

THE SPOTLIGHT

April 13, 1988
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The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

School aid: some surprises

BC to decide what an expected aid shortage means

By Patricia Mitchell

Tentative school aid figures from the state Assembly could mean good news for Voorheesville and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk school districts, but the figure for Bethlehem Central is \$219,000 less than what district was expecting.

The figures were released Thursday from state Assemblyman John Faso's (R-102nd) office, and spokesmen for all three districts cautioned that they are still tentative. Lawmakers continue to work on the state's 1988-

89 budget and no school aid package has been approved, so the final figures may change.

State lawmakers may also be considering extra aid to school districts to help out with costs of hiring a consultant to put together an asbestos management plan that is mandated by the federal government by October.

BC's Business Administrator Franz Zwickbauer said Monday the tentative state aid figure of \$4,367,749, an increase of 4.29 percent, falls about \$219,000 short of what the district had

been using to calculate its proposed 1988-89 budget. The school board was expected to meet Tuesday (yesterday) to discuss what the shortage could mean to the district.

BC's budget of \$22,696,379 was approved by the school board at its March 30 meeting in time for the May 4 annual election and budget vote.

In the RCS district, a higher-than-expected state aid package, combined with new assessment figures, could spell a decrease in taxes throughout most of the

district, including Bethlehem. Superintendent William Schwartz said the tax rates recalculated for Monday night's budget hearing show "significant reductions."

RCS is targeted to receive \$6,676,258 in state aid, an increase of almost 11 percent, under the Assembly package. It has been using a state aid figure of \$6,094,281 in its \$14,332,952 proposed budget.

Because of state aid and the new assessment figures, tax rates are now estimated at \$178.48 per
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State grant for home repairs

By Patricia Mitchell

The Town of Bethlehem will receive \$40,000 to be used on a revolving fund basis by low-income senior citizens for emergency housing repairs.

The funds are included in the state Legislature's 1988 budget as a special "member item" submitted by Assemblyman John Faso (R-102nd)

The town's senior citizen housing committee has found that emergency home repairs are a priority for the town's low-income elderly residents.

"We are really excited about it," said Karen Pelletier, director of the town's senior citizen services.

The program's aim is to help senior citizens stay in their homes longer, said Town Supervisor J. Robert Hendrick.

"It sounds to me to make good sense," Hendrick said.

The program will be set up as a revolving fund to maximize the amount of dollars available, so when a senior citizen borrows money, it will be paid back to the town to be used again, Hendrick said.

While the mechanics of the program are still being worked out, Hendrick said the interest-free loans would be available to an estimated 200 low-income senior citizens.

According to information supplied by the town to the state, there are an estimated 2,500 senior citizens in the town and many of them are stable, with 45 percent of homeowners residing in their homes for 25 years or more. Data compiled by the senior citizen housing committee found there are many house-rich but cash-poor senior citizens in the town and a major barrier for them staying in their homes is an inability to pay for ongoing maintenance and emergency repairs.

Emergency situations will be dealt with as they happen, with a home owner eligible for one rehabilitation project a year, according to the application. The greatest needs are for repairs to roofs, foundations and plumbing or from damage caused by storms that causes a threat to the life, health or safety of senior citizens. Town files already contain records of the need for home repairs for some senior
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Voorheesville approves school budget

By Sal Prividera

New Scotland taxpayers could see an increase of 6.76 percent in their school taxes under Voorheesville Central school district's proposed \$7.8 million budget.

That figure includes the to-be-built public library, but does not include any funding for handling the district's asbestos problem or building improvements. How the district will deal with those issues is pending a recommendation by the facilities committee, which is expected on June 6.

The proposed budget of \$7,882,061 is a \$662,244 or nine

percent increase over last year's budget and proposals totaling \$7,219,817.

The budget, presented Thursday by Superintendent Louise Gonan, was adopted unanimously by the board at Monday night's regular board meeting after one change. Both Thursday's presentation and Monday's adoption were held in open meetings, which were not attended by any district residents.

The one change to the budget was the addition of \$12,000 for three additional handicapped students. Gonan said she was "uncomfortable" with the num-

bers provided by BOCES and said the district should add to the funding for 27 students already in the budget. The move was unopposed by the board.

If approved by voters on May 11, the budget would mean an estimated tax rate of \$344.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 6.76 percent or \$21.80 for New Scotland. Gunderland residents could see a rate of \$24.70 per \$1,000, a jump of 18.8 percent or \$3.91 and Town of Berne residents could have a rate of \$663.85 per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of \$67.77 or 11.37 percent.

The rates include funds to pay the interest on the 10-year, \$717,000-bond for the new Voorheesville Public Library, which by state law must be channelled through the school district's budget. The cost to taxpayers in all three towns is approximately one percent of this year's estimated tax rate increases.

Both Gonan and Gene Grasso, district business administrator called the district's estimated revenues including taxes and state aid "conservative."

The proposed \$7.8 million budget includes:
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After the storm: a plan for disasters

By Tom McPheeters

Four days after the Oct. 4 storm, with his town still paralyzed by power failures, Bethlehem Supervisor J. Robert Hendrick got tired of trying to find out from Niagara Mohawk what was going on. A number of optimistic predictions for the restoration of power had come and gone, and the supervisor hadn't been able to get a straight answer.

So he called an unlisted number he had obtained from a senior NiMo official and asked for help. The official obliged, setting up a meeting the next day for a briefing at town hall. The briefing took place, and Hendrick found out what he needed to know. That evening, he sent town workers driving up and down the streets of Bethlehem, listing those areas still in the dark — so the town could give Niagara Mohawk an up-to-date list.

Would the town handle a disaster differently now?

"Yes," says John E. Brennan, Bethlehem's new director of civil defense. "But that's all hindsight."

Hindsight is part of what has led Bethlehem to prepare a formal disaster plan, with Brennan playing a central role. An event



Bethlehem's new mobile command center is still being fitted with radios and other gear under the supervision of Sgt. Joseph Sleurs. The van, a gift from the General Electric

such as the Oct. 4 storm, while clearly unusual, is not the only kind of disaster that could happen here. Bethlehem is home to several major industries and is the crossroads for rail and truck

transportation of a variety of hazardous materials.

Reviews of the response to the Oct. 4 storm at both the state and local levels confirm that the work

Foundation, is designed to serve as the centerpiece of the town's new disaster response system.
Tom Knight

by everybody involved — public employees, utility workers and volunteers — was extraordinary. But communications and information were clearly lacking.
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DELAWARE

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Discoveries

SAVINGS



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This Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

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Town sued on promotion

By Patricia Mitchell

Bethlehem Police Officer Cynthia Reed-Kerr will be taking the town to court to show why she should not be promoted to police sergeant.

The suit follows an Albany County Civil Service Commission finding that Sgt. Louis Corsi should not have been promoted because time previously served with another department should not have counted on his pre-exam application. The mistake has been attributed to a "clerical error" at the commission.

The Bethlehem Town Board, which has received official notification that Corsi should be decertified from his promotion, is expected to discuss the situation at its meeting Wednesday (today).

A nine-year veteran on the force, Reed-Kerr is the department's first and only woman police officer. She placed first on a Civil Service exam for sergeants last year. She had alleged sexual discrimination when the town board pass her over for the promotion last December.

Reed-Kerr's attorney, Robert Roche, said sexual discrimination is not part of this latest action. The suit, which will be heard during special term in state Supreme Court on Friday, April 22, was brought because the town had a certified exam for sergeants

with a certified list of those who passed, Roche said. He said the town has to appoint a sergeant off that list.

With Corsi apparently no longer on the civil service list, that leaves Reed-Kerr, Officer Marvin Koonz and Officer Robert Samsel. However, Roche said Samsel has apparently applied for retirement.

Reed-Kerr scored first on last year's civil service exam, Koonz second, Corsi third and Samsel fourth. The promotion has to be made from the eligible officers with the top three scores on the exam.

Roche said Reed-Kerr also has a letter from Police Chief Paul Currie that said she did well in an interview for the promotion.

Town Attorney Bernard Kaplowitz said the town will argue in court that Reed-Kerr does not have a right to be appointed sergeant. He said he doesn't believe the court can force the town to promote her — at this point the town does not even know who is now on the eligibility list for the position.

The town has delayed taking any action about Corsi's decertification since the March 16 Civil Service hearing, apparently waiting for official notification. The commission hearing found Corsi should not have been promoted last December because

he did not have 36 months with the department as was required to take the sergeants exam. Corsi had been with the department for two years when he was promoted, and had previously been an Albany County sheriff's deputy.

Kaplowitz said it is not the town's place to appeal the county Civil Service Commission finding because the town has not done wrong nor was it aggrieved.

The Civil Service hearing was held at the request of Council 82 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and Koonz, who is also president of the Bethlehem Police Union local.

Corsi's appointment to sergeant was controversial when it was approved by the town board in December on a recommendation from Currie following interviews by the chief and the department's three lieutenants. Reed-Kerr said at the time she intended to file a sexual discrimination lawsuit against the town, claiming that remarks made by supervisors indicated she was not chosen for the promotion because of her sex.

Koonz presented petitions and several letters in favor of promoting him to the town board. The issue of Corsi's eligibility to take the test and be promoted was also raised at that time.

Moquin gets 3-9

By Sal Prividera

Deborah Ann Moquin, who pleaded guilty last month to seven counts stemming from the August 1987 crash that killed 15-year-old Cathleen Quinn of Delmar, was sentenced Monday to three to nine years in jail.

The sentence handed down by Albany County Judge John G. Turner Jr. was shorter than the sentence sought by District Attorney Sol Greenburg, who said an appeal is being prepared.

Moquin pleaded guilty before Turner last month to second-degree manslaughter, second-degree vehicular manslaughter, two counts of felony driving while intoxicated, two counts of vehicular assault, and misdemeanor reckless driving. At that time, Turner dismissed an additional charge of second-degree murder, ruling that Moquin acted without considering the consequences.

Greenburg said Monday he was not surprised by the sentence being shorter than the five to 15 years his office asked for. He said an appeal would be made of the dismissal of the second-degree murder charge, which his office sought because they felt Moquin showed "depraved indifference to human life."

Greenburg said Turner had a desire to get help for Moquin through the corrections system. The corrections facility at Alban was found to have an extensive alcohol rehabilitation program, but Moquin could not have a maximum sentence longer than nine years to go to the facility, Greenburg said.

Once the second degree murder charge was dropped, Turner "pretty much had his own way" giving Moquin the concurrent three to nine year sentence, Greenburg said. Moquin will have to serve three years before being eligible for parole, he said. With the crowded conditions in the state prison system, Greenburg said, Moquin would receive parole in three years if she did not "act up" in prison. The remaining nine years of the sentence would be served with probation, he said.

Bethlehem Central High School students, and friends of the Quinn family, delivered their sentiments to Turner last Friday in the form of a petition. The signers pledged not to drink and drive.

The district attorney's office is researching its appeal of the charge dismissal now, he said. "If the dismissal is reversed, the sentence would be set aside and we would be back to square one," Greenburg said.

Moquin had been previously convicted of DWI three times, he said. Turner "based on his experience, and I agree, (said in his ruling) a drunk is a drunk and will drive," Greenburg said. That is why there are other charges, he said.

Quinn was killed while riding with her parents, Dr. Brian and Alice Quinn, on Rt. 85 near the Thruway overpass. Moquin crossed into the northbound lane to pass another car and struck the Quinn's car despite the attempt by Alice Quinn to avoid the collision. Alice Quinn suffered multiple injuries in the crash, while Brian Quinn escaped unhurt.

'Call us,' say Bethlehem police

By Patricia Mitchell

People who are concerned about a friend or relative who may be involved in drugs should phone the Bethlehem Police Department, where their calls will be kept confidential, says one department official.

"The problem is not going to go away unless they take that first step," said Det. Supervisor Charles Rudolph. "They got a problem, we'll listen."

Rudolph said the police response is not always to arrest the suspected user. But he also warned that in many cases there will be no quick solution to the problem. Rudolph said he believes the town should set up a special narcotics unit to handle the increased caseload.

By calling the police department and asking for the detective office, a concerned friend or relative can help a drug or alcohol abuser get counseling, Rudolph said. The

police are not just out to arrest people but also to help them, he said.

Rudolph said he believes parents have to be aware if their child is abusing drugs, and that lack of action will just let the situation worsen. If parents can't handle the situation, Rudolph said, they should call the police.

All reports to the police department are to be made in confidence, he said.

Bethlehem police are citing an increase in illegal drug abuse in Bethlehem — including cocaine — and are asking residents to be more aware of what goes on around them. Many other crimes are also attributed to drug habits, and police said they were also recently warned by the Albany Police Department about a potential rise in drug-related crimes from the New York City area.

While the police will listen if a concerned parent or friend calls, Rudolph said, callers should not expect miracles or an overnight cure. Police officers can do certain things, and if they cannot help, they will try to put the caller in touch with some other agency, Rudolph said.

Illegal drug use is an ongoing problem and will get worse, Rudolph said. The community will have to pull together to combat it, he said.

Another factor in the police department's effort to combat illegal drugs in the area is manpower. Rudolph said the force has 30 members, the same as in 1969. The three-man detective office also works on other crimes, and Rudolph said he believes it is time for the Town of Bethlehem to have a special narcotics unit.

In a related matter, a bill that would have provided money to municipalities to fight street-level drug crime will not be funded in the state budget, but Assemblyman John Faso (R-102nd) said he hopes to get supplemental funding later this year.

Faso said the bill he introduced was intended to focus attention on the fact that the drug enforcement effort is being hampered because local forces are not getting sufficient funds. At best, Faso said, the bill got the ball rolling on the topic.

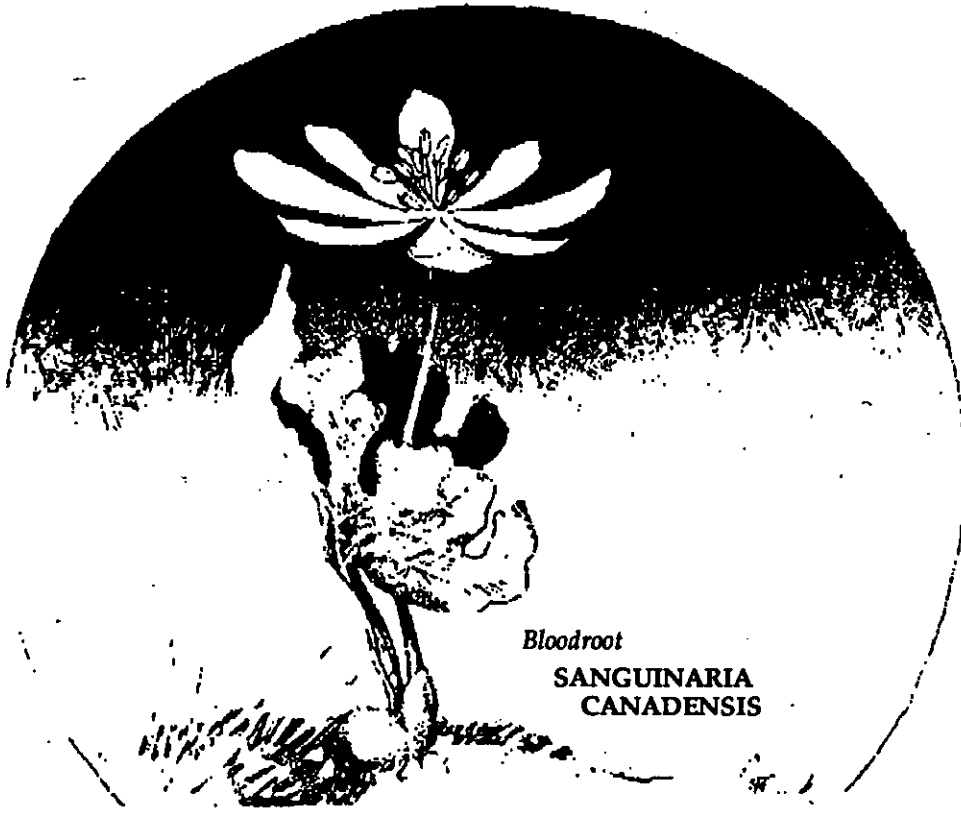
Tuesday's primary

Polling places in Bethlehem and New Scotland will be open from noon to 9 p.m. for next Tuesday's New York State Presidential primary.

Registered Democrats can vote for Michael Dukakis, Richard Gephardt, Albert Gore, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Lyndon LaRouche, Paul Simon or an uncommitted slate. Democratic voters will cast their ballots for both the candidate or their choice and a slate of delegates.

Registered Republicans can vote for delegates committed to George Bush, Robert Dole or Jack Kemp.

Only registered members of the parties can vote in the primary. Voting is at the regular polling places.



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Where or when?

No question about it, Bethlehem residents do want a community center, by a landslide vote of 8 to 1.

That's the prime conclusion to be drawn from a "Telephone Pole," a random-call survey of quite a few people.

Unfortunately, that appears to be almost the only safe assumption to be drawn from the report that was made public by the Town Board's community center committee in last week's *Spotlight*.

* * * * *

An immediate question has to be: When can we count on this coming about? The committee labored for 15 months before producing what must be regarded as a very preliminary study. How many more months must pass before some action results? With a mandate such as 8-to-1 approval suggests, the Town Board reasonably can be looked to for effective steps that will bring such a center into being.

If the center is not only desirable but genuinely needed, how much longer must the town do without it?

The next steps, it seems to us, are to come up with some specifics on the size, uses and cost of the building, and to identify possible sites. These are tasks requiring considerable time and expertise, and it seems likely that in order to accomplish them in a timely fashion the town will have to hire a consultant. We suggest moving this project

Justify a 'master plan'

Based on the comments of town officials, it is becoming increasingly clear that a high-level consensus is forming that Bethlehem should, after all, have a "master plan", or at least a thorough reevaluation of the existing plans, and that no new major developments should be considered until this plan is formulated.

We are concerned that what would be a major policy decision by the town is coming out in bits and pieces, with no clear articulation of what the plan is or the time involved to implement it. Some important questions need to be answered:

* * * * *

- What exactly is a "master plan"? The existing document, created in the 1950s, is very broad-brush, and has not exactly been an invaluable tool in town planning. What purpose does such a document serve? What does it encompass? How is it prepared and how long does it take to prepare it?

* * * * *

- In the meantime, what happens to development in Bethlehem? Several town officials have said, informally, that they feel the town should go ahead with developments that have already had zoning changes, such as Delmar Village and Brookhill Village in North Bethlehem,

EDITORIAL

forward as quickly as possible is money well spent.

It does seem likely that, as some specifics begin to emerge, the overwhelming approval might be diminished a bit. Specifically, as to the site. Three people out of five said they'd favor central Delmar — which, in fact, would seem to be a highly unlikely location because of the unavailability of usable land.

* * * * *

Related questions appear: Which should prevail, a site near a population cluster, or a central geographic locale? It does seem evident that the poll's respondents must have had little conception of the size of a football field. (That's a lot bigger than a breadbox).

And that's only the beginning folks: Parking would occupy an area much larger. A closely related, and vital, issue must be accessibility — on existing (or new?) roads and streets. Impact on a neighborhood would be another factor. None of this was taken up in the telephoners' inquiries.

It's time for the Town Board to get involved, and produce some hard-and-fast answers. Fast.

while holding off on any new projects that require zone changes, such as Windham Village in Glenmont.

There are some problems with such an arbitrary distinction. For one, the planned unit development concept under which the projects mentioned above are proceeding is a two-stage process. Delmar Village and Brookhill are in the second stage, site plan approval, but that stage is important enough to require a full environmental review under state law. Why then should they not be included in any moratorium the town declares in order to develop a master plan?

Secondly, if there is a concern over the impact on town services and schools, what about those developments that do not require rezoning? Residentially zoned land can be developed as subdivisions, which can have as much, if not more, impact on town services as Delmar Village.

A review of the town's existing zoning and planning procedures is certainly appropriate. So far, however, the case has not been made for a moratorium on building, or any partial moratorium. And the inordinate amount of time it has taken to come up with a simple plan for the review of the Rt. 9W corridor — not the review itself, mind you, but a *plan* for the review — is reason enough for caution about any new studies.

Too late to vote

Editor, The Spotlight:

Recently I have become aware of the primaries and their importance in the political process. I have prided myself as never having failed to vote on election day. Lately something new has been added — some Presidential aspirants have been very persuasive in getting their followers to enroll in a party and therefore have a built-in following when they run.

At this point I decided I too had to get involved in the primaries, so I set out to register to vote. I asked at least six of my friends and surprisingly, they just didn't know how. I finally called the Albany County Board of Elections.

I found to my dismay I had waited too long to vote in the primaries this year. I received in the mail a form to be filled out so that I could at least vote next

Vox Pop

year. We have a great privilege in the United States and that is the right to vote. It is a sacred trust.

Robert W. Lestrangle

Delmar

Under state election law, you must have been registered as a member of a political party as of last Nov. 3, the date of the last general election, in order to vote in that party's primary election April 19. If you were a new voter intending to vote in the primary, you must have registered as a member of the party 60 days prior to the primary. Voters who were simply changing their address had to do so 30 days prior to the primary date. And if you find all that confusing, read on. Ed.

Our primary system

Editor, The Spotlight:

I agree with large parts of your editorial of March 8 on "Primary unfairness," although I must take exception to your comment about a recently enacted change in the method for writing in names for president.

First, however, some background on our primary election system, which is widely misunderstood. In fact, there will be two or three elections on primary day.

I will discuss the Democratic side since that is where the big contests exist this year.

The first election will assign the six Democratic delegate slots based on a popularity contest among the candidates.

It is then necessary to have the delegates elected by the members of the party they represent. The days of handpicked delegates is and should be a thing of the past. Allowing the candidates to pick the delegates would be similarly unfair, especially when some candidates will drop out before the convention and uncommitted delegates would be impossible if candidates picked them all.

Once slots have been won by a given candidate, it becomes

meaningful to count the votes for the delegate candidates. Obviously if Gore does not win a delegate slot, it won't matter how many votes state Sen. Howard Nolan polls. There would be nothing to win for that slate.

It is widely expected that Dukakis will win three of the six slots, and three of the others are likely to get one each, although Jackson could win two.

The most popularly elected of the six Dukakis delegate candidates would win the first of those three positions. The most popularly elected delegate from the sex opposite the first winner gets the second slot, and whoever is next in line gets the third.

This scenario would give Dukakis one of the district's two alternates. No matter who runs second, that candidate would get the other alternate.

By contrast, the recently enacted change in the method for writing in names for president is designed to simplify the process. The change is only with regard to the November election and is aimed at a situation where there is a late developing serious

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THE SPOTLIGHT

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Letters commenting on another individual or group will be subject to elementary rules of fairness, and the editors reserve the right to attach a note to such letters if it is necessary to add perspective or give another side of the story. Also, letters commenting on a political campaign or issue to be voted on will not be run the week before the election unless they are in response to a statement printed in a previous issue, and then must be limited to that particular issue.

Letters should be typed and double spaced if possible. The deadline for all letters is 5 p.m. of the Friday before the Wednesday of publication. All letters must be signed and must include a telephone number where the writer can be reached. With satisfactory reason, letter writers may request that their names be withheld.

UNCLE DUDLEY

What makes you think so?

I have this theory, you see. I go like this: Very little of importance happens by chance or irrelevantly. Most of the news yarns that get us excited and anticipatory have been arranged by the tv networks.

Dan Rather, Tom Brokaw and that other fellow depend entirely on a constant flow of new and different events to keep their programs going, and their immense salaries as well. And they can't take the risk of coming up dry or dull night after night. They have to be trying every day to produce news items that will have the nation clapping its hands to foreheads and muttering, "Oh, migod!" or "I couldn't believe that such a weird thing would ever happen."

In a way, the evening newscasts (and their repeats at 11 o'clock and the re-repeats the next morning) are video version of the *National Enquirer* or the *Globe*, with a well-polished layer of respectability superimposed. But Messrs. Rather, Brokaw et al., can't put three-headed calves on the airwaves; they must deal in Big and Solemn News.

All this was brought freshly to mind by the ups and downs of the Rev. Jesse Jackson (who in himself is a joke — if not an invention — of the networks). Like the old-time descriptions of boxing matches, we hear "He's up!... He's down!... No, he's up again!" Suspense, something *different* is what's required. So the tv people, with their polling invariably create false expectations, then take it all back with — the unexpected.

CONSTANT READER

Write your own history

Once upon a time, there was a magazine that was founded with an inspired idea and a dutiful mission. It emerged in 1954 in hard cover, looking something like an outsized, though thin, book. It was called *American Heritage*, and lots of people flocked to read it. Copies were saved on family bookshelves.

The contents were thoughtful, and their handling by professionals tended to be both exciting and penetrating. An important aspect of its founding and its stature was the sponsorship. As I remember it, *American Heritage* was a product of one or more organizations of historians and history buffs, such as the American Association for State and Local History.

Over the years, *American Heritage* has wavered somewhat in the clarity of its purpose and in the skillfulness of its execution. Though I'm not intimately familiar with its own history over the past one-third of a century, I have the impression that at times its future was problematical indeed.

Having been founded when we were 48 states, when the nation's longest war was only germinating, when Ronald Reagan was just beginning to go on the road for GE, and John F. Kennedy was putting the right touches on Ted Sorensen's manuscript for Profiles, *American Heritage* has had to live through a great deal of new history while retrospectively reliving old history.



Of course, the networks not only give us the suspenseful cliffhangers, the unpredicted predictable, they also tell us that we ought to think about it all. And Mr. Jackson is, of course, only one of their stick figures. How else do you explain the exposure that they give to a most unlikely hand-puppet like the governor of Massachusetts? (My own theory is that Dukakis had to be blackmailed or bribed to become a candidate, because his pained expressions on our screens indicate that he'd much rather be at home.) And this is even before we get to the other laughable "candidates," certainly beginning with George H.W. Bush and ending with Marion Robertson, wholly a creature of television.

Our Governor obviously is in the hands of the tv industry. Until he's totally expendable, they need him to add these coy fan-dances of his. Will he or won't he? What did he mean by that? And (most important to the networks), What will he say tomorrow?

Actually, there's little risk for him in going along with the game. Participation has become all too common. Why else would people such as Gary Hart and Joe Biden consent to make fools of themselves on the nation's 21-inch screens? The networks' power is supreme; their control is absolute. Perhaps you can, even now, feel some of the vibrations.

One or another of the aforementioned front men presumably will be duly elected in November and go through the time-worn routine or oath-taking and speechifying in January. But don't let it frighten you unduly. After all, the current practitioner, who was a master in this game when he took over the White House, has worked hard and perfected his act over these eight years. Otherwise, how can you explain his willingness to make "news" with his confusions, contradictions, and zany departures on that ever-waiting helicopter. Ed Meese has got to stay, not out of any misplaced loyalty to him by the President, but rather by the President to the tv moguls. Another Meese outrage every other day is obligatory.

Remember when some kind of moth or cutworm in California was the biggest news the networks could come up with? And the orange blight in Florida? Those days of desperation are gone forever, if the execs have their way (and they're getting it). What do you suppose their hold on the surprising, suspenseful, unpredictable Mr. Gorbachev might be?

