the road this week looking for new marks, and when it plays Bethlehem it will be interesting to see how it draws, numerically and politically.

Coyne, a very likeable fellow with a strong dedication to the sports scene, comes to the Bethlehem Town Hall on Thursday night to beat drums for his favorite project, the proposed Albany County Civic Center, in the last of a series of public informational hearings around Albany County.

Local constituents will see this affable and popular politico — an

COMMENTARY

Albany organization Democrat who regularly wins Republican Bethlehem and New Scotland — in the dual role of a full-time county executive and part-time pitch man. So far he has been successful at both jobs, running the county with relatively quiet efficiency, and serving as advance man — hanging the posters for coming attractions — for a multi-million-dollar facility of questionable value.

Coyne is properly credited with fathering Heritage Park, an at-

tractive facility that is directly responsible for bringing minor league baseball to Albany, or shall we say the Capital District. That's a big plus, as Glens Falls discovered when they did the same thing several years earlier.

Glens Falls also discovered how nice it is to have a Civic Center with a professional hockey team. Now Jim Coyne wants one, too, only twice as big and three times as expensive. He is counting heavily on there being more sports fans in the electorate than disgruntled taxpayers, or, at least, on sports fans being more vocal than traditionally apathetic taxpayers.

As a market for professional

sports teams, Albany's track record is spotty at best. Heritage Park, delightful as it is, suffers by comparison to the late Hawkins Stadium as a baseball arena, and when Albany's alleged fans of yore turned their backs on strong Triple A and Double A baseball, including a Red Sox farm team, Albany lost the national pastime. Professional soccer failed in Bleecker Stadium despite a quality production in a popular sport, and there is reason to wonder whether the Patroons in pro basketball and the now-Yankees at Heritage Park are still on a honeymoon rather than a lasting marriage.

If baseball draws an average of 3,000, which is high for a minor league franchise at this level, and basketball draws 2,000 to the

antiquated Armory, stratospheric for minor league hoop, how many seats of the proposed 15,000 in the Civic Center will be empty a couple of seasons after Coyne brings in a pro hockey team and the novelty wears off?

Not all of the problems of professional sports franchises these days can be attributed to a community's fan population. Often the league framework in the minors is shaky, certainly fragile, as witnessed by the annual failures and transplantings in minor league baseball and hockey. In Eastern League baseball in just a few years, we have seen such heavily populated urban areas as New Haven and Lynn lose their teams, and several others are on the brink. There have been similar casualties in the American Hockey League, and in basketball four years in one town is a long tenure.

Through these peregrinations Glens Falls has remained staunch and solid in baseball and hockey. Attendance at East Field fell off when the Albany A's set up shop 40 miles away, and not even the most avid fan would risk a bet there will be a team 10 years — or even seven years — from now.

If that pattern prevails in Albany, what will become of the Glens Falls Civic Center if the Red Wings depart? You can always turn a baseball field over to the Babe Ruth people, or lease the outfield for victory gardens, but a big indoor arena costs real dollars to maintain — tax dollars, that is.

Presumably Jim Coyne's arena in downtown Albany will not have any of these problems. He will have pro hockey and pro basketball, and infinitum. None of this history of abandoned baseball parks and empty indoor sports sheds applies to Albany. Don't even think about the fragility of minor league franchises, and the fickleness of sports fans. Above all, don't look at even the big leagues, where Baltimore and Oakland lose pro football, and Philadelphia and St. Louis might.

Several questions might be asked at Thursday's meeting in Delmar, but probably won't — or if they are asked, they will only draw a smile, the kind that says are-you-kidding?

• If the Civic Center is such a good deal for taxpayers, why hasn't private enterprise always looking for profit and capital gain, jumped in to build the center? (The answer: there will never be a profit, and it's easier to have the taxpayers put up the money.)

• Who will benefit from the center? (Answer: the two or three percent of the population who will go to games, ice shows, the circus... and it will bring a lot of money into the area.)

• Who will get the money? (Answer: bars and restaurants and parking-lot operators in downtown Albany, but the sales tax gets distributed all over the county.)

• Will the Bethlehem Chamber endorse the project at Thursday's luncheon meeting, at which Coyne is the speaker? (Answer: Possibly, although they shouldn't add to a tax burden that already impedes them, and there is no profit in permitting Albany business to drain dollars from Bethlehem.)

• Is there any chance of having a referendum on the issue? (Good Lord, no. We'd lose by 20-1.)

• At one time Rensselaer County was actively competing for the Civic Center on their side of the river. Is there any chance Rensselaer County taxpayers can be persuaded to take on this whopper? (Answer: are you kidding?)

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Chamber elects officers

Thomas Thorsen was elected president of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce at the chamber's Board of Directors meeting last week. Thorsen is president of Delmar Printers.

Dan Formica, owner of McDonald's Restaurant on Delaware Ave. was elected vice president. Lee Faulkner, owner of the new Delmar Health Club, was elected secretary, and George Gibson, vice president of Home and City Savings Bank, was elected treasurer.

The new officers will take office Jan. 1.

Newly elected members of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors are Jim Conheady of General Electric; Deborah Morris of the Village Frame Factory; Ken Ringle of Del Lanes and Art Yates of Key Bank.

Chamber meets

The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce has scheduled its general membership luncheon for noon on Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Normanside Country Club. During the meeting, Albany County Executive James Coyne will speak about "How the Albany Civic Center Will Affect Area Businesses." All members are urged to attend and bring a gift of approximately \$10 in value for exchange. For reservations call 439-0512.

Health plan deadline

The deadline for state and local government employees to select from available health plans has been set for the end of December. Employees of New York State and local municipalities and school boards will not have another opportunity to change their health plans until next fall. Government employees can obtain information about their health care options from their own personnel offices.

Among the options available are three health maintenance programs: the Capital District Community Health Plan, the new Physicians Health Plan and the Mohawk Valley Plan.

C of C health choice

The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce is offering its members an opportunity to join the Community Health Plan (CHP). Any self-employed chamber member or members from employer groups of three or fewer are eligible for CHP membership through the chamber.

CHP, based in Latham, has seven health centers and is opening a new one in Delmar in January. CHP, a federally qualified health maintenance organization, offers comprehensive coverage and emphasizes preventive care. For information contact the chamber office weekday mornings at 439-0512 or CHP at 783-1864.

