

Spotlight Newspapers

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March 20, 1991

Vol. XXXV, No. 13

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The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

Democrats vow battle in 1991 against town GOP stronghold

By Mike Larabee

Four years ago Bethlehem Republicans, long the proprietors of political power in town, took it on the chin for the first time in years when Democrat Robert Burns won a town council slot by five votes. Now, with Burns' and colleague Frederick Webster's board seats, the town supervisor's job, and three county legislature positions at issue, 1991 could signal whether Democrats have since made inroads into town GOP control, or it may mark a return to politics as usual in the town.



Kaplowitz

Eight months before voters enter No-

vember booths, the outline for a busy local election season is beginning to take shape.

"We are shooting for a full slate of Democratic candidates," said Matthew Clyne, town Democratic committee chairman. "We expect to have a good campaign season."

"I think in today's world anybody can win running for any office," he said.

Clyne said the Democrats intend to field candidates for the seven town positions — supervisor, the two board slots, highway superintendent, town justice, clerk, and tax collector — and three county legislature seats on this year's election docket.

As always, it will be an uphill battle for Bethlehem Democrats. Outnumbered

8,069 to 4,562 in enrollment according to 1989 Albany County Board of Election data, they have won only one town election this century, when Burns squeaked past Thomas Scherer in 1987. A re-election run this year by Burns would put the party in the unfamiliar position of defending a town incumbent.

Though Burns hasn't said yet whether he intends to seek a second term (he said last week only that he will be making a final decision shortly), his seat has drawn special interest from both parties.

"I think Bob wouldn't have too much difficulty this time. I think he's done a good job," said Clyne. "I think he has the confidence of the public. He certainly has the confidence of the party."

But town Republican Committee

DEMOCRATS/page 10

Road chief to retire

By Mike Larabee

Martin Cross, elected Bethlehem Highway Superintendent 13 times, won't try for number 14 this fall.

Cross, in charge of the highway department since 1966, said Monday he will retire when his current term expires Dec. 31.

"There gets to be a time in life when you just have to slow down," said Cross, who'll be 63 this May. "I feel that I've served the town well."

Cross said he has no specific plans for retirement.

"I just want to retire," he said. "My wife and I want to do a little travelling and just enjoy ourselves."

All told, Cross has more than 35 years service with Bethlehem since he joined the highway department as a truck driver in 1955. Soon after, he became a department foreman and ultimately was appointed superintendent as a successor to Dave Mead, who died in office. He is past president of the New York State Highway Superintendents Association.

Cross said he's seen a great deal of change in the town, and a great deal of growth as well.

"I can remember when a lot of these developments weren't here at all," Cross said. "I built the streets in these areas."

BC board considers more cuts

By Susan Wheeler

The Bethlehem Central School District Board of Education has made a tentative net reduction of \$107,364 in its 1991-92 budget, according to Superintendent Leslie Loomis.

Loomis said the board had initially tentatively cut \$297,800 from its budget at last week's budget workshop, but then proposed \$190,436 in additions. The net reduction of \$107,364 represents the to-

tal reductions after deletions and additions.

The tentative deletions include three instructional staffing positions, according to Loomis. The proposed additions include three elementary teaching positions, he said. The classrooms are needed for the additional teachers and students in the recently renovated elementary schools, he said.

During budget workshops that took

place over the last six weeks, the district proposed cutting \$392,392 from its \$30.5 million budget. An additional \$285,562 in budget reductions will be discussed at tonight's (Wednesday's) regular board meeting. These cuts, if approved by the board, will result a total of \$677,954 deducted from the total budget. Loomis said that would bring the increase from last year's budget to this year's from 10.6

CUTS/page 11

Glenmont man polls residents on Ref-Fuel plan

By Susan Graves

John Thomas, a proponent of American Ref-Fuel's plan to locate a waste-to-energy plant on Cabbage Island in Bethlehem, believes the majority of town residents favor the idea and has conducted two random surveys to prove his point.

Thomas, a Glenmont resident who lives about two miles from the proposed site, began taking an active stance favoring the project about two years ago. "I had received information in the mail and saw how it clashed with the views," being expressed by other residents, he said. Some of those included members of Bethlehem Work on Waste, which has objected to Ref-Fuel's plan since it was introduced.

Thomas said he then decided to try to find out the facts for himself. He said he did some research, and "took it upon myself to visit Hempstead (the location of Ref-Fuel's Long Island facility)."

After his tour of the facility and discussions with plant and health officials, he said he was convinced Ref-Fuel would only benefit Bethlehem by building here.

"How can you say no to a plan that would bring \$2 million to the school district, \$1 million to the property tax base and \$500,000 to the town — every year?" he said.

According to Thomas, the plant "will help solve a problem. Instead of spinning our wheels. If people are for it, let's go. Let's go for a referendum."

Bethlehem Supervisor Ken Ringler said the town "is investigating the legalities of such a referendum."

"If it's legally possible, we might want to consider it," he added.

In keeping with his belief that a majority should decide, Thomas has conducted two sample surveys. "All I did was open the phone book and went through the

POLL/page 12

Thomas' questionnaire

- American Ref-Fuel should be allowed to construct a waste-to-plant in the Town of Bethlehem?
 Yes No
- If you answered "no" to Question 1: A waste-to-energy plant should be built within our town, but not by American Ref-Fuel.
 Yes No
- Under no circumstances should a waste-to-energy plant be built in the Town of Bethlehem.
 Yes No
- The Town of Bethlehem should construct a landfill to be used only by our town.
 Yes No
- The Town of Bethlehem should try to export all of its solid waste to an out-of-town landfill or incinerator.
 Yes No
- Your comments:

Best laid recycling plan for BC could be snagged by lack of funds

By Michael Kagan

The Bethlehem Central School district may have severe problems meeting the Town's commercial recycling requirements due to a lack of facilities and a lack of money after state funding cuts.

The Town will begin large-scale commercial recycling of aluminum, glass, plastic, and newspaper on a voluntary basis April 1. Commercial recycling will be mandatory beginning May 1.

The district may have serious difficulty meeting these requirements because of the added costs involved. Robert Wright, co-owner of Robert Wright Disposal, Inc., which is the district's hauler, said there would "certainly" be an increase in hauling rates to the school when recycling begins.

"There is a distinct expense to sending the second truck (to collect recyclables) around," Wright said. He also pointed out that the company's rates for residential hauling also increased after mandatory residential recycling began,

because of added costs.

Meeting this higher rate will be a challenge for the district because the budget has been frozen since Dec. 19, due to state funding cuts. School Superintendent Leslie Loomis said there is no money to spend on recycling and, in fact, there is no money available to spend on anything, except in the case of an emergency, for example an issue of health and safety.

District Health and Safety Director Larry Gill had no clear idea as to how recycling could be fit into the budget, saying simply "That's a good question." He thought a good question could possibly be sold, but Wright seemed to rule that out: "People think recycling saves money, but actually it costs money."

Collection of recyclables poses another problem for the schools. Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Bruce Houghton said there would not be a problem collecting in cafeteria kitchens, as recyclables could be easily washed

and placed in bins or even plastic bags.

The problem lies in how recyclables that students bring in their lunches from home could be collected. Houghton hoped the schools could just provide bins for the materials and that the town would not require the recyclables to be washed out.

According to Houghton, the district does not have the facilities for students to rinse or wash out recyclables and the district "can't spend much money" to provide these facilities, so washing recyclables would pose "a major logistics problem." But Bethlehem's Recycling Coordinator Sharon Fisher said that all recyclables will have to be washed out.

Houghton said that the district wants to spend "as little as possible" to meet town regulations. Unfortunately, that amount may be more than the district can easily handle.

Bethlehem Recycling Corner

By Sharon Fisher, town recycling coordinator

Spring is a time for renewal, and a time when most of us do major "clean out" and "throwaway projects. Often reusable household goods end up in the trash and inevitably —overcrowded landfills!

There are many homeless, some due to fire, and less fortunate persons who cannot afford the necessities that other take for granted. The biggest calls are for bedding: sheets, blankets, and pillow cases, towels, clothing and baking pans, dishes, glassware, silverware, curtains and drapes, small working appliances: toasters, blenders, hairdryers, etc., lamps and furniture.

If you're at a loss about how to make "one man's trash another man's treasure!" here are a few ideas.

Mary Keeley, a Delmar resident will redirect those reusable cast offs to the proper persons. Besides the items mentioned above, good books, toys, baby items and decent clothes are acceptable. Call her at 439-7921 for instructions.

St. Joseph's Housing, 317 Clinton Avenue, desperately needs all of the mentioned necessities. If you have a sufficient quantity call

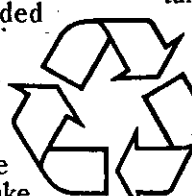
Marlene at 434-4934 to arrange a pick up.

Saturdays, after 12:30 p.m., apartment necessities (no furniture) can be dropped off at the offices of the Evangelical Christian Church, corner of Alexander and Clinton Street in Albany Southend. (This is parallel to South Pearl Street.) Three weeks ago, 9 families were supplied with boxes, nicknamed "Learning-A-Living" by the program director.

The City Rescue Mission at 50 Hudson Avenue, near the Knickerbocker Arena, always welcomes, donations of men's clothing, books, personal items such as razors, soap, Kleenex, toilet tissue, laundry soap, etc. and canned or instant packaged food. Their phone number is 462-0459.

Another place for baby clothes, nursery items, toys, and maternity and street clothes for women is Community Maternity Services, 27-29 North Main Avenue, Albany. Please call ahead, 438-2322.

Please keep in mind that all persons want good clothes to wear. Stained and out of date clothing is sometimes better utilized as rags for cleaning and working on the car.



BOU'S NIGHT ON THE TOWN

Friday, March 22 7:30 P.M. B.C.H.S.

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BETHLEHEM OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

Delmar church hosts concert program

Gabriel Faure's "Requiem" for chorus, string ensemble, harp and organ will be presented on Sunday, March 24 at 4 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

The concert will be performed by the combined choirs of Delmar's First United Methodist Church, St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar and St. John's Episcopal Church of Troy, with Delmar resident Joseph Farrell conducting. Peter Mahigian and Margaret

Dorgan are the collaborating conductors.

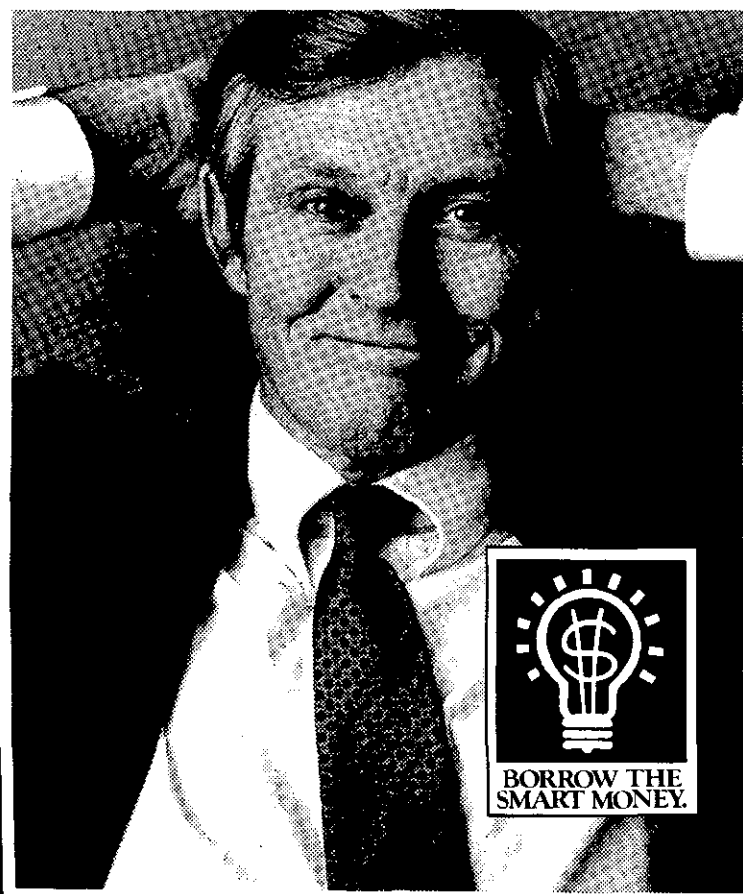
Susan Monohan, Frank Leavitt and Ken Loiacano will be the featured soloists. Selected pieces by Vierne, Mozart and Faure will complete the concert.

A free-will donation will be accepted following the concert.

Post schedules meeting

The Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post No. 1040 American Legion will hold its monthly meeting at the post on Monday, April 1 at 8 p.m.

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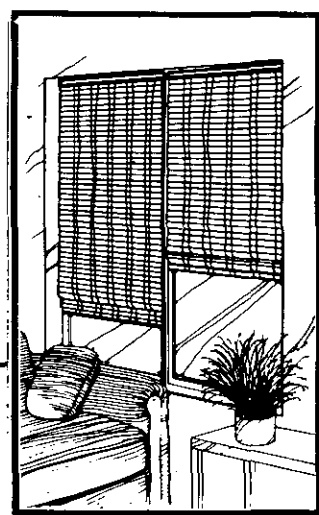
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Bethlehem board ends garbage service

By Mike Larabee

Bethlehem's "table scraps" wet garbage collection will end Friday, April 12, a victim of expected cuts in this year's state budget.

The town board voted to pull the plug on the collection at its regular meeting last Wednesday at Town Hall. The 37-year-old service was implemented in 1954 as a replacement for pickups by local pig farmers.

Town Supervisor Ken Ringler said he was "reluctant" to cut the service, which town officials estimate serves about 1,400 households (revised from an earlier estimate of 2,000). But he said Gov. Mario Cuomo's plan to end state revenue sharing with towns, which would cost Bethlehem \$340,000, forced his hand.

"The governor's budget message, in my opinion, gave us no choice," Ringler said.

Eliminating the service would save roughly \$105,000 annually, according to a fiscal report released by Ringler in February.

The vote in favor of ending the service was 4-0. Councilman Frederick Webster was absent.

Councilman Robert Burns said his decision to vote to end the collection was difficult. "No one wants to take away a service and not have anything to replace it. No one wants to lose votes at election time," Burns said. "But the overall management of the town has to be considered."

One of the board's concerns in ending the service is hardship it that might be imposed on an undetermined number of senior citizen and low-income users. Burns brought up the possibility the town's private haulers could be encouraged to offer reduced rates for customers that generate small amounts of refuse.

Ringler said one hauling firm has already said it would soon offer a special rate for customers producing less waste, and that he expected others to follow suit. "Hopefully, they'll all start moving in that direction," he said.

The wet garbage collection included food scraps only. Last fall the town's solid waste task force recommended it be cancelled, calling it redundant because most users also paid a private hauler to pickup their trash.

Ringler said last week he believes many residents still don't know private haulers will take food garbage as well.

Board members M. Shiela Galvin and Charles Gunner both said they are convinced the savings associated with the cut is not cosmetic, a concern each said they'd had with the proposal. "I have been assured that it will be a true savings," Gunner said. "Considering everything, I don't think we have any other choice but to go ahead," Galvin said. "We have to save everywhere we can."

At a public forum on the issue Feb. 27, a number of residents suggested the town take over residential waste collection. Ringler said Wednesday he thinks the idea deserves consideration but has doubts about whether it would save money or improve service.

"I for one don't believe that government should be getting into private enterprise if they don't have to," he said.

In other business, the board declared itself lead agency in the state Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) of Southgate Commons, a \$30 million shopping center proposed for Route 9W in Glenmont. Plans for the plaza, a venture of Guilderland-based Center Point Development Inc., include a Shop 'N Save supermarket, a Hoyts Theaters movie complex, and a K mart store.

Motorcyclist killed in Route 9W crash

An Albany motorcyclist died of massive internal injuries after he collided with a tractor trailer then was hit by a pickup truck on Route 9W last week, Bethlehem police said.

Howard Corman, 25, of 53 Fleetwood Avenue was pronounced dead at Albany Medical Center Hospital shortly after the Wednesday, March 13, accident occurred, according to Lt. Frederick Holligan. Holligan said Corman lived in the town for most of his life.

Preserving keepsakes focus of program

In March and April, the Bethlehem Public Library will present a two-part series on preserving treasured keepsakes and possessions.

On Thursday, March 28, Joyce S. Zucker will speak on caring for historic and artistic works, and on Wednesday, April 3, Sharon Gavitt Moody will present a talk on preserving treasured family documents and photographs. Both programs are at 7:30 p.m.

Register by calling 439-9314.

Corman, traveling northbound, hit the side of a southbound tractor trailer being driven by Jean Marc Martel, 31, of St. Rosarie Quebec around 9:30 p.m. at the intersection of Corning Hill Road, according to police. Corman was hit by the second truck, driven by 27-year-old Thomas Moher of Turf Park, Clifton Park, as he lay in the road.

Martel was not charged in connection with the accident, but was cited for unrelated equipment violations, Holligan said. Police are still investigating the incident, according to Lt. Richard Vanderbilt. Vanderbilt said additional charges in the crash are "possible but not probable."

Mike Larabee

BETHLEHEM

Clerk won't run for 4th term

By Mike Larabee

Carolyn Lyons, Bethlehem's town clerk for the past seven years and a deputy town clerk for 10 years before that, won't seek reelection this year, she said last week.

The 57-year-old Republican cited family health concerns and the desire to travel with her husband John as reasons for her decision to leave.

Lyons said she feels "sad in a way, and glad in a way" to be leaving the position. "I've worked 40 years out of my life and I feel I've paid my dues," she said. "It's time to relax a little."

But she said she'll miss the diversity of the job and "the nice people that you come in contact with."

"I really enjoy the job very much, but I just feel that it's time to go onto other things," she said.

She said, though, she'll be happy to live without her duties taking minutes at town board meetings that sometimes run long into the night. "I know that it's part of the job and I hope that I've done it adequately, but if I had to pick one thing (that I didn't like about the job), coming back in the evenings to do evening work," would be it, she said.

Lyons said she'd like to see six-year deputy clerk Kathleen Newkirk nominated by the GOP to become the new town clerk.



Carolyn Lyons

"It's entirely up to the Republican Committee, but I'm grooming Kathleen for it, which my predecessor did for me," Lyons said.

Lyons was appointed town clerk in February 1985, replacing Marion Camp. Elected three times to the two-year seat, the only time she ran contested was in November 1985, when she defeated Democrat Joan Uhrick 6,709 to 3,230.

Newkirk said Friday she's interested in running for the position.

Town Republican Committee Chairman Bernard Kaplowitz said Saturday Newkirk's chances for the GOP nomination are strong.

"There's no question as the deputy there's done a good job, she certainly is one of the people that would be considered," he said.

Town Supervisor Ken Ringler said he's "disappointed" Lyons won't run again.

"Carolyn has been an outstanding town clerk," he said. "She's served our community well for eight years, and she will be sorely missed."

Lyons, who's worked for six town supervisors (though she declined to pick a favorite), said the biggest change in the clerk's job since she started has been a gradual increase in the amount of permit and records work under her supervision. "I think there's a lot more volume, for sure," she said. But she said computerization, instituted around 1987, has helped manage the work load.

The town clerk's 1991 salary was set at \$36,194.