Just remember where you read it first.

page article entitled, not too attractively (for me), "Can History Save Us From A Depression?" It was done in traditional Q-and-A style with Jude Wanniski, who is identified as "among the early leaders in the revival of supply-side economics." It's accompanied by such blurbs as "The only real solution to the trade budget deficits is to persuade the Western industrial democracies to reduce their tax rates, to expand."

A paragraph that introduces the dialogue states that Mr. Wanniski's argument is that "low tax rates are essential not merely to the wealth of a nation but to the welfare of its citizens and the progress of society," and that "His ideas have significantly influenced the Reagan administration." The article is illustrated with a very contemporary, large photo of Mr. Wanniski. The interview/article is bylined: Timothy C. Forbes. He's the one who happens to be president of the publishing company.

That, my friends, has all the unwelcome earmarks of perilous intrusion by the business office in the editorial office. As I noted above, I had skipped over the article when it appeared. My attention was drawn to it by a pair of letters in the current (April) issue taking sharp issue with Mr. Wanniski. One of them is worth quoting:

"I am greatly disappointed by

(Turn to page 7)

Our Community needs a center

Last week the Bethlehem Community Center Committee released a survey that shows broad support for the proposed center, but less of a consensus on where it should be and how it should be funded. Rob Lillis is a member of the committee who directed the survey, and was also on the previous two community center committees.

By Rob Lillis

Bethlehem is a town, and a town is larger than a village. This must be understood before the issue of a community center can be put in perspective.

Point of View

Bethlehem is not as densely populated as a city. We have some rural area but most of us don't live there. We share the cost of a town government that provides certain necessities for the common good, like police protection and usable roads, but most of us don't participate in its operation. We share the cost of a system of schools, which provides education for our children, but most of us don't participate in its operation. We don't share a common philosophy, personal or political.

Raise any of these points with a typical town resident and you'll most likely get an uninterested nod of agreement. But try this one: we don't often share our leisure time with more than a few people who might or might not live in the town. The response to this will be, "where?"

The issue of the need for a community center in Bethlehem is not a new one. The current concept of a center however, began in 1984 when a group of citizens investigated the possibility of purchasing the former A&P supermarket building on Delaware Ave. for a teen center. The idea was in response to concerns expressed by the Youth Advisory Committee, which subsequently merged with Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited. The building was already committed to CHP, the current occupant.

Enthusiasm waned quickly but a theme had been developed that has survived: A facility should exist to serve as a community center; that is, a center for activity for all segments of the town's population. The name given to the project was Town Square, with the four sides labeled: "Children," "Teens," "Adults" and "Seniors."

The group dissolved and it was two years later, in the spring of 1986, that another vacant building became the incentive for community action. This time the Delmar Athletic Club was closing its doors and the building was available. A combination of factors — price, size, parking and location — ended that discussion. At the same time, the New York State Dormitory Authority announced it was relocating its offices located in several buildings on Normanskill Drive, across from Delaware Plaza. A local realtor contacted the group that was considering the Athletic Club with an offer on the Dormitory Authority building.

A series of meetings were held to gather support from community leaders, including town officials, business leaders, representatives of churches and schools and a number of interested citizens. Several studies were conducted to assess space and facilities needs of local groups and the willingness of these groups to pay for use. Members of the community center group visited centers in Capital District communities such as Cohoes and Guelderland.

A proposal was developed that would allow for leasing the building, some modest renovations, basic coordination and conducting fund raising activities. The group solicited support from area businesses and banks and determined that a major commitment from the town was needed to launch the project. A detailed proposal was developed and presented to the Town Board in late fall, 1986.

The group hoped for a commitment of \$75,000 for the first year's lease and operation of the center. Instead, the board voted to include \$25,000 in a contingency fund for further study of the issue and appointed a committee to conduct the study and make recommendations.

The committee has worked for the past year and has conducted several studies, including an assessment of adequacy of existing facilities, needs of local organizations and survey of opinions of town residents on support for the idea and specific suggestions for facilities and activities to be provided at a center. The results of the later survey were discussed in the April 6 issue of *The Spotlight*.

The committee has completed its data gathering and is developing a report to present findings and make recommendations for action toward meeting the need for a center.

Not all needs will be met by a single center, no matter what its design, location or cost. Not all the suggestions from the data gathered require new facilities. The need that led to the community center issue, and the suggestion which was most commonly given in the survey, is for a social meeting place, a place for us to share our leisure time.

The community center can be more than a building, more than an answer to "where?" It can play an important part in making our town more of a community.

MATTERS of Opinion

(From page 4)

candidate or one who is ruled off the ballot.

The system in previous presidential elections has required anyone wanting to write in for president to vote a split electoral ticket. This involves using a slip of paper found inside the voting booth where all the names of the various would-be electors are listed. To vote for a different slate, it was necessary to cross out all 36 names and write in 36 names for your choice. This paper had to be folded, licked and fastened together before the back of it was licked and applied to the roll of paper inside the voting machine. All this in just two minutes.

The new system would allow a write-in candidate to file his or her list of electors with the Secretary of State seven weeks before the election. The candidate's supporters would be able to vote by writing in the names of the presidential and vice presidential candidates directly on the roll of paper inside the voting machine — just like other write-in candidates.

The old system reduced write-in efforts to an impossible task or made them throw their votes away, because most of the candidates were not residents of New York State and therefore ineligible to receive ballots for candidates for elector.

The amendment to the Election Law is not a major innovation and it is unlikely to affect the outcome of an election, but it is more than a token change and raises presidential write-in votes from an impossible or meaningless effort

Vox Pop

into a somewhat meaningful gesture.

Joseph W. Galu

Albany

The writer is a member of Assemblyman Richard Connors' staff and a former political writer for the Associated Press in Albany.

Many donations for friendship project

Editor, The Spotlight

We wish to thank all those who participated in the drive to send school supplies to the children of Barrio Domitila Lugo in Managua. To date two hundred and fifty people have signed in support of the Friendship Towns project, which is very encouraging. We will continue to receive donations for this project at Friendship Towns, 1578 New Scotland Rd, Box 337, Slingerlands, 12159.

Gaston L. Cadieux

Slingerlands

Scouts thank for help on spring sports mart

Editor, The Spotlight

On Saturday, April 9, Boy Scout Troop 58 held a Spring Sports Mart and Uniform Exchange. We wish to thank the following merchants for their donations: McDonald's of Delmar and Ravena, Curtis Lumber, and F.W. Woolworth Co.

We would also like to thank the School Districts of Bethlehem,

Voorheesville, and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk, as well as Brownell Insurance and the Tri-Village churches for their help in spreading the word of our sale.

Finally, thank you to Boy Scout Troop 75 for their guidance in this project.

Mary C. Phillips

Delmar

Proposed budget 'measures up'

Editor, The Spotlight

A good school budget must be designed to do a lot of good for our children while it minimizes the financial burden it brings to the community.

If it is thoughtfully developed it will not only provide for the present, it will also lay a strong foundation for the future.

The 1988-89 Bethlehem Central school budget measures up to these standard in every way.

It brings to our elementary children 5.6 teachers and 2.3 elementary aides at a time when the first wave of eight or nine expected enrollment increases is about to begin.

It brings to our Middle School children a new foreign language teacher when a serious staffing weakness threatens the quality of the language program. And it brings to all our schools the promise of a stronger guidance service with a proposal to reorganize the Guidance Department and the appointment of its first department head.

In addition it proposes to add a brand new basal reading system

to fortify and revitalize the present elementary reading program.

But that's not all. In addition to doing a lot of good for our children the administration and the board have worked hard to minimize the financial burden our schools bring to the community.

For example, in order to stretch our tax dollars efficiently they are proposing a plan to finance the new foreign language position at the Middle School by reallocating resources instead of raising taxes.

Another example of thoughtful budget management deals with the bond issue proposal for the bus replacement program. The administration and the board accomplished two things by separating the bus replacement program from the budget.

First they insured an adequate supply of buses to accommodate the enrollment increase for next year. And second they minimized the disruptive effect this particular program could have on the school districts cash flow and our tax liability because of its tie to state aid.

Under this plan the district can postpone payment for the buses until financial assistance arrives from the state. Otherwise we would have to raise enough taxes now to buy the buses and they wait until next year to get reimbursed by the state.

These tactics coupled with very careful budget analysis give us a proposed budget increase that is lower than some of our neighbors.

Let me explain further. When you compare Bethlehem's total

budget expenditure broken down of a per pupils basis to the per pupil expenditures at the other Surburban Council School, you find that our school district ranks 8th out of 11 schools. This means that, while we will be spending \$5,540.63 per student, the average Surburban Council School will pay out \$5,593.05 per student or \$152.42 more than us. And the freest spending school will pay out \$916.37 more per pupil than we will because they will be spending \$6,357 per student.

Your children and my children aren't getting short changed though. It's clear from my involvement in our schools for the past three and one-half years, that we have a superbly managed educational operation here in Bethlehem. An operation that runs as much on wisdom, creativity, and imagination as it runs on money, and it deserves our support.

The 1988-89 school budget is clearly the kind of budget you would expect from our school district. It's thoughtful...balanced...and responsible. It lays a strong foundation for the future; it eliminates serious oversights of the past; it keeps our taxes as low as responsibility will allow; yet it does a lot of good for our children.

It deserves our support and I'm going to vote for it. How about you?

Greg Maher

Delmar

Editor's note: Greg Maher is one of four candidates for the seat being vacated by board President Robert Ruslander in the May 4 election and budget vote.

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□ Reader

(From page 5)

the limited-vision, probably politically biased kind of article.

"Granted, economists and those who pose as economic experts ought not to be taken seriously. But why any virtually unknown 'expert,' who claims to have been a significant adviser to the Reagan administration (what went wrong?), should be interviewed by the president of your publication and given prominent space is a puzzle and a discredit to the integrity of what I expect of *American Heritage*."

"Mr. Jude Wanniski's admitted technique of searching for a rationale after discovering he possessed an incontrovertible theory is truly a parody of all economist jokes. Mr. Timothy C. Forbes apparently does not have a sense of humor."

"Let me try this one on you. I have absolute evidence that the Great Depression ended not with the advent of World War II, which many believe, but when they removed the banana flavor from Twinkies."

With down-to-earth commentators like that, things can't be all bad! And by the way, I've just discovered a publication that's new to me: It's called *Inside Pitch*, the official newspaper of the Mets. It's published monthly at \$1.95, or \$15.95 for the year. I found it at Coulson's on Delaware Avenue.

Church exchange program Sunday

The First United Methodist Church of Delmar will participate in the Albany District Pulpit Exchange Program on Sunday, April 10. The Rev. Alan C. Rhodes, pastor of the Ravena Methodist Church, will be the preacher at Delmar and the Rev. Arthur F. Hagy, Jr. of Delmar will be at Calvary-Pine Hills in Albany.

Rev. Richard Neal of Delmar will serve as liturgist for the 9:30 service. Kids' Christian Fellowship will be at 9:45 and all church school classes will meet at 11 a.m.

Rt. 9W study plan is outlined

By Bill Cote

With a Rt. 9W study proposal in hand, the Bethlehem Planning Board will take a couple of weeks to consider the alternatives before making a recommendation to the Town Board. The proposal presentation last Wednesday may have cast more heat than light on the future of the town's major undeveloped commercial corridor.

The special meeting last Wednesday was three-tiered. First came a presentation by Thomas Neidercorn, of the Syracuse-based Planning/Environmental Research Consultants (PERC), the town's project consultant. Next was a presentation by Bethlehem's town planner, Jeffrey Lipnicky, who outlined the town's expectations and the boundaries of the Rt. 9W corridor. The final section asked for public response. About 50 residents attended the meeting, with one resident, a developer, suggesting another approach.

However, the mood was mostly positive with almost everyone precursing their comments with congratulations to the planning board and Lipnicky on their efforts and interest in public response.

Neidercorn was hired last November to prepare a "scope of services" study based on the preliminary proposal the planning board drafted earlier in 1987. The plan was to produce a study guide for more focused studies.

Neidercorn's proposal suggested that there should be three elements in the study:

- Step one is to analyze existing conditions with an

emphasis on boundary lines of the corridor. He listed traffic, visual and natural characteristics as areas that will have to be explored and also mentioned that points of conflict will have to be balanced. He noted, for example, that the road serves a dual function of carrying through traffic and serving as access to adjacent lands.

- Next, he said, is to identify regional growth trends. Neidercorn said that Bethlehem will have to consider state and county trends and expectations in context with the local zoning ordinance and maximum land uses. He identified school district changes as a trend to be considered;

- The final step is to recommend plans for action. Neidercorn said that once policy statements have been established, the specifics will have to be addressed. His "action agenda" would include prioritizing plans, assessing fund sources and establishing time schedules. He said the study should be done in phases "to allow adequate attention to the hot-spots."

"We're trying to focus on the needs of the people that live on and around the road," Neidercorn said. He said the plan is "not a long-range comprehensive land use study for the entire eastern half of Bethlehem".

Lipnicky said that the corridor is "relatively narrow," but stressed that the lines are flexible and "will have to be expanded for certain portions of the study."

Lipnicky said that the study could be complete in five to six

months, with the rezoning process adding a couple of months.

"My concern is what will happen between now and the time this is implemented," said Jim Coon of Glenmont. "If there was ever a case for a limited (building approval) moratorium, I think this is it."

Bill Strong, a developer and 26-year resident of Van Wies Point in Glenmont, suggested his own plan of action. He asked, "are we really going to get anything out of it (the study)?" Strong argued that New York State classifies Rt. 9W traffic as a seven on a scale of 10 for safety and comfort. He said that the road will have to be classified a four before the state would look at it. The incidence of accidents must rise significantly to drop the rating, he said.

Strong presented a two-pronged plan. First, he suggested that the commercial zones along Rt. 9W be moved into South Bethlehem and replaced with residential zoning.

Noting that a large portion of the traffic on Rt. 9W originates south of the town, he suggested that a convenient Thruway entrance in South Bethlehem

would alleviate the congestion on the North end of Rt. 9W.

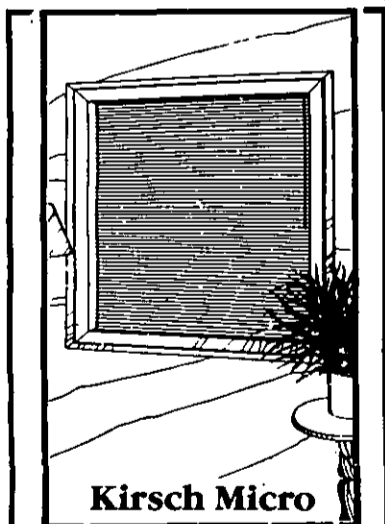
The executive director of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission, Chungchin Chen, attended the meeting and voiced his support for the town's plan. He suggested that a 20-year planning horizon be set for the project and offered technical support of his office to the town.

Broken windows investigated by police

Bethlehem police are investigating two incidents of criminal mischief that resulted in broken windows.

A Feura Bush man reported that his garage window was shot out during the overnight hours Thursday, police said. The window, worth \$20, was believed to have been shot out by a BB gun, police said.

Also under investigation is a separate incident at the Snow White Laundry on Delaware Ave. A \$200 glass door at the laundry was shattered during the overnight hours last Wednesday, police said. There are no suspects in the incident, police said.



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BC budget receives high praise

Board candidates endorse \$22.6 million spending plan

By Patricia Mitchell

Bethlehem Central's proposed \$22.6 million budget received high praise from school board candidates attending last Tuesday's budget hearing.

Most school board members endorsed the proposed budget and appealed to the community to endorse it when they adopted it on March 30.

The spending plan will go before the voters on Wednesday, May 4.

The hearing was sparsely attended, with five of the six school board candidates making up most of the audience.

The budget contains no frills and is a bare bones budget, said Lynne Lenhardt who is challenging Charles Reeves for his seat. Some items included are definitely needed, such as six new teachers and continued improvement in instruction, she said, and the budget also provides for responsible building maintenance. She said it is important for board members to take a stand on the budget as the district's representatives, and she urged voter approval.

Reeves, who abstained from voting when the school board adopted the spending plan on March 30, made no comment on the budget Tuesday. He said at the March 23 budget workshop he thinks the increases are excessive but he doesn't want a negative vote on it to be perceived as a lack of trust in Superintendent Leslie Loomis.

While the budget may be too tight in some areas, Lawrence Faulkner said he is impressed that it deals with building needs such as the start of a reroofing program, the stage lights for the high school auditorium, teachers, and a part-time guidance coordinator, even though more counselors could be used. He also supports the new elementary reading program, but he said more of it could have been adopted after two years of study.

Faulkner is one of four candidates for board President Robert Ruslander's seat. Ruslander announced earlier this year he would not seek reelection to the board. Other candidates are Marcia Roth, Greg Maher and William Collins.

A parent of a handicapped child, Roth said she was glad to see three special education classes incorporated into the district that would have gone to BOCES, and to see handicapped students' transportation needs also taken into account in the proposition to buy seven buses. The budget is also responsive to the growth at the elementary level and the decline at the high school, she said, but alternative funding could have been found for the stage lights.

After hearing about discipline problems on the 81-passenger buses, Quinn Davey of Glenmont said some parents from his area may campaign against the bus proposition if it specifically includes two of the large buses.

The bus purchase plan, which also includes three 59-passenger buses, a wheelchair bus and an eight-passenger van, is part of a replacement plan and they are very much needed, Loomis said. He said it would be ill-advised for parents to express their opinion by voting the proposition down, since discipline has little to do with the size of the bus.

This is the first the school board has heard of any discipline problems on the large buses, and Loomis said he was a little disappointed over that. However, he said, if parents have a concern he would be willing to meet with them.

Marion Martin, the Delmar Progress Club representative, said she was disappointed that more people did not attend the budget hearing.

The proposed 1988-89 budget package of \$22,696,379 is an increase of \$2,017,761 or 9.76 percent over this year's budget.

Tax rates are estimated at \$192.12 per \$1,000 of assessed value in Bethlehem, an increase of \$11.54 or 6.4 percent, and at \$274.38 per \$1,000 in New Scotland, a decrease of \$1.04 or .38 percent. However, those rates may go up when final state aid figures are factored in.

In presenting the proposed budget, Loomis said it will allow an excellent return on every dollar invested and deserves community support. He urged its support for continued high quality education.

New personnel in the budget are five elementary teachers, a middle school foreign language teacher and a part-time guidance supervisor, a new bus driver, part-time elementary aides to assist the new teachers, a part-time noon-hour aide and other elementary aides. Funds are also included for the start of a 10-year reroofing program beginning at the high school and for upgrading the high school stage lights.

The walls of the upper gym at the high school will be padded, telephone lines will be upgraded and installed, hallway space will be modified at Clarksville School for classrooms and the play area at Hamagrael School will be modified.

McCabe speaks about Australian outback

Tim McCabe, an entomologist with New York State's Science Survey, will speak about his trip to the Australian outback at the next meeting of the Albany County Audubon Society on Thursday, April 14. The meeting will be held at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, at 8 p.m.

For information call 438-4035.

Open house at ambulance service

Members of the community will have an opportunity to view the new Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance Service ambulance during an open house at the Glenmont Firehouse on Sunday, April 17, from noon until 4 p.m. The open house will also feature demonstrations and a history of the ambulance service.

Community quilting bee at library

Community quilting bees to complete the Bethlehem Public Library's 75th anniversary quilt will be held at the library on April 15, 22, 23 and 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sewing experience is not required. For information call 439-9314.



Novelist Bernard Connors will receive the Bethlehem Library's Local Author Literary Award for 1988 on Friday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the library. The public is invited to hear the recipient speak. Reservations are necessary. Call 439-9314 by Wednesday, April 20.

Candidates night slated

Bethlehem Central's PTA and the community organization will sponsor a "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Bethlehem Central High School auditorium on Friday, April 29, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Quinn Davey of Glenmont, an organizer, said all six candidates running for two school board seats will be in attendance. Charles Reeves of Delmar is running for reelection to his second, three-year term, and he is being challenged by Lynne Lenhardt, also of Delmar, and she and her husband, George, have two children.

Running for board President Robert Ruslander's seat are William Collins of Glenmont, Lawrence Faulkner of Delmar, Gregory Maher of Delmar and Marcia Roth of Clarksville. Ruslander announced earlier this year he would not seek reelection.

The event will be taped by the high school's audio video department, Davey said. BCTV will air the session in two parts on Monday and Tuesday, May 2 and 3, from 7 to 8 p.m.

The Bethlehem Channel will air the program in its entirety on Monday, May 2, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., on Tuesday, May 3, from 7 to 9 p.m., and on Wednesday, May 4, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The seats will be filled during the school district's annual budget vote on Wednesday, May 4.

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Faso will speak at women's club lunch

State Assemblyman John Faso (R-102nd) will be the speaker at the annual spring luncheon of the Bethlehem Women's Republican Club, to be held Tuesday, April 26, at the Normanside Country Club.

The luncheon, open to the public, will be served at 12:30 p.m. The agenda also includes presentation of the Ruth Miner Awards. Tickets are available for \$8.50 and reservations may be made with Kathleen Noonan, Peg Mull, or Sheree Pittz by Wednesday, April 20.

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School gets lights, town thanked

By Patricia Mitchell

The Town of Bethlehem has been recognized for its help in getting two street lights at the entrance of the Glenmont Elementary School.

Bethlehem Central Superintendent Leslie Loomis said he feels Town Supervisor J. Robert Hendrick was personally responsible for getting the lights after intervening in the matter.

The lack of lighting at the Rt. 9W school was identified as a potentially dangerous situation during the administration's work with the school PTAs, Loomis said at last Tuesday's school board meeting.

Board member Bernard Harvith suggested orange stripping or a sign should also be placed at the entrance of the Glenmont School for better visibility.

During a meeting with the PTA representatives, traffic safety at the schools was identified as a top priority for the year, Loomis said. He said he asked the PTA representatives to work with the

principals on the matter. Hendrick and Police Chief Paul Currie also got involved.

The PTAs and the administration will continue to work on additional traffic safety questions, Loomis said. A request from the district and the town to reduce the speed limit along Rt. 9W near the school by 10 m.p.h. from 45 m.p.h. was rejected by the state Department of Transportation, as was a similar request for Delaware Ave. at the high school. However, he said, he is interested in pursuing those requests further.

The school district should also indicate its interest in Bethlehem's study of the Rt. 9W corridor because of safety concerns, Loomis said.

In other business at last Tuesday's meeting, the school board approved adding three student representatives to the AIDS Advisory Committee. The suggestion was made at a public input session on March 29 by a high school student.

Assistant Superintendent Briggs McAndrews said the committee believes it is particularly appropriate for the students to join now. Students who have already gone through BC's curriculum may be asked to participate.

The idea is an excellent one, said board member Velma Cousins, because teenagers still are not aware that AIDS can effect them.

The AIDS Advisory Committee is now made up of staff, teachers, parents and community members and is working on adapting state Education Department guidelines for an AIDS curriculum at BC.

The school board also approved placing ceramic tile floors in Elsmere School's restrooms instead of vinyl floors as part of the 1985 capital improvements bond issue work. Business Administrator Franz Zwicklbauer said the district believed it was bidding for ceramic floors and didn't realize until now it was for vinyl. Ceramic tiles will last longer, he said.

The school board also learned Loomis is the vice-chairman for the newly formed Advisory Committee on School Administration for the Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies at the State University at Albany.

The school board went into executive session for personnel matters once at the end of the meeting, but Loomis said no action was taken.

The next regular meeting of the school board is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27 at 8 p.m.



Raymond J. Acciardo, Sr.

Named to represent Met Life companies

Raymond J. Acciardo, Sr. of Selkirk has been appointed account executive for Metropolitan Life and Affiliated Companies in the Bethlehem area.

An attorney with offices in Glenmont, Acciardo provides legal and financial services and will now also handle insurance and investment products services. He is a former assistant professor of business at Russell Sage College. He is the father of three daughters and a son and resides with his wife, Sheila, and youngest daughter, Kelli.

Veterans plan spring activities

The Bethlehem Memorial Post 3185 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars has a full spring calendar.

The group's first round of officer nominations will be held during the April 14 meeting. Officers will be elected on May 7.

The veteran's homecoming dance will be held at the Blanchard American Legion Post on May 7. Reservations are \$10.

Members of the group are planning to participate in the Memorial Day parade.

Finally, officers of the ladies auxiliary will be elected on April 18.

Tentative aid figures released

(From page 1)

\$1,000 of assessed value in Bethlehem, an increase of \$12.48 or 7.5 percent, and at \$254.91 per \$1,000 in New Scotland, an increase of \$1.71 or .67 percent.

In the Town of Coeymans, taxes are estimated at \$203.61 per \$1,000, an increase of \$2.34 or 1.1 percent. However, Town of Baltimore taxes are expected to rise higher than first calculated when the budget was released. They are now estimated at \$179.03 per \$1,000, an increase of \$16.41 or 10.07 percent.

While Schwartz said the school aid in the Assembly package are good estimates and probably on target, he cautioned that they have not been approved.

He said RCS is just finding out now what this year's state aid is and it is actually about \$100,000 less than was anticipated. The first state aid checks for the 1987-88 school year are expected to be given out about April 15.

At Voorheesville Central, Superintendent Louise Gonan and business administrator Gene

Grasso called the district's revenue estimates, including state aid, "conservative." The district has been using an estimated state aid figure of \$2,942,502, an increase of \$137,937 over this year's, to calculate its proposed \$7,870,061 budget.

This state aid figure is slightly lower than the state Assembly number of \$3,005,238 for Voorheesville.

These state aid figures may also change as lawmakers consider additional aid for districts' costs of hiring a consultant to put together asbestos management plans. Districts need to prepare their plans by Oct. 12 or face penalties of \$25,000 for each day it

is not ready, and must begin implementing the removal plan by July, 1989.

The cost for hiring a consultant was first thought to be not state aidable, and BC is estimating its costs at about \$70,000. Zwicklbauer said the consultant aid was part of on-going negotiations at the Capitol, and is also subject to change. He said it could help BC if it does materialize.

The cost of removing asbestos from Voorheesville Central schools to comply with the new regulations has been estimated at \$2.3 million. Gonan said there is a "glimmer of hope" for aid, but it is still "clearly up in the air."

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 - ALL PEPSI & SLICE PRODUCTS 6pk. 16 oz bottles . \$1.99
- DAIRY**
- CROWLEY PUDDING ALL VARIETIES 2 pk 69¢
 - L.O.L. WHITE CHEESE x-sharp, sharp 8 oz. \$1.49
 - CROWLEY 2% MILK gal. \$1.69
- FROZEN**
- HEINZ DEEP FRIES reg or crinkle 24 oz \$1.19
 - CITRUS HILL FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 12 oz. ... \$1.39
 - BANQUET MACARONIE AND CHEESE 21 oz. ... \$1.89
- PRODUCE**
- PINK GRAPEFRUIT 2 for 69¢
 - ROMAINE (head) 59¢
 - STRAWBERRIES pint 79¢
 - BROCCOLI bunch 89¢

Chicken Legs .59/lb	Hygrade Franks .98/lb
London Broils 1.98/lb	Pork Chop Pac 1.48/lb <small>Center Cut & End Chops</small>
storemade Hamburger Patties	5 lb Chuck \$1.68 box Round \$1.98
N.Y. Strips · WHOLE \$3³⁸	
Ground Chuck \$1.38 lb Ground Round 10 LBS. \$1.78 lb	
American Cheese \$1.98 lb. Store Baked Ham \$3.58 lb. Imported Ham \$2.58 lb. Store Roasted Ham \$3.98 lb.	
28 lb. MEAT PAC \$41.98	
FORES "WESTERN BEEF" 1.19 lb.	SIDES PRIME or CHOICE 1.29 lb.
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Diane McCaffrey

Starting April 26th
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The Total Look
266 Delaware Ave.
in the Delmar
Court Complex
439-2508

She would like
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and visit her
at her new location.