Six trees stolen

Six Scotch pine Christmas trees, valued at \$25 each were reported stolen last Monday from a Delaware Ave. market, according to Bethlehem police reports. The store owner also reported a \$200 chainsaw was missing, police said.



Thomas Thorsen

Holiday closings are set

With Christmas and New Years falling on Tuesdays, area municipalities, banks and other institutions are making different decisions about Monday hours.

Bethlehem Town Hall, Voorheesville Village Hall and New Scotland Town Hall will be closed Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday. Bethlehem Public Library will close at 5 p.m. on Dec. 22 and will remain closed through Dec. 25.

Bethlehem Town Hall will remain open Dec 31, while Voor-

BUSINESS

heesville Village Hall will be closed on New Year's Eve.

Area post offices will remain open Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Area banks will be open for regular or limited banking hours on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Bethlehem's senior citizens van will operate on Dec. 24 but will

not operate on Christmas Day.

The Town of Bethlehem's landfill on Rupert Rd. will be open on Dec. 24. Tuesday garbage pickups will be scheduled for Dec. 26 because of the holiday.

The Town of Bethlehem's 1985 organizational meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at Bethlehem Town Hall. The Town of New Scotland's 1985 organizational meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 1, at the New Scotland Town Hall, Rt. 85, New Scotland.

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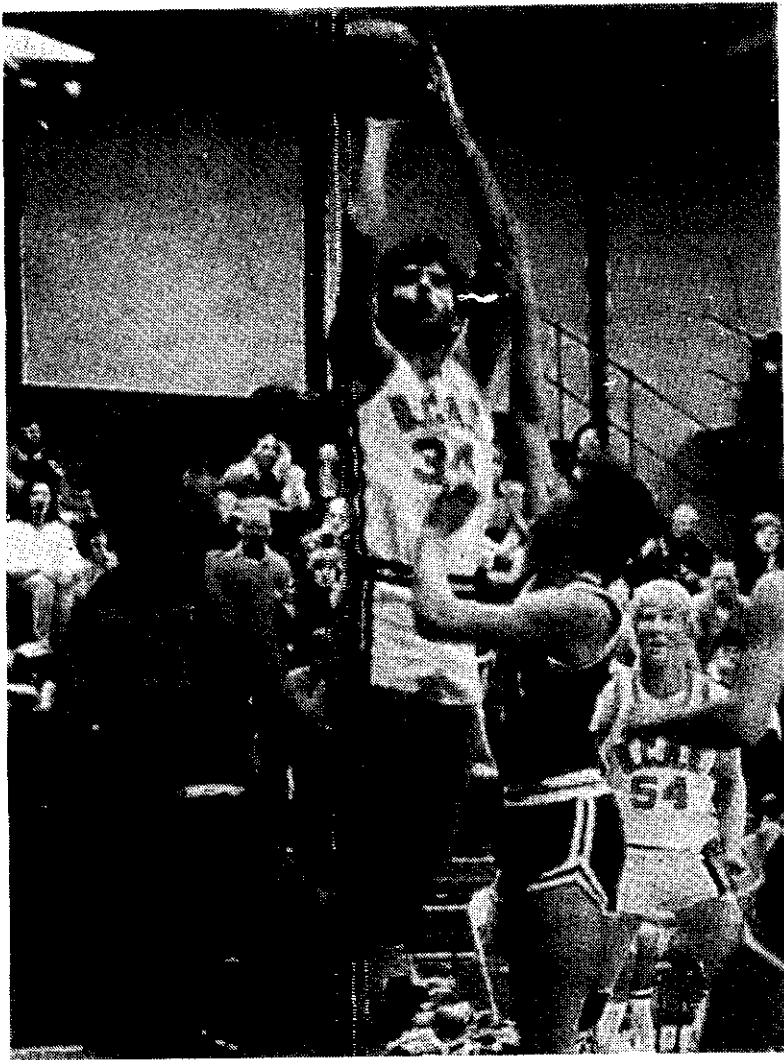
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Andy Kasius (34), Bethlehem Central's leading scorer, goes up for two points against Shaker in a Suburban Council basketball matchup in Delmar. Poised for the rebound is Paul Stracke (54) amid Bison defenders. R.H. Davis

St. Thomas wins

St. Thomas of Delmar raised its record to 4-1 in the CYO girls basketball league last weekend, defeating Holy Cross, 33-19, on Saturday and Holy Name, 24-13, Sunday. Leslie Anderson led the scorers in both contests, connecting for 13 and nine points

respectively. Nancy Schmeler and Jennifer Flynn added six each against Holy Cross and Schmeler had seven against Holy Names.

St. Thomas will meet St. Theresa in the Mike Anziano Christmas tournament at the St. James gym at 6:30 p.m. next Wednesday, Dec. 26.

Win in OT is first for BC

In the scorebook Mike Miller had only one basket to seven for Tim Belden, but those two points came with four seconds left in overtime and gave Bethlehem Central's struggling basketball team its first victory after four losses.

Miller's jumper from the sideline with Shaker up by 62-61 snatched a 63-62 triumph that sent the home audience into a frenzy Friday night. It was a see-saw game, tied at the half at 27-all, and dealocked again at the end of regulation time after BC had frittered away a 10-point lead. The Eagles missed the front end of a 1-and-1 free throw at 0:03 and BC couldn't come up with the rebound.

Most of the dramatics came in the final few seconds of the three-minute tiebreaker. After Andy Kasius had missed a 10-foot jumper that would have given BC the lead, Shaker got the rebound and played with extreme caution. With a minute remaining Shaker connected for a 61-59 margin, but Kasius meshed two free throws to tie it up again.

The action quickened as Shaker drove downcourt and missed a shot with 14 seconds left. Bethlehem got possession on a loose ball that went out of bounds, and Coach Gary Przybylo called time to set up a play. The strategy went askew when the in-bounds pass went to a Shaker player. The Bison made the first free throw but missed the second, and BC, now trailing by a point, pulled a fast break as the clock wound down. There were four seconds left when Miller let fly from the baseline.

"Our kids are coming along," said Przybylo in the glow of that first win. "Shaker is a good team."