Unresolved overruns still haunt Clarksville Water District

By Debi Boucher

As the Clarksville Water District's technical problems near resolution, there are still snags of a stickier sort to be ironed out between the Town of New Scotland and the project's engineer, Laberge Engineering and Consulting Group Ltd. of Colonie.

The town board voted late last year to postpone paying about \$75,000 in outstanding bills from Laberge, and \$140,000 from contractor Memphis Construction, pending release of a full audit on the district, which at the time was still being completed. The audit revealed the project to be some \$173,000 over budget, much of it in engineering fees, which prompted town officials to further delay payments.

After Memphis Construction filed a notice of claim against the town, which Town Attorney Frederick Riester said is a preliminary step to filing a lawsuit, the board last month gave Riester authority to negotiate with Memphis. During the same executive session, Riester was given authority to negotiate with Laberge, which he claimed would probably soon file a similar action.

Tensions arose at this month's town board meeting when Councilman John Sgarlata accused Riester of "defending Laberge to the hilt, when you're being paid by the town."

At issue was the question of whether to grant Laberge access — and what sort of access — to backup paperwork by Williams, Matt & Rutnik, P.C., the Latham-based accounting firm that conducted the audit. The firm refused Laberge's request, according to a Feb. 14 letter to Supervisor Herbert Reilly, citing Rule 301 of the American Institute of Certified

Public Accountants Code of Professional Conduct, which requires "specific consent of the client" before confidential information can be released.

Reilly suggested at the March 6 meeting that the town give Williams, Matt and Rutnik permission to provide the information "at a mutually agreed upon time and place."

Riester said town finances are a matter of public record, but Sgarlata pointed out that the accounting firm's backup paperwork belong to the firm, and "to the taxpayers and residents of this town." Laberge, he said, has "no privilege or rights to this whatsoever."

Responding to Sgarlata's accusation, Riester said "I think it's in the town's best interest" to grant Laberge access. In the end, the resolution passed with Reilly's wording, which Sgarlata termed "a compromise."

Sgarlata later said he feels there are "a lot of unanswered questions" concerning Laberge and the Clarksville Water District. He pointed out that the former town supervisor, Stephen Wallace, who signed the original contract, now works for Laberge; Riester was also town attorney when the 1983 contract was forged. "It raises a lot of questions," said Sgarlata. "I want to be extra careful, extra prudent — I want to know that what we're doing is appropriate."

According to Sgarlata, whenever the Clarksville-Laberge issue is raised, "The slant ... of the town attorney always comes down on the side of the engineer."

At the March meeting, town board members also heard a report from Kevin Phelan, of Dunn Geoscience, the firm that has been working to resolve the nitrate problem discovered in the Clarksville well last spring. Phelan said that the state Department of Health approved results of the latest series of tests at the well site, in which nitrate levels held below five parts per million, well below the 10 parts per million limit for drinking water. Phelan said on Monday that testing had been completed at the site, with the latest readings at 3.2 parts per million.

The board voted to approve a \$13,000 contract with Dunn Geoscience to develop a management plan for the new wellfield, agreeing to delete the last two sections of Dunn's proposal, which concerned preparing bids and cost estimates for development of the well. Phelan said Riester had suggested the two items be left off during a phone conversation prior to the meeting. Dunn Geoscience is "not attempting to usurp Laberge's role," Phelan said at the meeting.

Riester later said he felt the most important task is to get the actual management plan completed regardless the bids and cost estimates.

The wellfield management plan will take about two months to complete, Phelan said, and will be subject to approval by the federal Farmers Home Administration, which has funded much of the project to date. The water district may be operational sometime this summer, "if everything goes well," Phelan said.

The Spotlight (USPS 396-630) is published each Wednesday by Spotlight Newspapers, Inc., 125 Adams St., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. 2nd Class Postage paid at Delmar, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Subscription rates: Albany County, one year \$24.00, two years \$48.00; elsewhere one year \$32.00.

Waste group grew from humble beginnings

By Susan Graves

Nearly two years ago, a local watchdog group was formed to reach out and touch the community about the environment.

Bethlehem Work On Waste grew from humble beginnings. Delmar resident Linda Anne Burtis helped light the fire with a phone call to people about siting an incineration burn plant in Bethlehem.

"One person got on the phone and reached out to people she thought would be concerned," said Elizabeth Lyons of Glenmont, an active member of BWOW. Lyons said many people responded to that initial call, "We can't let that (incineration) happen in town," she said.

"We had a common interest," said Betty Albright of Glenmont, one of the original group of residents who were instrumental in BWOW's formation. Those residents came from diverse backgrounds and had no common tie except their concern for the environment, she said. Albright would prefer to focus the group's energy on the three Rs, reduction, reuse and recycling. Instead, "We have to waste so much time trying to find out what Ref-Fuel is doing," she said, "Education is the most important thing."

Incineration, Albright said, "encourages the easy way out."

In April, 14 people met to plan a strategy. "The first thing needed was to educate the community about incineration. From day one we started planning a forum which we had in June (1989)," Lyons said.

The Bethlehem group formed as an independent entity and receives no support from and is not



Elizabeth Lyons

affiliated with any other group statewide.

By June 12 when Dr. Paul Connett, national head of Work on Waste, U.S.A., came to speak at town hall, the group had become a real presence. Nearly 300 people attended the first forum, including representatives from American Ref-Fuel, who handed out leaflets to people on their way into town hall. Connett, a vocal opponent of incineration, was described as a person who was "not an expert on health risk issues," who drew "invalid conclusions" and was "ineffective in his own county," in the Ref-Fuel flyers.

"I still could get outraged at how they usurped our meeting," Burtis said, "They were very clever. They grabbed people and people thought the handouts were ours."

According to Burtis, Ref-Fuel "has lived up to every critic they've ever had."

Connett's effectiveness in St. Lawrence County speaks for itself, Lyons said. "He obviously was effective because the eventual outcome of the (proposed) plant was that it was defeated."

But at the next Bethlehem forum in June of 1990, BWOW was prepared to deal with the Ref-Fuel flyers. Lyons said members wore T-shirts so they were easily recognized, and also provided recycling bins for people who wished to dispose of the Ref-Fuel flyers. At the first forum, "We just said, 'Give it back to them,'" Lyons said.

But Ref-Fuel Project Manager Kevin Cmunt said the leaflets were passed out so that people would understand "who was presenting the information." He believes the majority of town residents support the project. "There's a host interested (teachers, union leaders, politicians) in seeing the project move forward," he said.

Cmunt credits opposition groups such as BWOW with having "done good things such as making people environmentally conscious. He added he did not "appreciate" the tactics BWOW uses such as spreading false information. "If we did that, the media would be all over us."

Reaching out to the community was far more difficult for the local group than for Ref-Fuel, Albright said, since the firm had money to run full-page ads in local newspapers. According to Albright, "There wasn't anybody who wasn't already busy," before becoming involved with BWOW. "It just became your life — 40 hour weeks for the first year," she said, "We knew our families would have to pay for it too."

BWOW's efforts rely on "passing the can," and money it collects is primarily used for mailings. About 150 people are dues-paying members. A core group of about 20 do most of the leg work. Some members attend zoning and town board meetings while others focus on the newsletter. "It depends on who has the time," Lyons said.

Lyons is involved as a mentor at the high school in an attempt to develop a district-wide recycling plan.

She is also advocating waste reduction. "Very little attention is given to wastereduction," she said.

One BWOW member, Liz McCoy, initially got involved with the group to become more acquainted with the issues. When Ref-Fuel came out with an application for the plant on Cabbage Island and began advertising in local newspapers, she said she became very active in the group.

She believes the group reflects the sentiments of the majority of town residents and that, "There are ways we can influence what's going on."

"We're pleased with the way we've impacted what's occurring," she said.

Part of that impact involves the town's response to BWOW's concerns. McCoy, who also sits on the town's Solid Waste Task Force, has challenged the Ref-Fuel proposal from the beginning since it appeared to violate an existing town ordinance, prohibiting the town from taking in waste from other communities. The group also took issue with the legality of the town granting lead agency status to the state Department of Environmental Control.

Though BWOW is loosely structured — there are no officers — McCoy said the group "works well without a lot of bureaucracy."

She hopes that BWOW's work will help to prevent any community from "having to go through what we have," she said.

But some residents believe BWOW's views do not reflect the majority's view. John Thomas said though he can understand the group's concerns and agrees with its work to reuse, recycle and reduce, he doesn't think incineration should be ruled out. "I have no problem with waste reduction, but even if we achieve 50 percent (reduction), what do we do with the rest?"

He said there are 130 incineration plants throughout the U.S. and that American Ref-Fuel has a proven safe track record. "Just to oppose is not being responsible," he said.

In his opinion, most Bethlehem residents would favor the Ref-Fuel plant. He said in January, at his own expense, he sent 100 questionnaires to residents. The response to the at-random poll of the 45 people who responded was 34 yes, 10 no and one abstention. And, he added, "I learned a lot from their comments."

Thomas advocates putting the question up for a public vote. "I say let's have a referendum and decide it."

"Somehow let the silent majority be heard."

AARP offers tax help to senior citizens

For senior citizens who need help with their taxes, the AARP will be available, free of charge, at the Voorheesville Public Library on April 3 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call the library's reference desk at 765-2791.

Participants must bring copies of last year's returns and all tax-related materials including tax forms and W-2's for the current year.

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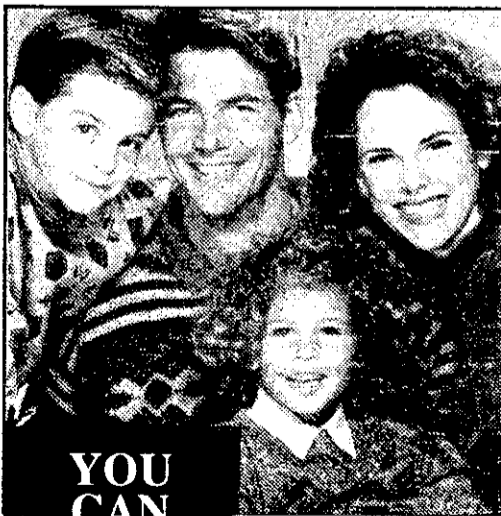
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Fantastic Sam's

Delaware Plaza, Delmar

BC schools targeted for roof work

By Susan Wheeler

Three Bethlehem Central schools are scheduled to receive partial roof replacement during the summer, according to Anthony Martino, an architect with Stetson-Harza, Inc. in Syracuse.

The \$1.3 million proposed project, to be paid for by funds allocated for roofing work in the district's \$11.6 million bond issue, will replace roofs on the high school, Hamagrael and Glenmont elementary schools, Martino said at a recent board of education meeting. He said the three schools were identified as the priority for replacement work because asbestos is in the roofing membranes and the roofs' flashing. The district's other five schools have no problems that require immediate attention, he said.

The board of education gave the district authorization to submit the roofing replacement proposal to the state Education Department, according to Superintendent Leslie Loomis. The Edu-

cation Department approves all costly building projects throughout the state. Once it clears the project, the district will seek bids for the work, Loomis said.

Asbestos was discovered in the roofs in the late 1980s, according to Bruce Houghton, superintendent of buildings and grounds. The federal government set regulations on asbestos removal in October 1987, he said. But these regulations were not specific, he said. "There were no clear regulations how to handle" the removal, he said.

Work on the roofing project was halted until an asbestos specialist was found, Loomis said. At that time, asbestos handling and removal was "so expensive" that the district postponed the project, he said.

"We feel the price has leveled off," Loomis said.

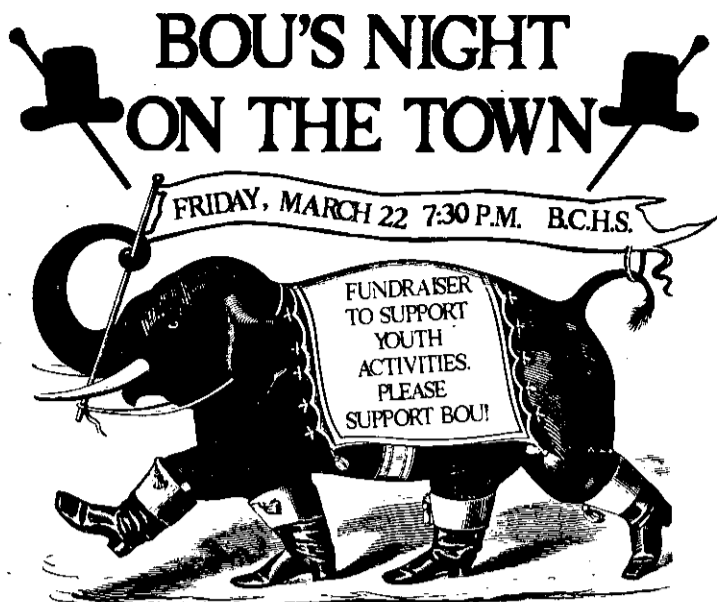
According to Martino, the roofing industry "has taken hold of the issue (asbestos removal)." Com-

panies are now more familiar with its removal, and the cost gap has closed, although it remains two to three times more than anticipated by the district in 1989, he said.

The asbestos levels in the three schools vary, with the highest area of asbestos in the high school, according to Houghton. Although the ceilings in the high school have asbestos-containing materials in them, he said, there are "no plans" for removal of the ceilings because it would cost too much.

"Any level (of asbestos) within a building is a potential problem," Houghton said. "Many school districts have done more harm by removing it than than if they managed it according to regulations."

When removal begins, scheduled during summer vacation, measures will be taken to ensure it is no threat to the surrounding environment or workers, Martino said.



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BETHLEHEM OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

BOU auction offers unique services at its annual fund-raiser

By Susan Graves

Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited is pulling out all the stops for this year's live auction.

BOU's only yearly fund-raiser will have something for everyone. The black-tie affair is set for Friday, March 22, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the high school.

Holly Billings, BOU president, is hoping for a good turnout. Last year more than 500 people participated in the event, which raised \$10,000. The non-profit community organization is dedicated to providing teenagers with alternatives to drugs and alcohol. The group underwrites the cost of several programs and clubs in the schools but tries to provide more than just monetary support. "BOU is trying to do things involving effort, energy and time," Billings said. Members are currently working to restore "The Pit" in the middle school.

That philosophy is reflected in some of the auction offerings. "Many services such as an Adirondack hike with professional Jean-

ette Rice," will be offered. Hamagrael Principal Joseph Schaefer will escort two pupils to lunch, and Nancy Smith is offering a day of rock climbing. Dr. Andrew Sullivan is donating the use of his family's indoor pool for a child's birthday party.

In addition, A Day at the Races with box seats (any day but Saturday) and numerous vacation homes will be available for the highest bidder.

"It's more fun to donate some-

thing you like to do," she said. "It's people giving their time in an exciting way."

Auctioneer Dave Murphy will also be back this year. Tickets for the live auction are \$5 and can be bought in advance at the Main Square Office. They will also be available at the door.

There will be lots of good food available including gourmet desserts and Main Square's Ben & Jerry's ice cream.

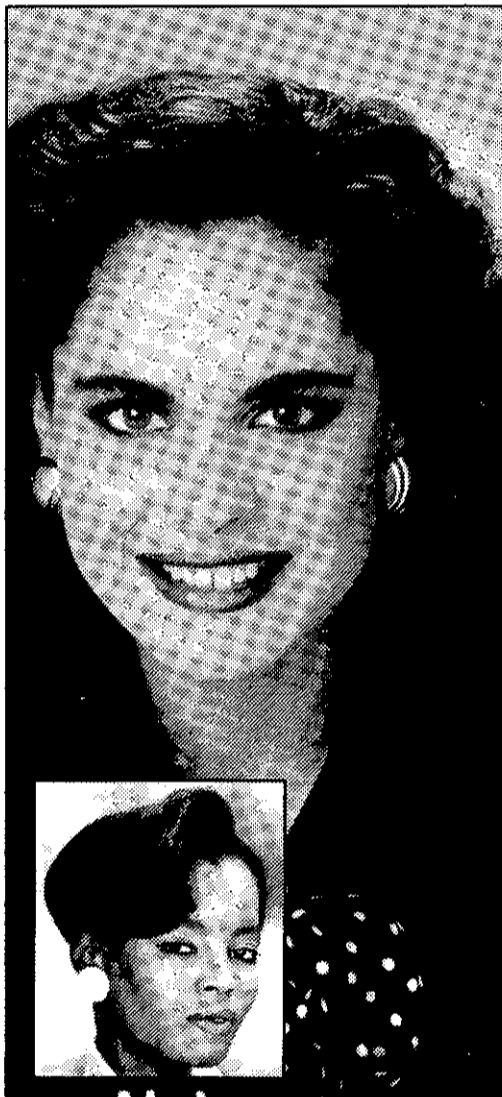
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Will the colonies rebel?

"No taxation without representation!" was the rallying cry of the American colonials in the 18th century. Its counterpart was "Don't tread on me!" and some of the accompanying activities included a tea party, a shootout on the Common, emergency sessions of hot-heads, and eight years of skirmishing known as the American Revolution. "I guess we taught King George a lesson!" was no doubt a popular expression.

Even though one of the results was the creation of the United States Congress, that rebellion generally is considered to have been a beneficial development. Over the years, Congresses have successively ceded the taxing power to the federal government, but messily have left some revenues to the former provinces now known as states.

Enter Mario Cuomo precisely 200 years after the end of the rebellion. While his management style does fall somewhere short of that of George III, the imperious approach is increasingly visible. Our Governor, a self-styled Lincoln scholar, might well re-focus on the "Don't tread on me" era of popular response to royal excesses. Lessons presumably learned by King George haven't translated with thorough effectiveness down the years. As a partial result, a current poll is said to find a sharp decline in citizens' view of the merit of their governing here in New York.

"Who are you?" "I am old!"

Two considerable challenges confront Americans as we close in on the 21st century, grappling with questions of "what do we do with" people who were born in the first part of the 20th.

Though these challenges relate to an already existing, identifiable population, they will not disappear along with that population but will, instead, become more and more flagrant.

Actually, the two issues deal with middle-aged-to-elderly people at opposing ends of that part of life branded as "old." (The headline on this commentary is a fragment of dialogue that reflects such a public attitude—and an individual state of mind.)

We have an overflowing treasury of skills, of abilities, of wisdom born in experience—and of men and women who have finally come face to face with the so-called retirement forced upon them by statute or expectation.

This is a resource so largely untapped that it verges on a national shame. Trained to perform and produce, millions of people even in their fifties (and extending into the mid-seventies) are cast adrift without responsibilities, without the means to continue their productive lives, often without the means to maintain reasonable standards of living. But even in the presence of adequate pensions, life tends to reflect those shibboleths of the gold-watch ceremony: "I look forward to golf, gardening, grandchildren, reading, Florida..."

Interrupted at a stage that truly is now mid-life, these castaways are beached in an atmosphere as arid as the Saudi desert. Their contributions to society are, essentially, at an end. Personal tribulations aside, their larg-

Editorials

After years of free-and-easy programming, hiring, spending (and taxing), the Point of No Return has been reached — as was predictable during those Rockefeller-Carey-Cuomo go-go years.