439-2508

Microwave Cooking Class, demonstrating uses of microwave ovens, William Rice Extension Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 6:30-9 p.m. Registration, 765-3550.

Spring Card Party, Ladies Auxiliary of the Bethlehem Lodge, 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-5342.

Gardening Program, "Selecting Flowering Shrubs," by Anna Martha Jones, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

Spring Rummage Sale, with clothing and household items, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Delmar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Information, 439-4031.

Film and Lecture, "Infectious Diseases," with Robert Elling, Selkirk Fire House 3, Rt. 396, South Bethlehem, 7 p.m. Registration, 767-3031.

Women's Organization of the Normanside Country Club, luncheon, with beauty program, Normanside Country Club, Delmar, 12:30 p.m. Reservations, 439-5362.

Penpal Club, meeting, Bethlehem Public Library, 4-5 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

Albany Area Retired Teachers Association, meeting, Bethlehem Public Library, Delmar, 12:30 p.m. Information, 439-3339.

Capital District Civil War Round Table, meeting, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-6795.

United Pentecostal Church, Sunday School and worship service, 10 a.m.; choir rehearsal, 5 p.m.; evening service, 6:45 p.m.; Rt. 85, New Salem. Information, 765-4410.

South Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; followed by coffee hour; Willowbrook Ave., South Bethlehem. Information, 767-9953.

Normansville Community Church, Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; 10 Rockefeller Rd., Elsmere. Information, 439-7864.

Bethlehem Community Church, morning worship service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; baby care provided, evening fellowship, 6:30 p.m. Information, 439-3135.

Delmar Presbyterian Church, Worship, church school, nursery, 10:30 a.m.; family worship and communion first Sunday of the month; coffee hour, 11:30 a.m. Information on adult education and youth fellowships, 439-9252.

Delmar Reformed Church, church school and worship, nursery provided during worship, 386 Delaware Ave., 10 a.m. Information, 439-9929.

First United Methodist Church of Delmar, worship with guest preacher Alan Rhodes and nursery care for preschool children, 9:30 a.m.; kids Christian Fellowship, 9:45 a.m.; church school and adult education, 11 a.m.; Junior Youth Fellowship, 3:30 p.m.; Senior Youth Fellowship, 5:30 p.m. Information, 439-9976 or 439-2689.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Eucharist with breakfast, 8 a.m. Family service, 10 a.m., with Sunday school and nursery, coffee hour following service, Poplar and Elsmere Aves., Delmar. Information, 439-3265.

Slingerlands Community United Methodist Church, worship service, church school and youth forum, 10 a.m.; coffee hour and Cherub and Junior Choir rehearsals, 11 a.m.; 1499 New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands. Information, 439-1766.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Bible study and Sunday school classes, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m., babysitting available. Information, 439-4328.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, service and Sunday school, 11 a.m.; child care provided, 555 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-2512.

Glenmont Reformed Church, worship, 11 a.m. nursery care provided. Information, 436-7710.

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BREAKFAST BUFFET**

**Sunday April 17th • 9:00-12:00
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MENU: pancakes, waffles, eggs, sausage, bacon, potatoes, juice and coffee

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**FRIDAY 15
APRIL**

Recovery, Inc., self-help for those with chronic nervous symptoms. First United Methodist, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar. Weekly at 12:30 p.m.

Youth Group Meetings, United Pentecostal Church, Rt. 85, New Salem, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4410.

Chabad Center, services and discussion followed by kiddush, Fridays at sunset, 109 Elsmere Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-8280.

Duplicate Bridge, all levels welcome, St. Stephen's Church, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-5772.

Community Quilting Bee, to complete a quilt, Bethlehem Public Library, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

**SATURDAY 16
APRIL**

Bethlehem Archaeology Group, provides regular volunteers with excavation and laboratory experience all day Monday and Wednesday, and Saturday morning meetings. Call 439-4258 for more information.

Chabad Center, services followed by kiddush, 109 Elsmere Ave., Delmar, 9:30 a.m. Information, 439-8280.

Landscaping Workshop, with speakers and soil testing, William Rice Extension Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Information, 765-3510.

Tri-Village Squares, class graduation dance, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, 8-11 p.m. Information 438-1227.

After-Easter Egg Hunt, with egg and candy hunt and egg-rolling contest, Slingerlands Fire House, 11 a.m.

Christian Science Lecture, sponsored by First Church of Christ, Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 4 p.m. Information, 439-9601.

Albany County Audobon Society, field trip to Boston, leaves Wildlife Resource Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 7 a.m. Information, 436-9875.

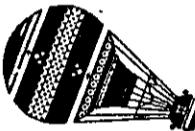
**SUNDAY 17
APRIL**

Onesquethaw Church, Worship, 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., Sunday School.

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*Contact Joan Lewis at 463-2201.
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-Karen O'Keeffe, center, AAG Class of 1987, member of the Class of 1991 at Williams College.

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CALENDAR**

GROCERY SHOPPING DAY

MONDAY - Residents of Elsmere, Delmar, Slingerlands and North Bethlehem to Delaware Plaza 8:30-11:30 a.m.

THURSDAY - Residents of Glenmont, Selkirk and South Bethlehem to Town Squire Plaza 9:00-11:30 a.m.



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Clarksville Community Church, Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Coffee following service, nursery care provided. Information, 768-2853.

Community Quilting Bee, to complete a quilt, Bethlehem Public Library, 1-5 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

Open House, Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance Service, Glenmont Fire House, noon-4 p.m. Information, 439-2627.

Albany Bethlehem Chapter of Hadasah, buffet brunch with dancing, 10 Parkway Dr., Delmar, 9:45-11:30 a.m. Information, 439-2325.

MONDAY 18
APRIL

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

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

Al-Anon Group, support for relatives of alcoholics, meets Mondays at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

Delmar Community Orchestra, rehearsal Mondays, Bethlehem Town Hall, Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4628.

Alateen Meeting, Mondays, support group for young people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Delmar, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

Quartet Rehearsal, United Pentecostal Church, Rt. 85, New Salem, 7:15 p.m. Information, 765-4410.

Mothers' Time Out, meets Mondays. Christian support group for mothers of preschool children, child care provided, Delmar Reformed Church, 10-11:30 a.m. Information, 439-9929.

Bethlehem Archaeology Group, provides regular volunteers with excavation and laboratory experience all day Monday and Wednesday, and Saturday morning meetings. Call 439-4258 for more information.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3185 Ladies Auxiliary, meets on third Monday of each month, VFW Post 3185, 404 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 8 p.m. Information, 439-9836.

Evening Walk, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Elsmere, 7 p.m. Information, 453-1806.

Bird Program, for kindergarteners and first graders, with songs and activities, Bethlehem Public Library, 10 a.m. Information, 439-9314.

TUESDAY 19
APRIL

Delmar Rotary, meets Tuesdays at Starlite Restaurant, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 6 p.m.

New Scotland Democratic Social Club, all welcome, meets third Tuesdays at Meads Corners, Rt. 32, 8 p.m.

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

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

Blood Pressure Clinic, free testing, third Tuesdays through April, Bethlehem Town Hall, Delmar, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

Medicare Form Aid, sponsored by AARP, first and third Tuesdays, Bethlehem Town Hall, Delmar, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Appointments required, 439-2160.

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

American Association of Retired Persons, meeting with program, "Services for the Majority," by Brian Butler, Delmar United Methodist Church, 12:30 p.m.



The internationally acclaimed Charles Moore Dance Theatre Company will present "Traces: an American Suite, a new work commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts. Celebrating the history of black American dance, the performance begins at 8 p.m., Friday, April 15, at SUNY's Page Hall.

Natural History Lecture, "A Naturalist in the Caribbean Islands and Venezuelan Rain Forest," Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Elsmere, 8 p.m. Information, 453-1806.

Book Discussion, "World's Fair," by E. L. Doctorow, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group, meeting, Bethlehem Public Library, 2 p.m. Information, 452-1631.

Origami Workshop, for fourth and fifth graders, Bethlehem Public Library, 10 a.m. Information, 439-9314.

Onesquethaw Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, first and third Wednesdays at Masonic Temple, Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 8 p.m.

New Scotland Senior Citizens, every Wednesday, old schoolhouse, New Salem. Information, Lois Crouse at 765-2109.

Testimony Meeting, First Church of Christ, Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 8 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

Normansville Community Church, Bible study and prayer meeting, 10 Rockefeller Rd., Elsmere. Information, 439-7864.

Bethlehem Archaeology Group, provides regular volunteers with excavation and laboratory experience all day Monday and Wednesday, and Saturday morning meetings. Call 439-4258 for more information.

Mothers' Time Together, group for mothers and their preschool children, meets first and third Wednesdays of month, Onesquethaw Reformed Church, 10 a.m.-noon.

Flower Show School, for gardeners, exhibitors and judges, William Rice Extension Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 8:15 a.m. Continues April 21 and 22. Information, 459-2085.

Family Walk, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 10 a.m.

Architecture Lecture, "A Look at Dutch Homesteads," by Shirley Dunn, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

Bethlehem Board of Appeals, public hearings, on application of Samaritan Shelters, Inc., of Glenmont, for premises at Beaver Dam Rd., Selkirk, 8 p.m.; on application of Terry A. Rupert of Latham, for premises at 64 Hudson Ave., Delmar, 8:15 p.m.; on application of Harry and Sheryl Allen for their premises at 672 Feura Bush Rd., Delmar, 8:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

Correction

An article in last week's *Spotlight* on a spill of liquid fertilizers misspelled the name of John Geurtze, Bethlehem's director of field operations in the Department of Public Works.

Delmar's Only Dinner Restaurant is located in Downtown Albany

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- Onion Soup with Mushroom Ravioli
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- Saucisson en Brioche with Mustard Sauce
- Crepe de Veau with Cog
- Pasta Primavera
- Spicy Chicken and Sweet Red Pepper on Fusilli
- Cajun Pork with Oyster Dressing and Gingersnap Gravy
- Grilled Tuna Steak on Arugula with Tomatoes and Balsamic Vinaigrette
- New York Strip Steak with Gorgonzola Sauce and Mixed Nuts
- Braised Duck with Glazed Shallots and Yams
- Poached Pears with Blueberry Cassis Sauce
- Normandy Apple Tart
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AREA EVENTS & OCCASIONS

Events in Nearby Areas

SATURDAY 16
APRIL

Scavenger Hunt, search for art work, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 2-4 p.m. Information, 473-7521.

WEDNESDAY 20
APRIL

WEDNESDAY 13
APRIL

Sex Education Program, "Talking to Your Kids About Sex," Community Health Plan Health Center, 1201 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Latham, 7-9 p.m. Continues through April 27. Information, 783-3110.

PMS Support Group, Woman's Health-Care Plus, 2093 Western Ave., Guilderland, 7-9 p.m. Information, 452-3455.

Capital District Women's Political Caucus, meeting with program on child abuse prevention by Stephanie Wacholder, Room 303 Draper Hall, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 463-1039.

Herb Lecture, by Master Gardener Cheri Hill, Delaware Branch of the Albany Public Library, 517 Delaware Ave., Albany, 6:30 p.m. Information, 765-3510.

Flower Program, "Flowers Bring a Room to Life," with Berry Ferguson, State Museum, Albany, 2 p.m. Information, 438-6975.

Poetry Reading, by Fran Lewis and Deborah Miller, Troy Public Library, 100 Second St., Troy, 7:30 p.m. Information, 273-0552.

Benefit Lasagna Dinner, for Save the Pine Bush, 85 Chestnut St., Albany, 6 p.m. Information, 434-1954.

Women's Press Club, seminar on using humor on the job, Century House, Latham, 7:45 a.m. Information, 438-7538.

Psychic Lecture, "Hypnosis: The Key to the Subconscious," with Ann Fisher, Tom Sawyer Motor Inn, 1444 Western Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 235-6253.

Slide Lecture, "The Black Female Experience in the Hudson Valley 1790-1820," Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 5:30 p.m. Information, 463-4478.

Concerned Friends of Hope House, support group for parents of substance abusers, 1500 Western Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 465-2441.

Children's Gardening Program, with stories and activities, Delaware Branch of the Albany Public Library, 517 Delaware Ave., Albany, 3:30 p.m. Information, 449-3380.

Third District Federated Garden Clubs, spring meeting, Holiday Inn, Kingston, 9 a.m. Information, 459-2085.

Political Lecture, "New York, Albany and Siena: A Perspective," Serra Hall, Siena College, Loudonville, 8 p.m. Information, 783-2431.

Decorating Workshop, "Do's and Don'ts of Proper Home Accessorizing," Turf Inn, Colonie, 7 p.m. Information, 439-2268.

American Red Cross, Sponsor Recognition Breakfast, Desmond Americana, Albany, 8 a.m. Information, 462-7461.

SUNDAY 17
APRIL

Albany District Pulpit Exchange, Rev. Arthur Hagy Jr. of First United Methodist Church, Delmar, will preach at Calvary-Pine Hills United Methodist Church in Albany.

State Park Lifeguard Testing, State University at Albany, 9 a.m. Information, 354-5545.

Films, "The Stone Carvers" and "Christmas at Washington Cathedral," Doane Stuart School, Rt. 9W, Albany, 2 p.m. Information, 797-3212.

Albany County Historical Association, lecture on Boscobel, by Frederick Stanyer, Ten Broeck Mansion, Albany, 2 p.m. Information, 436-9826.

Armenian Heritage Day, sponsored by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan, with music, art, and literature, State Museum, Albany, 1-4:30 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

CROP Walk for the Hungry, College of Saint Rose, 432 Western Ave., Albany, 1 p.m. Information, 371-7396.

MONDAY 18
APRIL

Family Theater, "The Bremen Town Musicians," presented by the Schenectady Children's Theater, State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

TUESDAY 19
APRIL

Political Lecture, "Civilian-Based Defense: Neither Pacifism Nor Just War," by Gene Sharp, Roger Bacon Hall, Siena College, Loudonville, 8 p.m. Information, 783-2431.

Film, "Willy McBean and His Magic Machine," State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

Compassionate Friends, self-help group for parents whose children have died, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 85 Chestnut St., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 438-7316.

Irish Perception Lecture, "Who Ever Heard of an Irish Jew?" by David Marcus, City Arts Office Cabaret Theater, 60 Orange St., Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 454-5102.

New York State Legislative Forum, address by David Axelrod, Albany Public Library Harmanus Bleecker Hall, Albany, 11 a.m. Information, 393-9003.

Breakfast Seminar, "Business and Education: A Partnership That Works?" Garden Terrace Restaurant, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 7:30-9 a.m. Information, 463-2661.

Ethics Forum, College of Saint Rose Campus Center, Albany, 4:30-6 p.m. Information, 454-5272.

Fibrositis Support Group, meeting with discussion, St. Peter's Hospital, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-3419.

Mime Show, with Harle Thomas, State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

Literature Lecture, by Toni Morrison, Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany, 8 p.m. Information, 449-3380.

Embroiderer's Guild of America, meeting, Delmar United Methodist Church, Delmar, 10 a.m. Information, 4395144.

"Salute to Guilderland", with comedian Steve Van Zandt, Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, 6:30 p.m. Information, 456-5717.

Poetry Reading and Workshop, with Page Dougherty Delano, Foy Campus Center, Siena College, Loudonville, 8 p.m. Information, 783-2431.

Public Hearing, on teaching profession recommendations, Chancellor's Hall, State Education Building, 3-6 p.m. Information, 474-1201.

Corrections

A notice in last week's *Spotlight* on the election of board seats for the Voorheesville Public Library misstated the area served by the library. The library serves the entire Voorheesville School District, and any qualified resident of the district is eligible to run for the board. Petitions were due April 8.

Also, an article in the same issue said incorrectly that the school board must approve all expenditures for the library; in fact, only expenditures relating to the new library building must be approved by the school board.

Nature program offered to youth

An evening program for organized scouting and youth groups will be held at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, on Friday, April 22, at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY 14
APRIL

Volunteer Training Workshop, Albany County Senior Housing Options, Martha S. Brown Urban Center, 10 a.m.-noon. Information, 765-3535.

Capital District Center for Independence, annual awards dinner, with speech by Jim Dickson, Albany Ramada Inn, 6:30 p.m. Information, 459-6422.

FRIDAY 15
APRIL

Chemanon, self-help group for adolescents using drugs and alcohol, meeting, 1500 Western Ave., Albany, 7-8 p.m. Information, 869-1172.

Capital District Mother's Center, drop-in morning, 405 Quail St., Albany, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Information, 482-4508.

Trumpet Recital, by Trever R. Famulare, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 454-5102.

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□ Hindsight on the storm

(From Page 1)

Hendrick's experience was not unusual. In its analysis of Niagara Mohawk's storm response, the state Public Utilities Commission said, "all but two of the smaller communities (surveyed) claimed that although the company had unlisted numbers, they still had trouble reaching the company."

The PSC made a number of recommendations, most of which Niagara Mohawk says it has already implemented. Bethlehem also learned some lessons, chief among them that the town had better learn more about how to fend for itself. Bethlehem's review of the town's response to the storm has four major conclusions, but nearly all of them get back to that one point: self-reliance.

The review committee headed by Councilman Fred Webster recommended that Bethlehem:

- Set up a civil defense director with an assistant. The previous director, Sid Kaplan, had resigned prior to the storm, saying there were no duties attached to the job. Hendrick said he asked Brennan, who he knew from their service together as Elsmere fire commissioners, to take the job because he had a new role in mind.

- Set up a formal program to call in town employees who volunteer to perform needed functions, such as the switchboard and food preparation, during an emergency. Special attention should be given to the role of Karen Pelletier, the town's senior citizens services coordinator, who was credited with organizing the effort to get aid to seniors during the October storm.

- Test fire and police radio systems weekly on backup power, and provide emergency power to the senior services office and the kitchen at town hall. The police lost communications during the October storm because the backup generator failed for a time, but a program to test the backup generator is already in place.

- Look for a site for an evacuation center to handle future emergencies.

Brennan, a 15-year member of the Elsmere Fire Department and currently a commissioner of the department, was appointed by Hendrick to fill the vacant civil defense position last January.

"I envision it as a coordinating type of role," Brennan said recently. He views the Emergency

Preparedness Plan as a first step, Brennan said; his job is to work with the volunteer fire and rescue services, the private companies that could be involved in a disaster, and also with the county and state governments. If a disaster does strike, he said, his role would be one of providing information, not directing the response.

"The storm was a learning process," said Brennan. "Admittedly, it's an expensive way to learn." What the town is trying to do now is prepare responses for various types of emergencies — "in a generic sense, because they're never going to happen the way you plan them."

Brennan said his role is to put the Emergency Preparedness Plan into effect, broaden it and make it more accessible to the many people who would use it.

The Town of Bethlehem Emergency Preparedness Plan is a half-inch thick loose leaf book that outlines procedures for dealing with various sorts of emergencies, details who is responsible for making decisions and contains contact numbers, response codes and information on hazardous materials. Much of

it builds on existing procedures worked out over the years by the Bethlehem Police and the volunteer fire and rescue companies.

One new wrinkle in the plan is the on-scene command post. The town is currently preparing its new van to assume that role. The van was a gift from General Electric Foundation through GE Plastics at Selkirk, and will be equipped with sophisticated communications gear as well as maps and manuals.

According to the plan, the supervisor is to appoint an "incident commander," or possibly co-commanders, who operates the command post and sets up a chain of command. The idea is to coordinate all of the agencies working at the scene, and have one central clearing house for information.

In the event of a large-scale emergency, such as a chemical fire, the incident commander would organize a large number of support services — rescue and evacuation, traffic control, a staging area for vehicles and personnel, a morgue and property security area, emergency medical services, personnel and environmental safety, radiological monitoring, and support such as food, fuel and medical supplies. Each function is outlined, with the appropriate subcommanders and duties.

There is even a "strategy board" for the supervisor or the incident commander to call on at the command center.

One type of disaster is getting a lot of attention — hazardous materials. Bethlehem is a transportation crossroads, with the Thruway and the Conrail Selkirk yards the two major avenues for the transport of hazardous waste. There are also several manufacturers in town that deal with hazardous materials, although Brennan stresses that all of them handle their materials responsibly and cautiously.

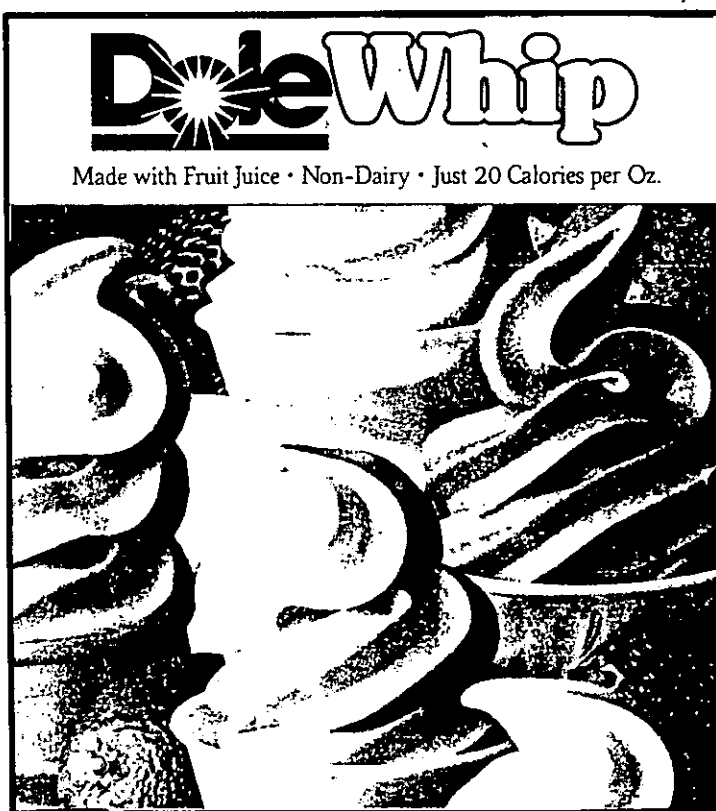
"But anything can happen," Brennan said. The Emergency Preparedness Plan includes lengthy sections on hazardous materials, including contact numbers, response procedures for police, fire and emergency personnel, and notification lists. What is not covered is evacuation planning, and Brennan said he is just beginning to look at that question.

One major complaint, not only in Bethlehem, during the Oct. 4 storm cleanup was the difficulty in getting governmental assistance. The state civil defense system is designed to work as a funnel, with requests from local government filtering up through the county civil defense office, and aid filtering back down through the county to the local governments. But the Albany County Civil Defense proved to be something of a bottleneck, according to local officials.

Brennan says he has met with Terry Ryan, the new director of the Albany County Civil Defense office, and also with the state Emergency Management Office. "I'm very optimistic as to the relationship between the state and county and the county and town," he said.

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Plywood taken from Curtis Lumber

Bethlehem police are investigating the theft of lumber last Sunday from Curtis Lumber on Grove St. Twenty five pieces of plywood worth \$500 were taken from the supply yard during the afternoon, police said. Police said several youths were seen in the area removing sheet goods.

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Snow days: only RCS gets stuck

A bill in the state Legislature that would allow Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Schools students to take a full week of spring vacation has been withdrawn.

Assemblyman John Faso (R-102nd) said he has withdrawn a bill he co-sponsored that would make school districts exempt from a 180-day school year because of last October's snow storm.

Assurances could not be received from the state Education Department to get their recommendation to the governor to sign the bill and because of the delay in passing a state budget, it was too close to the scheduled spring vacations, Faso said.

Locally, however, RCS would have been the only school district to benefit from the bill, Superintendent William Schwartz said the district is short one day of its school year, and therefore the spring vacation from April 18 to 22 will be cut short with students attending school on Monday, April 18.

Four snow days were built into the district's calendar, with two days used by October's storm and three more days on which schools were forced to close.

Schwartz said in the past few years RCS extended Memorial Day weekend if all snow days were not used.

At Bethlehem Central, a fifth snow day used by the district was made up on March 25, a day that was originally scheduled to be a Superintendent's Conference Day, and no days will have to be used during the spring vacation, said Superintendent Leslie Loomis. Four snow days were built into the school calendar.

"We're exactly even" as long as spring weather holds out and it doesn't snow, he said.

If additional days were needed, Friday, April 22, would have been the first day, then Thursday, April 21, until the snow days were made up.

Voorheesville Central students will also have their regularly scheduled spring vacation, said Superintendent Louise Gonan. The district lost only one day during October's storm, and two snow days were allotted in the calendar this year.

Grant

(From Page 1)

citizens.

Local churches and the Red Cross will provide temporary shelter for senior citizens during work to their home, and local service organizations will be solicited to contribute supplies, according to the application.

The town last year applied for funds under a similar program administered by the state Division of Housing and Community Renewal, but was turned down. Faso said he then introduced the program in the assembly as a member item.

The original application was part of the senior citizen housing committee's work and was written by Jane Bloom and Pelletier.

Golf rally planned

The Women's Organization of the Normanside Country Club will hold a dinner meeting and golf rally on Thursday, April 21, beginning at 6 p.m. For reservations call 439-5362.

Voorheesville budget

(From page 1)

• An increase of \$352,173 for regular school teaching, which is "mostly salary" for teachers, Gonan said. The increase also includes equipment for the music and technologies programs, she said.

• An increase of \$72,715 in hospital, medical and dental insurances that are the result of the district receiving notification from its carrier, Blue Cross, that there will be a 30 percent rate hike.

• An increase of \$54,819 for teacher retirement.

• An increase of \$40,398 for interest on the bond for the public library.

• Under plant operation, there is an increase of \$38,838 that includes continuing replacement of classroom desks, chairs, cafeteria tables and for locker repairs, Gonan said. It also includes \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the federally required asbestos management plan and testing, she said. It has to be in place by October.

• Under supervision, there is an increase of \$31,812 for administrators salaries and purchase of office computers.

• An increase of \$27,260 for business administrators budget, including salaries for the business staff, a computer for the treasurer, and an inservice program on computers, Gonan said.

The are also increases in the program for handicapped children, library and athletics categories.

Several areas in the proposed 1988-89 budget will decrease, including \$13,623 for all district insurance except transportation and \$12,641 in the health service category due to the reduction of a nurse-teacher position and the hiring of a full time nurse, Gonan said. There is also a decrease in the transportation category of \$54,170 due to the purchase of only one bus, a lower estimate on gas prices and the reduction of insurance premiums, Grasso said. A reduction in the contract transportation category of \$12,723 is also included.