But it was a different story last Tuesday at Scotia. Bethlehem led virtually the entire game and was ahead by eight points midway in the final quarter. As Przybylo tells it: "We took a couple of bad shots and let them back in the game. We scored only eight points in the fourth period, and when they got ahead, we had to foul, and they made their foul shots."

The final score was 39-34 for Scotia, which made 13 of 24 shots from the penalty stripe to Bethlehem's 4-for-6. Kasius had six baskets and was the only Eagle in double figures on a night BC shot 15 for 52 from the field, a lowly 29 percent. It was good defense that kept them in the game.

Przybylo, still searching for a cohesive starting unit, gave Paul Stracke his first start in the Shaker game, and the 6-foot-1 junior came through with nine points and 10 rebounds. Belden had a lot to do with breaking Shaker's pressure by scoring 16 points. Kasius was again the key to the offense, scoring 15, and Fox came off the bench to pump in 14 points in the second and third periods.

This week the Eagles were at Niskayuna last night (Tuesday) and will be at home Friday with Burnt Hills. After that it's the Helderberg Holiday Tournament at Albany State with Voorheesville the first night and Guilderland or Catskill the second night.

'It just wasn't meant to be.'

By Dan Tidd

The Albany Academy Cadets came into Ravena Friday night, with a 2-0 record in Colonial Council play. They left the gym with a 3-0 record but not before the Ravena Indians put a scare into them.

The Cadets escaped with a 50-47 win and maintained their hold on first place in the Council race. Ravena had its chances to pull off the upset, but a couple of crucial missed layups and offensive turnovers ended the dream.

"I was very pleased with our kids," said Indian Coach Jim Gorham. "We had four or five shots that could have put us on top, but it just wasn't meant to be, I guess."

After a 64-46 drubbing at the hands of Schalmont three nights earlier, Ravena came into the game with a lot of problems both offensively and defensively. "We played a super game against Watervliet, then we just plain fell apart against Waterford and Schalmont," said Gorham.

The first quarter on Friday night was a dead heat as both teams

played passively with Academy on top, 12-10. Behind the play of 6-4 senior Dimitri Yavis and Tony Gaddy, the Cadets dominated the second quarter and built up a 12-point bulge with 5:23 left in the half. But two jumpers by the Indians' John Waddingham cut the lead to 25-17 at intermission.

A tough full-court press enabled the Indians to cut the deficit to 40-32 after three quarters. Two Cadet turnovers cut the spread to 4 at 47-43 with a minute and a half to play. After an Academy miss, Ravena got two free throws from Steve Bernacki to make it 47-45 with just under a minute to play. Once again good Ravena defense forced the Cadets to miss and the Indians had a chance to tie it. Indian guard Kevin Hoffman caught the Cadet defense flat-footed and scooted down the left lane and dished off to a cutting Don Baker, who was fouled by Yavis on the way up. Baker coolly hit the two free throws and it was tied at 47-47.

Academy's Tony Owens hit what proved to be the winning bucket with 40 seconds left as he drilled it from 18 feet. The Indians

Hoffman quickly dribbled down court and spotted an open Dekovan Bowie right of the circle. The pass was there but on his way up for the tying basket Bowie lost control of the ball and it bounced off a Cadet into Academy hands.

Bowie led all scorers with 20 points while Hoffman tallied 12. Gorham's club fell to 1-2 in Colonial Council play and 13-30 overall. Ravena hosts Cohoes this Friday night at 7:30.

Badminton anyone?

The Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department will offer a badminton program for adults from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning Jan. 8 and ending April 9, at the Bethlehem Central Middle School girls' gym.

This program is open to residents of the Town of Bethlehem and Bethlehem Central School District and pre-registration, which is required, can be made at the Elm Ave. Park Office, in person or by telephone, 439-4131, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. There is a fee of \$16 per player.

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Eagle coach is cautious

WRESTLING

BC wrestling coach Rick Poplaski was happy with his young team's undefeated status after the first four meets of the season, but he had a word of caution for his many fans: "It's nice to be 4-0, but we haven't faced the tough ones yet."

By the time Bethlehem fans read this, Poplaski and his Eagles will have had a much better indication of where they stand in the Suburban Council. They were scheduled for a dual meet Tuesday at Saratoga, also undefeated, termed by Poplaski as "one of the better Blue Division (large school) teams."

From there the Eagles go to Oxford, Chenango County, for the prestigious Oxford Tourna-

ment, which annually attracts a dozen or more of the best wrestling teams in upstate New York. In that fast company Poplaski can't hope for many trophies, but he can count on his pupils gaining a lot of experience, and with such a young team that is a key ingredient.

The Eagles had only one dual meet last week, a 44-27 win over Columbia that produced the unusual total of 10 pins in the 13 varsity weight-class bouts. Bethlehem got six of the 10. One of them came from Steve Guynup, one of Poplaski's half dozen fresh-

man starters who earned his first varsity win in the 138-pound matchup.

Guynup's pin heartened Poplaski. "He will be one of those good young people coming up who will help us a lot in the years ahead. He will have his good and bad days this year, as most freshmen will, but he's making a good adjustment to the varsity, and that takes a while. He will be a good one."

The other BC pins were registered by Dan Conti (112), Jim Dayter (132), Tim Dobert (145), Brett Zick (177) and Mark Hoffman (heavyweight). Chris Saba scored a 4-0 win at 98 pounds, and Mike Tinsman got a decision at 119.



Five Voorheesville football players named to the Colonial Council's honorary all-star team received plaques at Coach Tom Buckley's annual awards dinner at the Legion Hall last week. From left: Ed Mitzen, Lee Kraus, Glenn Zautner, Bill Kelly and Rich Kane. The 1984 Blackbirds tied Ravena for first place in the Capital Conference Colonial Division and received a Sectional invitation. *Spotlight*

Indians off to fast start

By Bart Gottesman

The RCS wrestling team opened its season with two wins against teams that had handily beaten them last year. The Indians were victorious over Linton, 48-21; and Voorheesville, 41-32. The win over Voorheesville marked the first time that Ravena had beaten the Blackbirds in at least five years.