The Governor lacks enough thumbs to plug all the holes in the budgetary dike, though he rushes from one unhappy remedy to another. Some involve reducing outgo; others assume additional taxes to be imposed by the State; but the most infamous solution of all throws the State's burden onto local communities: counties, cities, towns, special districts.

Most recent among a welter of nostrums is the Governor's taxation-without-representation idea. To patch up the State's deficit, he deigns to permit New York's counties to levy additional sales taxes. The counties and their subdivisions thus would have no more than a Hobson's choice. Take this (the Governor offers); or impose more taxes on property. The purpose? Merely to make up for some of the State assistance that he is withdrawing. Such local sales taxes actually would be fulfilling the State's responsibility without the State acknowledging that responsibility: Taxation without appropriate representation.

Will the Cuomo tread be light enough to avert a rebellion?

est tragedy collectively is the nation's skeptical inability to reabsorb them into meaningful, usefully productive lives. The resource is there, rarified to go, with a vigor and healthfulness undreamed of only a very few decades ago. So is the challenge there, awaiting the indomitable thrust of a new Schwarzkopf.

In the contrary balance of life's scale are the infirm elderly who—at increasingly advanced years—are beginning to find routine demands of daily life more and more difficult or impossible. Institutionalizing them in one stage or another of specialized care is an obvious solution. It is, in effect, now an unofficial national policy. As the life span extends gradually—but, in truth, dramatically—this "problem" group of citizens comes to be relegated to futures just about as imaginative as the confining of non-violent criminals.

The "crime" of these infirm elderly is in having lived too long. Truly, their productive years have slipped away. But that is no excuse for warehousing them at elevated cost but diminished reason for being. The ungrateful inattention to them as individuals is as much a disgrace as previously ignoring their abilities was a shame.

The challenge for recognizing the plight of the infirm is to develop, community by community, more feasibly effective means of providing supportive care (including medical) within their own homes.

Organizations, some funded through governmental units and some purely voluntary, are striving to provide adequately for today's "senior citizens." Their laudable efforts can profitably be buttressed and channeled in directions such as we have tried to identify.

Glenmont Plaza trash draws neighbor's ire

Editor, The Spotlight:

It has been a full season since Glenmont Plaza opened. The debris including flyers, coffee cups, plastic bags, and other paper advertising, has made my property and surrounding properties a trash heap.

The grounds of the plaza itself are messy and unsightly. No sincere efforts or care have been taken to clean the "green areas," and a minimum effort has been given to the parking lots. If so little attention is taken to keep these areas neat, it must be noted, no one cares at all about neighboring properties.

This trash not only constitutes a public and private nuisance, but it is defacing my property and lowering the value of my land. The culvert along 9-W is becoming filled with wet, soggy papers. This could lead to maintenance and flooding problems.

I personally deliver to the people at the shopping center (Grand Union being the worst culprit) at least two to four plastic bags of trash weekly. I clean one area—and more is waiting to fly in its place. I cannot keep this effort going alone. Someone representing the stores and plaza must take responsibility. If it cannot be from conscience and care, at least they should have some community pride.

The Town of Bethlehem and business people, along with many volunteers, dedicate a day of beautification each spring to care for and clean areas seen by visitors and local people. This has become a fine community project. Unfortunately, the Center of Bethlehem has become a fine community trash

Vox Pop

pile. Surely, this is not the impression the town and merchants want to convey to all coming into the community?

Joan R. Whiteley

Glenmont

Tell school board quality is basic, parents are urged

Editor, The Spotlight:

Urge all parents to get involved in budgeting decisions now in progress in Bethlehem Central School District.

These are tough financial times, and many decisions are being made which will affect our children's education. Now is the time for you to become aware of the issues and let school board members know what is important to you. It need not be a fancy letter—a simple letter, without anger, stating what you think the priorities should be, is all that is needed. We need to let the board know that the public wants a quality system, and that we'll support a budget which ensures that.

Please attend these board and PTA meetings, become aware of the cuts, and make your voices heard. Deficiencies in staffing will make the elementary class sizes much too large—up to 31 children in some cases. Become aware, let your feelings be known. You can make a difference.

Ann C. Schucker

Delmar More letters on Page 8.

Words for the week

Fledgling: A young bird just fledged (having grown the feathers necessary for flying). Also, a young, inexperienced person.

Monoculture: The raising of only one crop or product without using the land for other purposes.

Furrow: A narrow groove made in the ground by a plow; anything resembling this, as a deep, narrow rut made by a wheel; a deep wrinkle in the face, etc.

Subtle: Capable of making or noticing fine distinctions in meaning, etc. Also: marked by, or requiring, mental keenness; delicately skillful or cover — deft or ingenious; delicately suggestive — not grossly obvious. Not open or direct — crafty, sly. Working insidiously, not easily detected.

Discernible: Capable of being perceived or recognized; made out clearly. Recognized as separate or different.

THE SPOTLIGHT

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The Spotlight (USPS 396-630) is published each Wednesday by Spotlight Newspapers, Inc., 125 Adams St., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Second class postage paid at Delmar, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Subscription rates: Albany County, one year \$24.00, two years \$48.00; elsewhere one year \$32.00.

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Uncle Dudley

By any other name: Rose and Bill

Three years ago I wrote a column titled "What's in a name?" that mentioned a noticeable trend in the way people list their names in the telephone directory.

Comparing the directory just out at that time with one left over from a few years before, the column observed—and applauded—the greater readiness of couples to include the given names of both persons rather than only that of the male "head of the house," as he once was known.

That little trend, which the column described as "evident," has since become much more so. In your new directory, which the phone company insists on labeling as "Nynex yellow pages," you can spot the movement without any difficulty on any of the 839 white pages.

Certainly, the couples who have chosen the "democratic" way of identifying themselves remain far in the minority. I estimate that each page contains about 400 listings of individual residential numbers. On a typical page (by actual count), you'll now find 20 to 30 household entries in which both male and female names are included. That's approximately 5 percent to less than 8 percent—no more than a brave showing. But consider that back in the mid-eighties the "John and Mary" listings were all but non-existent.

On a dozen or so pages, scattered randomly throughout the

Constant Reader

Who won the media war?

Many of Constant Reader's readers will be attracted to the March 18 issue of "New York" magazine by the article featured on the cover, but I was primarily interested in two other pieces, much shorter. Let's dispose of the 10-page "cover story" first.

It describes, in some detail the "radical exercise therapy" developed by an unorthodox physician, Dr. Irving Dardik, who has developed a program for working with patients who have chronic diseases and disorders.

The writer, Tony Schwartz (Trump's first biographer), states that he has confirmed that Dr. Dardik "has had some extraordinary results treating patients with illnesses ranging from anorexia nervosa to multiple sclerosis." In his own case, Dr. Dardik testifies, he has cured himself of ankylosing spondylitis (a degenerative disease of the connective tissue of the spine made familiar to many by Norman Cousins) and also of a phobia, fear of flying. What he calls "making waves of energy" is alleged by him to be "a way of using the body's physiology in healthy ways to break sick habits." Persons with chronic health problems might well find the article interesting and even helpful.

I was personally more interested in "Who won the media war?" by the magazine's regular media reviewer, Edwin Diamond. Noting that "the biggest winners in the Gulf were Bush, the Pentagon's AirLand doctrine, Schwarzkopf, 'our' Arabs, and the troops in the field," he cites "some notable winners in the media as well."

directory, that I studied the man-and-woman listings this year proved to be consistently close to 18 percent more frequent than in the 1990 book. That rate of increase, over a five-year period since 1985, obviously would approximate 100 percent.

It seems to me that what is apparent here is not merely a go-with-the-flow adaptability within more families, but an active recognition that the head-of-the-house is no longer a singular responsibility, if it ever was. The dual listings reflect changes in attitudes, a more general recognition of the existence of true partnerships. The Lord of the Manor is no more, and this fragment of sociology attests to that.

There's a further interesting angle. In a portion of the dual listings, it's not "John and Mary" but, rather, "Mary and John."

This, too, is a phenomenon that is increasing over the years. As of 1991, in approximately one of every eight dual listings, a woman's name precedes the man's. The reasons behind this sub-trend are obscure, but guesses are possible: Just as the swelling number of two-income families presumably helped start the dual listings, it seems plausible that the reverse twist has been fostered by the same fact of life. But just possibly elements of courtesy, chivalry—or accumulated guilt—may be fac-

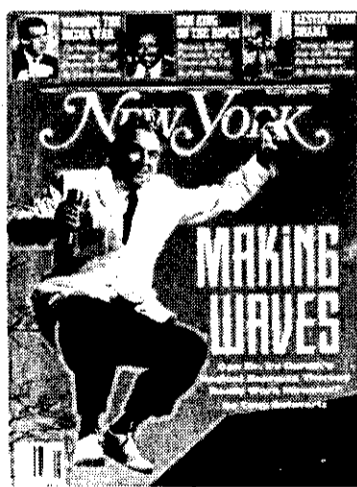
tors. Or, on the other hand, perhaps the female member of the household has elected to underscore her own status in this way. Your intimation is as good as mine.

Without having made a numerical comparison my impression is that this entire trend appears somewhat more frequently in suburban areas than in the cities. To whatever extent that is true, the supporting causes are reasonably suggestible. For one thing, our suburban areas are more likely to be where new homes are established, complete with brand-new listings.

A couple of little glimpses of life emerged in my reading of the directories' pages (1990 and 1991). I noted an entry among the "D" surnames that was published this way: Debra and Larry. A short time later, I checked off another entry that had a familiar ring: Larry and Debra. Same number, same address. Just a couple that had hit upon a happy medium.

Another couple perplexed me. (I won't use the actual names—let's just call them the Smiths.) In the 1990 directory, these Smiths were listed this way: *Smith, Rose and William*. At the same address (and with the same phone number) in the 1991 directory, the Smiths' entry was: *William and Lillian*. Just one more family that found its answer by reestablishing itself. With a revealing reversal, yet!

Among these were CNN and Arnett; ABC and Jennings; Newsweek; prognosticators William Safire and Henry Kissinger. Big losers were William Luttwak, John McLaughlin (the shouting one), and Bob Simon (in captivity 40 days as a penalty for his attempted enterprise beyond the "pool reporting.")



I don't watch Mr. Jennings, so I can't rightly concur or deny the Diamond critique to the effect that the ABC anchor, "in suit and tie in the studio . . . provided stability; the heavy-duty anchor in the Gulf news storm; (and) her remembered to thank people for their work."

Accordingly, while he recognizes "the fine work" done by Dan Rather and Tom Brokaw who "performed with their usual competence—but were out of position," his estimate never really justifies this put-down. He says, in fact, that the Rather-Brokaw "forays produced some memorable television." For example: "Viewers saw Rather—intense, crouching, illu-

minated only by a CBS camera—poking through Iraqi pillboxes and bunkers, (speaking) in a low monotone, giving an inventory of the arms cache scattered throughout the abandoned positions. . . The viewer tensed as well: 'Watch it, Dan! They might be booby-trapped.'"

You very likely would find persuasive insights in Joe Klein's "Peace in our time?" analysis of prospects in the Middle East. Among his posers: "Will the Saudis return to their traditional pattern of buying off aggressors rather than standing up to them? Will Mubarak continue his statesman-like ways or to be forced into a more defensive posture by the poverty and Islamic radicalism infecting his people? And the Syrians—well, no one with any sense has illusions about the Syrians."

"The U.S. will try to nurse the alliance into the 20th century," is Mr. Klein's conclusion, "through creative diplomacy; Israelis fear the creativity will come at their expense."

In the preceding (March 11) issue of "New York," Joe Klein wrote the featured article, headed somewhat sardonically, "President for Life."

"Generations of Americans—the baby-boomers and all those who came after—had never seen their government act decisively, honorably, or effectively on a grand scale. Operation Desert Storm rectified that. . . If any election had been held last week, Bush might have been voted President for Life. It was a moment to savor: perhaps not the beginning of a New World Order, but certainly the end of a fretful, querulous time."

Look upward (and down) for spring harbingers

The contributor of this Point of View has been, for the past 12 years, director of Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, operated by the State Department of Environmental Conservation with 300 acres of natural habitat for outdoor learning. At Cornell University, he was a major in wildlife science. He has been on the center staff since 1973. He and his family live in the Town of New Scotland. Active in the Hudson Mohawk Bird Club and the Schodack Aviation Association, he has been a pilot for 20 years. He and his father flew a small plane to Alaska last year.

Point of View

By Alan A. Mapes

As we happily greet the official advent of spring today, we can be additionally cheered by the presence of an abundance of "early birds"—who felt enough of the subtle signs of seasonal change in their wintering habitats to bring them winging north in response to the subtle urge for nesting.

Arriving sooner than they ordinarily do, for example, have been red-winged blackbirds, common grackles, brownheaded cowbirds, and the killdeer with its piercing cry.

And bluebirds, the delight of even the backyard watcher, can be seen flying in and out of their nesting boxes where they will soon have established themselves.



Some of the early arrivals began to be seen hereabout by mid-February; others (killdeer) by the end of that month. Their ranks are multiplied by the increasing willingness of geese and ducks to winter-over in the Capital District. Since the dry winter of 1988, when cornfields were open and available; and encouraged by recent mild winters with extra food supplies, Canada geese as well as mallards and some other ducks have been remaining and nesting rather than heading south. This is true in many parts of New York State, with survival ensured by leftover corn in the fields, and open water for safe roosts at night.

A rough census suggest that as many as 10 thousand geese have wintered in the Capital District this past season. Their numbers at Tomhannock, Alcove and Vly reservoirs are substantial. And farther west, at two of the Finger Lakes, 100 thousand geese were estimated in a January count.

But here we are at the point where, as John Burroughs expressed it, "the door of the seasons first stands ajar a little." Soon you can expect to be finding other waterfowl such as the wood duck. And also the eastern phoebe, the eastern meadowlark, the common snipe, and the related American woodcock (whose mating dance will be sought out by voyeuristic birdwatchers at Five Rivers in an evening walk scheduled for April 5.) And you probably will have little trouble in spotting the big, dark, soaring turkey vultures.

When will we see the first robin? you're asking. They'll show up when the ground has warmed and becomes soft. Actually, robins have been around us all winter—but they are to be found in brushy areas where they've had ready access to berries and fruits. Thickets near the Hudson River south of Albany are a favored wintering area.

We may mistakenly tend to think of migration as an event that occurs all at once. Far from it; migration is a long process, covering perhaps three months. Some of the last returning birds (willow flycatcher, blackpoll warblers) will not be on hand until late May.

And then, by mid-July, the migrations southward will be beginning with warblers and sandpipers; this movement will continue into November. Meanwhile, the nesting urge has been fulfilled very efficiently: For songbirds, a fortnight for the hatching of eggs; scarcely longer than that for the young to test their wings; a few short weeks with their parents—and then it's time to go. In fact, on the tundra to our north, the parent sandpipers depart, leaving the fledglings to follow—flying off alone by instinct into lands they have never seen.

We in the north like to think of our area as home for migrating species. In reality, many are here only for a short nesting season—they spend a great deal more time in the tropics than they grant us.

Spring's arrival should deliver an environmental message, too. The current mania for treating lawns with insect-and weed-killing chemicals means that we are poisoning those lawns with substances that can kill birdlife as well as unwanted pests (which themselves may have useful aspects).

SPRING/Page 8

Matters of Opinion

Alternative suggested to cable's monopoly

Editor, The Spotlight:

The letter by Jim Peters in last week's *Spotlight* on the imperialistic business practices of the Cablevision monopoly was right on target. In few areas, other than the cable TV, are we victims of unregulated monopolies.

But do not despair, Red Sox and Bruin fans. We are not quite as much at the mercy of Cablevision and unresponsive federal regulators as it may appear. Wireless cable is available in much of Bethlehem. Capital Wireless, located in Ballston Spa with a signal tower in the Helderbergs, carries WSBK, and its basic service is cheaper than Cablevision's.

Ultimately, as consumers, our only real leverage with the cable monopoly is economic. If a couple of hundred Bethlehem subscribers dropped Cablevision in favor of Capital Wireless, that would give a very clear message on consumer preference that might make Cablevision more responsible to consumers the next time it makes a unilateral decision.

Delmar

Hank Steadman

Cable company can't count, complaint charges

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am writing to concur with Dr. Peters' letter in which he states an alternative cable company should be found for the town. Though there was no indication of dissatisfaction in the press coverage of the Oct. 18 cable meeting at Town Hall, the tenor of those in attendance indicated we are not the only two dissatisfied with the cable company. With standing room only, every person who spoke at that meeting had serious complaints about the company. Even the library and the school district seemed displeased with current service.

However, here my complaint differs from Dr. Peters'. He at least has cable, of some sort. Even though there is cable service a half-mile or less from my home, we in the River Road/Van Wies Point/Wemple Road area have been denied cable for almost as many reasons as there are neighbors. One would mind a bit less if the company could at least get its story straight.

In my case, four years ago, I was told my house was too far from

town. Then it was too "rural." Then "there must be 35 houses per linear mile." It is more than irksome to drive through areas farther from town, more rural, and with a density of approximately 20 houses—areas serviced with cable for years.

Do some people have friends? Political influence? Why do some areas have access to cable at one density while others are denied?

As late as September 1990, the cable company insisted there are only 30 houses on Van Wies Point Road, "fewer than the required 35." As verified by the president of the neighborhood association, there are 60 houses on that road, double the number the cable company

had counted. With the exception of five or six of recent construction, these homes have been there for 20, 30, or, in some cases, even 100 years.

It does not take a genius to count houses! How come the company was so far off? And why does it continue to deny this neighborhood service while, only months ago, installing cable in "heavily populated" areas such as the vicinity of Stone Ends Motel, which recently began sporting an HBO banner?

It baffles me that our Adirondack mountain home—in a town with fewer houses than this neighborhood and seven miles from the

next nearest village—has had cable from two countries, three states, and two provinces for well over ten years. Yet, here in one of the more affluent and highly taxed suburban towns, 3.7 miles from the capital of the Empire State and .5 mile from existing cable, we are too "rural" for service. Who's kidding whom?

I hope other residents of the town will voice their dissatisfaction as they did at October's meeting. It is time our officials knew how poorly this cable company deals with the public, including its own customers.

Barbara Burt

Glenmont

Point of View: spring

(From Page 7)

Fortunately, there is a discernible trend toward low-maintenance lawns, as described effectively in a Point of View column last summer by Paul Steinkamp of Helderledge. We need to recognize that chemical treatments have their own price: poisoning creatures and tainting streams and ponds through runoff. An absolutely perfect green lawn is not a necessity.

To this principle I can add personal testimony. My five-year-old lawn contains grasses mixed with white clover. No fertilizers are employed; mowing is the sole treatment. In the farther reaches of our few acres, mowing is done only a couple of times a season. In even the driest hot summer, the lawn has stayed a vigorous, healthy green. Clovers and other legumes help to fix nitrogen into the soil, a most desirable process not accomplished in a monoculture of grass. The more we factor into a living community, the more stable it will become.

Now is the season that can

encourage us to learn more about the natural world. "Environment" is a cumbersome word that may seem to be boringly overdone. But even in spring cleanups we can assist, for instance, by composting our yard wastes rather than shipping them off to further complicate the landfill mess. We may even find pleasure in doing our recycling chores enthusiastically rather than grudgingly. We may well find, too, that we can realize certain joys in walking or biking instead of recreational or unnecessary driving. To paraphrase John Burroughs once more, this should be the season of the new furrow.