On the revenue side of the budget, the district is expecting to receive \$2,942,502 through state aid, an increase of \$137,937 aid over last year.

The district's state aid figure is slightly lower than the figure Assemblyman John Faso (R-102nd) expects the Voorheesville to receive this year. According to Assembly figures released this week, the district could receive \$3,005,238 and Faso said they were rather definite. However, the state budget has not been approved so the figure is still preliminary.

Church serves chicken dinner

A chicken and biscuit dinner will be served at the Onesquethaw Reformed Church, Tarrytown Rd., Feura Bush, on Saturday, April 23, at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$6.75 for adults, \$1.50 for children 5 to 12 years and 50 cents for children under 5 years.

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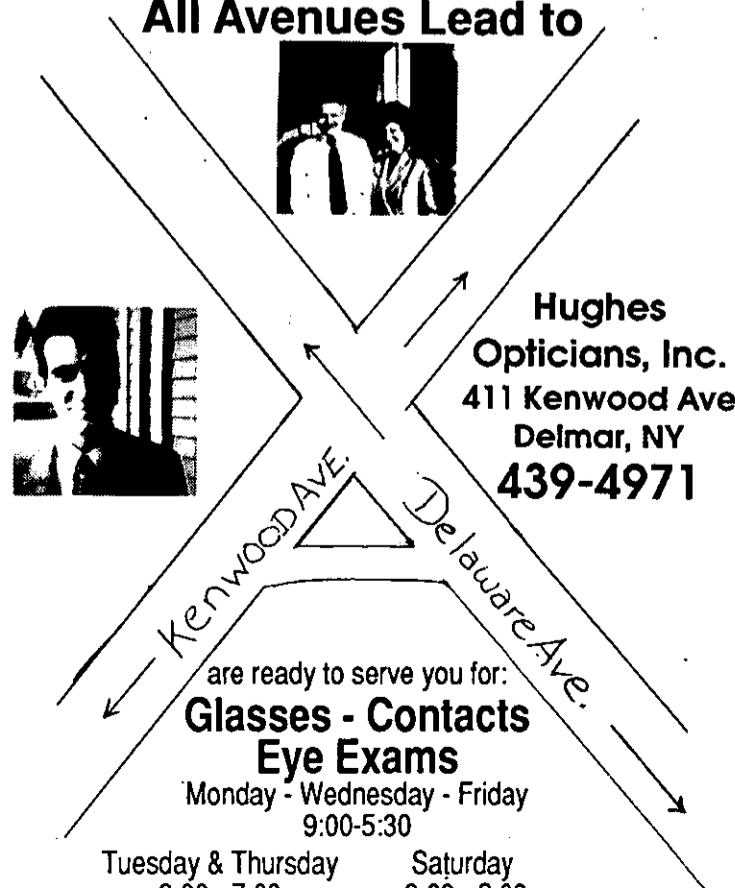
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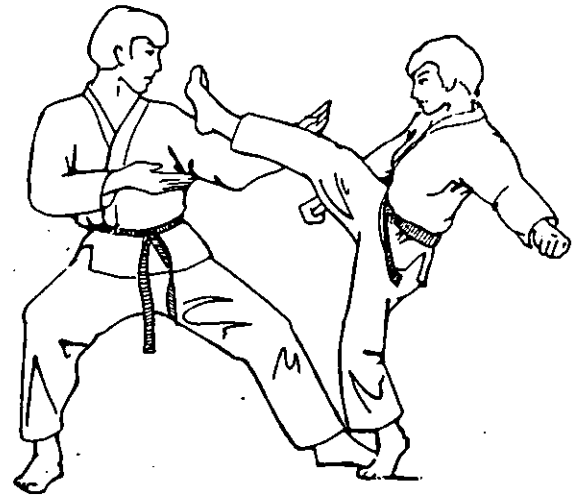
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Indian Hills receives approval

By Bill Cote

A 125-lot Slingerlands subdivision received conditional final approval from the Bethlehem Planning Board last week.

The single-family project known as Indian Hills lies between Krumkill and Russell roads and along the New York State Thruway. To be built in three phases, the project by Belmonte Builders dates back to February of 1986.

Town planning consultant Edward Klienke reviewed the project and provided an update for the board at last Tuesday's meeting. He outlined three concerns: quality of the interior roadway system, impact of the Thruway and soil conditions on the parcel. A negative State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) declaration was made in August of 1986, meaning

Bethlehem

that a full-scale impact analysis was not required.

The board reviewed and approved changes in alignment of the interior roadways. Previous plans suggested a slight offset in two opposite roadways that abut the same through street. The new plan shows them directly opposite each other.

Planners considered possible effects of the Thruway on the proposed development. The issue of traffic noise brought about discussion of berms or a noise barrier wall similar to the ones along the new Route 7 in Latham, but no action was taken on the issue.

Discussion also addressed a

ravine that cuts through the parcel and the board decided to require a soils analysis on the affected sections.

Soil tests have been planned for phase two and three of the proposal, according to Lindsay Boutelle, land surveyor and spokesman for the developer.

In other business, the planning board voted to make a significant procedural change in the way it handles site plan revisions after a plan receives board approval.

In preparation for discussion of a Westphal Drive three-lot resubdivision, board Chairman Ken Ringler asked board attorney John T. Mitchell for a legal opinion on the issue.

"The planning board retains jurisdiction and control of filed subdivisions at least to the extent that changes in lot lines must be the subject of the planning board subdivision regulations," Mitchell wrote. He supported the opinion with legal precedents. The board restated its right to call an additional public hearing if the proposed changes are deemed to be "substantial".

According to Building Inspector John Flanigan, the previous planning board attorney, Earl Jones, felt that if the project

density was not changed, the proposal would not have to come before the planning board. All plot plan revisions will now require a nod from the planning board in addition to approval from the building department.

The change in procedure was catalyzed by a request to change the plot plan for Vandenburg Gardens subdivision in Delmar. Flanigan told the board that although the applicant went ahead with construction before coming to the town for approval, there are no violations to the code.

In other action, the board:

- Approved a preliminary proposal for a Feura Bush Rd. subdivision. The land owned by Mrs. and Mr. William Morin is located at the McComb Drive intersection. Previous planning department concerns over the lot size and set back requirements were addressed at last month's hearing by the surveyor. He provided drawings of two possible "building envelopes," one for a structure fronting each roadway. A building envelope outlines an area of a plat in which town zoning ordinance will allow a building. The Albany County Planning Board requires that the driveway not open onto Feura Bush Rd.

Selling cars okayed

The Bethlehem Auto Laundry on Rt. 9W has been granted permission to display vehicles along the roadway and to build a new roof.

The Bethlehem Board of Appeals, meeting at the same time as the Bethlehem Planning Board's Rt. 9W corridor discussion last Wednesday, granted two special exceptions in separate votes for the Glenmont business.

Owner Dennis O'Shaughnessy received town approval to construct a peaked roof over a section of his car wash. O'Shaughnessy said that the new space will allow him a dry area to store supplies.

The board also granted O'Shaughnessy's request to display vehicles for sale along Rt. 9W, but limited the total number of display vehicles on the premises to 12 and placed constraints on their placement.

In other action, and independent trucking operator on Orchard St. was informally denied a variance request to continue business at his residence.

Owner-Operator Frank Markus applied last month to replace an existing wood framed garage with a metal one large enough to accommodate his dump trucks for routine maintenance work.

Neighbors spoke out against the request at the public hearing, citing early morning noise and diesel fumes. When it was found that Markus did not qualify as a non-conforming use under the zoning ordinance, they asked the board to decline his request to continue. The district is zoned A-residential.

The board voted Markus a 90-day grace period in order to find a new location for his business.

The board also:

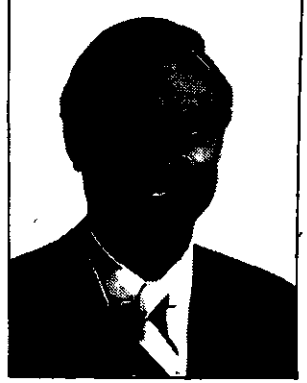
- Set an April 20 public hearing date for a Delmar variance request. James Berry of 4 McMillen Place has applied to construct a kitchen addition on

the rear of his home. The addition would push his lot occupancy over town limits. The hearing will begin at 8 p.m. *Bill Cote*

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Explore historic houses

Houses, like people, grow old. If they could talk they might tell interesting tales of their early years, no doubt in the popular style of the time. Perhaps they could discuss the building materials used and the alterations they have undergone in later years.

Michael F. Lynch, a licensed professional engineer specializing in historic preservation, will present "The Old House Detective," a lecture and program of slides, at the April 21 meeting of the Bethlehem Historical Association in the Schoolhouse Museum, Rt. 144 and Clapper Rd., Selkirk. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Lynch is a senior restoration coordinator with the New York State Office of Historic Preservation. He teaches courses at Union College and at the New York State Historical Association at Coopers-town.

Lynch resides in Troy with his family in a temple front greek revival house (circa 1847) that he restored.

Jazz sounds tonight

Jazz night will be presented by the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk

NEWS FROM Selkirk AND SOUTH BETHLEHEM

Cheryl Clary 767-2373



music department tonight (Wednesday). The first portion of the program will feature junior and senior high school musicians. The College of St. Rose Jazz Ensemble, directed by Paul Evoskevich, will entertain for the remainder of the evening. All are invited to the free concert.

Student musicians in concert

The elementary instrumental music programs at A.W. Becker and Pieter B. Coeymans elementary schools will welcome spring with a combined concert at RCS Senior High School on April 28, beginning at 7 p.m.

The program is possible because the RCS District has been able to offer instrumental music lessons to fourth as well as fifth grade students in each school for the first time in many years.

The aspiring musicians will perform familiar tunes in small groups and close with a big band

arrangement. Ruth Thompsen, the elementary music teacher, invites everyone to enjoy the "noteworthy" event.

Students join honor society

Five Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Senior High School students were inducted into the National Honor Society during a ceremony on April 6.

Led by honorary member Dr. Mohammad Yadegari, the new inductees participated in a candlelight procession symbolizing scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Students inducted into the National Honor Society were: Erich Hester, senior; Joseph Croscup, Nina DeCocco, Sandra VanDorn and Anthony Cary, sophomores; and Sobeysa Dinora Flores, exchange student (honorary member). Karen Sack, advisor, and her committee provided refreshments at a tea to honor the new inductees following the ceremony.

Registration deadline soon

April 15 is the deadline for filing applications for the 1988-89 after-school program. The applications, which were sent to all district residents with the most recent *Chalkboard*, must be returned to the address printed at the top of the form. Parents will be notified about acceptance in May.

Paper drive planned

A paper drive, sponsored by the young people of the South Bethlehem United Methodist Church, will be held on Saturday, April 23. If you live in the area of the church, please leave bundled papers in plain view on your property. If you wish to contribute papers but live outside the immediate area, call youth group leader Roberta Osborne to arrange pickup at 767-9953.

Lectures on gospels

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic



The Farm Family Insurance Companies' recent theater meeting at the Palace Theater in Albany resulted in more than just the group's production. Verne Kenney, Farm Family CEO, presents a new shimmering backdrop to Palace Theater Manager Joanne Keegan, a gift from the insurance group.

Church of Ravena will be sponsoring a six week session of lectures entitled, "Walking Through the Gospels." Led by Father Ronald Menty, pastor and accomplished homilist, the sessions will begin Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. and last until 9 p.m. at the church on Main Street in Ravena. The program is designed to help participants to better understand the Gospels. To receive further information on registration, contact Patricia O'Neill at 756-2764.

Student music festival

Congratulations to the 41 RCS students who represented the school at the Greene County Music Educators Spring All County Festival held at the

Greenville Jr.-Sr. High school last week. Elementary band and senior band and chorus members participated in the rehearsals and presented a combined concert on Friday, March 25.

Hadassah plans brunch

The Albany-Bethlehem chapter of Hadassah is planning for a buffet brunch on Sunday, April 17, from 9:45 to 11:30 a.m., at the Delmar home of Naomi Reiss.

The brunch will be catered by A Pleasant Surprise. The Temple Israel Dancers will perform. Reservations are \$10. The donor pledge is \$25 with a \$12.50 pledge for new members.

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Blue Circle completing EIS

By Sal Prividera

An environmental impact statement may be completed by May 1 on Blue Circle Atlantic Cement Co.'s proposal to burn waste solvents at its Rt. 9W plant.

The cement plant's proposal is at the draft environmental impact study stage, where the plant is addressing issues and concerns raised by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the community, said William Rowan of Blue Circle.

Representatives from the Blue Circle Atlantic Cement Co. and two firms assisting the company in its plan to burn waste solvents updated the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Board of Education on the status of the project at the board's meeting last Monday.

Under the proposal, waste solvents would become 35 percent of the plants fuel supply, replacing 100 tons of coal, Rowan said. The cement plant would not use more than that due to the need for coal ash in its cement product, Rowan said. Blue Circle Atlantic has received a \$450,000 major demonstration grant from the state Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSEDA) toward the project's cost if it is completed.

If the permitting process goes according to expectations, a public hearing on the proposal would be held in October and "the earliest we're even talking (about a) trial burn is 1989," said Dave Bradley of Hart Associates, the firm preparing the environmental statement.

In addition to providing a proposal update, the purpose of Monday's presentation was to allow the school board to address any concerns it has over the project.

Board liaison to Blue Circle, James Morgan, addressed several topics the board is concerned about including the safety of the school population, the refitting of

the storage tanks and transportation of the materials to be burned. The board also questioned the possibility of a transport truck having an accident near the junior and senior high schools that are located directly across Rt. 9W from the plant.

Since the schools are so close, the draft environmental impact statement will study "human health risk assessment and potential hazards to human health from a sudden problem or long term exposure," said Bradley. The effect of the plant burning solvent wastes on plants and animals will also be studied. "We can't say we know the effect that's why the study," he said.

The stacks will be monitored for emissions continuously during burning, Rowan said, calling the solvent "clean fuels." "There is no threat of raw solvents coming out of the stacks," he said.

"Every safeguard and health restriction" will be incorporated into the refitting of the storage tanks, Rowan said. The tanks will have a double bottom made of concrete, the joints will be sealed with a special epoxy impervious to the chemicals stored inside, and a vapor recovery system will be installed, he said. The refit of the tanks is expected to cost \$1.8 million.

Approximately 800,000 gallons of the solvents will be stored at the cement plant site, which will burn 100,000 gallons per day, Rowan said.

The waste solvents, which will include wastes from printing, ink, dry cleaner and turpentine manufacturers, will be brought in by truck when the burning process starts and eventually will be brought in by truck and rail, Rowan said.

"This product (the waste solvents) is not as dangerous as products we've transported before," Rowan said.

The handling of a transport

truck accident near the school would be controlled by county and state disaster plans, he said. Every truck would contain a manifest listing of its contents to tell response groups what the truck is carrying. The trucks are specially licensed and permitted by the Department of Transportation, Rowan said, adding the trucks would likely be required by DEC to be routed through areas with the least risk.

Town of Coeymans Fire Chief Tom Farrell, said that he was "not concerned" about the trucks, citing the strict standards set by

DWI charged following Rt. 9W incident

A 23-year-old Albany woman was arrested for driving while intoxicated early Saturday morning after being stopped for having inadequate headlights, Bethlehem police said. Police said she was observed driving south on Rt. 9W drifting in her lane. The DWI arrest was made after the officer detected the odor of alcohol and the woman failed a pre-screening test.

The woman was also charged for driving-while-ability-impaired (DWAI) and inadequate headlights. She was released on appearance tickets.

Bad luck on Rt. 396

A Selkirk man was treated and released from Albany Medical Center for injuries he received in a one-car accident Saturday on Rt. 396. Bethlehem police said the driver, Robert O'Toole, 24, struck a tree after swerving to avoid two cats that ran into the road.

the state Department of Transportation and the fact the contents are identified. He said "the potential is there" for an accident, but he was more concerned about smaller transports, such as delivery companies or individuals, that are not marked and could carry potentially dangerous substances including batteries, gasoline or propane.

Rowan said meetings were also held with local fire officials to discuss their concerns and Blue Circle is developing an in house contingency program, which would integrate local response groups.

Stopped for speeding

Bethlehem police arrested a 46-year-old Glenmont man for driving while intoxicated early Sunday morning after stopping the man for speeding. Police said the man was stopped at the intersection of Kenwood Ave. and Adams St. in Delmar and was arrested after failing a pre-screening test for intoxication. He was released and given an April 19 court date.



William L. Woosley

Farm Family director

William L. Woosley has been promoted to director of life and health services at the Farm Family Life Insurance Company in Glenmont.

He previously held the position of pension/development manager and worked for several other insurance companies. He has attended the Fort Wayne Bible College and is presently taking courses through the American College to become a chartered life underwriter and a chartered financial consultant.

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Voorheesville News Notes

Lyn Stapf 765-2451



Bar-B-Q to benefit the many community sponsored events coordinated by the men's local service club. Lyn Stapf

Garden club program
The Helderview Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 14 at 7 p.m. in the social hall of the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville.

Following a business meeting, a program on "Annual Flowers for the Cutting Garden" will be presented by Audrey Hawkins, master gardener and member of the Fort Orange Garden Club.

Because of a change in programming, Eileen Oldham, originally scheduled for this month, will now be the May speaker.

The community is reminded that the club's annual plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 7, just in time for Mother's Day.

Junior carnival date change
The annual Junior Carnival, originally scheduled for April 9 at the grade school has been changed to Saturday, May 14, due to a conflict in scheduling with musical competition. Everyone is invited on that day for plenty of food and fun.

Car wash, bake sale date
May 14 is the scheduled day for the annual Girl Scout Car Wash and Bake Sale to be held in the Grand Union Parking lot. Accord-

ing to Senior Scout Nancy Timmis who is coordinating the event, the cost of the car wash will be \$2.50 for cars and \$3 for vans or trucks. Since this is a neighborhood fund raiser all troops are expected to participate. Troop leaders are asked to call Nancy at 765-2421 to schedule working times.

Scout coordinators wanted
Beth Timmis, former neighborhood chairman, also reminds everyone that there are still several openings available on the scouts' steering committee. Needed is a neighborhood chairman or co-chairmen, calendar drive chairman, and a neighborhood cookie chairman. According to Timmis, if people are not found to help coordinate these programs girl scouting in Voorheesville will lose many important services.

Anyone interested in these volunteer positions may contact Timmis at 765-2421. Men or women are welcome to apply and need not be presently involved in scouting. No experience is necessary for any of the positions.

Label drive successful
The Labels for Education Project coordinated at the Voorheesville Elementary School by Anne Lennox and Diane Wozniak was a "souper" success this year.

What's the San Diego chicken doing so far from home? He was creating a stir around Voorheesville last weekend, inviting the public to the annual Kiwanis Spring Chicken

According to the two, more than 15,000 labels and 3,000 bonus points were collected, earning the school physical education equipment, video cassettes and computer software. They extend their thanks to all those who donated and ask everyone to keep saving the labels for next year's drive

Volunteers for screening
Elementary School Nurse, Michele Corrado, is still in need of volunteers to assist with the upcoming pre-kindergarten screening to be held on April 26 through 28. Any volunteers wishing to assist with vision and hearing testing should contact her at the grade school, 765-2382.

Religion class ceremonies
Religious Education classes for elementary level students will end this afternoon, April 13, at St. Matthew's Church in Voorheesville. Second grade students will receive their First Communion on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, May 1. Sunday pre-school classes will end on Mother's Day with a graduation ceremony.

Developers' dispute delays water district

By Patricia Mitchell
A proposal to extend the Swift Rd. water district for one developer has been delayed while the town sees if it has to formally notify another developer who was originally included with the extension.

The New Scotland Town Board will decide on the extension at a special meeting Wednesday (today) at 8 p.m.

Swift Rd., Inc., is seeking to extend the water district to its seven-lot subdivision north of the town park, and a public hearing was held on the proposal at Wednesday's town board meeting.

This is the second extension Swift Rd., Inc., has asked for. The company and Donna Baltis, who is proposing another subdivision also to the north of the park, asked for and received town approval to extend the water district to their developments last

year. However, the Baltis proposal is still awaiting Albany County Health Department approval so no agreement was ever signed between the two developers.

Thomas Coyle of Breen-Coyle, the developers behind Swift Rd., Inc., said he understands since there is no formal agreement between the developers there is no water district extension. Coyle said his project is ready to start construction and has lost thousands of dollars waiting for the Baltis proposal. While Breen-Coyle was willing as late as November, 1987, to go forward with the joint venture, he said, Peter Baltis, husband of Donna Baltis, never signed their agreement and therefore Coyle no longer accepts it.

Breen-Coyle came into New Scotland willing to do a good job, said Coyle's partner, James Breen, but their project has been held up long enough waiting for the water district.

"We are not going to do business with them," Breen said of the Baltises. He urged the board to act on the new district.

But the Baltises' attorney, Eugene Sneeringer, told the board: "We are ready to sign that agreement."

The two developers agreed by a handshake to extend the Swift Rd. water district, but the Baltises need approval from the planning board for their project to sign the contract and contribute half of the cost to upgrade the pumping station, Sneeringer said. Even so, he said, the developers are already connected because they already have approval to extend the water district.

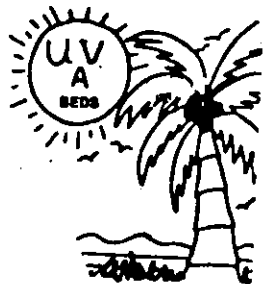
Sneeringer said he is not sure the town has the jurisdiction to approve the new water district extension. The town has not served any papers about the proposal on Donna Baltis, and it should consider how it will affect her rights for her water district extension, Sneeringer said. If the extension is not constructed jointly, he said, it is possible that it would cause substantial expense to Donna Baltis.

Town Supervisor Herbert Reilly said after the meeting a proposal is still being considered by the Voorheesville Village Board that would divert the water district extension funds to complete a village water main loop through the town park if the village agrees to supply water to the Swift Rd., Inc., project.

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INDIAN LADDER FARMS

Will the town settle Larned mine case?

By Patricia Mitchell

New Scotland officials may decide Wednesday whether to continue negotiations to settle a lawsuit with the operators of a local gravel mine or to let the lawsuit run its course.

The town board will meet at 8 p.m. Wednesday (today) for the special meeting.

The town has apparently been negotiating since a January meeting with miners, developers and local neighborhood organizations interested in the future of the Tall Timbers Country Club to settle the lawsuit with the miners. A portion of the country club site between Hilton Rd. and Rt. 155 was mined briefly last summer until litigation halted work.

Town Attorney Fred Riester said at Wednesday's town board meeting negotiations with miners William M. Larned and Sons, operators of the 27-acre gravel mine, were apparently at an impasse. The miners were unwilling to go back to the planning board to ask for a special use permit to mine in the area if the lawsuit in state Supreme Court is settled, and instead want

New Scotland

permission from the town board. The town board does not have authority to grant special use permits, Riester said, so he was going to ask the town board's permission to continue the lawsuit.

Instead, he asked the town board Wednesday to delay its decision until the special meeting to look into the possibility of continuing negotiations.

Wayne Smith, attorney for Larned and Sons, said after the meeting the miners are not demanding that the town board issue a special use permit to mine. His clients recognize only the planning board can do that, but they are concerned that they could settle with the town and the planning board could do something different. He questioned what control the town board will have over the planning board in the matter.

Negotiations with the town are continuing, Smith said, but the

miners are also pushing the case in state Supreme Court.

New Scotland's zoning ordinance prohibiting mining on the country club land was upheld in a ruling earlier this year from the Appellate Division but the dispute was sent back to state Supreme Court for a trial on the case's facts.

New Scotland amended its zoning ordinance in 1984 to allow mining in Low Density Residential and Industrial zones, where the mine is located, and Larned and Sons applied for a special use permit in April, 1985. In September, 1986, the town board rescinded the special use of mining in the zones, although town officials told Larned and Sons at the time that the action would not affect their application. In December, 1986, the planning board denied the request, declaring mining was an illegal use of the land based on the town board's earlier actions. The miners sued.

Riester also recommended at Wednesday's meeting that if the town does go ahead with the trial the town should obtain outside counsel to represent it. Consequently, he said, he has asked

the court to delay depositions that were scheduled for Thursday. Riester said he made his recommendation because he was town attorney during the time that will be on trial and because his work as town attorney has grown in the last few months.

Riester also asked at a state Supreme Court special term on April 1 that the court case be referred to Judge William McDermott, who had ruled in favor of the miners in an earlier action.

At Wednesday's meeting, James Eberhardt, a member of Concerned Citizens for New Scotland, Inc., an organization working against the mine, said his group has asked for a special attorney to handle the case on a number of occasions. It is discouraging to have a game plan ready and now find a distraction, he said.

The possibility of a settlement with Larned and Sons has drawn concern from some local groups. Robert Morrison, chairman of Concerned Citizens, said his organization is very disturbed that the town is apparently going ahead with negotiations, even though the group is an intervenor in the lawsuit. He said the town

cannot legally settle without them. He also said Concerned Citizens were told it would be informed or involved in any negotiations.

Morrison also charged that Riester is pressing to settle the lawsuit and maneuvering to prevent former town officials from testifying. He offered no specifics. He urged the town board to accept Riester's resignation from the case and appoint another attorney.

Dr. Lyon Greenberg, president of the Krumkill, Normanskill, Font Grove, Hilton and Wormer Roads Homeowners Association, said there cannot be a compromise on the mine because some state officials have concerns about the effect of the mine on a potential water source and existing wells. Greenberg pointed to a state Health Department letter to Reilly on March 11 that said there is a potential conflict between the mine and a potential groundwater supply, and a state Department of Environmental Conservation letter to Reilly that said a geologist has a serious concern about the mine and the area's water supply.

Trespass charged near Stonewell

A 21-year-old Schenectady man was arrested on two misdemeanor charges Sunday morning near the Stonewell Plaza on Rt. 85, Albany County sheriff's deputies said.

The man was charged with criminal trespass and endangering the welfare of a child after deputies received a report on suspicious persons in the area, deputies said. The man and a 15-year-old boy allegedly trespassed in the old barn located near the Stonewell Plaza, deputies said.

Man found with weapon at Tall Timbers site

Albany County sheriff's deputies arrested a Long Island man for criminal possession of a weapon Friday.

The arrest was made after deputies responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at the Tall Timbers Country Club in New Scotland. A billy club was discovered under the front seat of the man's vehicle, deputies said. He was released on an appearance ticket with an April 14 court date.



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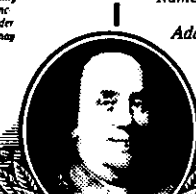
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Students learn to play game

Seventy boys and girls representing the five elementary schools in the Bethlehem School District participated in an 11 week basketball season in January, February, and March. Sponsored by the PTA's from the elementary schools, the instructional league consisted of six teams that practiced for approximately two hours each week and then played weekly games at the Hamagrael Schoolgymnasium on Wednesday evenings. Scores and team standings were not kept but individual skills, team play, and basketball rules were emphasized with each team member receiving equal playing time in games. Over 330 hours of volunteer time were contributed by 14 parents who served as coaches and referees.