The Linton match began with a Linton win at 98 pounds, but Ravena countered with six straight victories. A forfeit was accepted at 105 pounds, then Brian Berry (112), Rob Demis (119), Luther Legg (126) and Bob Gallagher (132) gave the Indians an explosive start as they all pinned their rivals. At 138, Matt Rodd was ahead of Linton's captain, John Gardner, with a score of 14-6 when the referee ended the exciting match due to an injury to Gardner.

Tim and Jerry Baranska concluded Ravena scoring as

"The Killer B's" both pinned their opponents.

Ravena traveled to Voorheesville on Thursday hoping to end their long losing streak to the Blackbirds and they did, in a very exciting match. Ravena won by forfeit in the two lightweight classes to take a 12-0 lead, but lost at 105. Perry (112) came back aggressively to earn a 6-3 win, and at 126 Legg pinned his opponent in a time of 1:11, his second quick pin in as many matches. Bob Lewis (145) and Scott Lewis (155) both won by fall to regain Ravena's momentum.

Other Ravena upper weights to help clinch the win were the Baranskas as Tim's match (167) ended in a draw and Jerry scored a pin at 177.

Ravena finished first in a tournament Saturday at Duanesburg and will continue their dual matches when they have a match with tough Schalmont Thursday at home at 6:30. The match against Albany Academy on Dec. 6 was cancelled because of snow and has been rescheduled for Jan. 26.

'Birds are getting help

Two unheralded players are beginning to have an impact on Voorheesville's basketball fortunes, and Coach Bob Crandall feels his Blackbirds can hold their own in a tightly balanced Colonial Council race.

Crandall has turned to Danny Vunk, a 6-1 senior guard, and Jerry Borg, a 6-4 junior, to accelerate an offense that normally counts on Bret Hotaling, Brian Rubin and Joe Rissberger to score points. In last week's incredible one-point loss to Watervliet in the second, Vunk poured in 16 points and Borg had a lot of playing time when Rissberger and Rubin got in early foul trouble.

The Blackbirds entertained a much-improved Schalmont team last night (Tuesday) and go against Albany Academy on the road Friday before a non-league date with Bethlehem in the opener of the Helderberg Classic after Christmas. Guilderland and defending champion Catskill will fill out the tourney quartet, the quick Cats replacing Berne-Knox in a late switch.

Vunk is playing the sixth-man role, and Crandall says he "can be a big difference." Borg is being used as a pivot and gives the Blackbirds a tall front line with 6-4 Hotaling and 6-3 Rissberger. Crandall doesn't use a center as

BASKETBALL

such, but Borg or Rissberger operate in the post part-time.

The Watervliet loss was a real heartbreaker. Voorheesville opened up an early 20-4 lead and let it slip away by halftime, surged ahead by 10 with 5:50 left in the fourth period, and let that disappear in the final minutes. The Blackbirds missed the front end of four one-and-one charity throws in the final 50 seconds, but still led by a point with seven seconds left. The visitors meshed a shot with one second left to pull it out.

Rubin had 18 in defeat, and the Blackbirds rebounded their rivals by 42-26, so there is hope for the future. A footnote of note: the new uniforms ordered last year arrived this week and were unveiled last night.

Last Friday's scheduled game at Waterford was a casualty of the icy roads, and was rescheduled for Jan. 2. *Nat Boynton*

Spotlight deadline

Due to special schedule changes for the holidays, the deadline for submission of ads and copy for *The Spotlight* Jan. 2 issue is 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28. The issue will be delivered on Wednesday, Jan. 2.

By Peter J. Fisch

One thing veteran Voorheesville wrestling coach Dick Leach will never do is make excuses. Even with his team's early season impotence, Leach faces the fact that there is a lot of work to be done.

In their annual trip to the Fonda Christmas Tournament this past Saturday, the Blackbirds closed the day with a disappointing sixth-place finish amidst an eight-team field. "It wasn't a good finish, but I didn't go home hanging my head," noted Leach. "We've got a lot of work to do. We can't use our inexperience as an excuse."

Despite the finish, the Birds performed above the expectations of their opponents. Seven Voorheesville wrestlers placed in the top four of their weight classes with three of them being unseeded. "We didn't wrestle badly for how we were seeded," added Leach.

Co-captains Jeff Genovesi and Mark Gillenwalters remained undefeated and culminated the day's action with individual championships. Genovesi captured the 132-pound title while Gillenwalters, seeded a low fifth, surprised some with the 126-pound crown.

Junior heavyweight Rich Kane lost a decision in the 215-pound finale to last year's Section 2

Two hurt in crash

An Altamont driver who told police she was distracted by a child was involved in a rear-end collision about noon Thursday on Delaware Ave. at Elsmere Ave. in Delmar, according to Bethlehem police reports. A 3-year-old in her car and a woman who was a passenger in the other car were taken to Albany Medical Center Hospital by the Delmar Fire Department Rescue Squad. They were treated and released. All were using seatbelts or appropriate child restraints, the police noted. No charges were filed in the accident.

Accident injures 2

Two persons were treated at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany and released after an accident Friday evening on Delaware Ave. in Delmar. According to Bethlehem police reports, a Delmar man driving a pickup truck turned into the path of an eastbound car. He was charged with failure to yield right of way.

champion, Eric Peck of Johnstown, and took second place. Unseeded junior Bill Kelly was third at 167, while junior Mark Chyrywaty (177), sophomore Ward Breeze (112) and freshman Matt Cillis (105) each placed fourth.

One week earlier, the Birds began their season on the wrong foot with a 39-22 loss at Bethlehem Central. "We wrestled them fairly even on the mat, but they just beat us," remarked Leach.

Once again, as in recent years, forfeits plagued the VC lineup as the Birds handed out three freebies. "We can't use those forfeits as excuses (for losing)," commented Leach. "They're just a part of the sport. We gave a lot of forfeits last year, but we overcame them."

For the Blackbirds, Gillenwalters, Genovesi and Kane registered pins and Kelly and Cillis tied their opponents.

Local foes had the number of the Blackbirds as the Ravena Indians handed Voorheesville their first league loss, 41-32, Thursday. Freshman John Traudt, Cillis, Gillenwalters, Genovesi and Kane tallied wins for VC while Kelly wrestled to another draw.

"We had to win a lot of close ones and we didn't," reported Leach. "We made a lot of mistakes on the mat. We made aggressive mistakes. If you keep making mistakes of that type, you're bound to get better."