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Legislator: Ethics law needs update

By Debi Boucher

Albany County's ethics law is badly in need of an update, according to Legislative Minority Leader Robert Prentiss, of Colonie. He submitted a resolution at the March 11 legislative session to amend the 1970 law.

Prentiss said the county's current law "does not comply one iota" with the state's 1987 Ethics in Government Act (Article 18 of General Municipal Law). His move was prompted in part, he said, by a current grand jury investigation of alleged wrongdoing in the Albany County Public Works Department.

He said his proposal is "especially timely in an election year because more than ever, voters are becoming cynical about their elected officials and how government is run."

His proposed revisions include expanding provisions regarding investments, disclosures of confi-

dential information and gifts. The revisions would prohibit any such actions that would benefit relatives and business associates of employees, rather than just the employees themselves, as the current law states.

The proposed amendment also expands the powers of the county Board of Ethics, limits board members to four-year terms and mandates vacancies on the board be filled within 60 days. Prentiss noted that the three-member board operated with only one member "for many, many years," and still has one vacancy.

In developing his proposal, Prentiss said he worked with the Temporary State Commission on Ethics in Local Government, which assumed operation in January. Local ethics laws and financial disclosure laws, previously filed with the state comptroller's office, must now be filed with the new commission, he said.

Prentiss said Monday morning he expected his resolution would be referred to the Law Committee for review.

"Sooner or later, regardless, Albany County is going to have to update its ethics resolution," he said.

Delmar man to chair panel

Peter Gerstenzang, of Delmar, has been selected by the New York State Bar Association to chair a statewide seminar on defending Driving While Intoxicated cases. Gerstenzang is the author of "Handling the DWI Case in New York," an authoritative text. In addition to teaching defense attorneys, Gerstenzang lectures for the Office of Court Administration training judges, police agencies and prosecutors across the state. The State Bar program will be presented in New York City, Albany, Buffalo and Long Island.

Library offers storytelling workshops

Coinciding with the celebration of National Library Week, a storytelling workshop for fourth and fifth-graders will be held Fridays, April 5, 12, and 19 from 4 to 5:30 p.m., at the Bethlehem Public Library. Each participant will rehearse a personal reminiscence of a children's author which empha-

sizes the influence of reading, writing, and libraries in their life. At the last session, the storytellers will be taped by Bethlehem Channel 31.

For registration, which will be limited to 12 children, call 439-9314.

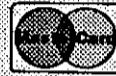
Academy holds science fair

The Albany Academy Sixth Annual Science Fair, involving students in grades four through ten, was held recently. Three area students were selected to compete in the city-wide Joseph Henry Science Fair to be held on April 5 and 6.

Fifth-grader Harish Mehta of

Feura Bush will present the "Effects of Glucocorticoids on the Germination of Wheat Seeds." Morgan Ruthman of Slingerlands, a sixth-grader, will present "What is Erosion?" Aaron Moskowitz of Delmar will present "Where is Rain More Harmful?"

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Democrats

(From Page 1)

Chairman Bernard Kaplowitz sees things differently, contending the GOP's chances of unseating Burns are good. "We're certainly going to try," he said.

All told, there were 17,541 registered voters in Bethlehem as of 1989 election, the county board said. Figures for 1990 elections won't be available until April, according to David Flanigan, state Board of Elections public information officer.

The 1987 race was unfavorable for the Republicans. Not only did they lose the Burns election, but a committee-backed candidate lost in a primary bid to unseat Receiver of Taxes Kenneth Hahn. Kaplowitz cited party turmoil and subsequent poor voter turnout as explanations for the 1987 loss to Burns.

"We helped him win it," Kaplowitz said. "I think if we do things right, campaign properly, I think

we can," win the seat back, he said.

"We're talking about five votes," he said.

A full slate of Democrats would mark a change from recent years. After trouncing challenger Charles Fritts in the 1987 primary, Hahn went on to win without competition in the general election. In 1989 elections for two town board seats, GOP candidates Charles Gunner and M. Sheila Galvin topped sole Democrat John Smolinsky 6,654 and 6,539 to 5,129 respectively, while Town Clerk Carolyn Lyons and Highway Superintendent Martin Cross were re-elected in uncontested races. After Supervisor Ken Ringler beat Sue Ann Ritchko in a September Republican primary in 1989, he also was unchallenged in November.

Ringler said last week he hasn't made a decision on a second two-year term, but hinted he intends to run. "At this time it seems to me

it's rather early prior to an election," he said. "However, I would think that two years is not a real full commitment to this job."

Clyne said the Democrats intend to run a candidate for supervisor, but conceded no one has come forward with specific interest in the race. But he believes Ringler can be unseated.

"It would depend on who we run," Clyne said. "I think there are a number of issues in the town right now that will force people to focus attention on the direction of the town government."

"If you have a candidate that can articulate a particular position forcefully enough to the people, then I think that candidate would have a chance," said Clyne. He said he believes waste disposal questions, in particular American Ref-Fuel's proposed trash incinerator, and the town's current property re-evaluation will be key campaign issues.

Webster said Monday he will run for re-election. "I've decided that I would like to run again," he said. "It's been challenging and there's a lot of things that we started that I'd like to see to frui-

tion." Webster will have served on the board for nearly five years at the end of this term, having been named to replace W. Scott Prothro about eight months before the 1987 race.

Kaplowitz said the GOP will select candidates at the second of two May committee meetings. He said the meetings would be conducted in an atmosphere emphasizing openness, crediting the approach with bringing Gunner "out of nowhere" in 1989 for his successful town board run.

"We're planning a very, very open process," Kaplowitz said. "Anyone who's interested is welcome to come to the committee and present themselves."

Clyne said Democratic candidates would be selected at a caucus meeting, probably in May as well.

The two-year county legislature terms of Bethlehem Republicans Robert W. Hoffmeister (36th district), James C. Ross (35th district), and W. Gordon Morris Jr. (34th district) end this year. While only Hoffmeister has said he won't seek re-election, the entire county picture remains unclear because of

pending census redistricting, Kaplowitz said.

"Several people, four or five at least, have indicated that if they end up in a district that doesn't have someone, they would be interested," he said.

In the other town races, Lyons said last week she won't run again, and Cross has told the committee he intends to retire as well.

Kaplowitz also said he doesn't believe Hahn will have any problem acquiring the GOP committee nomination this year.

"I like to think that is behind us," he said, referring to friction within the party associated with the 1987 tax collector primary.

Hahn said Monday he will seek re-election and the Republican committee endorsement.

Wenger said he intends to run again. He is now finishing his third four-year term.

Cross has been highway superintendent since 1966.

Girls soccer team wins tournament

The Bethlehem Soccer Club under-14 girls team recently finished their second undefeated indoor tournament. At Scotia High School, the team played four games without a loss, giving up only two goals. In January, the team played at Colonie, giving up only one goal.

Strong goal scoring performances by Kerry Johnson, Ashley Roberts, Megan Stevans, Kiley Shortell, and Heather Mann, were aided by the playmaking of Katie Sherwin, Megan Combs, Katie Matis, and Leah Gisotti. The defense was anchored by Janice Gallagher, Jessica Romano, and Karen Gisotti, with Jennifer Christian in goal.

The team begins its outdoor season in April, and still has a couple of openings for girls born in 1977 or 1978.

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Cuts

(From Page 1)

percent down to 8.2 percent. He said 4.6 percent of the increase in the budget is due to the debt service on the bond issue for the district's building renovations.

The district began this year's budget deliberations with the largest tented budgets in years, he said, because of the "large" debt service on the bond issue, the projected 3.5 percent increase in enrollment and the "difficult" budget year the state is having. He said the board is "cutting substantially" to decrease the total budget and keep the tax rate affordable for the town's taxpayers.

Board President Sheila Fuller said that this is the "most difficult budget year" she has faced in her 13 years on the school board. She said the board "worked hard to

Natural history lecture series begins

The five-part National History Lecture Series, co-sponsored by Five Rivers Environmental Education Center and the State University Atmospheric Sciences Research Center, will open March 26 with "The Puerto Rican Rain Forest: Frogs and Hurricanes," presented by Margaret Stewart, distinguished professor of biology at The University at Albany.

The following Tuesday evening lectures are scheduled for this spring: April 2, "Wildflowers That Bloom Twice: Botanizing Burroughs' Catskills," by Frank Knight, naturalist/photographer with the state Department of Environmental Conservation; April 9, "Recycling! Why Should We? How Should We?" presented by Debbie Jackson, solid waste management specialist with DEC; April 16, "Alaska by Land, Sea, and Air," a co-presentation with Kay Teale, professor of the natural science division at the College of St. Rose, and Alan Mapes, director, of DEC's Five Rivers Environmental Education Center; April 23, "A Primer of Freshwater Biology, or, Clams Aren't Just For Eating Anymore,"

build the district up" and now it is looking at cuts that could threaten its quality in education. "Every issue affects some student and some people."

J. Briggs McAndrews, assistant superintendent, recently recommended that the district cut the social worker's position to half-time, saving the district \$20,600. Her caseload would be cut from 19 mandated students receiving services to 15, he said. The approximately 30 non-mandated students that receive services would continue to receive services, but from their guidance counselors, he said. "The service would not be as intensive," he said, "but the students would still receive good quality service through the guidance department."

Delmar resident B.J. Lornell said what concerns her most is the possible reduction of the social worker's position to half-time.

by Kathryn Schneider, program coordinator/zooologist of DEC's natural heritage program.

Each Tuesday evening lecture, starting at 8 p.m., is open to the public free of charge. The lectures are presented at the state University at Albany campus, lecture center 7.

For information, call 475-0291.

Pupils treated to celebration

A group of students participating in the Slingerlands PTA after-school activities now know what it is like to celebrate a birthday at McDonald's in France! The "French Fry Kids" were provided with party favors and treats for their French birthday party by the McDonald's restaurant in Elmsere.

Lornell, who was a district social worker for 20 years, said that she sees cutting the position as "regressive." She said that through her experiences as a social worker, she has noticed that students' problems are on the increase. "It's very regressive to reduce the services," she said. "We live in a complex structure. It's hard for kids to achieve in an academic environment. If a youngster is upset, it's hard to concentrate on school work."

Fuller said all decisions that the board put on hold in past weeks will be addressed at tonight's and next week's meeting. She said she would "like to get to" the decision on the proposed cut to the social worker's position. "We have some tough decisions to be made at this point," she said. "We have to look at everything. Some are very emotional issues. We need to weigh and measure everything."

Five Rivers seeks volunteers

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center is seeking volunteers to teach spring guided lessons for school classes and other youth groups. The lessons, each lasting two hours, are taught to kindergarten through grade 8, on such topics as "Exploring the Outdoors," "Forest Life" and "World of the Pond." The program runs during regular school hours, and children are taught in groups of 15 or less. Volunteers will be trained by center naturalists.

Volunteers should have an interest in children and a desire to work in the outdoors. Training will begin Tuesday, April 9, 9:15 a.m., at Five Rivers Center, Game Farm Road, in Delmar.

For information, call 475-0291.

College appoints Bethlehem resident

Dr. Joan Kenny Lawson, of South Bethlehem, has been appointed department chairperson of Early Childhood Education at Hudson Valley Community College.

Lawson has been a member of the Early Childhood Department since 1984. She has served as an instructor, assistant professor, curriculum coordinator and advisor to the Early Childhood Educa-

tion Club. She is also a member of college's Viking Child Care Center advisory board.

Lawson received a bachelor's degree in speech pathology/audiology at SUNY Plattsburgh, a master's degree in reading and a doctorate in education at SUNY Albany. She lives in South Bethlehem with her husband, Brian, and their daughter Katie.

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□ Poll

(From Page 1)

ABCs." He chose 100 names from Delmar, Glenmont and Selkirk and mailed a cover letter and questionnaire along with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Thomas received 45 replies and, of those, he said 35 respondents checked "yes" beneath the question "American Ref-Fuel should be allowed to construct a waste-to-energy plant in the town of Bethlehem?" Ten said "no" and one abstained because he was a member of the solid waste task force.

Last month he sent 50 copies of the survey to residents selected at random. "I wanted to see if the

numbers paralleled," he said. He said he decided to send fewer questionnaires the second time "because postage went up."

In the second effort, 16 backed the Ref-Fuel plan, three said no, and one person said he needed more information.

Thomas gave a copy of the first responses to Supervisor Ken Ringler to be passed on to the town board and will do the same with the second, he said. He said he is forwarding the results to "let the board know what the majority feels, not just this very vocal group (BWOW)."

Thomas said both surveys indicate there is "substantial support for a waste-to-energy plant in Bethlehem" and reiterated his call for a vote.

"If the people reject it, then it's over," Thomas said.



John Thomas

Theater group offers scholarships

The Village Stage is offering financial awards to junior and senior Bethlehem Central High School students for their achievements in the performing arts and for their plans to pursue these studies during the summer or after graduation.

The committee is looking for students with talent, experience, need and a genuine interest and motivation in the performing arts.

Applications are available through the high school guidance department, and must be returned by April 22 to the guidance office or to Norine Vancans, 14 Adriance Lane, Slingerlands, N.Y. 12159. For information, call 439-2896.

Library trustee seat open to candidates

Bethlehem Public Library Trustee Florence Harris, a board member since 1985, has declined to seek another term when her current tenure expires on June 30. The library's five-member board has traditionally been composed of members from each area of the school district. Harris resides in the Slingerlands area.

Persons interested in running for the five-year term, which begins in July, can pick up nominating petitions at the library. The election will take place May 8. To appear on the ballot, petitions require a minimum of 49 valid signatures. Signed petitions are due at the school district office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 8.

For information, call Library Director Barbara Mladinov at 439-9314.

Village library helps handicapped

To help individuals with blindness, visual handicaps, physical handicaps or other disabilities that prevent them from reading, the Voorheesville Public Library now has applications available for free services.

The New York State Library for

the Blind and Visually Handicapped has provided a demonstration model and tapes for a "talking book" that they will lend free of charge.

To arrange for a demonstration and pick up an application, call Dorothy Colvin at 765-2791.

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Historian to present slide show on local hero

The Bethlehem Historical Association will host a slideshow program "General Lewis Benedict: Forgotten Albany Hero" by Civil War historian and author William F. Howard on Thursday, March 21, at 8 p.m. at the Schoolhouse Museum on Route 144 in Selkirk.

Open meeting at RCS

Nancy Andress, director of special programs at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk central schools, is inviting parents and community members to attend an open meeting on Tuesday, March 26, at 3:30 p.m. at the RCS Board of Education Office on Thatcher Street in Selkirk. Submission of a grant to the federal government for early childhood programs, family literacy programs and adult education, known as Even Start funds, will be discussed.

SAFER to discuss

Unocal truck stop

Selkirk Association for Each Resident (SAFER) will hold an open meeting on Tuesday, March 26, at Selkirk Firehouse 1 on Maple Avenue to discuss the proposed Unocal truck stop to be located at Exit 22 on Route 144. Bethlehem Supervisor Ken Ringler will attend SAFER's Monday, April 8 meeting to discuss increased truck traffic on Route 396 through Selkirk. The meetings are open to the public.

Bethlehem Grange celebrates 117th birthday

On March 9, Bethlehem Grange members helped celebrate the Grange's 117th birthday with a

News from
Selkirk and
South Bethlehem

Regina Bulman 475-1787



covered dish supper, birthday cake and an old fashioned sing-along.

An overview of important dates in the Grange's history was included in the program. The Grange was first organized in 1874 on South Pearl Street in Albany and later moved to Selkirk. With more than 200 members, the Grange hall is currently located at Beckers Corners.

The Grange will also host a roast pork supper on Saturday, April 6. For information, contact Helen Raynor at 767-2770.

Ravena library forms

committees for projects

Still in their organizational stages, Friends of the Ravena Library recently elected officers.

They are: Pat Christian president; Mary Parker, vice president; Jenny McCabe, secretary; and Jenny Altamari, treasurer. The group also established a number of committees to carry out projects, one of which is to construct a handicapped ramp at the library. Residents interested in joining the Friends of the Library or participating in one of the fund-raising, publicity or special event committees are urged to attend the next meeting on April 9 at 7 p.m. at the library. For information, contact Pat Christian 756-6595.

children and teenagers about HIV/AIDS prevention.

The next training will be April 4, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (choose one), and April 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Schenectady County Cooperative Extension, 1 Broadway, Schenectady.

For information, contact Tanya Owens at the Cooperative Extension of Albany County, at 765-3500, by March 30.

Cooperative Extension seeks volunteers

Cornell Cooperative Extension is seeking a few great volunteers to become trainers for the "Talking With Kids About AIDS" project.

All volunteers will receive 20 hours of active training by experienced staff and volunteers, with continual support from Cooperative Extension staff.

"Talking With Kids About AIDS" workshops will teach parents and other adults to talk with

RCS might go international

By Regina Bulman

If a grant for new technology comes through, RCS students will have the chance to electronically converse with students from the Soviet Union and Singapore. The school district has applied for a \$125,000 computer grant from Data General Corporation as part of a pilot program with the state Department of Education.

Only two districts statewide, one in the Broome County area and one in Albany County, will be selected for the program.

According to Scott Holdren, physics and computer programming teacher, money and technology made available by the grant will allow the district to quickly move ahead in communications technology.

"The grant fits into our overall vision for computer technology for

this district," said Holdren, who also works on the district's Instructional Technology Task Force (ITTF) committee. "It is our intention not to have technology run our programs but have computer technology enhance the teaching and the learning process."

The grant includes hardware, software and training that will enable the district to cross-communicate through electronic mail with school computer systems in the Soviet Union and Singapore.

Other technology included in the program will allow more creative uses of portable computers and will allow teachers and students to link, cross-reference and view large collections of test, graphics and image documents to more creatively display and distribute information that is typically found on paper.

The RCS school board recently gave Holdren the go-ahead to begin the application process. According to Holdren, Data General is planning to award the grant in April with the intent to have all equipment on line and staff training completed by the start of the next school year.

Holdren and other ITTF members wrote a lengthy proposal indicating how the district would design programs with the Data General technology.

He said if awarded the grant, the district would be responsible for the "small" cost of "hooking up" the equipment, drilling holes and getting tables for the terminals."

In Glenmont The Spotlight is sold at Grand Union, CVS, Glenmont 5A's, Cumberland Farms, Stewart's and Van Allen Farms

Job Corps earns top ranking

For the second consecutive year, the Glenmont Job Corp Center, which provides educational and vocational training for economically disadvantaged youth, has been selected number one in its region.

Center Director Terence S. Nash said this is the first back-to-back top ranking ever awarded to a Job Corps facility in Region II, which is made up of 11 centers in New York, New Jersey and Puerto Rico. The centers are judged annually on their overall performance, which includes the students' academic and vocational advancements, placement rates, length of student stay and support services to students.

"It's quite an honor to get it two years in a row," Nash said. "But it's pretty easy when you surround yourself with competent and dedicated staff."

In addition to the No. 1 ranking bestowed at the annual Region II conference Jan. 23 and 24 in Brooklyn, Glenmont received three more awards. The center was honored for offering the

region's best residential living, best student support programs and outstanding educational programs.