The Celtics, coached by Bruce Svare and Peter Myer, consisted of John Svare, Chris Myer, Peter Powell, Milissa Trent, David LaValle, Brendan Noonan, Kevin Rice, Kelly Dobbert, Tim Cassidy, Erik Gill, and Scott Geis.

The Lakers, coached by Mort Borzykowski and Tom Birdsey, included Ross Borzykowski, Tom Birdsey, Matt Padula, Erik Bartoletti, David Berger, Jason Gudewicz, Mike D'Alao, Greg Hopke, Greg Redding, Cathy Witbeck, and Reva Rotenberg.

Gerry Thorpe and Bill Heim coached the Pistons which included Keith Arlington, Joseph Castiglione, Kelley Farrell, Jason Heim, Adam Holligan, Gabe Koroluk, Nathan Kosoc, Kelly Moore, Willie Sanchez-Silverman, and Aaron Thorpe.

The Jazz were coached by Paul Wing, Gregg Sagendorph, and Jim

Boyle and included Jared Beck, Jimmy Boyle, Ian Costello, Stephen Demerest, Jeffrey Dievendorf, Michael Esmond, Beth Mahony, Ian Nixon, Nikki Royne, Cory Sagendorph, Mike Soronen, and Matt Wing.

The Sixers, coached by Warren Winterhoff and Dan Ryan, included Sara Battles, Dan Aycock, Matt Winterhoff, Greg Sack, Chris Seavy, Andrew Kinney, John Frattura, Ann Marie Lauder, Bianca Hinds, Dan Ryan, Greg Kozma, Molly Shultes, and Jenny Piorkowski.

The Bucks were coached by Mary Lussier, Leo Grady, and John Dorfman and included Nathaniel Dorfman, Terry Dwyer, Ryan Gill, Leo Grady, Jason Gutman, David Lussier, Seamus McCarthy, Devin McRae, Michael Moon, Keith Timmerman, Kyle Van Riper, Paul Shogan, and Tony VonRonne.

Timekeepers for the Wednesday night games were Josh Myer, Mark Svare, and Kevin Russell.

Road races scheduled

The Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club is organizing one-, three- and six-mile runs for people of all ages and abilities on Sunday, April 24. The races will start at 10:30 a.m. in front of the State University at Albany physical education building.

Registration for \$1 and \$2 will be held at 9:30 a.m.

For information about this race and upcoming races call Sue Engle at 274-6851.



Bethlehem fifth graders from all five elementary schools participated in a special 11-week basketball season sponsored by the school PTAs.

Varsity batters start with win

By John Bellizzi

The warm weather that finally arrived last week was a much-needed respite from a hostile winter season and one of the many harbingers of a good spring. Another positive omen last week came with the opening of the baseball season. Bethlehem Central, last year's Gold Division Baseball Champions, began their schedule with a 21-4 non-league rout of Cocksackie-Athen last Wednesday.

Bill McFerran, a senior who proved his batting talents as a member of last year's championship varsity squad, led BC's offense against Cocksackie with 5 hits.

Bethlehem

McFerran batted in nine runs with two triples, a double and two singles. Chris Pratt, of last year's 17-1 Suburban Council Champion JV baseball team, hit three doubles and one single. Three Eagle runs came in on Pratt's hits.

Offensively, the team totaled 19 hits to Cocksackie-Athens' 7. Jon Skilbeck started on the mound and was relieved by Pat Doody.

The varsity Eagles, coached by Ken Hodge finished on the top of the division last year with an overall 18-6 record. BC ended the regular season 16-5, with a league record of 11-4.

John Furey is returning as JV baseball coach, following a 17-1 finish last year, the best JV record in the league. Another championship team was coached by Jesse Braverman at the freshman level last year, who is aiming for a third consecutive Gold Division title at the frosh level this year. Last year's freshman baseball team finished 11-3.

BC girls win one

By Sarah Scott

Success has come once again to the Bethlehem softball team. In an exciting game last week, the team pulled ahead to beat Catholic Central 15-8. Cheryl Lovelace, the starting pitcher was fairly consistent. She did, however, have one shaky inning, and was relieved by Kim Dale. Dale finished the game strongly. She gave up only one walk and pitched two strike outs. Two players stood out in this game for their defensive playing. Erica Roos, the second baseman, played an exceptional game. Michelle Lorette, the right fielder, played what Coach Kelly Keller deemed "the best playing seen in three years from Michelle. She is much more confident and enthusiastic."

BC was behind 7-1 in the third inning, but was able to come back to score eight runs in the fourth inning. Julie Francis really started the ball rolling when she hit a grand slam homerun. She hit a hard line drive between the third baseman and the line. Amy Koski and Lorette both had singles.

The game against Ravena was cancelled due to the wet conditions of the field. Last Friday's league game against Scotia was also cancelled and will be re-scheduled.

This week, Bethlehem will play Guilderland away on Monday and Shenendehowa home on Tuesday. Kim Dale will be the starting pitcher against Guilderland. Tuesday's game will be played at the Middle School. The high school fields are being looked at by contractors who will "skin" the diamonds. They should be ready by vacation. The team looks strong and hopes to come out of these games with two wins.

Boating safety course offered

A two-part boat safety course will be offered at the Bethlehem Town Hall on April 23 and 30. For information call 439-4955.

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By TenEyck Powell
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BC looks strong, wins first matches

by Lisa D'Ambrosi

The Bethlehem boys varsity tennis team opened its season with a bang last week as they crushed Burnt Hills for their first match on Monday, and slaughtered Saratoga on Wednesday.

Returning singles players this year are Eric Lee who is seeded in the number-one position. Neil Breslin who is the second seed, Brian Saelens who is seeded third and Sam Ernst who is fourth. B.C.'s top doubles team is composed of Mark Woodruff and Jeff Ellenbogen.

Coach Suzanne Schaefer says she is equipped with an "excellent", well-blended team this year, and is looking to draw strength from singles and to develop depth in doubles. Coach Schaefer states that she has many new players coming up and will be doing a lot of juggling of positions to find the

Tennis

best possible chemistry for doubles combinations. She said she is pleased to be faced with "fresh new players" who are acclimating well to their new varsity positions.

Coach Schaefer, the only coach in more than ten years who has returned for a second season, is looking forward to this year's competition.

Bethlehem emerged the victor in the match against Burnt Hills with a final score of 9-0. The varsity Eagles dominated their match against Saratoga, again with a score of 9-0.

Brian Saelens, who has just moved up from fifth position in singles last years to a current

Spotlight SPORTS

third seat, is, according to Coach Schaefer, filling his higher position very well and is "only going to get better." First seed, Eric Lee "barring injury" will probably dominate all his opponents this season with the exception of one opponent, Coach Schaefer said. The one opponent is Travis Boyd from Columbia.

The focus for the team now is to concentrate solely on the present by maintaining close matches and consistency in their game. The hope is not to make the mistake of peaking too soon in the season as they did last year, especially against harsher competition such as Guilderland, Columbia, and Shaker.

The Eagles will meet Shaker on Monday, Mohanasen on Wednesday, and Nyskay,una on Friday. All three matches will take place at Bethlehem.

Obituaries

Diana Campbell

Diana Marie Campbell, 80, of Delmar died April 5 at her home. A resident of the Delmar area for more than 31 years, she was the wife of the late Leo Roy and of the late Arthur A. Campbell.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Theresa Roy Schroeder of Colonie and Mrs. Joan T. Capone of Delmar; a son, Leo R. Roy of Colonie; a sister, Mrs. Odelia Naylor of Rochester, New Hampshire; four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Burial was in the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Delmar. Contributions in Mrs. Campbell's memory may be made to the Memorial Fund of Bethlehem.

Andrew Ditton

Andrew M. Ditton, 69, of Delmar died March 28 in Jacksonville, Fla., after a short illness.

He was born in Moravia, N.Y., and was a long-time Delmar resident.

He was retired from his position as a principal landscape engineer for the state Department of Transportation.

He was a member of the Slingerlands Community Methodist Church, Slingerlands

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ahles Ditton; a son, Andrew M. Ditton of Evanston, Ill.; a daughter, Melissa Rodden of Front Royal, Va.; three step-sons, Richard Bates of Newfoundland, Calif., Robert Bates of Baldwinville, N.Y., and Russell Bates of Valatie; and two grandchildren.

Burial was in the Prospect Hill Cemetery, Guilderland. Arrangements were made by the Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Slingerlands Community Church Memorial Fund.

Raymond Knapp

Raymond Knapp, 83, of Delmar, a retired mason, died Monday, April 4, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany after a long illness.

He was born in Normansville and was a long-time Delmar resident. He was a mason for the Sano-Rubin Construction Co. of Albany.

He was a member of the Bricklayers Union Local 6, a lifetime member of the Albany Spaniel Field Club, and a 50-year Gold Card Member of the Bricklayers Union Local 6. He was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Albany.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy West Knapp, a daughter, Sandra Wilkes of Defreestville; and three grandchildren.

Burial was in Memory's Garden, Colonie. Arrangements were made by the Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the American Lung Association or St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Selia Naum

Selia A. Naum, 98, of Slingerlands died Sunday, April 10, in Albany Memorial Hospital after a brief illness.

She was born in Russia and was an area resident since 1912. She was one of the founders and past president of the Senior Hadassah in Albany.

She was a member of the

League of Woman Voters, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Daughters of Sarah Nursing Home, and the Hebrew Farmers Cemetery Association of Rensselaer.

She is survived by a son, Lionel Shum of Albany; a daughter, Mildred Katz of Philadelphia, Pa.; and four grandchildren.

Burial was in the Farmers Cemetery, Guilderland. Arrangements were made by the Levine Memorial Chapel, Albany.

Contributions may be made to a charity of choice.

Lyle VanDyke

Lyle S. VanDyke, 85, of Feura Bush, a retired Callanan employee, died Thursday, April 7, at Albany County Nursing Home after a long illness.

He was born in Cooksburg, N.Y., and was a Feura Bush resident for more than 50 years. He was the husband of the late Anna M. Wright VanDyke.

He was a shipping clerk of the Callanan Road Improvement Co. in South Bethlehem for 37 years, retiring in 1968.

He is survived by a son, Lyle S. VanDyke Jr., and several nieces and nephews.

Burial was in Jerusalem Cemetery, Feura Bush. Arrangements were made by the Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Jerusalem Reformed Church.

Quartet to perform at Bethlehem Library

The Bones on Demand trombone quartet will perform at the Bethlehem Public Library on Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m.

The concert will be the first in a week-long series of events at the library honoring National Library Week, April 17 to 23. The brass ensemble's appearance is sponsored with assistance from the Albany Musicians Association Local 14.

Bones on Demand's repertoire spans five centuries of music, from classical to contemporary, including jazz and popular arrangements. The group is led by Thomas Kamp of Altamont and has performed widely in the Capital District since forming in 1985. They have performed classical music for churches as well as playing at Albany's first First Night Celebration, the Eagle Mills Art Festival, and the Empire State Plaza's "Showplace of Classical Music."

The concert is free and open to the public. For information call the library at 439-9314.

Man wanted by FBI arrested in Bethlehem

Bethlehem police arrested a Schenectady man wanted by the Albany office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for bank fraud last week after the man was stopped in a road check.

Pedro Leon Gomez, 36, was arrested after he was stopped in a road check for having four unrestrained children in the back seat of his car, police said. A computer check showed that his license had been revoked and an active warrant for his arrest on bank fraud charges, police said. The man was turned over to local FBI special agents, police said.

In Albany The Spotlight is sold at
Durlacher's Delicatessen.

Birds hope for a repeat

By Darrin G. Duncan

The 1988 tennis season has started and Voorheesville expects to have another fine season. The team has depth and nine returning players.

Presently the top five positions are (1) Chris Stevens, (2) Dave Mistretta, (3) Dave Larabee, (4) Tom Kurkjian, and (5) Ken Andriano. Steve Smith (7), John Corcoran (9), Mat Hladun (10), and Dave Lancor (11) are returning veterans. Senior rookie Matt Bates (6) and John Meacham (8) add to the squad. Meacham has returned to play tennis after two years of playing baseball. "He was the former number 2 and is capable of being in the top five,"

commented Coach Tom Kurkjian. The team also consists of four Junior-High players. There are Kevin Relyea, John Wilson, Aaron Luczak, and Brian Goldstein.

The Netmen opened up with a league match against Watervliet. Voorheesville blanked the Cannoneers 7-0. In singles matches, Stevens was victorious 6-1, 6-2, and Mistretta won 6-2, 6-0. Larabee, Kurkjian, and Andriano breezed through their matches, all winning 6-0, 6-0. The doubles team of Meacham-Corcoran won 8-4, and Hladun-Lancor defeated their opponents 8-5.

The Blackbirds hope to be the Colonial Council champions. They will have to overcome last

year's second place finish to champions Albany Academy. Academy is the team to beat, but they have lost a number of players, which could hurt them.

Last year, the Birds were upset in the Class C semifinals of Sectionals. They were greatly affected by the illness of Larabee and Andriano, which forced Smith to play out of position. This year's powerful team, however, should boost them into the finals. "They have the capability of being one of the strongest teams in Voorheesville," Coach Kurkjian stated.

Ravena will be their next target, and they face Cobleskill away on Thursday.

RCS track opens in Bennington

By Curt VanDezee

The RCS Track Team opened its season this past Saturday by traveling to Bennington, Vt. to compete in the Mount Anthony Invitational. The invitational included some of the best high school and prep school teams from New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New Jersey.

Considering the miserable weather conditions, very cold and damp, and the tough competition, Coach Jim Gorham was very pleased with his team's effort. After the long grueling day, the team came away with three 2nds and three 3rds.

The Indians were led by Tim Baranska who took 2nd in the High Hurdles, with a time of 15.2 seconds, and 3rd in the intermediate hurdles. Mike Frazetta took 2nd in the High Jump with a jump of 5'10". Scott Hughes took 2nd, with an outstanding performance, in the 800 with a time of 2 minutes 2 seconds. What made his performance so outstanding was the fact that he just barely lost to a 19 year old prep star, who will be attending Temple University on a full scholarship next year. Another track member who turned in a

good performance was Arthur Burnette who took a surprising 3rd in the 100 yard dash. The 4x100 relay which consists of Bob Misuroca, Adam Sutton, Ed Kuhn, and Arthur Burnette, also took 3rd.

All in all, Coach Gorham feels that Saturday's Invitational was a good experience and will be a big

Baseball league registration opens

The Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department will conduct registration for its summer baseball league on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. until noon, at the Elm Avenue Park office, Delmar. Registration is open to players 16 years and older who are residents of the Town of Bethlehem or the Bethlehem Central School District. Players who are 16 or 17 years must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. For information call 439-4131.

In Delmar The Spotlight is sold at Elm Ave. Sunoco, Handy Andy, Tri Village Drugs, Stewarts and Tool's

help to his team in the upcoming meets. The Indians open their league dual meet season this Tuesday by placing their 19 meet winning streak on the line against Voorheesville. The Girls Track Team also starts their season this week. They open up Monday, at home, against Greenville and they will face Voorheesville on Thursday also at home.

STAR BOWLERS

Bowling honors for the week of March 27, 1988 at Del Lanes in Elmsmere go to:

Sr. Cit. Men—Rudy Ochs-246-641.

Sr. Cit. Women—Doris Aupperle-201. Helen Flagler-475. Terri Price-475.

Men—Rob Smith-257. Ike Hill-673. (4 Game Series) Larry Boomhower-846.

Women—Barb Ferraino-223-557. Shirley Dearnsteyne-223.

Major Boys—Chris Siciliano-202-539. Dom Campione-187.

Major Girls—Michelle Ortiz-185-520. Christy Shultes-180.

Jr. Boys—Bob Smith-200-524. Jr. Girls—Traci Layman-222-508.

Prep Boys—Al Crewell-194.

Prep Girls—Melanie Dale-185-455.

Bantam Boys—Jeff White-house-135-335.

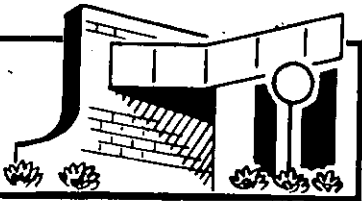
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For most of us the February school vacation might be a dim memory by this time. Perhaps it is only the stray wad of bubble gum under the couch or the almost imperceptible flinch a mother might experience to the words "snowball fight" which still serve as reminders that the kids were home (counting a snow day) for 10 days in a row.

But before you get too used to a normal life once again, be assured that another school vacation is already looming on the horizon. On April 18 it will start all over again.

Nobody knows about the extra stress and strain of school vacations better than the Children's Room staff at the Bethlehem Public Library. But our experience has served us well and we have just undertaken a new campaign in the war against "what to do when there's nothing to do." During the February school break, as well as offering a tantalizing selection of afternoon movies to entertain your child, we began a series of morning workshops to motivate and teach as well.

In a two session sign language workshop, Robin Coplin taught the basics of sign language and the manual alphabet to fourth and fifth graders. Donna Crisafulli gave first, second and third graders an opportunity to study first hand a fine collection of Indian arrowheads, fossils and artifacts from the nearby Helderbergs.

During the April vacation, the

Children's Room will sponsor more "hands on" programs for school-aged youngsters. Five Rivers volunteer Susan Benke will present a bird identification workshop for kindergartners and first-graders on April 18. "Spring is for the Birds" will feature bird song bingo and making a nesting wreath. On April 19, fourth and fifth graders will have the opportunity to learn the oriental art of paper folding from Children's Room staff member Stephanie Pouliott at an Origami Workshop. And on April 21 science teacher Jean Cappiello will be featured in a hands-on "Bubble Making" program for third and fourth graders.

Registration is necessarily limited because of the workshop nature of these programs. To insure that a child will be accommodated it is best to register as soon as programs are announced in the library's newsletter.

But what will the kids do over next Christmas vacation, or next February or April? There's no limit to how far in advance we begin to plan workshops. If you have an interest or a collection you would like to share with a small group of children in an atmosphere of participation and fun, please call Iris Bartkowski or Irene Rosenthal at the Children's Room desk. There are surely many of you with a lot to offer this new library undertaking. What we have to offer you are some of the best, most appreciative audiences around — your own children.

Irene Rosenthal

Retired teachers to meet at library

The Albany Area Retired Teachers Association will hold a meeting at the Bethlehem Public Library on Thursday, April 14, at 12:30 p.m.

Michael Rosher, a certified financial planner, will speak about protecting financial assets against catastrophic illness.

The group is planning a New York City bus trip for Wednesday, April 27. For information call 439-3339.

Home decorating program offered

A program about home decorating will be held at the Turf Inn, Colonie, on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. The free program is being sponsored by TransDesigns Custom Decorators. For reservations call 439-4109 or 439-2268.



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Cynthia Martin and David La Grange

Martin-La Grange

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin of Delmar have announced the engagement of their daughter, Cynthia Lynne, to David Michael La Grange, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin La Grange of Feura Bush.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School

and is employed by Farm Family Insurance Company. Her fiance also is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and is employed by La Grange Brothers of Feura Bush.

A July 30 wedding is planned.

55 Alive course registration open

April registration is now open for the defensive driving course sponsored by the Tri-Village Chapter 1598 of the American Association of Retired Persons.

The course will be held on Thursday and Friday, April 28 and 29, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Bethlehem Library, Delmar.

The course is open to anyone 50 years or older. Those completing the course will be entitled to a 10 percent discount on the automotive liability and collision insurance.

Early registration is encouraged due to limited class size. To register, contact John Pellettier at 439-3913 for an application and early assignment to the program.

Five Rivers sets spring programs

Two spring programs will be held at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, on Saturday, April 23.

"Attracting Wildlife through Plantings" will begin at 10 a.m.

Center naturalists will lead a group in searching for signs of spring at 2 p.m.

Both of the 90-minute, free programs are open to the public. For information call 453-1806.

SENIOR CITIZENS



Applications are being accepted for the sixth annual New York State Senior Games, June 16-19 at SUNY College at Cortland.

State residents 55 years of age and older are eligible to compete in the Games, sponsored by State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in cooperation with the State Office for the Aging and the State University of New York at Cortland.

More than 20 events are scheduled, including archery, badminton, swimming, bocci, bowling, golf, racquetball, softball, tennis and track and field. Drop-in activities such as bait casting, darts and basketball are also scheduled.

In the past, most of the participants entered the Recreational Division for fun and fitness. The Competitive Division is limited to more serious competitors looking to qualify for the United States National Senior Olympics in 1989 in St. Louis or as a warm-up for the Masters Division of the Empire State Summer Games to be held in Syracuse this year.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to winners in each event in both divisions.

To insure the participant's placement in events, early registration is encouraged. Applications and details are available from county offices for the aging, state park regional offices or by writing: Senior Games, State Parks, Albany, NY 12238. Applications also are available by calling 1-800-342-9871.



Community Corner

Gardening tips from the experts

Begin to plan your 1988 garden this week, with some help from area experts.

"Designing and planting an herb garden," a talk and meeting of the Bethlehem Garden Club this morning at 11 a.m. at the Bethlehem Library.

"Selecting Flowering Shrubs," at the library Thursday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m.

A landscaping workshop, including soil testing, by Cooperative Extension on Martin Road, Voorheesville, Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

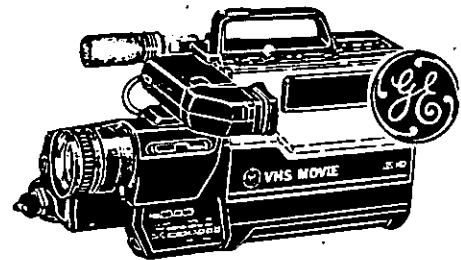


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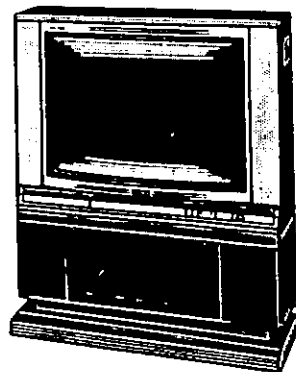
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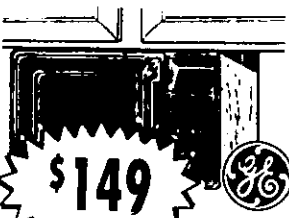
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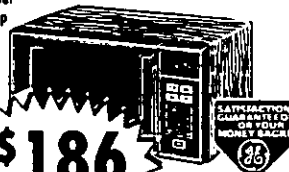


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THE SPOTLIGHT

April 13, 1988



The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

Surprises in state budget

Page 1

NEW SCOTLAND

Time for decision on mine case

Page 23

What next for Rt. 9W review?

Page 7

Bethlehem prepares for next disaster

Page 1

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Home & Garden

It's time to get outside and tackle that yard! Our annual Home & Garden Section in this issue.

THE SPOTLIGHT

April 13, 1988

How does your garden grow?

There are certainly many gardening chores that people need to do throughout the growing season. The following list should help to remind you of activities that need attention:

APRIL

- Sow radishes, peas, lettuce and carrots.
- Transplant broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, turnips, kohlrabi and onion sets.
- Fertilize trees and shrubs if not done in the fall.
- Start seeds of early-flowering annuals.
- Prune early-flowering shrubs immediately after flowering.
- Fertilize bulbs when tulip foliage is half-grown.
- Remove mulch from perennials.
- Transplant trees and shrubs.
- Have your soil tested.



April

MAY

- Fertilize roses every two weeks and spray weekly with an all-purpose rose spray.
- Pinch tips of chrysanthemum when six inches high and again when side branches are six inches long.
- Divide overgrown perennials.
- Keep ahead of garden weeds.
- Set lawn mower for a two inch cut.
- Inspect plants daily.
- Remove rhubarb seed stalks.
- Protect new vegetables from cutworms.
- Move houseplants to porch or patio.
- Plant tender annuals and vegetables.



May

Home & Garden Section



Inside this section

They'll grow it for you	Page 3	The fine art of growing tomatoes	Page 9
Great beginnings: starting from seed	Page 3	Selecting a ground cover	Page 10
A rare shop in the Helderbergs	Page 12	Wildflowers: the 'no effort' option	Page 15
Gardening in the shade	Page 4	Don't overcrowd the vegetables	Page 7

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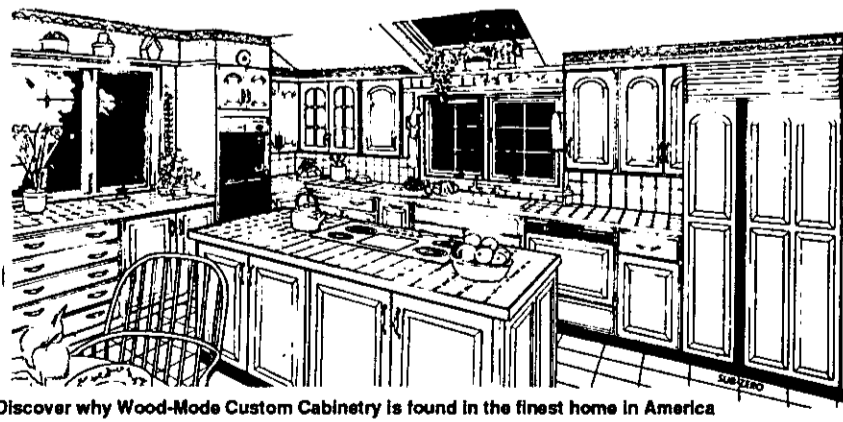
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Starting from seed: getting a jump on spring

By Cheryl Clary

There comes a time in the career of every gardener when the urge to start one's own plants takes hold of his or her good sense. As early as the week between Christmas and New Year's, the seed catalogues in all their brilliant splendor grace our mailboxes as we walk back into our houses with snow on our shoes.

With the holiday season finally out of the way and the longest months yet to come (aren't January and February each about 45 days long?) how we long to smell freshly turned earth and imagine our pleasure in a lush flower or vegetable patch.

All the pictures in these nursery and seed purveyors' offerings look so inviting as we gaze out the kitchen window at the barren winter scapes. Gardening is so easy at that time of the year, when our only garden work is filling out order blanks.

But thankfully the cold days have passed and our mail order bouquets have arrived in individual little envelopes, each illustrating the glorious blooms locked inside.

Seed starting, rather than plant buying, is just another way to extend the satisfaction involved in the gardening process. It gives you a head start on the growing season long before actual outdoor activities get underway.

To start seeds does not require a large cash outlay for equipment. If you have been buying plants in packs over the last few summers, you may have several plastic containers and trays left over. These are usually called flats and will work just fine when filled with the proper growing medium.

When purchasing "soil" to start seeds, DO NOT buy potting soil. This is designed for repotting well established plants. It is much too heavy for germinating seeds. Purchase either a growing mix or finely milled sphagnum moss. These are quite inexpensive and you'll find out, as I have, that a little goes a long way. The growing mediums are not really soil at all; they basically hold moisture and provide an



unrestricted root growth.

Also available at garden centers and some mail order houses are peat pellets. These look like thick cardboard cookies into which one seed can be placed to germinate and be held there right up until the plant is ready to be put in the outdoor garden.

You will also need a light source, which will probably be a four foot florescent shop light with two ultraviolet tubes known as "grow lights." Most local garden centers carry the bulbs, as do stores like Sears or Wards.