The Birds will have plenty of chances to get better as they take to the road. Yesterday the grapplers traveled to Corinth for a non-league hookup, and journey to Lansingburgh tomorrow (Thursday). Over Christmas vacation, the Birds will compete in the tough Queensbury Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 29.

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No letup ahead for pool power

This is the time of year when the training routines for Bethlehem Central varsity swimmers are more rigorous than the meets. Conditioning is the name of the game, and Coach Buzz Jones is driving his team lap after lap in the Delaware Ave. pool to prepare for the rugged competition in late January and February.

The Eagles took two brief respites from the practice grind last week to have some fun. They rolled over two rivals, Burnt Hills on Wednesday by 53-27, and Amsterdam-Fonda by 48-35. The win at Am-Fo stretched their unbeaten string to 119.

Two more Adirondack League encounters this week will wind things up for the Christmas break, although the team will put in their laps all through the recess. They entertain Albany Academy today (Wednesday) and travel to Troy High Friday.

Jones continued to shuffle his lineup around to achieve more flexibility and to bring along his young swimmers. Against Burnt Hills his two eighth graders, Justin Baird and Chris Drew, came through with a 1-2 finish in the 500-yard freestyle, Baird winning in 5:22. At Amsterdam two freshmen turned in good

early-season times for a 1-2 finish in the butterfly, Brink Hartman winning in 1:06.9 and Keith Dix barely a touch behind at 1:07.1.

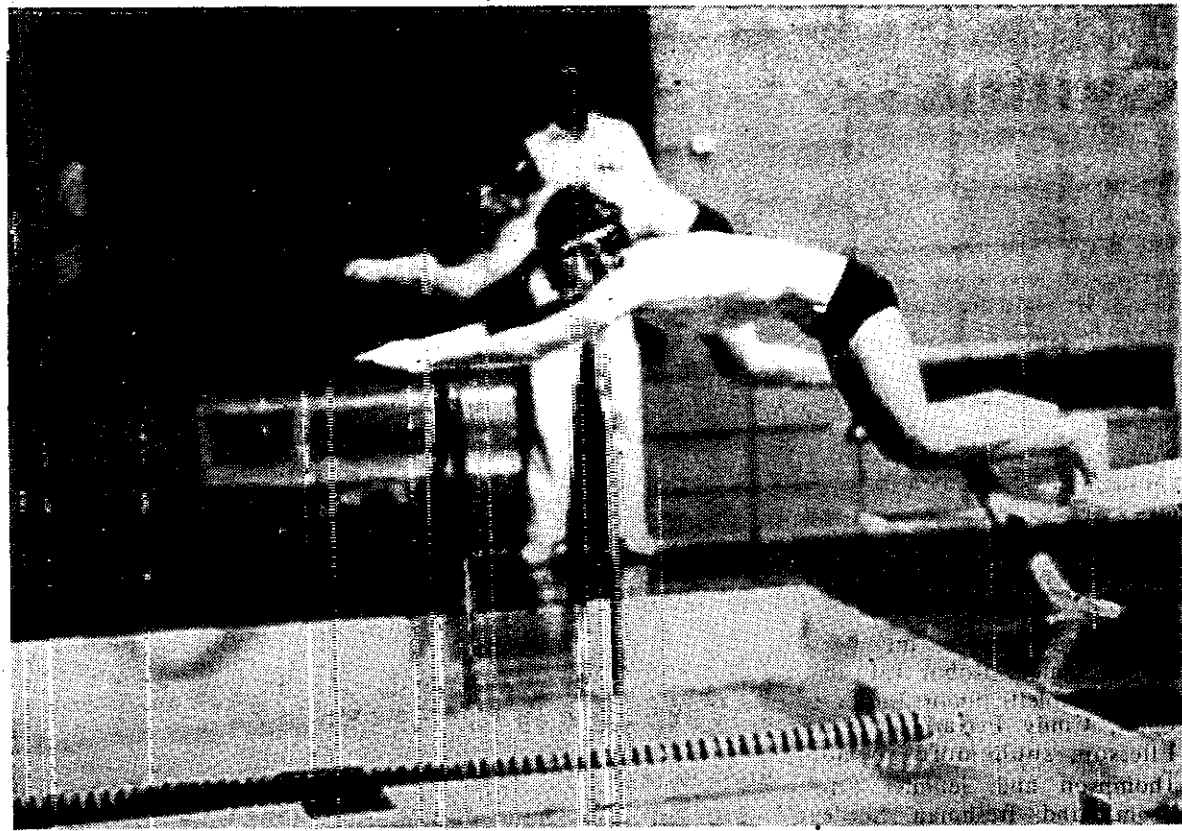
Dix also had a second place behind the veteran Pierre LaBarge in the 200 IM against Burnt Hills.

Jones also was happy with the performances of his upperclass swimmers, the people who have played important roles in the care and feeding of the last several undefeated seasons. They are also the guys who must deliver the goods in critical meets later.

The elder statesmen were business as usual last week, notably Damon Woo, who delighted Jones with a 22.9 in the 50 free and a 59.3 in the 'fly against Burnt Hills. "Good for this time of year," said the coach.

Knute Hvalsmarken and Eric Patrick, the co-captains, went 1-2 in the 100 free and Hvalsmarken joined Woo as a double winner by taking the 200 free as well. Bernie Culligan won the dive.

Patrick took a stint in the 500 at Amsterdam, winning it in 5:19.1 as BC took eight of the 11 events on the card. The Eagles wrapped up the final relay, the 400 free, with Jim Krajeck, Woo, Patrick and Fred Rudofsky.



Pierre LaBarge, foreground, takes off en route to a 2:15.49 clocking in the 200-yard individual medley

as Bethlehem Central's pool juggernaut swamped Burnt Hills in a dual meet in Delmar.

Tom Howes

BC spikers meet nemesis

By Tania Stasiuk

A season of hard work, commitment and ups-and-downs came to an end Saturday for Bethlehem's volleyball team. After defeating Columbia in pool play games Friday at the Sectional tournament EC lost to the Blue Devils in the final round, 11-15, 15-6, 15-10.

Friday's games were relatively easy. The Eagles defeated Albany, 15-4, 15-7; Columbia, 15-11, 15-9, and Troy High, 15-7, 15-5, in pool play.