In the residential living category, the dormitory conditions of each center were rated on housekeeping and safety of the living environment. Student dorm counseling was also compared.

The student support programs included student health services, food service, center maintenance, record keeping, accounting and purchasing.

In the area of academic achievement, Basic Education Test left the program with a 2.6 year gain in reading and 2.7 year gain in math.

More than 400 students, ages 16 to 21, are trained through the Glenmont program each year. The center opened its doors in 1977 on the site of the former Our Lady of Angels Seminary, five miles south of Albany. It employs a staff of 130.

In all, the center received four plaques for 1990 achievement.

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Drama club presentation to let audience decide play's outcome

Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School's drama club will present "You, the Jury" at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, at the high school.

The audience will have the chance to play the role of the jury in a murder trial. The lead roles will be played by Alex Englander and Becky Logan. Directors Robert Andrews and Sherry Burgoon are being assisted by student directors Laura Blanchard and Kim Horan. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students and are available from drama club members or at the door.

Squad hosts breakfast at Legion Post 1493

The Voorheesville Area Ambulance Squad will host its annual breakfast from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 24. Come to the American Legion Post 1493 and enjoy a breakfast of pancakes, French toast or scrambled eggs, all served with sausage. The breakfast will cost \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12.

Check out new compact discs at the library

The Voorheesville Public Library is branching out to many

Voorheesville News Notes

Susan Casler 765-2144



different avenues. One of these is obtaining compact discs for patron use. There is a variety of names, from Eric Clapton and the Talking Heads to Lyle Lovett and k.d. lang, plus a range of show tunes. CDs can be taken out for one week. There is an overdue fine of five cents per day.

Park under construction at Pine Street and Maple Avenue

You may have noticed that Voorheesville has started construction of a new park at the corner of Pine Street and Maple Avenue. Mayor Edward Clark said, "It won't be a recreational kind of park, but an aesthetic one at the entrance to the village from the east." This strategic corner has always been an area where organizations can inform the community of upcoming events. It has been confirmed that it will remain the same.

Voorheesville schools to close March 22 and March 29

Voorheesville Central schools will be closed on Friday, March 22, because of a superintendent's conference day. The business office will remain open. The schools will be closed on Friday, March 29, for Good Friday.

Kiwanis host dinner at Legion Hall

The public is invited to a spaghetti dinner at the Voorheesville American Legion Hall on Saturday, March 23, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mike Michele, chef for the evening, along with his many assistants, will prepare a spaghetti dinner, including meatballs, salad, bread and beverage. The Kiwanis will raise money to help fund its many youth sports programs. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children under 10. For

Lions Club hosts pancake breakfast

The Bethlehem Lions Club will hold a pancake and sausage breakfast on Sunday, March 24, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard American Legion Post, Poplar Drive, Elmsere.

Admission will be \$4 for adults,

Pharmacist to address mothers' group

Pharmacist Linda Drew and pharmaceutical technician Heidi Harbinger will speak at Mother's Time Out on Monday, March 25, at 10 a.m., on how your pharmacist can help you.

Mothers' Time Out is a support

information, call Bob Stapf at 765-2451.

Friday night at the movies at the library

The Voorheesville Public Library will show the 1962 movie "The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner" on Friday, March 22, at 7 p.m. The public is invited to this free film.

"Mutt and Jeff" celebration planned at library

Learn how a comic strip is created when illustrator John Herbert helps the Voorheesville Public Library celebrate the publication of the first "Mutt and Jeff" comic strip in 1908. Herbert will talk about comics' creation on Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m.

Library tributes spring with crafts, film, stories

Join the library for "Wake Up It's Really Spring" on Monday, March 25, at 4 p.m. there will be crafts and a film. On Wednesday, March 27, come hear a bedtime tale, "Carrot Noses" at 7 p.m..

\$3.50 for seniors and \$2.50 for children under 12. Pre-school children will be admitted free.

Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit the club's community service projects.

For information, call 768-2585.

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Embroiderers to meet

The New York Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America will meet on March 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in Fellowship Hall, Delmar United Methodist Church, Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

The chapter's evening study group will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar. "Stitch Images Plus Two," a video by Jan Beany, will be shown.

Guests are welcome to attend two meetings a year at a guest fee of \$3 per meeting. If a special program is planned, the guild board reserves the right to increase fees.

Guild membership is open to the public. For information, call Susanne Kimura at 393-7347, or Louise Fossa at 345-4966.

Girl Scouts host camp reunion

The Alumni Association of Girl Scout Camp Little Notch will host a camper/counselor reunion for former campers at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Delmar on Saturday, March 23 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Located in the Adirondack Mountains, Camp Little Notch is the resident camp owned by the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council which is open to both Girl Scouts and non-Scouts.

Anyone under 17 who attended the camp is invited to attend. For more information, call Judy at 439-0892, Julie at 584-0882 or the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council at 439-4936.

Village library delivers

For those who can't get to the library, the Voorheesville Public Library now provides free delivery of books. This service is available to those within the Voorheesville School District who are recuperating from a hospital visit, have a physical disability, or can no longer drive themselves to the library. To arrange for delivery, call Dorothy Colvin at 765-2791.

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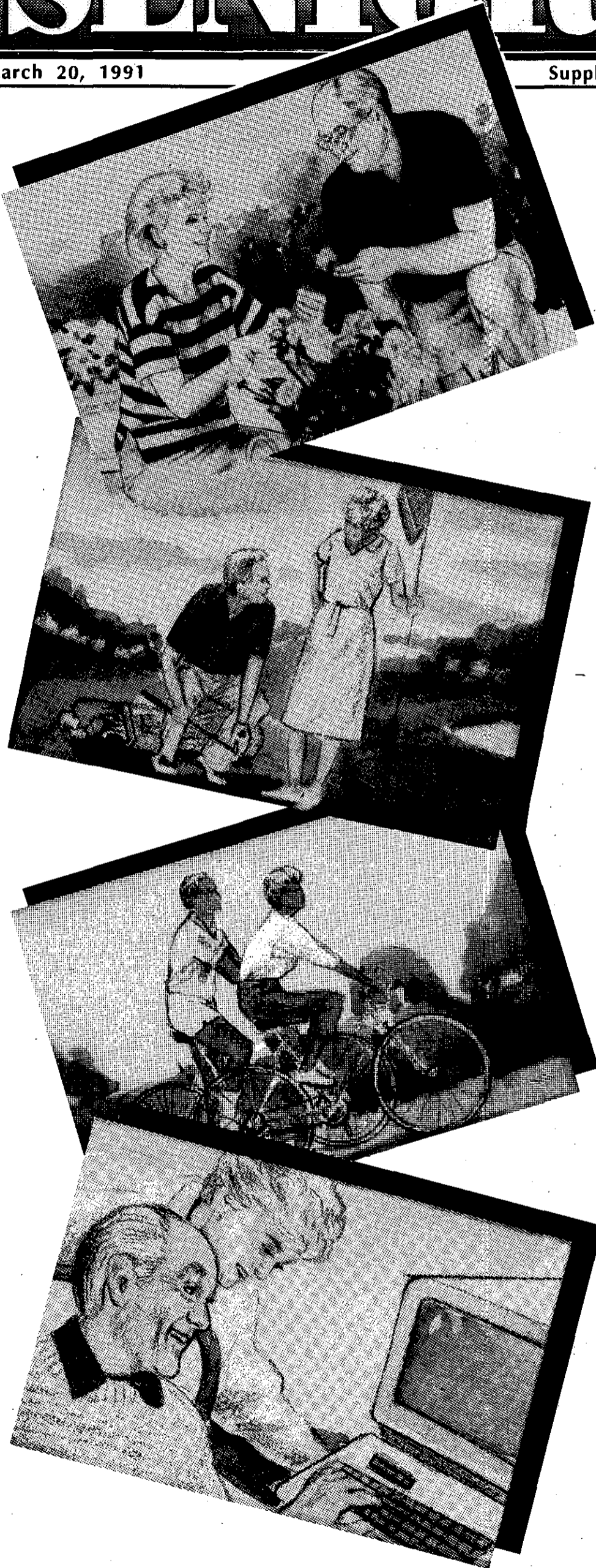
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SENIOR SCENE

March 20, 1991

Supplement to THE SPOTLIGHT and the COLONIE SPOTLIGHT



Working a new way to enjoy 'retirement'

By Don Haskins

In 1981, Walter Cronkite stepped down after 19 years as the widely-respected anchorman and managing editor of *CBS Evening News*.

Today, Cronkite maintains only a slightly lower profile. In December, he hosted a PBS-TV program comparing health care systems of the U.S. and Canada, the Kennedy Center Honors program for CBS and the annual Vienna New Year's concert for PBS-TV.

In a project he "hopes we'll finish by 2000," he is host, narrator and executive editor of a \$30 million videotape and book encyclopedia of the 20th century, a project sponsored by Media Access Corporation.

Last fall, his third book on sailing, "Westwind," with painter Ray Ellis, was published. It describes a west coast odyssey after two earlier volumes about the east coast.

Cronkite is 74.

Only slightly less famous, but equally busy at 62, is another noteworthy "retiree," the former Metropolitan Opera star soprano, Beverly Sills.

She is president of the board of directors of the New York City Opera. Her interests and prestige have gained her places on the boards of such well-known American businesses as American Express, Macy's and Time-Warner. In New York City she is widely known and ap-

preciated for lending her name and talent to a wide variety of charitable causes.

Not all of us, of course, can claim the fame or respect of a Cronkite or a Sills.

But in a nation increasingly conscious and concerned about a rapidly growing population of seniors, many of these seniors are turning away from the concept of "retirement" as a time to sit back and quietly, inactively, rest on whatever laurels exist.

Frequently they return to work, sometimes after only a few weeks or months or even a year or two in which they find they simply don't like to sit around with nothing to do.

Here are a few of many area examples of such persons:

- John S. Gardiner, of Fernbank Avenue, Delmar, for many years was a teacher and then director of the campus school at State University of New York at Potsdam. After retiring a few years ago, he's just ended 11 months of work with the federal Bureau of the Census, a temporary job that kept him busy until the first week in March.

- Almer Baker likes to build things. The Latham man was a teacher for 29 years at Port Jervis and Brittonkill in the town of Brunswick, plus some substitute work at Shaker High. Retiring in 1981, he incorporated as a building contractor with his son, then split off on his own. "It's

RETIREES/ page 5

Young and old benefit from adopt-a-grandparent events

By Susan Wheeler

For senior citizens who enjoy children and have extra free time, getting involved in an "adopt-a-grandparent" program may be a good idea.

Intergenerational programming, teaming up a senior with a younger person or persons, is an informal, flexible, volunteer program. Except for some senior citizen centers in the area, there don't appear to be formal sponsors.

Caroline Wirth, an outreach worker for Bethlehem Senior Services, said seniors in Bethlehem's Adopt-A-Grandparent program are asked to become a grandparent for a classroom in Slingerlands Elementary School.

The "loosely structured" project, which is in its second year, fits the needs of the seniors and classrooms involved. Sometimes the grandparents visit the classroom on a regular basis, and other times they come in for special occasions, Wirth said.

Theresa Van Buren, a second-grade teacher at Slingerlands, said this is her

first year working with a classroom grandmother, Irma Westervelt. Van Buren and her pupils invited Westervelt to join the class one morning last month when they were working on a story quilting project.

Van Buren said she aims for a "relaxed atmosphere" in the classroom when she invites Westervelt to join them. "She serves as a helping hand in the classroom and the children are perfectly comfortable around her," she said.

Elsmere resident Westervelt said that although she and her husband have 13 grandchildren between them, taking the time to visit the classroom is "a lot of fun" and worth it. She participated in the classes' exercises to "break the ice," she said. "When I joined in, they got a kick out of it."

Westervelt said the children, who she said are "very, very clever," need someone older to whom they can relate. "It's such a nice idea," said the second-year volunteer. "I would recommend it to anyone."

According to David Murphy,

GRANDPARENTS/ page 4

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Broad range of housing options available

By Kathleen Shapiro

As consumers, older Americans are being offered more choices than ever before, particularly when it comes to housing.

Older people today are living longer and, thanks to changing attitudes, many of them are living quite well. Nursing homes and senior residential facilities are no longer seen as havens of last resort, where residents wait quietly to die. On the contrary, many facilities offer programs and activities designed to give senior citizens a new lease on life.

The following are just some of the choices available to senior citizens in the Capital District. While certain places do provide more extensive nursing care than others, the overall array of facilities offers something for everyone.

The Eddy group of health care affiliates is one of the largest not-for-profit senior health care networks in the area. In addition to the Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center in Troy, the group also maintains a Cohoes campus that houses the Capital Region Ford Nursing Home and the Capital Region Geriatric Rehabilitation Center.

While the Troy and Cohoes nursing homes provide standard long-term residential health care, the Capital Region Geriatric Rehabilitation Center is a hospital de-

signed for short-term stays of patients undergoing the center's intensive physical therapy program for the elderly.

"The goal is to get them to the point where they can go home," said Mary Scanlon, a spokesperson for the Eddy group of affiliates. "It really counters the myth that once you enter a nursing facility you never go home again."

All three facilities offer private and semi-private rooms.

The Good Samaritan network of residential health care services is a not-for-profit group that provides both intensive and intermediate levels of care for the elderly.

The Good Samaritan nursing home, located in Delmar, offers its 100 residents around-the-clock medical care and a range of restorative therapy programs.

While most residents are long-term, the facility does provide for residents like Richard Reissig who are in need of short-term care in order to get back on their feet after an illness.

"I'm still having some trouble walking, but I'm making progress," said 80-year-old Reissig, who entered the facility in December for rehabilitation therapy after being operated on for an aneurysm. If all goes well, Reissig said he expects to return home at the end of this month.

The nursing home also provides

a beauty and barber shop, and a pet therapy program. (An Irish setter currently serves as the home's mascot).

The Good Samaritan Lutheran Home on Madison Avenue in Albany has a resident capacity of 61. It offers intermediate care for residents, including minimum assistance with tasks such as walking and bathing.

Both Good Samaritan facilities provide private and semi-private rooms, and ancillary services such as housekeeping, meal preparation, and laundry. Both also encourage residents to join in special activities and recreational games such as shuffleboard, bowling, and wheelchair basketball.

Colony Manor in Latham offers 24-hour personal care and medical supervision for its 94 residents. As an intermediate-care facility, the manor is a residence for elderly people who want secu-

urity and some degree of care while still maintaining their independence, said Marchia Manca, the facility's administrator.

Built on one level, Colony Manor is designed to be easily accessible for residents with impaired mobility.

"A lot of elderly people are in frail physical condition," explained Manca. "Many of them can't return home because they were living on a second level."

The facility offers private rooms and private baths, a beauty shop, religious services, exercise classes for seniors, and a diverse activities program.

Senior apartment complexes are an option for elderly singles or couples who want to continue living on their own. In most cases, security is provided, but residents are responsible for their own housekeeping and meals.

The Good Samaritan Senior

Homes in Delmar, Carondelet Commons in Watervliet, and the Bishop Broderick Apartments in Colonie are three of the area's senior residential complexes. All are handicapped accessible and offer full apartments equipped with pull cord alarms to alert security staff in case of emergency. All three also offer affordable rents for seniors living on fixed incomes.

Area residents shopping for a retirement community might want to consider the Eddy's Beechwood community, located on the Eddy campus in Troy. The cooperative houses 60 units for prospective buyers to choose from, ranging from a studio to a two-bedroom apartment. An activities program is also provided.

Another Eddy retirement community, the Beverwyck in Bethlehem, is scheduled for completion in 1993.

Active social life can lead to romance

Don't feel guilty if you are alone and thinking about romance and dating. It could be considered a compliment to a deceased spouse that you were happy as a couple. You don't have to be alone.

It doesn't matter if you're widowed or divorced, you still have to get out there and be available. Having a job helps, paid is preferable, but anything that gets you

out of the house will do, just so you're with other people on a daily basis.

You can't be too choosy in terms of your social activities. You may want a prince or princess, but you have to be realistic.

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Seniors stay active and involved at AJCC

By Susan Graves

Keeping up with the seniors at the Albany Jewish Community Center isn't easy.

Chorales, trips, workshops, community involvement, lectures, water aerobics — you name it — they've got it.

Janice Thompson, director of the senior department at the AJCC, said the programs, which are open to all, are designed to do more than provide socialization for senior citizens.

"We're very well-rounded, we have support services," along with many recreational activities, she said.

One group, the JCC Roundabouts, recently visited the Governor's Mansion, toured the Capitol, and traveled to the Hyde Collection in Glens Falls. These kinds of activities, Thompson said, helps seniors stay involved in their community.

"There are so many things they're losing control of in their lives," she said.

The Current Scene group, which meets weekly, discusses political or world issues, and this gives seniors an opportunity to voice their opinions, which in turn gives seniors a sense of control, she said.

Many seniors have moved from their own homes, and their children "make decisions for them."



Janice Thompson

Part of the intent of the center's programming is to "try to establish feelings of control," Thompson said. The continuity of going to the center five days a week also helps in making seniors feel "they're gaining control again," she said. Seniors often feel a lack of control when they retire, suffer the loss of a spouse or move from their homes, she added.

Another activity that helps the seniors keep in touch with current events is the Know Your World lecture and lunch series.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute professors visit the center on Whitehall Road and talk about a particular country, and the lecture

is followed by a luncheon featuring foods that are enjoyed in that country.

One of the big pluses of the JCC activities is the intergenerational opportunities. Thompson said the senior chorale class recently visited the Albany Medical Center Hospital pediatric unit. During that visit, one little girl who was born without a trachea, actually made a sound when one of the seniors asked her to sing with them. The child's mother said it was the first time her daughter had made a sound, Thompson said.

Another intergenerational activity, the teddy bears' picnic, is planned for April 14. AJCC daycare and schoolchildren will bring in their teddies that day and show them to the seniors. "I think we're blessed bringing children and seniors together," she said.

The senior programs are funded by Albany County Office of the Aging. "We have the advantage of taking advantage of different facilities at the center," Thompson said.

Seniors at the center are encouraged to stay healthy. "If bodies feel good, we feel good," she noted.

Seniors can participate in aqua aerobics, and the center will soon have a 15-minute before-meal exercise program.

Seniors can also get psychological counseling, Thompson said.

"We try to coordinate with existing services in the community," she said.

Thompson, a social worker, said there is also a lot of informal support for seniors through their contacts at AJCC. "They're just wonderful to work with," she said.

The AJCC also reaches out to home-bound seniors through the Meals-On-Wheels program. For



The AJCC Senior Adult Chorale, led by Rae Kaplan and accompanied by keyboard player Vivian Petrone, perform poolside during a senior adult picnic held at AJCC.

some seniors, the driver's visit is the only contact they have with the outside world. "Many times the driver is a trouble shooter," said Thompson. "Many times there is something wrong."



Janice Thompson, director of the senior adult department at AJCC, teaches calligraphy to members of the center's senior craft club, "Golden Hands."



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□ Grandparents

(From page 1)

Slingerlands principal, the school conducts a grandparents' day in June. The children who don't have nearby grandparents invite their classroom grandparent to the activity. It gives the seniors a connection with the school. "It's been a great thing," he said, "getting the old and young together."