Next a little math comes into play. You must calculate when the last date of frost will be and then check each type of seed for length of germination and then how long the plant will take to grow before it has matured enough to be placed outside. Most usually can be started 8 to 10 weeks before the last date of frost. If you think as you read this, that you've already missed the boat for this year, don't worry. You still have time.

Fill the flats with the growing

material, one or two if room allows for each type. You may be (Turn to Page 17)

This Co-op will grow it for you

By Ruth Fein Wallens

Some of us are backyard gardeners, and some of us just want to reap the benefits of someone else's elbow and knee work. Few of us wouldn't appreciate fresh, organically grown produce throughout the year, with little concern for how it gets to us.

Beginning this spring, a unique local source for organically grown veggies of all kinds will be serving a small number of Capital District residents, including a few in Bethlehem, with produce they have ordered to be grown and delivered year-round.

Community Supported Agriculture is a reality for Michael Wayne, its founder, after almost two years of planning. He believes it will help fill a void for the more than 80 subscribers this first season will serve, and hopefully prove successful enough to expand its services to many more in the future.

What exactly is Community Supported Agriculture? Based loosely on the traditional food co-op, it is an organization that has subscribers paying for shares of its organically grown crops, and a small staff of gardeners to service its 100-plus acre farm in Melrose, northern Rensselaer County. Subscribers choose the varieties of produce they want grown, and subscribe for either five or 10 pounds per week, on an annual basis, for \$300 an individual share or \$600 a family share. In addition, subscribers are asked to donate four hours of their time over the course of one year to help the group in some way.

"The group is quite varied in backgrounds," the 32-year-old Wayne said in a recent interview. "They're all people with an interest in good quality year-round... with a fair number of backyard gardeners in the group," he said.

Many subscribers are choosing to take a very active role in the farm, Wayne said, making it even more of a cooperative venture.

(Turn to page 8)

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In the shade!

Solving growing problems

By Ruth Fein Wallens

Gardening is much like cooking, according to Mardel Steinkamp. "Nothing beats hands on experience," she says.

You'll never become a master chef just by reading cookbooks, and you won't become a seasoned gardener until you've experienced the many failures that go along with your savored garden successes.

Experiment and observe are the two key words of advice that come up most often in conversing with Mardel and Paul Steinkamp of Helderledge Farm in Voorheesville. These words of experience hold true for most forms of gardening, but perhaps are even

more critical when discussing gardening options for partial shade and woodland areas.

Living in a pine forest is not a prerequisite for planting a shade garden. It may be, however, that an aesthetically perfect spot for your side yard garden is exposed to a few hours of early morning sun and then is almost completely shaded from any additional day's light. This isn't the spot for a border garden of day lilies, poppies and daisies. Yet many beautiful and especially unique options exist.

"A shade garden is much more subtle than one with strong afternoon sun," Mardel explains. "But they can have plenty of



On a misty summer morning the soft, iridescent reddish-silver frost of a Japanese painted fern will bring a shade garden to life.

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interest... various foliage and colors... with an ever-changing scene of wonderful surprises."

The strongest advice that comes from the Steinkamp's almost 25 years of landscape education and experience is not to jump into planting any perennial garden before doing your homework. This includes knowing the characteristics of the garden area and looking at other gardens and planting situations enough to formulate some ideas about a garden design and the types of plants you'd like to work with.

tant. Look not only at whether a garden will be pleasing to look at in this particular space, but also if it is located in a spot that will be looked at and enjoyed frequently. A beautiful garden setting that happens to be around the side of the house where no one ever walks, or behind the backyard shed, probably won't provide as much enjoyment as another location.

Paul also reminds us that carefully selecting and removing trees is a viable option rarely practiced.

"A shade garden is much more subtle than one with strong afternoon sun," explains Mardel Steinkamp.

The first step is to look at the space you are considering. Determine its practical value as well as its aesthetic value. If you have a garden in mind in an area of limited sunlight, with no exposure to the afternoon's drying hot sun, it is reasonable to consider this a "partial shade garden." Although many variables exist that will determine what types of plants will do well there, an assessment of available light is your first critical indicator.

Next, take a look at what is growing there currently, or what has done well there in the past. If nothing at all is growing, not even grass or weeds, there may not be enough light for much of anything to grow. Even a shade garden needs some subtle light.

Consider what trees are shading the area. Don't expect to successfully grow anything under most maples. "Preparing a planting bed under a maple (especially the common Norway maple) will have the tree's roots into the soil in no time, competing with your garden... and absolutely the tree will win," says Paul.

Aesthetic value also is impor-

tant. So you've chosen the spot, a partial shade area, and determined it is a reasonable site for a successful garden. Your next step may be to have a soil sample tested. The amount of organics in the soil as well as its acidity will help determine what will do well there.

Now you're ready to think about planning and designing the garden. There are as many alternatives as your imagination will allow. There are woodedge style gardens, and stream-side gardens, very informal and more formal gardens, beds of all varieties, and those of native plants only.

Design may be more important in planning a shade garden because of its more subtle qualities, and the importance of mixing textures as well as color. This is where Paul reiterates that "nothing beats observation." He and Mardel encourage a prospective gardener to look at as many other gardens as possible, not just for ideas, but to see how your own ideas may look at different times of the year, and how various plants complement or distract from each other.



Hostas are among the many beautiful and unusual plants that thrive in the cool shadows of sunny days.

Helderledge Farm has several display gardens to help you along, as well as beds of all types of perennials. The beds are as helpful as the display gardens to see exactly how a particular plant looks as it grows and spreads. Many of the shade plants bloom early in spring, just before or after the tulips. So it isn't too early to start looking.

You may find yourself surprised at how much color is possible in a partial shade garden. Most of us think of hostas and ferns doing well, but several colorful blooms, many on the exotic looking side, do very well in this type of setting. There are the beacon silver (with raspberry flowers) and white nancy varieties of lamium, the many colored columbines and

small white flowered epimedium, hundreds of varieties of astilbe, primroses, virginia blue bells, phlox divaricotta, coral bells and violets, and the exotically beautiful lenten rose. Small forget-me-nots, perennial will do well in partial shade, as will the iris cristata and the pink to white flowers of the American native blood root. And these don't really scrape the surface.

So spend the spring looking and learning. See as much as you can see; don't just jump in without much observation.

And one more word of advice from the Steinkamps. Don't come ready to buy plants until you've adequately prepared the soil. Make your observations, plans and designs, then prepare the soil properly. The pleasure of purchasing and planting your selections should be a step you take only after you are fully prepared.

Professional gardeners expect to have failures. But they also experience unexpected successes through experimentation. "Don't be afraid to experiment," the Steinkamps urge, and don't be discouraged by your failures. "So much of gardening is nothing but experience."

New tree farm business

Grady's Tree Farm is a new business at 20 Wiggand Drive in Glenmont which transplants grown trees to property.

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For information contact Jim Grady, the owner, at 371-8045.

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Prepare your garden for spring planting

Preparing your garden for the spring growing season is an important first step to a bountiful harvest this summer.

A properly prepared vegetable or ornamental garden will give your plantings a strong, early start that will help them get the most out of the upcoming growing season.

might be right for some varieties, but could provide a poor medium for other types. Blueberries, for example, prefer more acidic soil, while beans grow well in more alkaline soil.

Cooperative Extension agents and Master Gardeners can help home gardeners with their soil tests. Tests for nutrient levels

clear, it is time to apply fertilizers and adjust the pH where necessary.

If you are replanting a garden that you have used for several years, it is a good idea to rotate your plantings to different parts of the garden each year. You shouldn't grow tomatoes in the same place two years in a row.

"Soil conditions in a garden might be right for some varieties, but could provide a poor medium for other types."

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The first step to preparing your garden can be completed indoors. Choose the types of plants you want to grow and order your seeds before the growing season begins.

Seed catalogs contain descriptions of germination times, preferred soil and growing conditions, and expected yields of their products. Catalogs also describe which types of plants can be grown close to others and which ones should be isolated. Certain types of sweet corn, for example, must be isolated from other types of corn to prevent cross-pollination.

Take the time to research the characteristics of the flowers, fruits, and vegetables you want to grow and you will not be disappointed.

Once a gardener determines the types of plants to grow and where to plant them, the next step is to have the garden's soil tested for pH level and for nutrient content.

Soil conditions in a garden

take about two weeks so plan accordingly. A pH of 6.5 to 6.8 is a good general range for plants. Most of your plants will grow very well in slightly acidic soil. Soil tests are done Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the William F. Rice Cooperative Extension Center in Voorheesville.

Once you are aware of the condition of your garden soil, you can plan to adjust the pH and/or add fertilizer. Again, Cooperative Extension agents and Master Gardeners are well-versed in what types of fertilizers to use.

Before applying any fertilizer, it is important to clean away any old plant debris from the previous year's plantings. Discard the plantings or compost them in an area away from the garden.

Diseases such as corn smut, as well as other fungi, spores and insect eggs can live over the winter in plant material. Leaving it in the garden is an invitation to reinfestation. Once the garden is

Your local Master Gardeners can give you advice on arranging the locations of your garden plantings and how to rotate your backyard crops. The key to home gardening is the planning, preparation, and research one does before the growing season begins!

Cooperative Extension

Gardening advice offered

If you live in a small apartment, work in a small office, have limited growing space around your home or simply like small size plants, you may find the information in a new Cornell Cooperative Extension publication of special use.

"Gardening with Miniature Plants" covers houseplants as well as outdoor shrubs, miniature annual flowers and low-growing perennial plants.

Copies of "Gardening with Miniature Plants" (L-7-7) are available for \$2.10 from the Cornell University Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850.

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Give your vegetables room to grow and thrive

Plants in your vegetable garden need "elbow room" just as you do.

Many home gardeners, unaware of that fact, literally squeeze their carrots, cucumber and bean plants together like sardines in a can. As a result, they produce slow growing, smaller plants that mature later and yield relatively poor quality vegetables.

When plants grow too close together, the leaves and roots of adjacent plants compete with each other for light, water and nutrients. Overcrowded garden plants also create a protected, humid breeding ground for plant diseases and insects beneath the overlapping leaves.

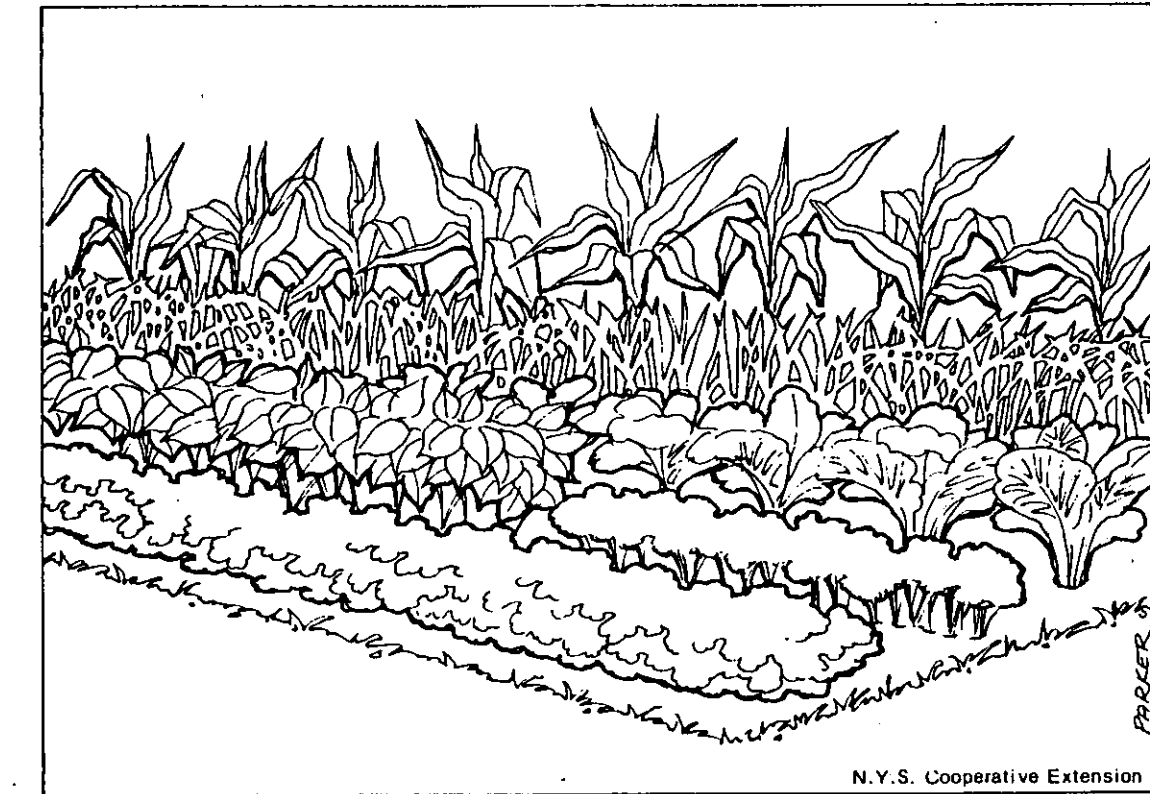
Many people mistakenly overcrowd their gardens because they fail to realize that tiny seeds can mature into very large plants.

The best way to avoid overcrowding is to follow directions on seed packages, and in planting guides.

There is no general rule governing the spacing of plants. Each variety has its own space requirements, and a gardener should become familiar with the needs of the crops he or she grows.

For example, carrot plants need about one inch between each plant in a row. Pepper plants, on the other hand, require 18 inches between each plant in a row.

The deleterious effects of overcrowding can be offset to some degree by making up for the



N.Y.S. Cooperative Extension

Group garden vegetables according to height to prevent overshadowing of low growing crops. Also plant crops with similar maturity dates together to make harvesting easier, and to free up the area for a second planting.

water and nutrient deficiencies that overcrowding cause.

If you must plant your vegetables a little too close together, sprinkle some nitrogen-rich fertilizer on the ground, about four inches from the base of

each plant, as a sidedress part way through the growth cycle. Also, water your overcrowded garden more thoroughly.

The general idea is to give an overcrowded garden more nutrients than a normal garden. You might

want to use up to one-and-a-half times the amount of fertilizer and organic matter than you would normally use on a garden.

If you seed your garden too densely, don't worry; you can thin out the plants after they emerge

as seedlings. Many gardeners purposely plant extra seeds with the intention of thinning out the seedlings later.

That practice allows you to select the heartiest looking plants and to thin out the weaker ones.

For more information of growing vegetables, call the Master Gardener Hotline — 765-3510 — at the Cooperative Extension Association of Albany County.

Cooperative Extension

Activities for toddlers

"An Alphabet of Activities for Preschoolers at Home" is a new publication just released by Cornell Cooperative Extension. The four-page sheet was written by Jennifer Birckmayer of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the state College of Human Ecology at Cornell University.

The information presented is designed to encourage interaction between young children and the people who care for them — parents, grandparents, friends or care givers.

For a listing of fact sheets in the Resources for Parents and Others Who Care about Children series, write to the Cornell University Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, N.Y., 14850.

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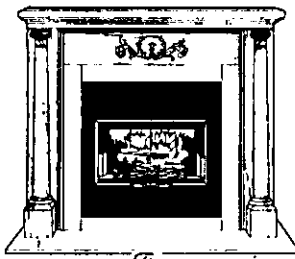
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(From page 3)

But the farm does have a full-time gardener and a few part time employees.

Wayne originally heard of the idea from someone who started a similar project in the Berkshires, the first of its kind in this country, according to the Albany resident. He spent the last year-and-a-half organizing a core group to begin work on the project. Although he was originally shooting for last spring, it took a bit longer for the logistics to be

worked out and for the nucleus group to expand enough to become operational.

Like any new venture, this first year will set the stage for the success and growth of the project. But Wayne seems confident that their largest risks have been addressed.

"Our largest risks are weather and geology," Wayne said. "The farm we chose seems to provide the best combination of factors, regarding soil quality, etc." And as far as weather, he explains, all they can do is over plant and plant a large variety of produce that requires different conditions. "If we have a disastrous lettuce year, we'll have other things to compensate."

How organic will the farm's "organically grown" produce be? Wayne says the farm was a pasture for years, and would pass California law's definition of organically grown, which requires the land not be treated with any chemicals (including pesticides) for at least three years. This is the strictest definition in the country today. Many others consider one

year of chemical-free soil enough to constitute organic.

Although there may no longer be room for additional subscribers this year, plans for expansion are already being discussed. For more information about the project, contact Wayne at 489-4084.

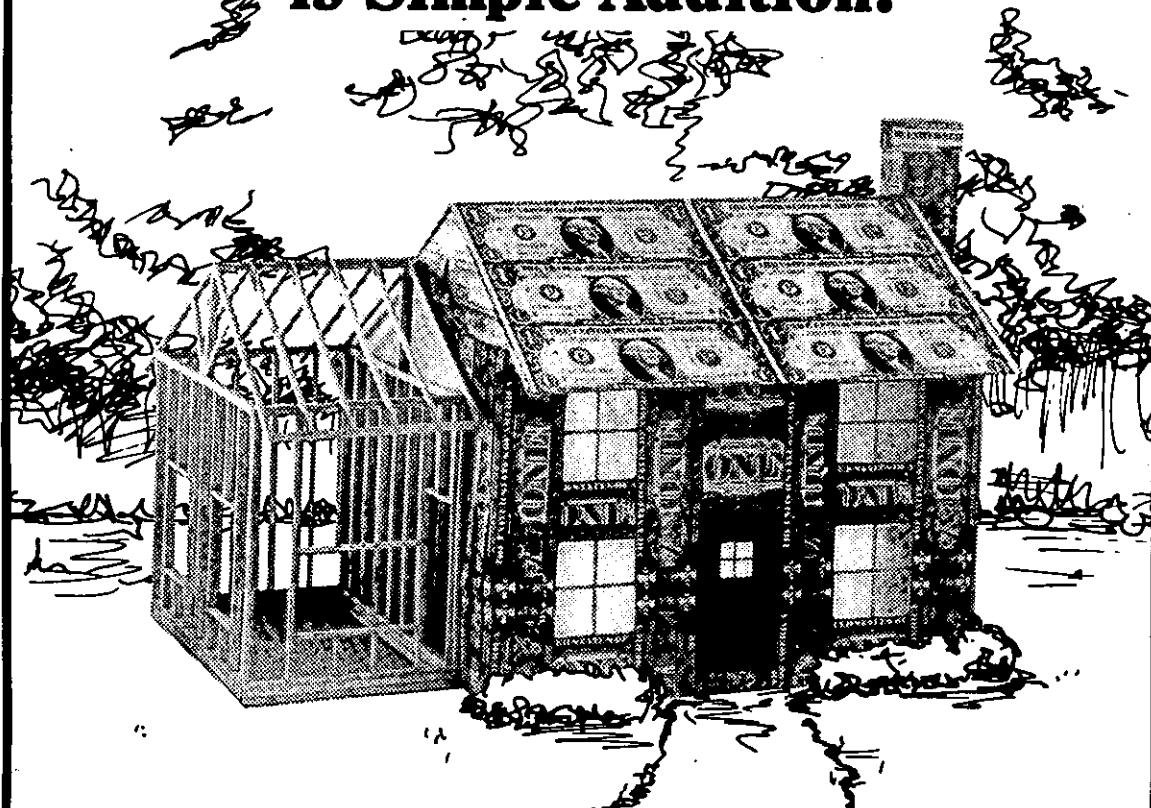
Free mulch available May 7 at town garage

Gardens need lots of organic material, or mulch, for successful growing. The Town of Bethlehem will continue its annual assistance to gardeners by providing free mulch on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the town highway department's garage on Elm Avenue in Selkirk.

A good supply of mulch reportedly is on hand this year. Gardeners are asked to bring along their own sturdy containers to cart the compost home.

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

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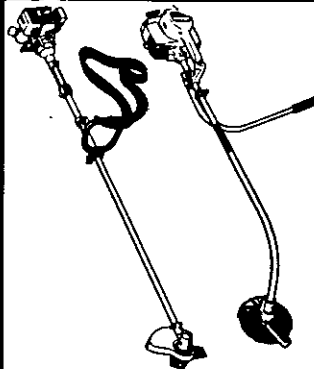
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Ah, luscious fruit!

Vegetable or fruit, tomatoes worth the effort

The tomato is tops in popularity in home gardens nationwide and worldwide. It can offer the greatest yield per area of any crop, and has varieties ready to eat 40 days after transplant — or as long as three months. Flavors come bland or full-bodied, tart to sweet, and textures range from runny to hardball.

Any vegetable gardening book worth its sauce will describe the technique to grow tomato plants. Choose rich soil — but not too rich in nitrogen or fresh manure. Plant after the last frost in a sunny location. A few points should be given in more detail for better understanding and crop management. New York State is far from ideal in its climate to grow tomatoes. Because of the relatively short frost-free season, tomatoes are given an early start, grown for six weeks indoors before setting in the garden. The plant should be growing vigorously up to the time it is set outside, so there is little interruption in its growth. Withholding water and setting the transplants outside for a few hours daily several days before planting will let the plants gradually adapt to the rigors of wind and sun. When the plants are out, protect them with hot caps or collars made from milk cartons or cans. If the transplants are overgrown so their roots are crowded, the growth slows; recover time can be extensive after they are garden set. This may produce earlier type tomatoes, but total harvest will be reduced. To produce larger plants indoors, grow them in larger containers, about 1/2 inch diameter of pot for every inch of healthy plant growth.

We grow tomatoes in our gardens because we like the vegetable and its versatility, and the substantially improved taste with home production and on-the-



spot consumption. Crucial to flavor production and enhancement are:

- Variety and plant type selection.
- Solar radiation.
- Plant management, reduced pruning.
- Disease control.

These factors are all interrelated in their contribution to the flavor of tomato fruit. Whatever genetic potential a tomato variety has for flavor, it is the sun acting on the green leaves of the plant that gives rise to the flavor compounds. In a bright sunny season, a plant given adequate water will produce more flavorful fruit than during a cloudy growing year.

Because the sun's effect on green leaves is what produces the good taste, the more leaves on the plant, the more flavor compounds are produced. Think of the leaves as factories manufacturing food for the fruit. When we reduce the number of leaves, we reduce the

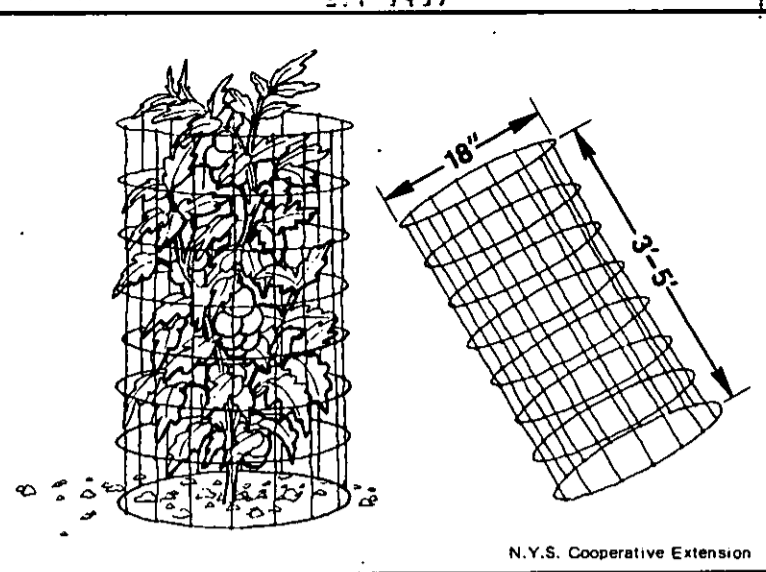
total food manufactured by the plant and less is sent to the fruit.

When we stake up tomatoes to get them off the ground, we prune the plant of sucker shoots. But with each side leaf pruned, a site of flavor production is lost. It is better to grow the entire, unpruned plant in an upright cage — a cylinder of wire fence from two to three feet in diameter. From the standpoint of flavor production, it is even better to let the total plant sprawl on the ground than to train it to a single stake.

Disease can also reduce the effective leaf area of a tomato plant. Early blight is the most dramatic, browning the lower leaves first and moving up the plant. With fewer green leaves, the plant's ability to manufacture food is reduced. Leaf spotting caused by bacterial blights will have a similar effect. Spotting of the fruit caused by a fungus, anthracnose disease, causes an odd flavor due to other reasons.

If a plant is growing well in full sun with no diseases and has received no pruning, it will be manufacturing its maximum potential for flavor. Then the amount of flavor in each fruit is affected by how many fruit are on a single plant. The more fruit a plant has to support, the less nourishment will be available to each fruit, making each tomato less flavorful. The same healthy plant feeding fewer fruit will produce more delicious tomatoes.

Small tomato types, such as Heinz 1350, New Yorkers, Pit-Red and Campbell 1327, with bush or determinate growth habits, bear a large fruit load for their plant size. They are not nearly as flavorful as the larger, indeterminate plants of Supersonic, Big Boy, Mountain Pride, and beefsteak types. On these there are fewer



N.Y.S. Cooperative Extension

Growing tomatoes in wire cages is an effective way to save space in the garden and keep the fruit off the ground. The height will vary according to the tomato variety.

fruit in relation to the total plant size and leaf area.

Flavor is indicated by the amount of soft gel contained in the fruit. Those varieties that produce fruit with thick walls and little gel are not very flavorful. But because of their firmness, they ship well over long distances and are typically the types at supermarkets.

Those varieties with lots of gel, that are soft and messy to eat, possess the best flavor.

The recipe for the best tasting tomatoes follows:

- Grow plants in full sun.
- Feed, water, and remove weeds.

- Let the plant grow without pruning.
- Control diseases.
- Choose a variety with a large, indeterminate plant.
- Wear a bib when savoring the delicious tomato.

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Groundcovers can solve your yard's trouble spots

Whether you live in high-density suburbia or in a spacious rural setting, your property more than likely has a problem area where grass won't grow or where the soil washes away with every rain.

Before you simply give up or resort to paving that area, consider growing what Mother Nature uses to cover such areas in the wild: groundcover plantings.

Groundcovers include woody or herbaceous plants and vines that spread rapidly, forming a thick, blanket-like cover.

These plants, which include varieties such as crownvetch, English ivy and periwinkle to name just a few, can cover an eroded area on your property with a natural, green carpet that is both attractive to the eye and protective to the soil it grows on.

Proper groundcover plants can ease yard maintenance, prevent soil erosion and improve the looks of your property.

There are dozens of groundcover varieties that will grow in New York State. Such plants are available at commercial nurseries or through mail-order catalogs.

Before selecting a groundcover — or any other plant for that

matter — you must first define your need, what you want that plant to do and the appearance you desire on your land.

You should also investigate the soil and water limitations of your land. Information on soil testing, fertilizing, and choosing the plant varieties is available from your county Cooperative Extension Office.

The trick is to match these plants to your needs. For example, an annual flowering plant often is an ideal choice for a summer home. Correctly spaced and fertilized, the plants require little maintenance. In another case, a high, erodible bank can be stabilized and beautified by a low, dense cover plant such as crownvetch, which is widely planted along steep slopes bordering New York State highways.

Each situation has its individual needs that must be taken into account. Talk about your particular situation with your Cooperative Extension Agent or nurseryman.