Saturday's first match against Gunderland was one of the most nerve-racking of the tournament. Bethlehem won the first game 15-11, and lost the second, 15-7. The third and deciding

game was, according to the girls, "wicked tough," but audience support helped boost BC to an 18-16 win.

While Bethlehem was toughing it out against Gunderland, Columbia was busy defeating Linton; 15-7, 10-15, 15-8.

The first game of the championship match was an example of Bethlehem's strength as an offensive team. Julie Liddle with six consecutive points as a server was a major factor in BC's 15-11 triumph. The second game, however, threw Bethlehem's timing and psyche off. Columbia ran up an 11-2 lead before Jen Grierson served up four points for Bethlehem. But it was not enough to

bring the Eagles back and Columbia squared the match, 15-6.

In the final game, Bethlehem played less offensively and could not bring their momentum up. Columbia won, 15-10.

Coach Nancy Smith said she was pleased to finish the Suburban Council dual meet season undefeated at 10-0, including a win over Columbia. They also defeated the Blue Devils in Sectional pool play, but lost to Columbia in the finals of both the Council tournament and the Section 2 championship.

READ THE LATEST SCHOOL NEWS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Guilderville opener today

After some uncertainty the decision has been made that the Guilderville boys swim team would enter another season. Due to their dedication, the young swimmers were able to schedule their first meet today (Wednesday) against Burnt Hills. Coach Dave Graves said the six-lane pool at Burnt Hills favors the

team with the most depth of talent. "There's not much depth on our team, which means Guilderville can't fill all the lanes, so forfeits will unfortunately take place. If the decision and enthusiasm persist, a good season and bright future are ahead."

Paul Nichols

Greetings of the Season

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Gymnasts strong and ready

By Nina Barringer

"We finally have the depth that we need," Bethlehem Central gymnastics coach Megan Hickey said of her young but strong team.

The team has been practicing since early November. "We've been conditioning from the beginning, so hopefully there won't be many injuries," Hickey continued. "That was a problem last year."

"It's a well-rounded, hard working team," commented assistant coach Mary Powell.

Returning team members include seniors Robin Taft and Simone Paoletti, juniors Kathleen Elliot, Cindy Ferrari and Sue Elletson, sophomores Wendy Thompson and Jennifer Engstrom, and freshman Shelley Miller.

New members are sophomores Elizabeth Bartoletti, Sue Powell and Kerry McFarland; freshman Pam Marshall, Joanna Hackett, Krista Romanski, Alison Kurzon, and Susan Abele; eighth graders Brooke Saroff, Suzanne Bonner and Michele Buenau; and seventh grader Marissa Sellitti.

Competing on the varsity level in the all-around are Bartoletti,

Two meets for Dolphins

Twenty members of the Delmar Dolphins Swim Club competed in the Colonial Aquatic Club's winter "B" meet at the Shaker High School pool on Dec. 8. Tracie Mull, swimming in the girls 10- and-under division, turned in "A" times in three events and was second in another, and Lisa Gawa won the 13-14 girls 100-yard breaststroke.

Others placing in the top six in individual age-class events included Jonathan Brookins, Marc Kanuk, Zachariah McNabb, Paul Engel, Kathleen Fish, Patrick Drew, Drew Patrick, Cam O'Connor and Chris Engstrom.

In the Marist Christmas meet in Poughkeepsie last weekend, Jenie Mosley of the Dolphins won three events in girls 11-12 "A" division. She took first in the 50-yard freestyle, 50-yard breaststroke and 100-yard individual medley, and was second in "B" 50-yard butterfly.

A special mother

The members of the New Scotland Elks Lodge 2611 are looking for a special person to honor as Mother of the Year 1984-85 at 10 a.m. on Jan. 13 at the American Legion Hall, Voorheesville. The winner will be entered in district competition.

To enter someone send a short essay to Chester D. Boehlke, Sr., R.D. 1, Box 317, Delmar, N.Y. 19820. For information call Boehlke at 439-4498 or Bob Daley at 768-944.

Powell, Elliot, and Taft. Specialists include Elletson (vault and beam), Ferrari (beam and floor), Romanski (beam) and Engstrom (bars).

The coaches agree that their strongest events are floor and vault although, according to Hickey, "there has been a remarkable improvement" in bars and beam.

Four-year team member and all-around Kim Riley was forced to quit the team as the result of a back problem. "It's going to be a

big loss," Hickey lamented, "Kim was one of our top four gymnasts."

Hickey feels that the team will "definitely exceed last year's total scoring." Although confident, the team is still much aware of the dominant forces of the Suburban Council, which include last season's undefeated team, Shenendehowa, as well as Shaker, Niskayuna and Guilderland.

The team will participate in the first match of the season tomorrow against Saratoga.

Foes are the big if

By Tania Stasiuk

The Bethlehem Central girls basketball team looks strong this year, says coach Eugene Lewis, but so do other area teams.

Bethlehem has six returning varsity players, four of whom were starters at the end of last season. Seniors Kim Zornow, Megan Bursey, Julie Liddle and Karen Burke look like starters again this year, while returning varsity players Joan Peyrebrune and Maura FitzPatrick are expected to add depth.

BC's only sophomore player, Liza Tonetti, is expected to start this year. She was on the JV team and played in varsity games several times last year. Juniors Peg Jeram, Liz Gray, Kathleen Schrempf and Tricia Weber also

have moved up from last year's JV team, and two senior newcomers, Ashlee Mathusa and Jen Grierson will fill the last two varsity spots.

In three scrimmages scheduled for this week, Lewis hopes his team will exhibit its strengths and gain some confidence. The major obstacle BC will have to overcome is the loss of guard Kelly Burke, the Eagles' leader and floor general last year. Bethlehem is also fortunate to have Liddle healthy. A major back problem kept her out for most of last season. Lewis says BC's success depends on attitude toward practice and games, and on improvement the girls make during the season, but will be most influenced by the strength of the Suburban Council this year.

Time to limber up

The Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department will offer an adult exercise program, "stretch, smooth and swing," beginning in January. The program is for residents of the Town of Bethlehem and Bethlehem Central School District who are looking for beginning, low aerobic activity.