Other intergenerational programs exist in the area, but are of a different nature. Our Lady of Hope Residence in Latham offers its residents the opportunity to have a volunteer Siena College student visit them.

Sandy Durgala, director of activities at Our Lady of Hope, said the program began about five years ago. The students are paired up with a senior, but both are free to change their partner. Depending on the senior's ability and how much time they have together, the pair can go shopping, play cards or chat. "Some form lasting relationships," she said.

Many Siena graduates who had been involved in the program stay in touch with their adopted grandparent. "The graduates come back to the area and visit the residents," Durgala said.

North Albany resident Judy Zechmamontien said her personal "adopt-a-grandparent" program never got off the ground. She said she had families who requested a

grandparent, but had no volunteer grandparents. She addressed seniors' groups, but received "no response," she said.

"My kids have no grandparents at all," said Zechmamontien, a registered nurse at Albany Medical Center Hospital. "It would be nice for both generations who have no one to share with" to have someone. She said she sees lonely seniors at her job. She said if anyone is interested in becoming an adopted grandparent, they should call her at 436-5112.

Wirth said she'd like to see Bethlehem's grandparent program grow. If more seniors are interested in volunteering, she said, other Bethlehem elementary schools can be invited to participate. "It's a great idea and I'd love it to see it expanded." Wirth can be reached at 439-4955.

Elsmere resident Ruth Geurtze, who was a grandparent for Cathy Reed's first-graders last year along with her husband, Donald, said she's planning to return to Reed's class this semester. Last year she showed the children a picture of the one-room schoolhouse she attended in the 1930s and told them about her experiences there, she said.

The boys in Reed's class looked up to her husband, Geurtze said. "It was so good for the kids to have a grandpa."

Reed stressed that it's important for the boys to have a male role model in the classroom.

The Geurtzes, who have four grandchildren, visited the class once every two or three weeks, and worked with the children on assignments, including reading and writing. "It's a wonderful thing to do and it doesn't take that much time," Geurtze said. "It's rewarding. If anyone has a couple of hours to give to the kids, they'll get something back."

Sundowner's syndrome

The disorientation some seniors experience at the end of the day is called "sundowner's syndrome." Researchers think it's caused by the changes in the sensory environment brought on by dimming twilight. Changes in medication, activity levels and fatigue also can contribute to it.

Exercise moderation

The key to staying fit in the golden years is regular, moderate exercise. Doing an aerobic activity three to five days a week for just 20 to 60 minutes does the trick. Try swimming, running or walking.

Joint replacements

About 500,000 hip, knee, shoulder and elbow replacements are done every year. Hips and knees last 10 to 15 years; elbows and shoulders almost as long. All normal activity is allowed after recovery.



Members of the Albany Jewish Community Center's early childhood department visit the AJCC senior adult department lunch tables during a holiday presentation. Because the two departments are located at the same Whitehall Road site, they can take advantage of many opportunities for inter-generational activities.

Suppressing sickness

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Retirees

(From page 1)

enjoyable," he says, and he likes the diversity of building kitchens, baths, working with ceramic tile, electricity and plumbing and "doing a good job." He did some on the side, mostly electrical work, while teaching, and decided to stay with it because he can do it well, among other reasons.

• Charles Alford has lived at 491 Haskell Place, Delmar, since he left the Navy in 1945 after World War II. For 18 years he was director of personnel and then a researcher in the pharmacy field for Sterling Winthrop in Rensselaer. His interest in research led him into geneology, and gravestone rubbings, in which he has now become an expert and a sought-after consultant for some large families interested in their antecedents. Alford now gives lectures on geneology as well as researching family backgrounds.

• Charles Kiefer of Meadow View Drive, Troy, is also a retired teacher, leaving the Brittonkill faculty ten years ago. He and some others a while back heard about a subsidized program of tax counseling for seniors through the IRS Voluntary Income Tax Assistance program, and more recently with American Association of Retired Persons. "We heard about it by accident," said Kiefer, "and I thought it would be interesting, something to do, to stay busy." He and others have been working every tax time for some years, helping with tax form preparations at Troy's Senior Service Center on Third Street.

• Sidney Kaplan of Mayfair Drive, Slingerlands, has to be one of the most active retirees in the area. Now well into his 70s, he retired at 68 as owner and operator of an Albany radiator and body shop, found himself bored, and became involved with the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), sponsored by the Small Business Administration, which assists persons who want to start their own business. He soon became chairman of the local unit of 65 advisors covering an area from the Canadian border down to Columbia and Greene counties.

He founded the Lions Club Hearing Conservation Society, a non-profit organization involving 54 Lions clubs in the area district, and remains active in their work of assisting people who need hearing aids. He drives a bus for the Town of Bethlehem senior services department, and recently received an award from the Albany Bowling Association for outstanding volunteer services. Another of his pet projects is the AARP "talent bank" centered in Washington, DC, a pool of senior talent which can be called upon by anyone needing business or other help. He wants prospective candidates to know he has the appropriate forms to get their skills into the AARP computer.

While the incentive is often money to supplement too-sparse retirement income, people like Cronkite and Sills and these local residents show us that those who have been achievers for most of our lives cannot turn off the spigot of ambition and/or interest and curiosity that marks the working lives of all but the totally unmotivated.

For many older people, in other words, it is simply unnatural to have nothing to do, no challenge to face, and financial compensation is not always the primary

consideration.

The Days Inn corporation in 1985, faced with chronic shortages, high turnover and shoddy work by young employees, began to recruit over-55 workers. A poll found nearly two million available, ready and willing. Today the average tenure of workers in that chain is three years, with a turnover of about one percent. The absentee rate is three percent, about a tenth of what it used to be.

For many older people, in other words, it is simply unnatural to have nothing to do, no challenge to face, and financial compensation is not always the primary consideration.

In the Capital District as well as the rest of the state and nation, retirees are working or seeking work as they always have. Today, however, an economic recession is taking its toll in the job market for seniors — perhaps more so than for a growing number of unemployed younger persons.

Economists tell us that 1.2 million Americans joined the ranks of unemployed in just the last seven months. The unemployment rate nationally is expected to peak later this year at around seven percent, they say, by which time another million workers will have lost their jobs.

The state Labor Department recently announced the unemployment rate here had already reached 7.1 percent as of January, a drastic jump from the 5.4 percent December figure.

In that Christmas holiday month, 137,846 new unemployment claims were filed, compared to 81,850 in September. There's been a 43 percent increase in claims for weekly unemployment insurance.

The Capital District, heavily involved in public employment at both state and local levels, has begun and will continue to feel the pinch more than other areas because all government levels are finally beginning to realize they no longer can support the costly bureaucracies that exist.

It's a Catch-22 situation for bureaucrat managers: they find themselves needing more and more taxes to support their programs at the very time an increasingly rebellious and just as heavily indebted public is running out of extra money.

One of the results is increasing

difficulty for mature workers who, for whatever reason, want to return to the workplace.

A recent article in the AARP's "Bulletin" headlined their plight as "Swimming against the Current."

"Even in a healthy economy, mature workers have problems finding employment," the article says. It quotes a Seattle employment services coordinator that "there is age discrimination out there" despite federal and state legislation against it.

The AARP and local, state and federal agencies all provide programs under which assistance is provided for older persons who want to return to the workplace.

AARP in 1987 began what it calls a WORKS program. It consists of a series of job search workshops in 75 cities to help older workers find new employment matched to their needs and abilities. Information can be obtained by contacting local AARP chapters, or by writing AARP WORKS, Work Force Education, AARP Worker Equity Department, 1909 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20049.

The organization also offers a brochure on organizing a job search and obtaining information about local employment programs. To get it, send a postcard asking for the pamphlet, "Working Options: How to Plan Your Job Search, Your Work Life," stock #D12403, to AARP Fulfillment EE0123, 1909 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20049.

In Colonie, Lois Siegel, specialist with the town's Senior Citizen Department, has scheduled for June 13 another in a series of sessions devoted to jobs for senior citizens; among other services.

Siegel notes a need for home health aides in Colonie, and has information regarding places where training can be obtained for such employment. Her office has on file information about jobs and workers available, for both paid and volunteer work.

While the town itself, like most other government entities, is not hiring right now, she noted that fast food establishments are often seeking workers. Her office has been sponsoring job fairs two or three times a year.

Another source of information

and assistance is the City of Albany Senior Services Center, 25 Delaware Ave., where Marie Coldert maintains what amounts to an active employment agency for the over-60 age group. The office helps plan second careers without charge and covers both paid and volunteer work.

It has contacts with employers who list available positions, both full and part-time, as well as a file of those seeking employment, who are interviewed first about skills, available hours and interests.

Known as the Louise Corning Senior Center, the agency became active three years ago with a grant from the Junior League.

The Town of Colonie Senior Citizen Services Department and similar Albany city and county offices have a long list of local, state and national agencies devoted to helping seniors find work. Another excellent source is the local library in each community, most of which maintain "job search" files.

Some indication of the difficulties facing today's job hunting seniors was reported recently by a spokesman for the state Job Service. When 45 temporary positions for machine tool operators became available recently at the Watervliet Arsenal, the notice attracted 586 applicants, most of whom lacked appropriate experience.

An advertisement for a dozen or so Pepsi-Co Latham bottling plant forklift operators drew 2,000 applicants, according to the state spokesman.

At the other end of the financial spectrum are those with high incomes and good savings who either lose their jobs or retire early and decide to go into business for themselves. It's a risky gamble, according to a recent *Modern Maturity* article which describes such a decision as "a daring midlife venture, a game played for real stakes."

Most often, says the article, the

results are "disastrous" because of a lack of planning, expertise, capital or a combination of all three.

The article also referred to the SCORE group with which Kaplan is active, which has 13,000 volunteer counselors around the country. The article says SCORE recommends primarily that people not go into business for themselves because of the many pitfalls, a recommendation with which private, professional consultants agree.

For those who insist they want to try it, however, SCORE can provide counselling. Typical was their insistence that a would-be chicken farmer, whose wife's brother ran a successful farm in Georgia, go there and see what life on a chicken farm was like. In a month they were back, hating chickens because a chicken farm smells too much.

Retirement's rewards, however, can be rosy as well as smelly, if you want to remain active in some field you like. This writer is one fortunate example, still writing after 10 years of "retirement," as are most other writers I know in my age bracket.

Of course, it could also be said that many of us writers never made enough, or saved enough, to live on our retirement incomes.

Some senior facts

Many people older than age 65 are part-time workers. Those older than age 65 who work part time is 46 percent men and 56 percent woman.

What do people say are the worst aspects of middle age? Most often cited in a recent survey are changes in physical condition and poor health for 38 percent. Mental changes, such as simply realizing you are "getting older"—22 percent. And, 12 percent feel they have a less positive attitude toward life.

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Staying active the key to health, happiness

By Debi Boucher

The key to health and happiness for older people lies, not surprisingly, in staying active.

"I recommend people have a variety of interests," said Joyce Becker, coordinator of Bethlehem Senior Services. "It keeps them much more alert, mentally."

Becker's 66-member team of volunteers are living examples of the benefits of staying active, she said. Most of them are not only active with Bethlehem Senior Services, she noted, but volunteer for other organizations as well, and often hold part-time jobs — "not because they have to," but simply to stay productive.

They also tend to keep physically fit, Becker observed. "Many belong to health clubs, many walk — we have one volunteer who walks miles just to stay in shape."

"Volunteers live longer," said Becker, who has read statistics and studies on the subject. And since those who volunteer are also the ones who tend to stay active all-around, there may be a good case for staying active to prolong your life.

But most seniors are as concerned with quality as quantity, and find staying active makes life more enjoyable. Fran Juliano, of Colonie, is a case in point.

At 79 — her 80th birthday will

be in July — she teaches four tap dancing classes a week, and takes dance classes herself two days a week. She also heads a troupe which performs shows around the area; her next show is March 23 at St. Joseph's Provincial House.

"I love it," said Juliano, who began teaching six years ago. "If I had time on my hands, I'd go crazy."

Kate Burns, assistant director of Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc., which is housed in the old Goodrich School on Fiddlers Lane, said Juliano's classes are very popular, and her students "very loyal" to their dynamo instructor, who provides inspiration as much as knowledge.

Burns said programs offered at the center are based on input from participants, who largely favor travel and entertainment. The center organizes four trips a year, and volunteers stage two holiday shows each year, plus an occasional fashion show, like the recent Valentine's Day "Fashion Follies."

The center benefits from the labors of about 100 senior volunteers, who, like their counterparts in Bethlehem, are often volunteers at other locations as well.

Carolyn Wirth, Bethlehem Senior Services outreach director, said the volunteers she knows "are the most dynamic group of people you ever met, because they are so active." She observed, "The sen-

iors that are involved and are active are physically, mentally and emotionally doing just grand."

Staying physically active is a must for many older people, particularly those who suffer from arthritis, said Janice Thompson, director of Albany Jewish Community Center's senior citizens program. Arthritis sufferers find relief in AJCC's aquatics program, which offers a hydro-slimnastics course specially designed for seniors. The course, says Thompson, is very popular. "Once they start the hydro, they just can't stop," she said. Beyond the benefits of getting exercise, the water itself is stimulating to the participants, she said. "They're usually out of there by 11, and they're ready for the day."

The center also gets a good response from its low-impact exercise classes, said Thompson, who plans to launch a walking club. Since running is too strenuous for many older people, walking is ideal, she said.

Mental stimulation is another benefit of taking part in regular activities, said Thompson. "It's very easy to get into a rut, and lose touch."

Lois Beaudoin, secretary of one of eight senior citizens clubs that operate under the Town of Colonie's senior citizens services department, also noted the psychological aspect of staying active.

While many club members come to the group's Goodrich School headquarters to take exercise classes, painting classes, play table tennis or shuffleboard, oth-



Pedaling an exercise bike is one way to stay in shape. Physical activity can help a person feel younger, but mental stimulation is equally important.

ers come simply to play cards and chat. "Part of it is seeing people," said Beaudoin. "You need those contacts."

Just playing cards a few times a week can help keep the mind sharp, Beaudoin believes. "One of the reasons I took up bridge," she said,

laughing, "is because I heard there's no such thing as a senile bridge player."

Know your rights

According to the American Association of Retired Persons, consumers over 65 are less likely to believe that businesses try to dup customers. They're also not always aware that it is illegal to deny credit to an older person or that a company cannot advertise a product it doesn't carry.

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Be as careful choosing a physician as you are in choosing a home or a car or even a new suit. Research and evaluate the physicians you meet. Here's some suggestions when looking for a good doctor.

- Positive attitude toward the patient. The doctor should be a good listener, answer questions and spend enough time with you so that you feel satisfied. He or she should be caring, considerate and empathetic—not brusque or condescending.

"Oldest old" increasing in number

A study of the nation's "oldest old," those 80 or older shows that in 1950 only 12 percent of people aged 65 could expect to live to 90. Today, more than a quarter of 65-year-olds can expect to live that long.

Brittle hips

More than 90 percent of hip fractures happen to people over the age of 70. By age 90, one in three women will have suffered a hip fracture.

Pet therapy

Which is better for a nursing home resident—begonias or budgies? In a recent study, people with birds did better. They were more likely to chat with other people and less likely to just watch television.

- A good diagnostician. After the physical exam and a review of your medical history, the doctor should explain his or her evaluations and recommendations in language you can understand.

- Specific treatment plan and follow-up. All instructions should be clearly written out and discussed so there is no misunderstanding. (When in doubt, get a second opinion.)

- Reasonable office practices and scheduled appointments.

Waiting more than an hour to see a doctor is outrageous—your time is valuable too! (Emergencies do come along, however—ask if this is the problem before you complain.)

- Reasonable doctor availability. Your doctor should be readily available by phone—or an associate should return your call the same day.

- Quality staff. Office help, nurses and others should be courteous, pleasant and concerned.

Return of the house call

If you long for the days when the family doctor made house calls, you'll be pleased to know that in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., retired

doctors are visiting elderly patients at their homes. The non-profit MediVan idea has been so successful that many other communities are studying the concept.

According to the public affairs office of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, home health care is a growing specialty in nursing. House calls are rarely made by beginning nurses because such calls usually require specialized skills; the concept appeals more to critical-care nurses, whose skills are particularly adaptable to the home environment.

Expect more multiservice home health care agencies to develop during the next decade, offering nursing, care management, physical therapy and other services.

Money matters

Many people find out, too late, that Medicare isn't enough. This federally funded health insurance is a boon to older Americans, but it also gives many a false sense of security.

Since you can't count on Medicare to cover all your medical expenses, you should familiarize yourself with what it *does* cover.

Get a copy of the "Medicare Handbook," updated each year, from your local Social Security office. This 50-page booklet details restrictions, requirements, covered services and how to file claims.

Lower-income people also can avail themselves of Medicaid, but eligibility requirements vary from state to state. If you're concerned about long-term care for yourself or a parent and feel Medicaid may be the answer, consult your local Area Agency on Aging for more information; social workers and social service agencies also offer assistance.

The time to buy private medical insurance is now—before you need it. Here are some of your options:

- **Medicare supplement** Also known as "Medigap," this pays some or all of Medicare's deductibles and co-payments—but rarely covers services Medicare deems unnecessary.

- **Catastrophic or major medical.** Helps cover the high cost of serious illness or injury, extended hospital stays and some services not covered by Medicare.

- **HMOs.** For a fixed monthly fee, these "health maintenance

organizations" meet almost all your health care needs for no extra cost. Among the advantages are knowing what your medical expenses will be, and access to a wide variety of wellness services (routine examinations) often not covered by conventional insurance. Disadvantages include having a limited choice of doctors, and the fact that some HMOs have had financial problems (investigate carefully).

- **Employer's group insurance.**

If you were covered before you retired, you may be permitted to continue your coverage or convert it to a Medicare supplement plan concern about "pre-existing conditions." Check to see if your spouse also is eligible.

- **Nursing home coverage.**

This will pay a certain amount per day for services provided at a skilled nursing facility. Premiums tend to be high; be sure you understand the extent (and limits) of coverage.

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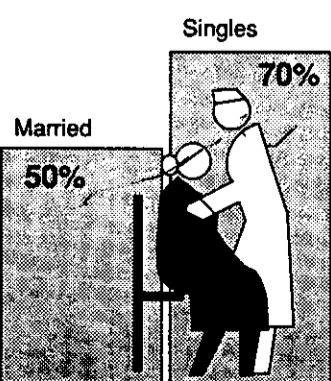
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SENIOR FACTS

A year's stay in a nursing home averages between \$25,000 and \$60,000.

Percent of people who are impoverished within one year of entering a nursing home.



SOURCE: IDS Financial Services

Gathering information important to choosing right home

By Kathleen Shapiro

Until her heart attack last year, 89-year-old Irene Baillargeon had never lived anywhere but the Cohoes home she grew up in. Today, Baillargeon is still surprised at how easy it was to leave.

"I slept in the same bedroom all my life," said Baillargeon, who now lives with her sister and 92 other residents at the Colonie Manor adult home in Latham. "I think the good Lord must have helped me, because the adjustment wasn't that difficult."