If you don't research your potential groundcover carefully, plants may not grow well, or they could spread and take over other areas where they are not desired. Cover plants come in several general categories:

- **ANNUAL** plants display an abundance of greenery and flowers during the summer months, but they die off each fall. They will thrive with little attention.

- **PERENNIALS** provide more permanent cover. Each winter they die off from the ground up, but they grow new tops each spring.

- **HERBS** can serve double duty; while providing attractive ground-cover, they also have culinary or medicinal uses. Many herbs are perennials.

- **FERNS** provide an attractive ground cover that, depending on the species, will thrive in either sun or shade. You can also find species of fern that are either perennial or evergreens. Ferns usually need a moist environment.

- **WOODY** plants grow from a few inches to several feet tall. They come in two categories: vines and shrubs.

In areas where you don't want any plants growing, wood chips or crushed stone can be used. Wood chips are sold in most garden stores, but they often can be obtained for free from many utility companies and highway departments which use chipping machines to grind up trees and shrubs that they clear each year.

Groundcovers can be planted at almost any time, but spring is best. Spend some time assessing your situation and learning what sort of groundcover would best suit your needs.

Cooperative Extension

Insurance coverage review is needed

The Albany County Board of Realtors, Inc. recommends that homeowners in the county review the coverage that is provided under their homeowner's insurance policy.

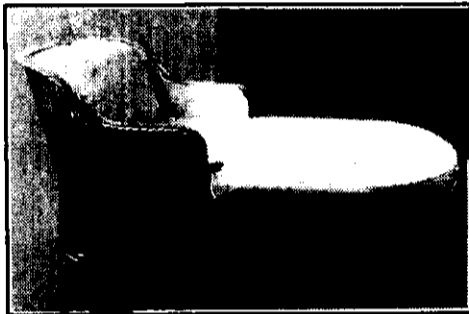
The advice is based on figures provided from sales of property through the realtors multiple listing services. James Ader, the board's executive director, notes that although most policies automatically adjust the coverage each year, many automatic adjustments may not have kept pace with the rising value of property in the last few years.

Home owners are advised to contact their agent if they think their policy needs review. According to Ader, the review cost would be worthwhile for peace of mind.



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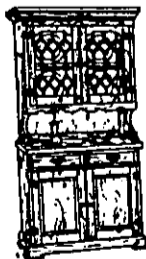
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Arbor Day is April 29

Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future.

Julius Sterling Morton, the founder of Arbor Day in 1872, adopted this motto for his idea of setting aside a special day for tree planting. Morton, a transplanted New York native, offered a resolution to the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture that April 10, 1872, be set apart and consecrated for tree plantings in the State of Nebraska and that the State Board name it Arbor Day.

New York State has observed Arbor Day since 1888 and has established the last Friday in April as the state's official Arbor Day. Each year the New York State Arbor Day Committee selects a New York governor to be honored by having a sugar maple (the official New York tree) planted in his honor in the Governor's Grove at the Governor's Mansion in Albany.

The New York State Arbor Day Committee has published a brochure that lists suggested activities. Some of the suggestions are: participate as a family in a community or school Arbor Day Program; plant a tree to commemorate the birth of a child, an

anniversary or an important family event; plant a tree as a house-warming event for a new home; take a hike or have a picnic in a nature preserve and identify the trees growing there; grow a tree from seed or plant a seedling tree in the yard.

Carolyn Steadman
Cooperative Extension

Home equity credit line Fixed rate offer

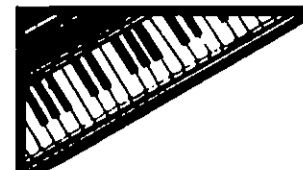
National Savings Bank of Albany has introduced a home equity credit line that gives customers the benefit of a fixed rate.

The only bank in the area currently offering that product, the service means that anytime during the borrowing period of the credit line, a portion or all of it may be converted to a fixed rate which would allow customers to lock in low interest rates and guard against rising rates. According to Chuck Cronin, vice president of retail banking at National Savings, customers have been reluctant to use the service because of the variable interest rate.

Ornamentals industry thrives

Dr. Enrique E. Figueroa, Cornell Agricultural Economist, reported at the Annual Economic Outlook Conference at Cornell that the New York State ornamental horticulture industry continued its growth in 1987. Joseph E. Huth, Cooperative Extension Agent for Albany County, attended the conference and said that the available figures indicate continued prosperity for this industry.

Welcome Spring! Remember To Tune Your Piano...



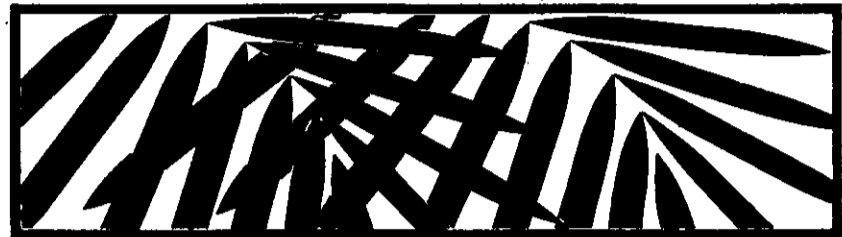
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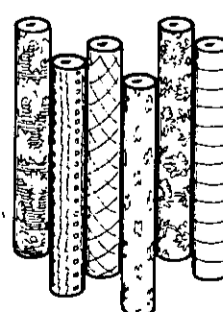
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An unlikely shop in the Helderbergs

By Ruth Fein Wallens

One of the last of winter's days, when there was a bit of a wind and sunny thirty degree skies, I found myself riding past Warners Lake to an afternoon of unexpected pleasures — not to mention unexpected high winds and snow drifted roads.

It was, however, worth the trip. As I entered the 200-year-old renovated barn that is Pleasant Valley Gallery and Gifts, I was greeted by a warm smile (and a hot cup of herbal tea) that immediately told me I was in for an interesting afternoon, not just a browse through your average gift shop.

Gudrun Bellerjeau, who returned to Berne about 17 months ago after several years abroad with her husband and children, has reopened what must be among the most unique gallery-shops in the country. Displayed throughout her two-story barn —

complete with the charm of original beams — is a selection of the finest porcelain, crystal, wooden toys, jewelry and other gifts that would be difficult to find assembled in one place anywhere in the Northeast.

"You would have to go to 50 shops in Manhattan to find the selection and quality of giftware I have here," the German-born Bellerjeau insists. "I have only the very best in quality," she adds, "from \$3.50 wooden rattles guaranteed for life, to Rosenthal china's studio line," collector creations representing the world's most famous artists.

"Life is too short for junk," the mother of four boys says with a determined face. "I was raised with the philosophy that you save until you can afford the best, have it for a lifetime of enjoyment, then pass it on to your children. And that's the philosophy with which I run my shop."



Patrons of Pleasant Valley Gallery and Gifts come to visit and browse among the collection of giftware and antiques.



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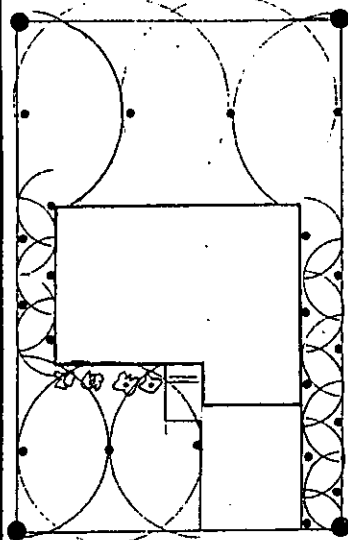
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Bellerjeau, who grows all of her family's food, has a masters degree in accounting/banking and public administration of international affairs. She has given lectures to more than 15,000 people on porcelain, china, crystal, silver and gems, and considers her role at the shop one of educator as well as host. She delights in spending two or three hours with her customers, walking them through every unique piece, and discussing the characteristics of the merchandise

as well as its cultural history along the way.

Walking past the display of Hutschenreuther (the oldest privately owned porcelain manufacturer in the world) she explains the differences between soft porcelain we call china and hard porcelain, reinvented in 1789 in Germany, previously used only by kings. The harder porcelain is made of different ingredients and fired 600 degrees higher, making it harder, more translucent and

whiter. It goes through one complete extra firing, and its glaze penetrates through the material, instead of sitting on top, as in china. These characteristics are why you will never see cracks under the glaze of porcelain as you will with china as it ages.

"I believe educating my customers is as important as pleasing them," Bellerjeau says. "I get satisfaction from this and from offering items that I see make them happy."

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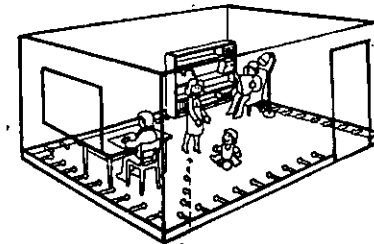
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The shop has an inventory that is difficult to believe. Most of what is displayed is in stock. Instead of waiting 10 weeks for delivery, typically a customer can walk away with a complete table setting, from dishes, to crystal and flatware. And, naturally, she handles bridal registries, with free gift wrap and delivery.

With manufacturers like Wedgwood, Royal Copenhagen and Dresdner, music boxes by Reuge of Switzerland, Khokloma's wooden and lacquered pieces hand painted in Russia with pure gold, and Klokotschniz, the crystal of royalty and embassies, you might wonder if anything in the shop is affordable.

"My prices are 20 to 30 percent lower than in Europe," she says as she dusts the corner of a 300-year-old family heirloom hutch displaying a variety of stemware. "I take 30 to 50 percent off the list price of many items," including stainless flatware, stoneware and German crystal. She explains that she has no sales. She buys during manufacturer's promotions as often as she can, and passes the savings along to her customers year-round.

Nestled in the heart of the Helderberg Mountains, Pleasant Valley Gallery and Gifts offers many unique items aside from table and giftware. There is an interesting assortment of unusual kitchen gadgets, the original wooden German nutcrackers and smokers, collector plates and other limited edition collector items, including the Cairn studio carved duck collection. There are rugs designed by the shop's owner, along with dozens of her own paintings. (Bellerjeau was a permanent exhibiting artist at the Albany Institute of History



Gudrun Bellerjeau holds a guaranteed-for-life wooden baby rattle in one hand, and a \$1.075 Flora Danica series plate by Royal Copenhagen in the other. The series was commissioned for Catherine the Great in 1789.

and Art before leaving the area five or six years ago.)

The shop — which boasts it is the exclusive dealer in New York State for many items — is overall an unexpected pleasure set in the most unlikely of places.

To visit the gallery and gift shop, first choose a beautiful spring day to enjoy the drive. Set off up Rt. 85, past Thatcher Park. Follow the signs to Warners Lake. A few miles past the lake turn left on Rt. 254, Pleasant Valley Road,

and stop at the first barn on your right. The shop is open every day except Monday.

If you go to Pleasant Valley Gallery and Gifts, plan to spend at least an hour, but you'll probably be there longer.

"My customers come to visit... we often philosophize for hours," Bellerjeau says with an enthusiastic smile. "There's never a rush, and always a cup of coffee ready."



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□ How (and when) does your garden grow?

(From Page 1)

JUNE

- Prune back one-half of the new growth on needle-leaved evergreens.
- Remove old flowers from perennials and bulbs that have finished blooming. Allow foliage to mature.
- Sow cabbage and cauliflower in late June for all crop.



June

- Clean up houseplants that were set outdoors before bringing them in early next month.
- Choose ornamentals, bulbs and perennials for fall planting.
- Remove oversized cukes and summer squash.
- Harvest pears while they are still green.
- Remove old flowers from annuals and perennials.
- Lift, divide and replant phlox after it flowers.
- Choose a cloudy day for late season planting.

August 15 to September 15 is the best time to renovate your lawn

SEPTEMBER

- Plant or transplant evergreens this month and keep them well watered.
- Bring in all houseplants early this month.
- Fertilize your lawn.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs now to November
- Test soil for pH.
- Divide daylilies after flowering.
- Plant peonies.
- Take geranium cuttings.
- Plant mums.
- Plant some garlic cloves.



September

JULY

- Prune climbing roses after flowering to promote new growth.
- Cut off yellowed foliage of spring bulbs.
- Pinch petunias to encourage bushy growth.
- Sow carrots and beets for a fall crop.
- Divide and transplant irises.
- Wait three to seven days after blueberries turn blue before picking.
- Pick off overripe fruit and faded flowers.
- Thin carrots and beets.
- Tie cauliflower leaves together to blanch.



July

Take time to relax and enjoy the "fruits" of your labor

AUGUST

- Don't prune or fertilize trees or shrubs now. This can stimulate new growth that won't harden-off before winter.
- Cut out raspberry canes that have just fruited.
- Begin planting beans, peas, beets, lettuce, spinach and endive for a fall crop.



August

OCTOBER

- Time for general garden clean-up.
- Compost insect-free and disease-free leaves.
- Discard or destroy leaves with insect or disease problems.
- Clean and store spray equipment.
- Store pesticides properly.
- Don't mulch until ground freezes.
- Store fertilizers in a dry place.
- Set-up windbreaks for evergreens



October

Source: 1988 Garden Calendar — Cooperative Extension, University of Massachusetts; 1987 Long Island Gardening Calendar — Cooperative Extension Association of Nassau and Suffolk County.

Towns to pick up brush during April

Both Bethlehem and New Scotland will be picking up roadside trash and brush during April.

To insure safe placement of rubbish and leaves, Bethlehem Highway Superintendent Marty Cross asks that clippings be contained in plastic bags or tightly bound in bales placed at the edge of the road. No items larger than two men can handle will be accepted. Care should be taken to leave adequate space for pedestrians and bike riders. Residents of the Town of Bethlehem will have pick-ups throughout April.

The Town of New Scotland's spring pick-up days will be April 25 to 29, for all town residents except those in the Village of Voorheesville. Pick-up will be on your regular refuse day.

New Scotland town officials ask that brush be tied in bundles not longer than four feet.

Search for tulip queen on

The search continues for a Tulip Queen to reign at the 40th Albany Tulip Festival, from May 6 through 9.

Permanent residents of Albany County who are between the ages of 18 and 23 and have never been married may send a photograph and a brief resume to the Tulip Queen Contest, PO Box TULIP, Albany, N.Y. 12201. The deadline for entries is April 13.

The 1988 tulip queen will receive a trip, a travel wardrobe and luggage courtesy of Robert Cohn Associates, Albany, as well as an educational scholarship and an original design gown. The tulip queen and first and second runners-up will each receive U.S. savings bonds courtesy of Key Bank, N.A. Each member of the tulip queen's court will receive a suit, evening gown and accessories courtesy of the Albany Tulip Festival Committee.

The event will begin with the proclamation and street scrubbing on May 6. The tulip flower show will be held on May 6 and 7. The tulip queen coronation, bike races, "Albany Plan of Union" Avenue dedication, Kinderkermis and tulip ball will be held on May 7. Pinksterfest will be held on May 7 and 8. A children's opera will be held on May 8. Finally, a tulip queen luncheon is scheduled for May 9.



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Using wildflowers for meadow garden

Have you seen the containers of seeds that inspire you to think about exchanging your lawn for a meadow? How easy is it to change your yard to a "carefree" meadow?

In order to answer these questions, it is necessary to understand what a meadow is. A meadow is a perpetual grassland. It is kept in this state by environmental factors. Alpine meadows are maintained by harsh climatic conditions. Prairies are maintained by periods of severe drought and by occasional fires.

To successfully establish a meadow, choose a mix that is appropriate for the northeast. Also, take into consideration the soil moisture, available light, and preferred season of bloom.

After you have chosen an appropriate mix, it is necessary to prepare the seed bed. The soil must be tilled and smoothed

before the seed is planted. Seeds can be sown in either the spring or fall. Fall sowing is recommended since weed competition is less and some seeds require a cold period before they germinate.

For the first two or three years, the plot will need to be weeded.

After the meadow is established, it should be cut once a year, in the spring. The meadow may also be cut in the fall, after the seeds mature. This ensures a supply of seed for the following year. The meadow should be cut by hand with a scythe. A lawn mower cannot be set high enough for the job.

If you are willing to spend the time, meadow gardening may be for you. Just remember, meadows do require planning and care.

Carolyn Steadman
Cooperative Extension



A bouquet of daisies on the dinner table will carry bright rays of summer sunlight from afternoon to evening.

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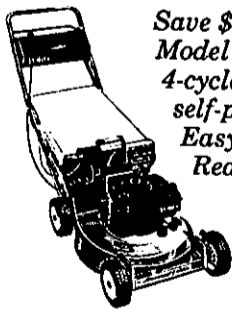
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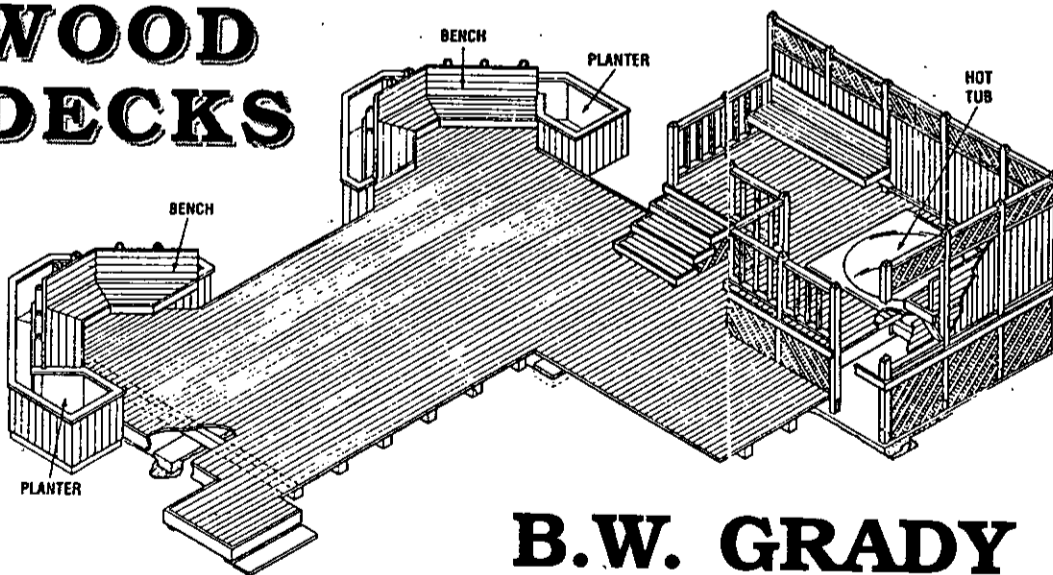
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A potted geranium adds color and life to a yard's stone wall.

Gardening in containers

You don't need a large plot of land to have a successful flower or vegetable garden. Consider the alternative of growing a miniature garden in containers. Bushel baskets, wooden boxes or special containers all work well. Several small holes near the bottom of the container will assure adequate drainage. Place your miniature garden on your patio, balcony or doorstep and enjoy many of the pleasures of gardening, without having to spend your Saturdays weeding.

Other fruits or vegetable may do well inside. Although the fruits are usually more ornamental than useful, colorful fruit trees are an enchanting sight.

Citrus and allied fruit trees should be given a sunny southern or eastern exposure and their soil kept evenly moist. A well-balanced fertilizer should be applied every four to six weeks and leaves misted daily during cold weather.

Lemons, calamondins, limes, kumquats and pomegranates are good choices for indoor gardening and often will bear successions of flowers and fruit. Calamondin, lemon and lime trees should be available from a local or mail-order nursery, while kumquat and pomegranate trees are sold primarily by specialized nurseries.

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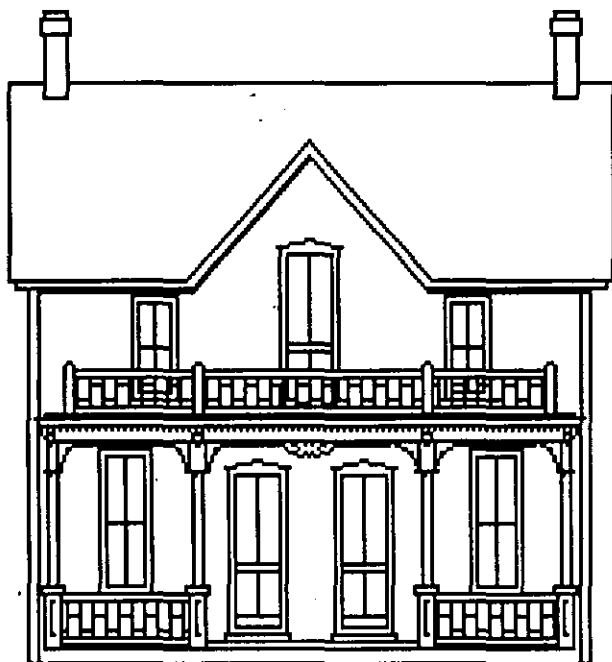
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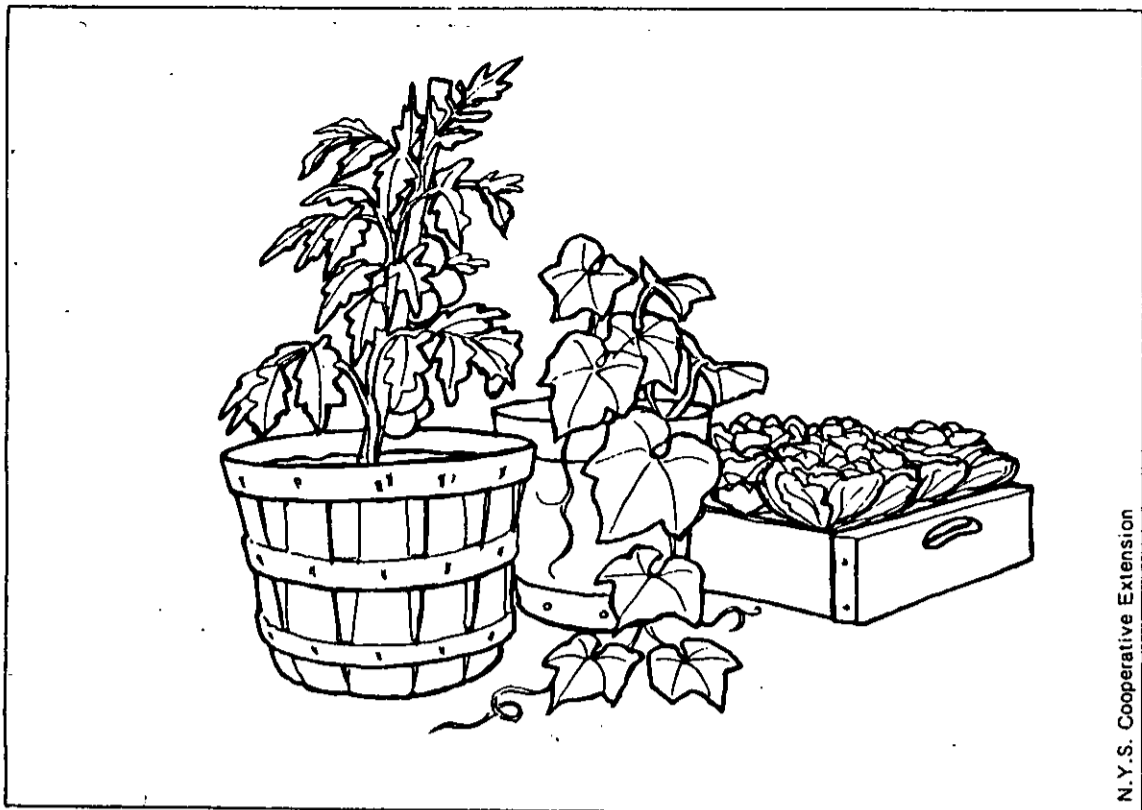
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From seed

(From Page 3)

surprised when opening most flower and some vegetable seed packages at just how tiny the seeds are. Small seeds should not be covered with the growing medium. Follow grower's recommended planting depths for larger ones. Just carefully scatter the little ones across the surface. Sometimes mixing the seeds with sand makes the spreading easier.

Most seeds do not require light to germinate — only a consistent temperature of between 60 and 65 degrees and sufficient moisture. One great way to keep plants moist is to water them not from the top but from below. An inexpensive way to do this is to place your flats in a water holding tray. I have used a small wading pool my children have outgrown. I check to be sure that there is just enough water in the tray to keep things moist. If you don't have such a device, water from above with a hose nozzle that only allows a fine spray. Little seedling will get flattened out fast by heavy drops.

When the seedlings emerge, then the lights go on. Suspend them no further than 4 to 6 inches above the tops of the flats. If you have an automatic timer, you can set it to turn the lights on and off each day. If not, be sure to give the plants 14 to 16 hours of light per day.

You'll be pleased to see the little plants take off after a short time with just moisture and light. When the seedlings get their second set of leaves, it's time to thin out and transplant.

Fill the flats to be used with growing medium as before, and place no more than six to eight plants, depending on size, into depressions you have made with a large nail or pencil. Firm the soil, moisten, and put them back under the lights. Be sure to raise the lights as the plants get taller to avoid burning the leaves. An application of fertilizer designed for transplanting can be applied at this time.

As the last frost date approaches, seedlings need to be hardened off. This means exposing the plants to the outdoors for longer and longer periods of time before placing them in the garden for good. Find a sunny spot, protected from strong breezes, and set the plants out longer and longer each day. By the last frost date you'll have many hearty plants.

Booklet on plant pests

Cornell Cooperative Extension has published a revised edition of Bulletin # 74, "A guide to safe pest management around the home." This features a section on the

diagnosis and identification of plant disorders, and pest management options for home and garden.

For information, call the Agriculture Office at 765-3510.