The program will be held from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Mondays, beginning Jan. 7 at the Bethlehem Town Hall, and from 6:15 to 7:15

p.m. Thursday, beginning Jan. 10, at the Bethlehem Central Middle School girls' gym. Participants can elect either or both sessions. Fees are \$11 for Mondays or Thursdays, \$22 for both sessions.

Pre-registration is required and can be made in person or by telephone at the Elm Ave. Park Office, 439-4131. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays. This program will be limited to 30 participants per session.

STAR BOWLERS

Bowling honors for the week of Dec. 9, 1984 at Del Lanes in Delmar, go to:

Sr. Cit. Men — John De Flumer - 223, Art Smith - 529.

Sr. Cit. Women — Betty Contento - 198, 508.

Men — Fred Oliver - 275; Dennis Udell - 631.

Women — Michele Whitehouse - 223, Dolores Knapp - 570.

Major Boys — Matt Ochsner - 231, Mike De Voe - 579.

Major Girls — Tara McKenna - 191, Michelle De Voe - 488.

Jr. Boys — Mike Graves - 211, Shawn Meher - 539.

Jr. Girls — Helen Fedele and

Kim Dale - 183, Helen Fedele - 490.

Prep Boys —

Prep Girls — Kelly Many - 163, Sandy Buzo - 408.

Bantams — Adams Peter - 171, 416.

Fred Oliver, 4 game series - 918.

Blood drive

The Albany chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor a special blood drive on Dec. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Americana Inn, Albany Shaker Rd., Colonie.

Called "Gift of Life Sunday," the drive is held every December to meet area hospitals' critical need for blood during the holiday season.

For appointment or information call the American Red Cross at 462-7461, ext. 276.

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Bettie Lombard

Congratulations to Bettie Lombard, the Delmar Branch Salesperson of the Month. Bettie completed 7 transactions during the month. Her pleasing personality, expertise and market knowledge make her extremely capable of assisting Buyers and Sellers in today's market.



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is open to all readers for letters in good taste on matters of public interest. Letters longer than 300 words are subject to editing and all letters should be typed and double-spaced if possible. Letters must include phone numbers; names will be withheld on request. Deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication.

'The best tree ever'

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to take this moment to thank Mr. Stimmel of Southwood Dr. for once again bringing Christmas back to Slingerlands. A walk to see his beautiful Christmas tree has become a tradition for our family. Last year's darkness brought sadness to our hearts.

With joy we once again can visit the best tree ever. The community should be proud and thankful that we have such a sensitive and caring neighbor.

To you, Mr. Stimmel, we wish the best Christmas and New Year.

The Hay Family

Slingerlands

Please share the road

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am writing to ask a favor from all your readers who drive vehicles. Please share the roads with joggers for the next few months. While the initial snow and ice of this season have evaporated, the sidewalks very soon will again be covered.

Most of us really do not enjoy running in the roads when a sidewalk is available. However, for many weeks of each winter our sidewalks become treacherous; often long after the highway crews and traffic have bared the roads.

Most of us will try to be courteous, run facing traffic, wear reflectorized materials when dark, adhere to traffic signals, and stay on the shoulder. Please understand that we are not challenging the primacy of automobiles to the road. We will skip back to the

sidewalks whenever they can be negotiated.

Do not react to the few reckless, inconsiderate runners you may encounter. We will try to educate them. Please put up with us during these testy months for everyone's safety.

Sincerely,
Hank Steadman

Delmar

A musical gift

The Albany Symphony Orchestra suggests a gift of music this holiday season — for friends, family members or business or business associates. All ticket gifts will be sent with a holiday greeting card, with a personal message, if wanted. The gifts might include tickets to the Canadian Brass performance on Dec. 31 at 8 p.m. at the Palace Theatre or season tickets to the Albany Symphony Young People's Concerts, conducted by Victoria Bond. Or recipients may select the Albany Symphony Orchestra classical concerts they wish to attend with Execu Pass vouchers. The vouchers are \$10 each.

For information or to order ticket gifts, visit the Palace Theatre box office at 19 Clinton Ave., Albany 12207, or call 465-4755.

Concert at RCS

The RCS Junior High winter concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 20, in the senior high school auditorium. More than 200 students will participate.

Obituaries

Robert J. Fraim

Robert J. Fraim, 47, of Delmar died Dec. 11 following a hunting accident in the Town of Summit.

He was the owner of the former Fraim House of Carpets and Tri-City Carpets, Albany. He was born in Amsterdam. He attended Wilbur Lynch High School and served in the Marine Corps.

He was a communicant at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Delmar, a member of Bethlehem Elks Lodge 2233, a member of the Sports Haven Church Bowling League and a former member of the Normanside Country Club.

He is survived by his wife, Dolores (Agosta) Fraim of Delmar, and three sisters, Rita Manginelli, Carol Sawitzki and Mary Ann Marcotte of Amsterdam.

Arrangements were by Rossi Funeral Home, Amsterdam. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Fort Johnson.

Lawrence M. Monette

Lawrence M. Monette, 76, of Elsmere died Dec. 12 in Albany Medical Center Hospital after a long illness.

Born in Rutland, Vt., he was employed as an examiner for the state Department of Equalization and Assessment in Albany until he retired in 1978.

He was a communicant at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar and a member of the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1096, American Legion.

He served as a field artillery captain in the Pacific theater during World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Lois Monette, and two sisters, Cecile Derby of Bennington, Vt., and Marie A. Monette of Englewood, N.J.

Arrangements were by Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar. Burial was at Albany Rural Cemetery, Menands.

William Laremore

William H. Laremore of Guilderland died Dec. 9 at Albany Medical Center Hospital after a brief illness.

He was born in Ottawa, Canada, and had lived in the capital district most of his life.

He was a toll division assistant supervisor for the State Thruway Authority in Albany for 26 years before retiring in 1981. He was previously employed as the leading supervisor of the New York Central Railroad signal construction department for 16 years.

He was a charter member of Boy Scout Troop 75 in Delmar, founded in 1930. He also served as a deacon and trustee of Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church in Guilderland and as a tax aide to senior citizens in the Guilderland area. He was a member of the American Association of Retired Persons, Chapter 980 in Guilderland.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Bush Laremore; a son, Douglas Alan Laremore of Guilderland; three daughters, Barbara Marciano, Nancy Gerstenberger and Deborah Laremore of Guilderland, and four grandsons.