Baillargeon was lucky. For many elderly people, entering an adult care facility or nursing home can be a traumatic move. Fortunately, steps can be taken to minimize the confusion and anxiety commonly experienced by both older people in need of care and their families.

Because a person's health is usually a primary consideration when deciding on placement, a visit to the family physician should be a priority.

"Many people overlook going to the family doctor," noted Lee Bormann, a certified health care administrator and executive director of the Good Samaritan group of residential health facilities in the area. "The first step should be determining as much medical information as possible and finding out what suggestions your doctor

has for placement."

Choosing a facility where your family doctor makes regular visits is often a good way for an older person to maintain a sense of continuity, said Bormann.

Once health care needs are determined, people can begin narrowing down facilities in the area that best meet their personal needs.

In Albany, a good place to start is the county's Department for the Aging. In addition to providing names of local residential and health care facilities, the department has compiled a checklist of important things to look for when considering a facility.

The list includes, among other things, a New York State Department of Social Services license, copies of recent state inspection reports, staff qualifications, cost, living conditions, and activities and services available to residents.

Additional information can be obtained from the New York State Hospital Association, the Better Business Bureau, and the facilities themselves.

The next step is comparison shopping. When visiting facilities, keep in mind that newer and fancier does not necessarily mean better, cautioned Bormann.

Along with proven quality health care, people should "certainly look

for the obvious things like good food, cleanliness, and a variety of activities," he advised, "but more importantly, look at the staff. Do they take the time to talk to you? If they do, you know they'll also take the time to talk to residents."

If the tour leaves you with a good feeling, most of the time that means it's a good facility, said Bormann.

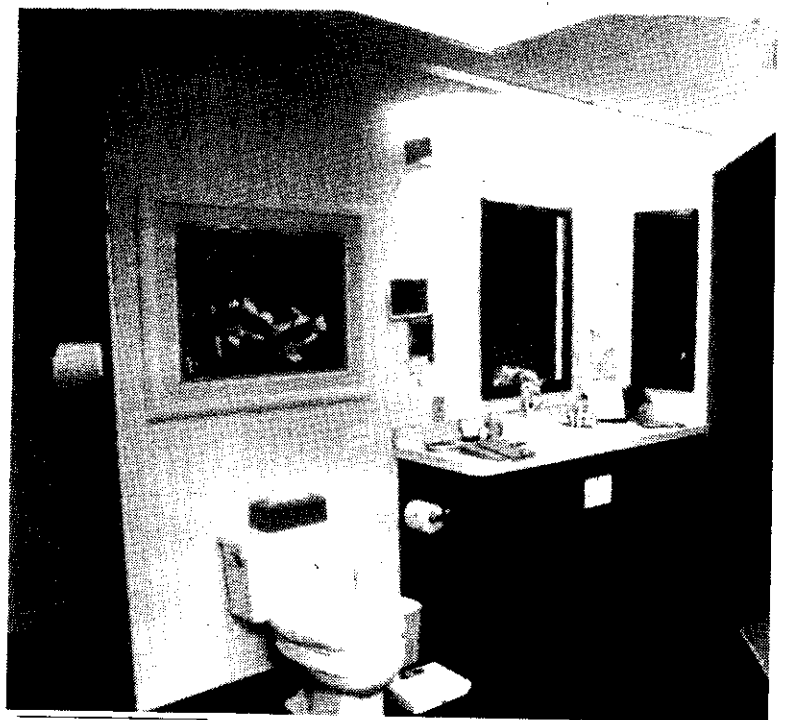
It's important for older people to find a place where they feel comfortable, said Donna McCoy, a registered nurse in admissions at the Albany County Nursing Home in Colonie.

"If a person is alert, they should visit the place themselves," said McCoy. "They're the ones who are going to live there, so it's important for them to be involved in the decision-making process."

Don't be unduly daunted by waiting lists, said McCoy, since most people are usually advised to apply for admission to a number of homes and may drop off the list at any time for a variety of reasons. "There may be 20 people ahead of you and all of a sudden you're at the top of the list," she said.

Once the decision has been made on which facilities to apply to, the paperwork begins.

"The process can be mind-boggling for some," admitted Bormann. Most adult facilities and



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nursing homes will help walk prospective residents through the procedure of applying for admission. Help is usually available in cases where people also need to apply for Medicaid benefits, he said.

Other sources of financial advice might include the county Department of Social Services'

Medicaid unit or a personal attorney.


For those who have chosen well, a health care facility can become a real home. Just ask Irene Baillargeon. "I'm as happy here (at Colonie Manor) as I could be anywhere," she said.

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The following physical problems common to those over 40 have simple, or even innovative, solutions.

The American Optometric Association recommends that adults schedule routine eye exams at least once every two years. For example, one of the worst eye diseases is glaucoma, a pressure in the eye that can lead to blindness. More than half of all glaucoma patients are diagnosed during a routine eye exam. The condition is easily remedied with eye drops, medications, laser treatments and/or surgery.

Triggered by aging, presbyopia, a blurring of close-up vision, is unpreventable. The answer is prescription glasses, bifocals or contact lenses.

Dry eye is common and uncomfortable; it primarily affects women over 50. It is easily treated with over-the-counter artificial tears, but don't use any medication until you have a diagnosis.

Cataracts cloud vision, and surgical removal is a routine practice. Though research is not conclusive, many doctors are prescribing a moderate supplement of vitamin E to delay the onset and slow the advance of cataracts.

Keeping your dental health

Save your smile! Bonding can fill in chips and gaps; porcelain veneering can remedy yellow,

worn-down teeth.

If you're given a choice between endodontic or root canal therapy and tooth extraction, always choose endodontic therapy.

With advances in endodontics, doctors are able to save teeth that only five years ago were considered untreatable, according to the American Association of Endodontics. "Our dental specialists are seeing more senior adults with all their own teeth, thanks to fluoride and modern dental techniques."

Hearing aid technology rapidly advancing

If you were fitted with a hearing aid several years ago, it's time for a new evaluation. Hearing aid technology has changed rapidly in recent years, and now there are devices that cut down on background noises.

By far, the most popular type of hearing aid is the in-the-ear model. Suitable for mild to moderate hearing loss, these are custom-made and fit just inside the ear; they have no additional cords or wires.

Canal aids are the newest technology, and the smallest type of hearing aid available. A tiny case, custom-made for the wearer, fits into the ear canal.

Behind-the-ear aids are best for people who have moderate to profound hearing loss. Individuals with severe hearing loss often use devices that are worn in a shirt pocket or clipped to a waistband, with a cord that connects to a receiver worn behind the ear.

Inner-ear disorders affect many older adults; Meniere's disease is characterized by vertigo, hearing loss and tinnitus.

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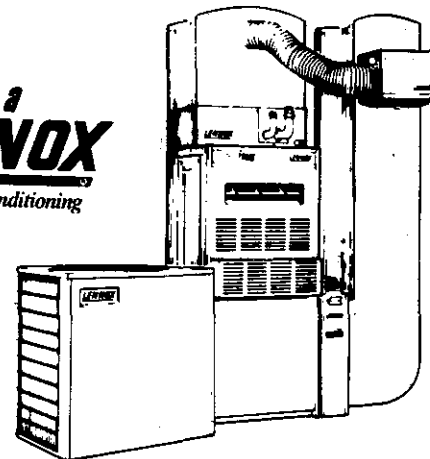
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Medicaid trusts ease nursing home expense

By Kathleen Shapiro

Picture this. You've worked hard all your life, and it's paid off. You've raised your family, own a nice home, and have squirreled away enough money over the years to build a substantial nest egg that can be passed on after you're gone.

Your neighbor across the street hasn't been as careful. While the two of you maintain a similar standard of living, he hasn't managed to save a dime.

If the time should come for both of you to go into the same nursing home, your "impoverished" neighbor will qualify immediately for Medicaid benefits. You, on the other hand, may have to dig deep into those savings.

Not fair?

"It's a situation that has a lot of people saying, 'Gee that's not right,'" said James Ayers, chairman of the trust and estate section of the New York State Bar Association.

Under today's system, however, there are a number of ways of qualifying for Medicaid without spending your money, explained Ayers. One of them is by setting up

a Medicaid trust.

A Medicaid trust serves as a way of insulating property and savings by transferring them out of reach. Once the transfer has been made and those assets are unavailable, a person no longer has the financial means to pay for nursing home care expenses, and becomes eligible for Medicaid benefits.

"As the cost of nursing home care has gone up, Medicaid trusts are becoming very popular," said Sholom Koplovitz, an Albany attorney who regularly conducts seminars on the topic.

"People today who have substantial assets can have them dissipated by nursing home care costs," he said. "With proper planning, those assets can be saved."

Medicaid trusts are a means of rearranging ownership of assets, said Koplovitz. In order to qualify for Medicaid, the trust must be set up and all transfers made at least 30 months prior to applying for benefits. Control of the trust is usually given either to a relative or a bank.

Although the principal is safe,

any income the trust provides, such as interest, is considered available to the original owner and must be reported to Medicaid.

While a Medicaid trust is a legitimate way of preserving an individual's money and property, there are drawbacks. In order to be effective, the trust must be irrevocable. Once assets are transferred, there is no way of regaining control over them.

"Loss of control is a real issue," admitted Koplovitz. "It's frightening for older people who've scrimped and saved all their lives to have to put their money into the hands of another person."

People considering setting up a Medicaid trust should proceed cautiously, advised Ayers. Once a person has relinquished all legal rights to the trust, distribution of the assets is in the hands of the trustee in charge. Ideally, a friendly trustee will manage the trust according to the wishes of the original owner, but there is no guarantee, he said.

Keeping some money available outside the trust is a good idea,

said Ayers. Because of a difference in reimbursement rates between nursing home patients who can pay privately and those who rely on Medicaid, it may be easier to initially get into a facility if you have some savings in reserve. The interest from the trust can also be used to pay for health care, with Medicaid picking up the balance, he explained.

Another approach recommended by many attorneys, investments advisors, and the New York State Department of Social Services is the relatively new idea of long-term health care insurance to cover nursing home costs.

A long-term policy can be used either alone or in conjunction with a Medicaid trust. For example, since assets must be disposed of within 30 months of applying for Medicaid, an insurance policy that runs for any amount of time over that can cover a person's nursing home expenses, while also providing extra time to make financial decisions, including whether or not to establish a trust.

Like any health insurance, a

long-term health care policy must be purchased well in advance of any major illness or disability, so it's best to buy early.

The older a person gets, the more difficult it is to find an insurance company willing to provide coverage, said Robert Agel of Reichenhal, Family and Agel investment advisors.

There's also the cost to keep in mind. The typical fee for insuring a 65-year-old is \$850 a year, while someone aged 75 might pay as much as \$2,700 a year, said Agel.

It makes sense to buy long-term health care insurance and use a Medicaid trust only as a back-up, said Mildred Shapiro, associate commissioner of medical assistance for the state Department of Social Services.

Aside from such problems as loss of control, there are some who question the ethics of setting up such a trust, said Shapiro. "There are legislators who say it's outrageous that we're creating an artificial poverty," she said. "It's become almost a moral and ethical question."

A little cosmetics can do wonders

You may be young at heart. But keeping your body from catching up with your chronological age takes a full-time commitment and unrelenting pampering.

Mira Linder's energetic book, "Beauty Begins at Sixty" (Alexander Press), describes a beauty and health regimen for the "dynamic new time in your life."

Makeup specialists speak out loudly *against* blue eye shadow, candy pink lips and frosted anything for older women. A top professional makeup artist recommends a minimal look. Use good products with *soft* applications.

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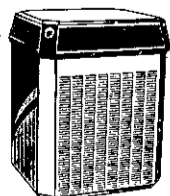
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Author says being over the hill is not so bad

Noted psychologist and *Women's Day* columnist, Eda LeShan has written books on parenting, losing weight and passing through middle age for adults and on coping with the traumas of growing up for their children. When she faced turning 60, LeShan wrote "Oh, To Be Fifty Again." Now in her late 60s, LeShan has a new book, "It's Better to Be Over the Hill Than Under It" (Newmarket Press). With characteristic insight and wit, she tackles some of life's most perplexing problems and situations, and between the lines she offers readers some sage advice about facing their own advancing age. Here's a few suggestions.

It's never too late: "If there are things in our lives that we wish we had not done or things we wish we had done, we can make amends so long as there is breath left in our bodies." No matter your age, start immediately to plan a trip you always wanted to take, paint a picture, learn a musical instrument or patch up an old quarrel.

Consider your own needs: Older people give a great deal of themselves to their friends and family—they are the parents who console adult children when they don't get the job they wanted or a marriage falls apart, the grandparents who baby-sit and entertain, the volunteer workers who can always be counted on.

Don't let yourself be taken advantage of. When you need a weekend alone or time to pursue your hobbies or time to connect with a friend or spouse, have the courage to say no.

Establish priorities: Perhaps this is the first time in your life that you haven't had to report to a job and you feel the loss of a schedule to keep you on track. Plan each week and make every day count, but fill your life with projects and activities important to you.

Keep in touch with younger people: "No one loses so much by losing contact with the young people as older people. The child inside each of us dries up and dies."

The "generation gap" that makes this one a challenge also provides the opportunity for learning and growth. Learn to appreciate new forms of art, music and dress; accept and adapt to unfamiliar ways of living—live-in relationships, divorce, alternative lifestyles. Different value systems don't have to alienate you from a group of people guaranteed to keep you young.

Nourish your own intimate relationship. Let the physical and spiri-

Longevity tips

The Japanese have a life expectancy of 78 years, whereas their Occidental counterparts have a life expectancy of 74. The Japanese secret? A high-carbohydrate, low-fat diet.

Aging marketplace

The marketplace will continue to be dominated by aging baby boomers. Between now and the year 2000, the 45 to 54 age group will increase by 11 million, and the group over 75 will grow by 4 million.

Working ways

A researcher at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital in Scotland concludes that a major factor in looking younger than you are is working with younger people.

tual changes of aging you're going through bring you and your mate closer together than ever before. But close doesn't

mean constantly together. Couples in retirement who previously were busy building careers and raising a family often feel suffocated by the constant presence of one another. Plan some activities apart to keep the magic of being together again forever new.

Spend time alone: "No matter how many people may have loved us during our lives, the love we need most of all is the love we can give ourselves," writes LeShan. If you don't already savor solitary moments, learn to appreciate the friend who is always with you—yourself.

Holidays are especially difficult if you are widowed, divorced or far away from children. Her solution: Decorate your home and buy yourself a present. With that celebration accomplished, think of people who are worse off than you. Invite them for a meal, or volunteer to spend the actual holiday helping out at a hospital or homeless shelter.

Acknowledge your feelings: Anger, anxiety and dismay are part and parcel of growing older. Establish a strong support system that might include a physician, therapist and friends who are experiencing the same changes.

This could take the form of a photo album, memoir, audiocassette or videotape, book of favorite recipes or collection of drawings. Include the changes you've observed in your lifetime, funny

anecdotes, family history and special memories.

Look up old friends: Maybe you haven't seen your best friend from grade school or an old Army buddy in years. Re-establishing contact with peers who share some of your memories is guaranteed rejuvenation. An active life and wide circle of concerned friends also are insurance against being victimized by con artists, burglars or health-care schemes that prey on people in their vulnerable elderly years.

Plan for the possibility of becoming dependent: Be prepared for a time when you may no longer be able to live independently. Talk with your spouse, siblings and children in advance about your wishes, and set aside some money for that eventuality, if possible.

Visit retirement communities to find out what's available and make your wishes known. This alleviates anxiety for you and guilt for living relatives who want to make sure you are comfortable.

Take risks: LeShan writes of one friend who took up acting in his 60s and now has an active career in the theater. Another started law school at 57. She warns against the pitfalls of such statements as "The children will think we're crazy" or "We're too old."

If you want to do something outrageous and impetuous, do it. The only ones who are "crazy" are those telling you that you shouldn't. People seldom regret the adventures they had but often wish they had done more.

Take good care of yourself physically and emotionally: You can



Retirement provides a perfect opportunity to pursue a new hobby, learn a new skill or spend more time developing interests that once took a back seat to career obligations.

maintain a positive attitude and a love of life that keeps you eager to face each new day for as long as you live. The author encourages

"Each of us must make the most and the best of the years that we have, so while there may be grief, there will not be any regrets."

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THE SPOTLIGHT Sports

Bethlehem team bows in soccer tourney semis

The "Mostly Off the Wall" soccer tournament, sponsored by the Bethlehem Soccer Club, came to a close last weekend with under-14 B boys and under-8 boys teams from throughout the Capital District competing.

The under-14 Bethlehem Devils survived a quarterfinal shoot out where Dave Goodfellow booted in the winning goal that sent the Devils to the semifinals. The Devils, coached by Tom Goodfellow, then met defeat, 6-1, at the hands of the Oneonta Blue Devils. Playing outstanding soccer for Bethlehem were Dan Aycock, Dan Dimaggio, Andy McCoy, Ethan Novick, Keith Timmerman and Scott Geis.

The under-14 Bethlehem Orangetown, coached by Bill Heim and Greg Maher, bowed out in the quarterfinals to the Broadalbin-Perth team. Playing for the Orangetown were Mike Belleville, Todd Heim, Jonathan Quinlan, Matt Shannon, Kyle Van Riper, Dave Martin and Andy Hatstat.

The under-14 division trophies were taken home by both Broadalbin-Perth and the Oneonta Blues when the final was called a draw due to a player injury.

Playing in their first indoor

tournament, two under-eight teams, coached by Bill Silverman, played well throughout a seven-team round robin format. Playing for the Bethlehem Boomers '83, who placed fourth, were Ben Barrowman, Geoffrey Decker, Benji Felton, Luke Haskins, Andy McNamarra, Kevin Richman, Matthew Swiatowicz, Steve Troiano and Ryan Dalton.

Playing for the Boomers '84, who placed sixth, were Bob Barrowman, Justin LaValle, Sean McManus, Kevin Neubauer, Andrew Swiatowicz and John Thibdeau. All participants in this age division went home with a soccer lapel pin.

Mirca Slater, chairwoman for the six-week tourney, said thanks to all who supported the tournament.

YMCA camp plans teen adventure trips

YMCA Camp Chingachgook has scheduled four adventure programs this summer for 13 to 17-year-olds: two bicycle trips, a backpacking trip, and a multi-event adventure camp.

For more information, call 783-1333.



Winners of BBC end-of-the-season sportmanship awards above.

Celtics and Hawks capture BBC championship

In front of standing room only crowds at the Bethlehem Central Middle School gym, the Celtics and the Hawks brought final four "March Madness" to a close by winning championships in their respective divisions within the Bethlehem Basketball Club.

The All-Star Division championship game saw the Hawks race out to an early 11-2 first quarter lead over the Spurs. The sharp shooting of Mike Pressman (eight points) and John Svare (12 points) kept the Spurs close throughout the hard fought contest. But the difference in the game was the strong defensive play of the entire Hawks squad as they throttled the Spurs offensive attack. The aggressive inside play of Jason Heim (15 points and nine rebounds) and the clutch foul shooting of Matt Winterhoff down the stretch helped the Hawks prevail with a 33-30 win.