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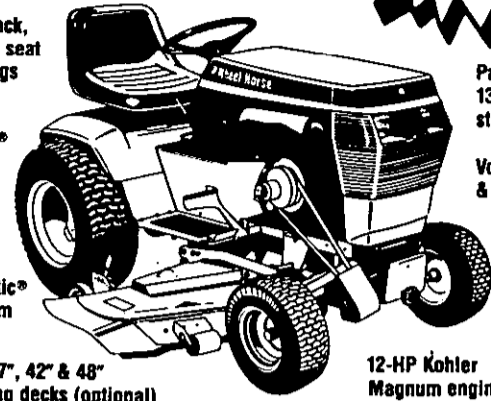
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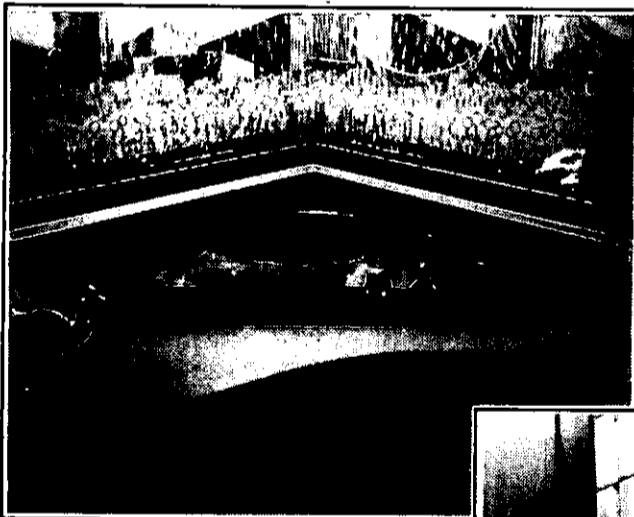
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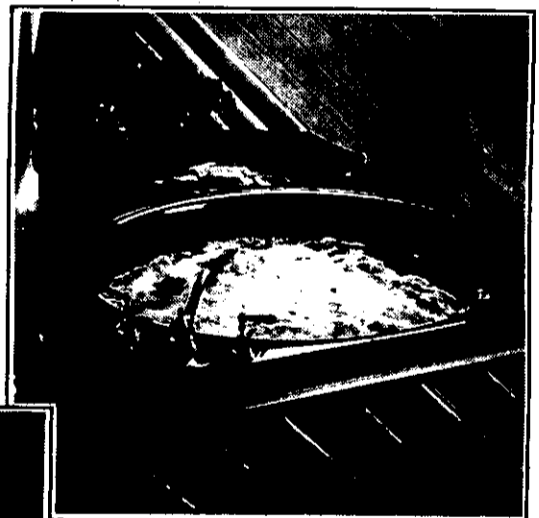
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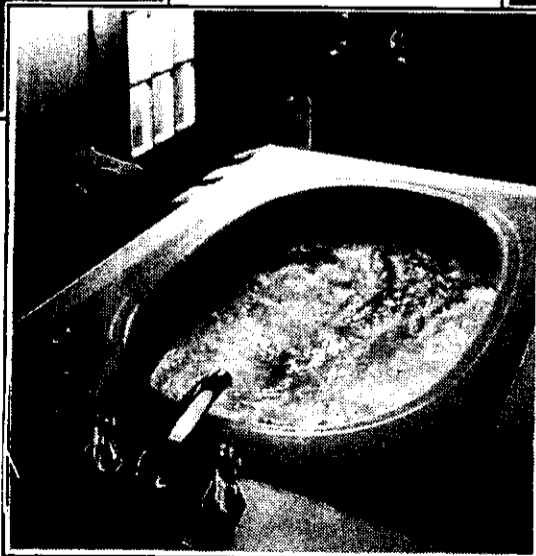


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Pesticide information handbook is ready

The 1988 New York State Pesticide Recommendations "Red-book" has been released for general distribution through Cornell Cooperative Extension, according to chairman Roger A. Morse of the Entomology Department of the

New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University.

William G. Smith of the Chemicals-Pesticides Program edited the materials which were prepared in cooperation with specialists responsible for making pesticide recommendations. Charts, formulations, timing of applications and regulations per-

taining to New York are included to make the information easy to use.

The book is introduced annually at the New York State Pest Control Conference, and copies are available by mail from Cornell University Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. Each copy is \$18, which includes shipping.

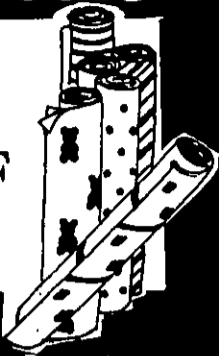
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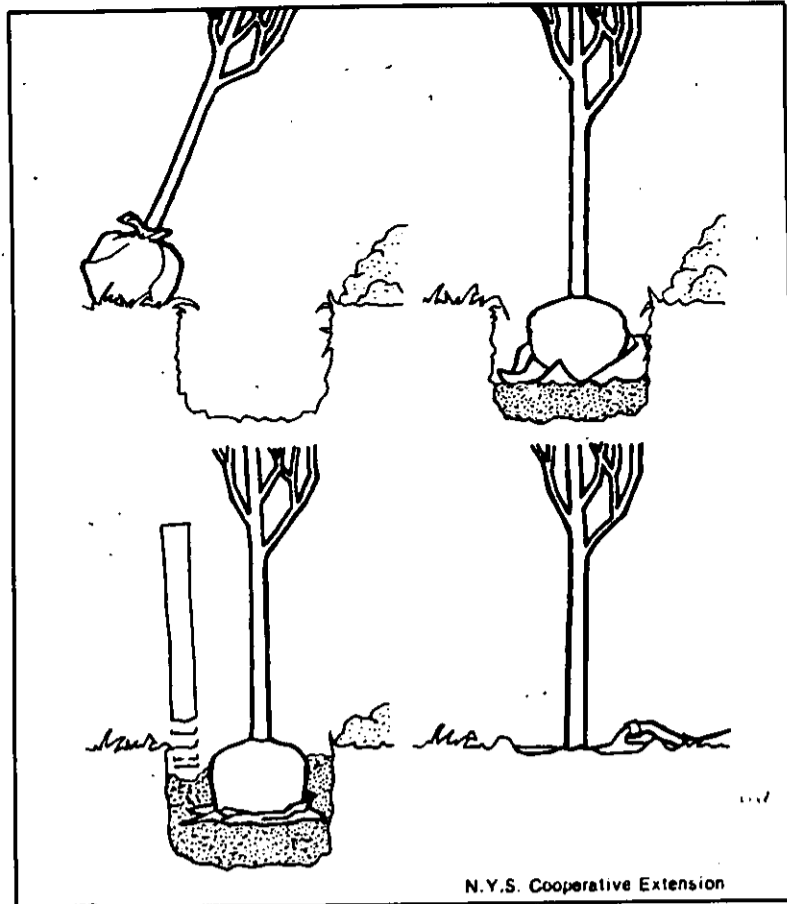
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April is the best time to do your tree planting, according to Cooperative Extension specialists. After placing the tree in its hole, fold the burlap down from the trunk. Don't bother pulling it out. Left beneath the plant, the burlap will quickly rot away.

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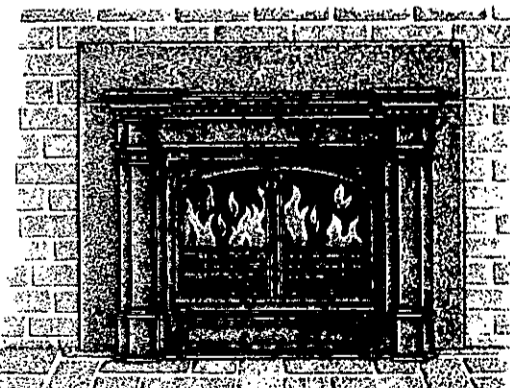
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Basic tools for the household

"A hammer, hand saw, screw-driver, drill and hand plane are basic tools every household should have," said David A. Warren, a skilled woodworker and home workshop writer. "Every one of the more than six million home workshops started with these five."

As investment in home workshop tools grow, a power saw usually replaces the hand saw and the drill becomes electric. But, despite power planers, the woodworking hobbyist continues to use and cherish his hand planes.

"You just can't replace the pleasure experienced or the results achieved by hands-on smoothing of wood," Warren said.

There are different planes for different uses, Warren said. "A jack plane is used for initial bench work. An extremely long bodied plane (as long as two feet) is called a try plane and is used to level a wood surface. A smooth plane is for the final strokes on a piece of work. The smallest model is a block plane, called a 'pocket plane' because it can be carried in a pocket where it is handy for fitting or trimming jobs," Warren said.

Today, there are two distinctly different types of bench planes available—mass-produced planes with cast-iron bodies, and adjustable European wood-bodied planes, which are comparatively new to the United States. European toolmakers have been fashioning wood-bodied planes since before the Industrial Revolution.

According to Warren, a beginning woodworker should be aware of their differences because appearances can be deceiving. A cast-iron plane looks trim and slim, while a stocky would plane appears heavy. The opposite is true. A wood-bodied plane is lighter and easier to handle than its heavier cast-iron counterpart.

Also, the cast-iron plane may crack if dropped, ending its usefulness. In contrast, a wood-bodied plane is really seriously damaged by a fall. A metal plane can rust and is cold to the touch, while the European model possesses the durability and warmth of wood.

Surprisingly, despite the craftsmanship required for production of wood-bodied planes, prices are comparable to cast-iron models.

A top of the line cast-iron block plane and its counterpart, an adjustable wood-bodied block plane, can be purchased for about \$30. A little more than \$40 buys a jack plane of either type.

The wooden portion of high quality European plane is composed of two parts; body and sole. Each part is made from different species of carefully seasoned wood. The body is either hornbeam, beech or pearwood. The bottom, or sole, is usually slick, half-inch thick lignun vitae, a dark colored, extremely dense wood with natural oils. In use, the sole polishes to a glass-like finish which allows it to glide easily over other wood.

Shrubs to be topic

A lecture "Selecting Flowering Shrubs" sponsored by the Albany County Cooperative Extension will be held Thursday, April 14 at the Bethlehem Public Library at 7:30 p.m. A soil test clinic will be held at 7 p.m.

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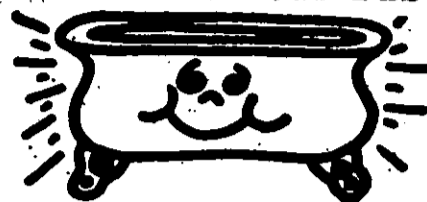
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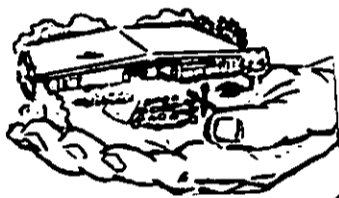
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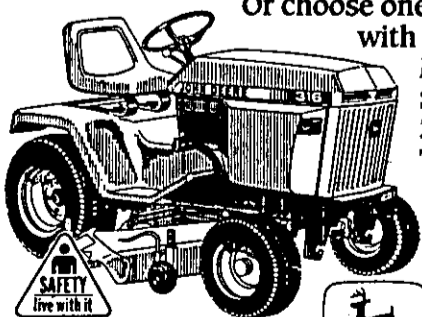


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Watering your lawn

Homeowners can improve the appearance of their lawns by proper watering, but if watering is not done right, it can ruin the lawn. Frequent light sprinklings can make a lawn weedy in no time. Light sprinklings benefit shallow-rooted annual grasses and weeds, whereas more deeply rooted turfgrasses suffer from inadequate moisture. Eventually, turfgrasses will be taken over by undesirable annual grasses and weeds.

A few waterings should keep the lawn fairly green during the summer. The time to water the lawn is when the soil begins to dry out, but before the grass wilts and turns brown. If the grass has a purplish cast and if footprints remain after walking across the lawn, the turfgrass is wilting and needs water.

The best time to water is in the morning if possible, but the timing is not that crucial because good results can be achieved at other

times of the day.

Home lawns, in general, require one to two inches of rainfall or irrigation a week during June, July and August. The rule is to water once or twice a week for long enough periods to apply an inch of water. To test how long to leave the sprinklers running, put out several small cans or cups and calculate how long it takes to obtain one inch of water in these containers. One precaution: never apply water faster than the soil can absorb it. Clay soils absorb water slowly, whereas sandy soil absorb water more rapidly.

Most lawns, if not irrigated, turn brown in mid-summer, but they recover quickly when cool damp weather arrives. If your lawn does not survive an ordinary drought without watering, it probably needs renovating.

For newly established lawns, the first sprinkling must be thorough but gentle to avoid

washing the seed or soil away. Keeping the seedbed moist until the grass is well started is important. Watering may be as frequent as once or twice daily, especially for the first several weeks. After the grass comes up, water more deeply and keep the soil moist, but not soaking wet.

After the second or third mowing, little or no watering should be required unless there is a week or more without rain. As for sodded lawns, daily watering may be needed to keep the sod moist until it has securely rooted. This generally occurs within two to three weeks after sods are in place.

More information on care of home lawns is available from the Cooperative Extension office, Martin Rd. in Voorheesville.

First home buyers opportunity good

According to James A. Ader, executive director of the Albany County Board of Realtors Inc., there are exceptional opportunities now for people interested in buying their first home.

He attributes it to a slowdown in the appreciation rate of residential property coupled with favorable mortgage interest rates and a strong inventory of available homes after the normal winter slowdown.

The average cost of a single-family home in Albany County in 1987 was \$106,000 and has risen slightly during the first quarter of 1988. A check with the Albany County Board of Realtors shows there are 244 single-family homes and 156 multi-family homes currently on the market in Albany County for less than \$100,000.

Not only is there a good inventory of available homes, but also "mortgage rates are at their lowest in several years and the buying power of the dollar has increased. Today's buyers can afford a bigger mortgage," Ader said.

For those with doubts that they could afford to purchase a home in the current market, Ader recommends they consult a realtor. "There is no fee or commitment to buy, and a realtor can suggest ways to break into the market, identify the various types of financing for which a buyer qualifies, and has access to a current listing of available properties that fit the buyer's criteria and budget. Most people may be pleasantly surprised by what they find out."

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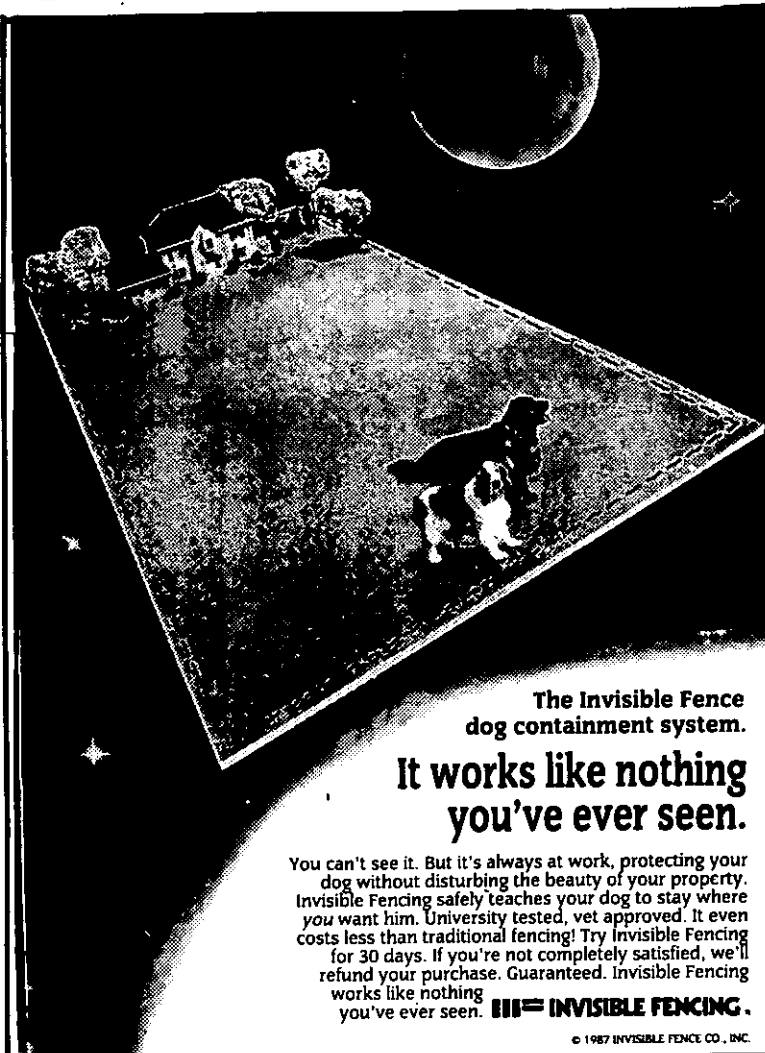
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Spring bulbs need care

To ensure continuous and large blooms year after year, bulbs need feeding while actively growing. A complete fertilizer, such as 5-10-5, should be applied as soon as shoots start poking through the snow or the ground. The amount to use is 3 to 4 pounds per 100 square feet; work the fertilizer into the top two inches of soil.

Spring-flowering bulbs do most of their growing for the entire year by the end of June. It is most beneficial to feed them in the early part of their yearly cycle.

Do not cut off any bulb foliage before leaves begin to yellow. All blooms should be removed as soon as the petals discolor to stop the bulb from using energy to produce a seed pod. Leaves often can be hidden somewhat by planting annuals in the same growing area in late May.

Crowded clumps produce many leaves but few flowers, hence they should be divided again. At the time when the leaves die, separate them and use only the largest bulbs, spaced six to eight inches apart and replanted six to eight inches deep.

Minor bulbs, such as crocus, squills, aconite, and snowdrop need to be three to four inches apart and four to five inches deep.

Crocus bulbs work their way to the soil surface after several years. Just replant the bulb three to four inches deep anytime when they are near the soil surface.

Caroline T. Kiang, Extension Agent



Favorite statues or sculptures add character to the corner of any garden.

Herb garden topic

A talk on Designing and Planting a Herb Garden and on uses of some culinary herbs was the topic at today's meeting of the Bethlehem Garden Club. Mrs. Harry L. Brown, a member of the

Herb Society of America, was the speaker. She planted the herb study garden at Five Rivers Environmental Center and is a member of the restoration team working at the Ten Broeck Mansion Gardens in Albany.

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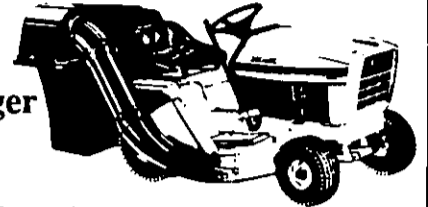
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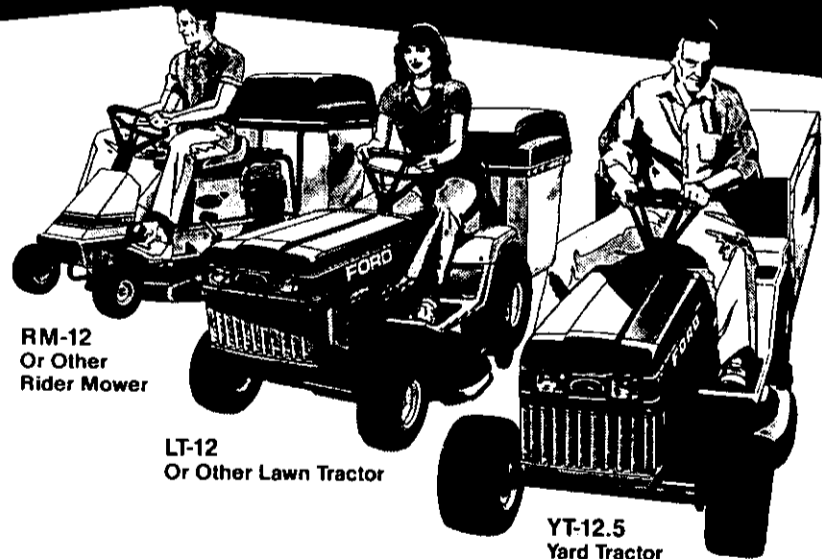
Small investments can pay off big when it comes time to sell your home, according to Walter Kresge, president of the Albany County Board of Realtors, Inc.

Minor improvements, such as a dishwasher, rank high on the list of consumer wants, Kresge said. He points out that although dishwashers can cost as little as \$250, the value added to a house can be as high as \$500 to 200 percent of the cost. Homeowners, Kresge said, "should not underestimate the potential payoff of a freshly painted interior or exterior, cleaned or new carpeting, freshly sanded floors, a fireplace or do-it-yourself yard and garden improvements."

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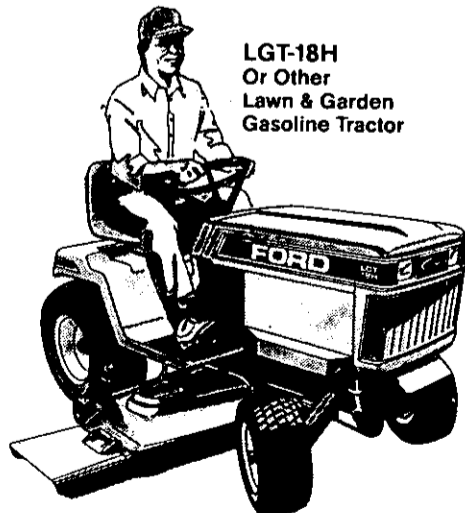
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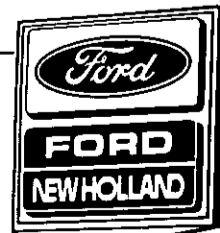
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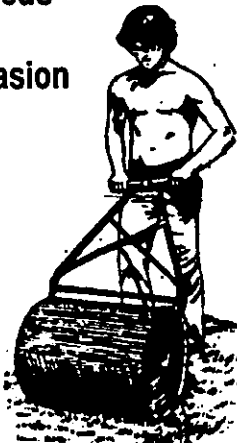


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Radon levels within guidelines

Results of a recently completed study indicate that more than 95 percent of single-family homes in New York have first-floor living area radon levels within guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), according to William D. Cotter, chairman of the State Energy Research and Development Authority.

"New York was the first in the country to do a statewide survey of radon levels in homes," said Cotter, who also is state energy commissioner. "We did it to get a more accurate idea of the extent of the State's radon problem."

Radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas resulting from the decay of natural radium in all

rocks and soils. Depending on location and house construction, radon levels indoors can be much higher than those outdoors.

Extrapolation from data obtained from studies of miners exposed to high concentrations of radon and other carcinogens over long periods indicates that radon gas in the home poses an increased risk of lung cancer. The higher the radon level, the greater the risk.

For the survey, researchers divided the state into seven regions, based on geology and geography. Two thousand homes were tested over the course of a year. U.S. EPA recommends remedial action to reduce radon levels for homes which have an

annual average for the living area about four picocuries (a measurement of radioactivity) of radon per liter of air (pCi/l).

The homes in the survey were equipped with radon monitors for both the first floor living area and the basement. The annual first-floor readings averaged 1.13 pCi/l, with a high of 38.3 pCi/l. Basement readings generally were higher, as expected, because radon usually enters buildings where the structure is in contact with the ground. Higher basement levels generally do not contribute significantly to an individual's average long-term radon exposure, since the time spent in the basements usually is minimal.

The homeowners who participated in the study have been provided with the results for their own homes.

Other homeowners who are concerned about their home's radon level can find out how to get radon detectors free or at cost by calling the Department of Health's toll-free Hotline at 1-800-458-1158. Information on radon and remediation methods may be obtained by calling the toll-free State Energy Hotline at 1-800-342-3722.

The statewide monitoring was part of a major indoor air quality study cosponsored by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, the Niagra Mohawk Power Corp., the Empire State Electric Energy Research Corp., the New York Gas group, Consolidated Edison Co., the U.S.EPA, the Electric Power Research Institute, the Gas Research Institute and the New York Department of State.

Other Energy Authority indoor air quality work is investigating radon levels in homes in the Eastern Southern Tier, as well as radon and other indoor pollutants in homes that have participated in the Department of State's Weatherization Assistance Program.

Development of an accurate, low-cost radon monitor and demonstration of radon mitigation techniques for existing homes and new construction also are being undertaken in Energy Authority projects.

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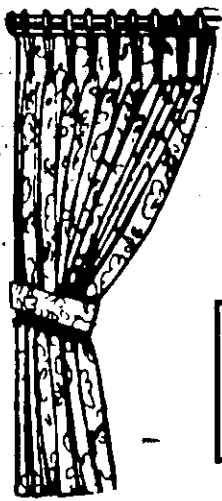
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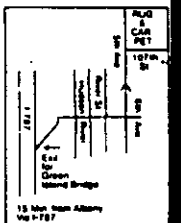


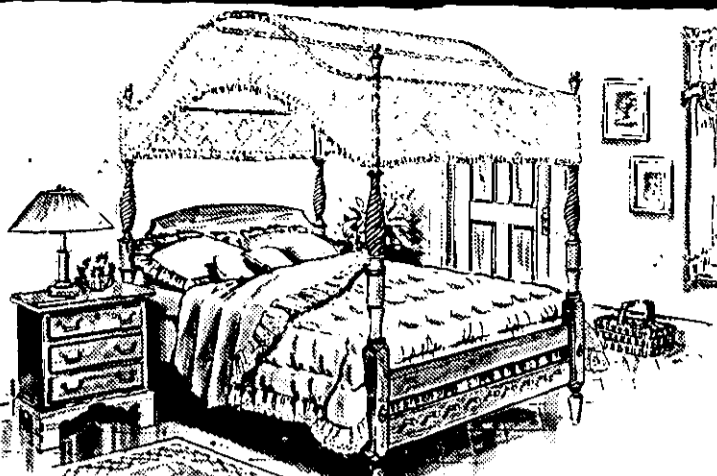
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Sunlight only intensified the colors of this mixed border garden at a Delmar residence last summer.

Deadline for tulip contest

The deadline for entering the 1988 Frontyard Planting Contest of the Albany Tulip Festival is April 29.

For the past 40 years, the Albany Tulip Festival Committee

has encouraged residents of Albany County to plant the city's official flower, the tulip. There are three contest categories: tulips planted in the frontyards of Albany County residents; tulips

planted in church, school, club or business yards in Albany County.

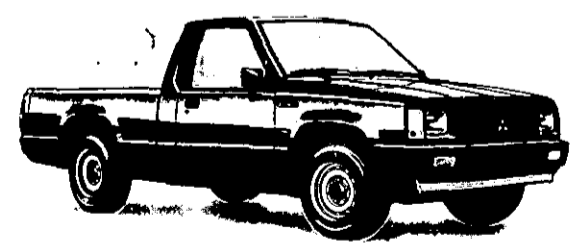
Judging is based on originality of tulip bed design, color placement and hardy growth, according to Joan Mastrianni of Guilderland, contest chairman. Assisting are Evelyn Sturdevan of Albany, former contest chairman, and Elaine Cross of Slingerlands. Judging will take place the first week in May. Winners will receive tulip bulbs as a prize.

For further information or entry blanks, contact Mastrianni at 456-6721.

SUDDENLY THE OBVIOUS CHOICE

STANDARD FEATURES	MITSUBISHI MIGHTY MAX	TOYOTA STANDARD	NISSAN HARDBODY	MAZDA SUNDOWNER	FORD RANGER	ISUZU PUP STANDARD
DUAL ENGINE STABILIZERS	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
TINTED GLASS	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
TRIPMETER	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
CARPETING	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
DUAL MIRRORS	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
HEIGHT-ADJ. STEERING COL.	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
CARGO LAMP	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
DOUBLE WALL CARGO BOX	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
PAYLOAD	1620	1640	1000	1400	1200	1110
ONE TON MODEL AVAILABLE	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO

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Plant diseases identified

A new Cornell Cooperative Extension publication, "Know Your Plant's Disease," has been developed to support the 4-H programs in New York State. Homeowners who care for their landscape plantings also will find the information useful.

Author Juliet E. Carroll, an extension associate in the Department of Plant Pathology at the state College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University, covers symptoms of plant disease and causal agents.

Carroll also explains the management of plant diseases for indoor and outdoor plants, trees and ornamentals.

"Know Your Plant's Disease" is available for \$1.85 from the Cornell Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

Hazards in daily life

The phrase "hazardous waste" brings to mind images of huge dump sites surrounded by barbed wire and entered only by people in full protective suits.

These wastes are generated by most people in the course of daily life. In an effort to provide solutions to this problem, a slide and cassette program is being made available from the Cornell Cooperative Extension to help communities find solutions to their disposal problems.

"Hazardous Waste" explains just what hazardous waste is and who generates it. The program's 58 slides and narration point out environmental factors that contribute to the problem of disposal and containment. "Hazardous Waste" then explores successful ways of dealing with disposal.

For information write to the Audiovisual Department, Cornell University, Distribution Center, 8 Research Park, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.