Arrangements were by Philip J. Frederick Funeral Home. Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery.

Charles Otten

Charles Otten, 61, of Selkirk, a retired truck driver for the Pacific Molasses Company, died Dec. 12 in Freehold after a long illness.

He is survived by his mother, Cora Osterhout Crawford; three sons, Raymond Otten, Charles Otten and Donald Otten; three daughters, Mrs. John (Sharon) Dinelle, Patty Ann Otten and Mrs. Harry (Marion) Dudley, and a sister, Mrs. Delbert (Elta) Powers. He is also survived by 16 grandchildren.

Arrangements were by A.J. Cunningham Funeral Home in Greenville.

Ambrose Picarazzi

Ambrose Picarazzi, 91, of Selkirk, a former employee of New York Central Railroad and father of the Selkirk postmaster, died Dec. 11 after a long illness.

He is survived by his wife, Natalina (Helen) Picarazzi; three sons, Giulio Picarazzi of Italy, Peter Picarazzi of Conn. and Angelo Picarazzi of Selkirk, who is Selkirk postmaster, three grandsons, Stephen Picarazzi of Delmar, Mark Picarazzi of Glenmont and Michael Viselli of Conn.; and three granddaughters, Linda Picarazzi, Theresa Viselli and Eugenia Viselli of Conn. He is also survived by twelve great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Chiorelli Funeral Home. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery.

Joseph Krzykowski

Joseph Krzykowski, 60, of Selkirk, a supervisor for Conrail in Selkirk, died Dec. 12 at Veteran's Administration Hospital, Albany, after a long illness.

He was a veteran of World War II and a communicant of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar.

He is survived by two brothers, Walter Krzykowski of West Coxsackie and Vincent Krzykowski of South Bethlehem, and three sisters, Mrs. Arnold (Estelle) Northrup of Selkirk, Mrs. Orlando (Helen) Benedetto and Mrs. William (Elaine) Delaney of Albany.

Arrangements were by Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar. Burial was at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery, Colonie.

Jeffrey Edwin Gilliam

Jeffrey Edwin Gilliam, 2, died from a neurological disease on Dec. 4 at his parent's home in Kiawah Island, S.C.

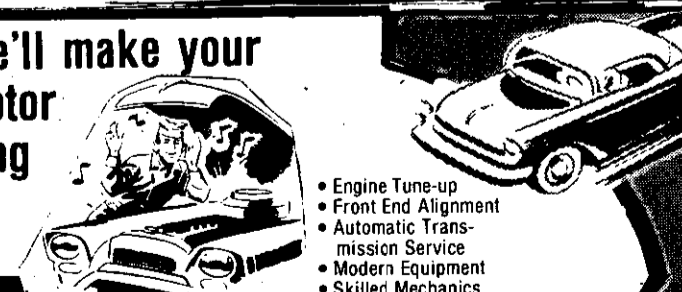
He is survived by his parents, Cynthia Webster Gilliam, a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, and William J. Gilliam of Kiawah Island, S.C.; maternal grandparents, Eugene E. and Mary Jo Webster of Delmar, and paternal grandparents, William E. and Tina Gilliam of West Palm Beach, Fla.

Services were held at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Charleston, S.C. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to the Ronald McDonald House in Charleston, S.C.

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Mr. and Mrs. Lee Faulkner

30 years wed

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Faulkner of Slingerlands, owners of the Nautilus Total Fitness Center, Inc., Delmar, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on Dec. 18. The Faulkners were the first couple to be married in the First Presbyterian Church, Madison, N.J.

When Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner graduated from Colgate University, the couple lived in England while Mr. Faulkner served in the Air Force. He was employed as a general contractor and a real estate salesman before opening the Nautilus Total Fitness Center in Delmar.

Moak - LaBelle

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Moak of Slingerlands have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Lee, to Kenneth LaBelle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur LaBelle of Selkirk.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and the Westchester School for Paraprofessionals. She is employed by Albany Medical Center. Her fiancé is also a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and is employed by Albany Medical Center. A Feb. 2 wedding is planned.

Service on radio

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 107 State St., Albany, will present a Christmas Eve festival service at 10 p.m. on Dec. 24. The service will be preceded by a musical prelude with choir and instrumentalists at 9:30 p.m.

Free parking will be available at the Mall and the Chase Manhattan Bank. The service will be broadcast over WWCN radio.



Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Pearson

Maura Seery married


Maura Eileen Seery, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Seery of Selkirk, and Mark Alan Pearson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Fearson of Torrance, Calif., were married Sept. 22 at St. Patrick's Church in Ravena.

Sheila Seery was maid of honor for her sister. Wayne Pearson, the groom's father, served as best man, and the bride's brothers, Mark Seery and Terence Seery, served as ushers.

The bride, a graduate of RCS

High School, attended North Country Community College in Saranac Lake. She is currently employed as a secretary in El Segundo, Calif. The bridegroom, a graduate of California State University at Dominguez Hills, is employed in the public relations department of R.J. Bradbury, Los Angeles, Calif.

After a wedding trip to Maine, the couple will reside in Hawthorne, Calif.



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Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Putz

50 years celebrated

Alvida and Russell H. Putz of Elsmere will celebrate their 50th year together on Dec. 22.

They have lived in the area since their wedding at Trinity Methodist Church, Albany, in 1934.

Mr. Putz, an electrical engineer, served as superintendent of maintenance at Cargill Grain Co., Port

of Albany. He is a member of the Bethlehem Masonic Lodge, the Albany Area Senior Citizens Orchestra, the Delmar Community Orchestra and the Cyprus Temple Shrine Band.

The couple has two children, David Putz and Barbara McGivney and four grandchildren.


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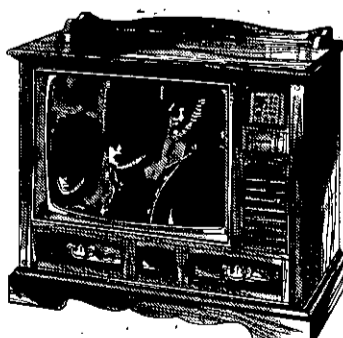
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