The Celtics nosed out the Bulls 39-37 in the Pro Division championship game. The Bulls, down by as much as 14 points in the third quarter, staged a late rally behind outlast the Mavericks 46-43 as the duo of Chris Wenger (15 points) and Dan Baum (eight points). The Celtics countered in the late going with clutch shooting by Bill Robin-

son (12 points) and Tim Wenger (16) to seal the victory.

In other action, Georgetown edged Syracuse 40-37 to finish first in the College Division. Scott Krueger played scrappy defense and Cory Czajka tallied 11 points for Syracuse. Georgetown was paced by Geoff Linstruth, who ripped the nets for 16 points.

BBC/page 16

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Norene Thompson and William Douglas McMillan

McMillan, Thompson to wed

Douglas J. and Jean R. McMillan of Cincinnati, Ohio have announced the engagement of their son, William Douglas McMillan of Delmar, to Norene Eleanor Thompson, daughter of Donald R. and Bertha L. Thompson of Dedham, Mass.

McMillan is a graduate of Beth-

lehem Central High School and Rider College. He is employed by Coyle and Coyle, Inc. in New City.

Thompson is a graduate of Boston College. She is a registered nurse in New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston.

A June wedding is planned.

Gabriels, Oldaker engaged

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Gabriels of Slingerlands, and Dr. Lawrence M. Gifford of E. Rutherford, N.J. have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Caroline Gifford, to R. Thomas Oldaker,

son of Barbara and Robert Lee Oldaker of Greenville, S.C.

Gifford is a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton High School. Both Gifford and Oldaker are graduates of Clemson University.

McMullen, Weisheit engaged

Patricia and William R. McMullen Jr., of South Bethlehem, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Marie McMullen, to Douglas Edward Weisheit, son of Robert Weisheit of Selkirk and the late William Weisheit Jr.

McMullen is a graduate of Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High

School. She is a secretary for the Dormitory Authority.

Weisheit is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, State University at Cobleskill and Russell Sage College. He is employed by the pathology department at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

A June wedding has been set.

Dean's List

University of Rochester — Susan E. Loegering, Delmar.

Colgate University — Joshua C. Narode, Selkirk.

Le Moyne College — Devon A. Cahill, Delmar.

Ithaca College — Heather J. House, Colleen Teal, Delmar.

Manhattanville College — Edward Waters, Delmar.

Wells College — Elise Relyea, Slingerlands.

University of Rochester — Stacy Michele Kahalas, Delmar.

Pratt Institute — Matt Sylvester, Delmar.

Albany College of Pharmacy — Jason DuBois, Delmar.

Bates College — Aaron D. Hart, Delmar; Rebecca A. Colman, Tamara B. Colman, Slingerlands.

Muhlenberg College — Jon K.G. Allanson, Delmar.

University of Rochester — Gregory Van Zandt McQuide, Delmar.

Providence College — Suzanne H. Bellacqua, Delmar.

Tufts University — Susan M. Zolezzi, Delmar.

Class plans reunion

Bethlehem Central High School's Class of 1966 is looking for members to serve on the planning committee for its 25th reunion. Planners are also trying to locate as many class members as possible.

Any class members who are interested in serving on the committee, or know the whereabouts of any classmates, please contact Barbara Geurtze at 439-7848, or send the information to Bethlehem Central Class of '66, c/o Barbara Geurtze, 40 Elmsmere Ave., Delmar, N.Y. 12054.



Paul A. Franchini and Stacy Itzkowitz

Itzkowitz, Franchini to wed

Lawrence Franchini of Voorheesville has announced the engagement of his son, Paul A. Franchini, to Stacy E. Itzkowitz, daughter of Michael and Barbara Nagy Itzkowitz of Blooming Grove.

Franchini is a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton High School, and served in the Coast Guard as a petty officer for four years. He is currently completing an internship

at Johnson and Wales University, from which he will graduate this year. He is the son of the late Anna Franchini.

Itzkowitz is a graduate of State University at New Paltz and Simmons College. She is employed by Dr. Richard Robin Inc.

A fall of 1992 wedding is planned.

Waldman, Welt to wed

Michael A. and Ruth Waldman of Kenyon, R.I. have announced the engagement of their daughter, Karin Suzanne Waldman, to Andrew Bruce Welt, son of Dixon S. and Barbara Welt of Delmar.

Welt is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Hartwick

College. He is employed by Progress Software, Inc. in Bedford, Mass.

Waldman is a graduate of University of Rhode Island. She is a free-lance writer in Boston.

A September wedding is planned.

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Community Corner

BOU hosts auction and dance

Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited is hosting its annual Auction and Dance this Friday, March 22, at Bethlehem Central High School.

The theme for this year's event, which kicks off at 7:30 p.m., is "A Night on the Town." Tickets are \$5 for adults, and can be reserved at Main Square or purchased at the door. Proceeds will help BOU's volunteers continue to provide activities for teens in Bethlehem.

For information, call 439-6885.

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Obituaries

Harold Kennedy

Harold T. Kennedy, 82, of Kenwood Avenue in Delmar, former Railroad Express employee, died Sunday, March 10, in St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in New York City, Mr. Kennedy had lived in Delmar since 1984.

He was employed by the Railroad Express Co. in New York City for more than 40 years. He retired in 1970.

Mr. Kennedy was a World War II Army Air Force veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Anne M. Egan Kennedy; two sons, Brian Kennedy and Donald Kennedy, both of Delmar; and four grandchildren.

Services were from Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar.

Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery in Delmar.

Arrangements were by Applebee Funeral Home, 403 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

Caroline Goodfellow

Caroline A. White Goodfellow, 85, of Harwich Drive in Colonie, died Sunday, March 3, in Albany Memorial Hospital after being stricken at home.

Born in Selkirk, she had lived in Voorheesville for 40 years before moving to Colonie four years ago.

Mrs. Goodfellow was a homemaker, a member of the Voorheesville First United Methodist Church and its Women's Society, and the New Scotland and Guelderland Senior Citizens clubs.

The widow of Harold Gregory and LeRoy Goodfellow, she is survived by a daughter, Phyllis Paulsen of Colonie; a son, Gerald Gregory of Albany; four sisters, Rebecca Flansburg of Voorheesville, Hester Morehouse of Cobleskill, Anna Williams of Ravena and Catherine Goble of Ocean City, N.J.; a brother, Willard White of South Bethlehem;

six grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Services were at the Reilly & Son Funeral Home in Voorheesville, with burial in East Greenbush Cemetery in East Greenbush.

Contributions may be made to the Voorheesville First United Methodist Church.

Thomas Hunter

Thomas Banker "Pop" Hunter, 85, of New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands, former bus driver, died Tuesday, March 12 in St. Peter's Hospice in Albany.

Born in Hoboken, N.J., he was educated in Pittstown. Before moving to Watervliet, he lived in Albany for 12 years. Mr. Hunter had been a Slingerlands resident since 1973.

Before retiring in 1970, he was a bus driver for the United Traction Company in Albany for 36 years. He was also a member of the Amalgamated Transit Workers Union.

An avid hunter and fisherman, Mr. Hunter spent his summers in Long Lake, Hamilton County since 1947.

He was husband of the late Helen Sanford Hunter.

Survivors include a daughter, Patricia Hunter of Ballston Lake; a son, Thomas S. Hunter of Latham; a sister, Marjorie Linendoll of Watervliet; and four grandchildren.

Services were from Bowen Funeral Home, 97 Old Loudon Rd., Latham.

Burial was in Nortonville Cemetery, Pittstown.

Art collection featured in video program

A video program on the Empire State Plaza art collection will be shown at Bethlehem Public Library on Thursday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m.

To register, call 439-9314.

Apartments planned for restaurant

By Debi Boucher

A 100-year-old building that has been an eating and drinking establishment for as long as anyone in New Scotland can remember may soon see a change in venue, if plans to convert it to an apartment house come to fruition.

James Cramer, representing owner Frederick Carl, came before the New Scotland Planning Board last week for a preliminary discussion on converting the first-floor area of the Helderhouse Restaurant into five apartments. Three existing apartments occupy the second floor, he said. The applicant will need to see the zoning board of appeals, planning board members agreed; at issue was what type of variance would be needed.

Planning Board Attorney John Bailey said an area variance would be needed because the building lacks the required setback from the road — and instead sits right on the edge of Route 85, near the New Salem intersection of Route 85A. Building inspector Paul Cantlin argued the variance would not be needed. In any case, Bailey said that variance would not be much of an issue.

A much more significant hurdle, he said, is a town ordinance requiring 10,000 square feet of property for each family living on it. The site is under an acre, or 40,000 square feet, meaning a maximum of four apartments would be permitted there.

Cramer said the planned apartments would be between 608 and 744 square feet. "Why are they all one-bedroom apartments?" asked board member Ann Richards. "And why so many, so small?" Cramer replied that the apartments were designed for singles and couples without children and said he didn't consider them small.

Although the board discussed parking (the building has 22 spaces, more than enough), landscaping (which might replace some of the blacktop area) and water pressure, the conversation returned repeatedly to the 10,000-per-family requirement. "The big-

gest problem is you've got too many units for the size of the land," said Chairman Raymond MacKay. He added that the proposal represented a potential benefit to the town, which Bailey said should be a consideration from a planning point of view. "An apartment house would be better than what's there now," he said, noting that neighbors had complained about noise from the establishment last summer.

The planning board in the end left it up to the zoning board to determine how many apartments should be allowed there, voting to recommend the zoning board approve "the maximum" variance possible.

Bailey warned Cramer to be prepared with hard facts and figures on which to base the request. "It's now up to the applicant to convince the ZBA as to what type of variance you need," he said. "If you can convince them you need eight apartments to make this economically viable, you've got a good shot."

Said Richards, "I personally think eight apartments are too many."

The board also heard a preliminary discussion of a three-lot subdivision by Point Four Associates, for a parcel of land at the end of Deer Cliff Road and on Helderhill Road. The lots would be 24, 10 and 5.5 acres respectively, said Steven Elsbree of S. Santo Associates, engineer for the project.

All three lots would be 20 feet shy of the required 50 feet of frontage, Elsbree said. MacKay suggested that the two lots with access from Deer Cliff Road could gain frontage through construction of a larger cul-de-sac, or a T-turn.

Point Four's latest configuration is the product of two scalebacks, down from 16 lots two years ago and seven lots a year ago. The board set a public hearing on the three-lots plan for April 9 at 7 p.m.

In other action, the board granted a special use permit to Gerald P. Rickert Sr. for a one-family dwelling on an industrially-zoned 15-acre parcel on Waldenmaier Road. Rickert said he wants to build a three-bedroom house, with a three-car garage for antique cars, on the site.

The board also gave approval of

a one-lot subdivision, for just under an acre of land on Pangburn Road, to David Moreau. At last month's planning board meeting, at which Moreau appeared for a preliminary discussion of the subdivision, board members noted that this is the sixth one-lot subdivision Moreau has carved out of what was originally a 75-acre parcel — and is now, following the approval of the latest subdivision, down to 50 acres. At the time, planning board member Ann Richards questioned Moreau's intentions, asking if he would continue to subdivide one lot at a time. "I don't intend to do that," Moreau had replied, "but I'm not going to guarantee that won't happen."

Robert Hampston, former chairman of the board, warned that the proposed new subdivision regulations "will block what you're doing." The proposed regulations are currently being reviewed jointly by the town board and planning board in preparation for public hearings. The two boards have held one work session on the subject, and will meet again at 7 p.m. on March 26, at town hall.

Spotlight publisher to speak at library

Richard Ahlstrom, owner and publisher of *The Spotlight* newspapers, will present a talk on the history of paper in Delmar at Bethlehem Public Library on Monday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Ahlstrom, who purchased *The Spotlight* in 1980 from the late Nat Boynton, served as vice president for the Gannett Westchester Rockland Newspaper Group in Westchester County from 1969 to 1980. Since 1980, *The Spotlight* has tripled its staff, expanded its coverage and won several state press association awards.

Register by calling 439-9314.

Violin recital scheduled at library

On Sunday, March 24, students of Robin Osgood will recite violin in the Suzuki method. The recital will take place at the Bethlehem Library at 2:15 p.m. Students performing are age four or older. Refreshments will be served.

For information, call 477-5603.

THE YOUTH NETWORK

Have a night on the town with BOU

Treat yourself to a "night on the town" at Bethlehem Opportunity Unlimited's annual event. It will be held this year on Friday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Central High School.

The event will feature music and dancing, delectable desserts and beverages, and a live auction for products, travel and services. There will also be a raffle, and Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. By attending,

you will also be supporting a wide variety of youth-oriented activities made possible by BOU. (See next week's column for an example of just such a project.)

Admission is only \$5 per person, payable in advance at the Main Square Office or at the door.

Show your support of our young people and their future. See you on the 22nd!

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Family

By Susan Wheeler

N

ot every mouse has been as fortunate as Mickey Mouse. Sure, some of the other mice have cheese to eat and sardine cans as beds, but Mickey has a long list of cinematic accomplishments and several close friends,

even a loyal dog. At age 63, Mickey should be nearing retirement, instead he's starring in Walt Disney's World on Ice Celebrating Mickey's Diamond Jubilee, coming to Albany's Knickerbocker Arena next week.

The 10 performances from March 26 through 31, feature Mickey, created by Walt Disney in 1928, joined by his friends and 38 professional skaters recounting moments from his past. Tickets for the nearly two-hour show, produced by Kenneth Feld of Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus, are on sale at the Knick box office and Ticketmaster outlets. Ticket prices are \$11.50, \$9.50, \$7.50 and \$17.50 for ringside seats.

"It's more than an ice show," according to Joe Lewi, regional marketing director for World on Ice. "It's a Disney marketing play on ice. The music, the costumes, everything is Disney. The actors are skaters."

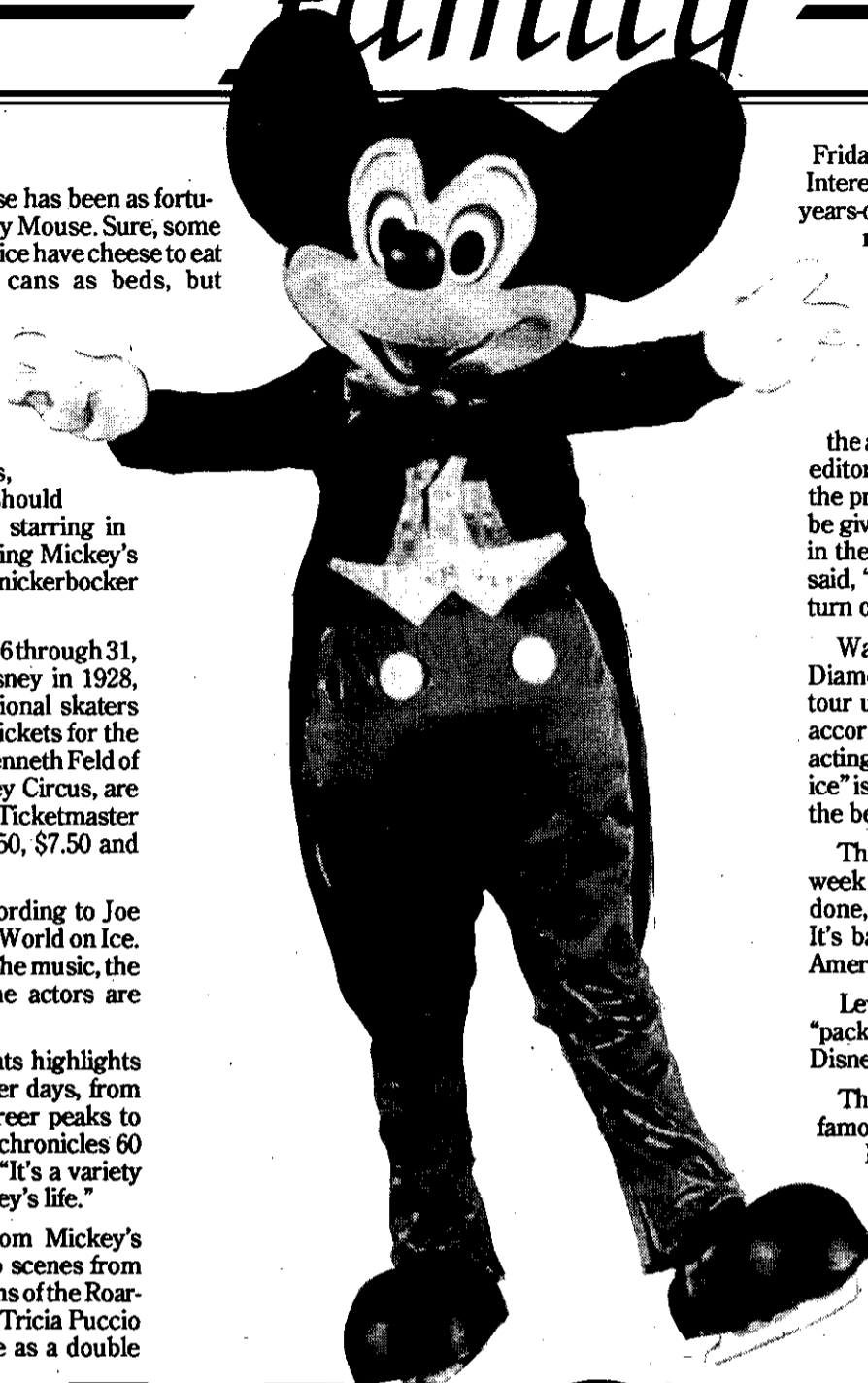
Each of the ice show's 13 segments highlights scenes from Mickey Mouse's younger days, from the era he was born through his career peaks to more recent adventures. "The show chronicles 60 years of Mickey Mouse," Lewi said. "It's a variety show about different aspects of Mickey's life."

The show takes the audience from Mickey's acting debut in "Steamboat Willie" to scenes from "Fantasia" and "Puppy Love." "Rhythms of the Roaring '20s" starts the show, with skater Tricia Puccio performing such steps in her routine as a double

loop, a split jump and some jazzy footwork.

Most of the skaters, who average 5 feet 4 inches and 110 pounds, are "highly accomplished," according to Lewi. The average age of the skaters is 21, and most join World on Ice after high school, he said. "We're always looking for the best talent we can find."

For local skaters who have an interest in performing with Walt Disney's World on Ice, auditions will be held on



Friday, March 29 at 4 p.m. at the Knickerbocker Arena. Interested skaters must be high school graduates or 17-years-old. They should be available to travel and bring a resume which includes a photo, name, address, phone number, age, height, weight and which United States/Canadian Figure Skating Association tests have been passed. "We have taken people from the Albany area for the show," Lewi said.

Interested skaters should bring their skates to the audition, according to Kathleen Condon, director of editorial services at Ed Lewi Associates, Inc. in Latham, the promotional firm for the ice show, because they will be given time to perform. "A lot of the skaters currently in the show got their jobs at this kind of audition," she said, "even the principal skaters. I hope we have a good turn out."

Walt Disney's World on Ice Celebrating Mickey's Diamond Jubilee debuted in 1988, and is scheduled to tour until 1994. Feld was the first, about 10 years ago, according to Lewi, to dramatize Disney stories through acting, props, sets and skating. "The Disney theme on ice" is a family attraction, he said. "It's a good thing to do, the best of both worlds- Disney and skating."

The Diamond Jubilee show has 70 U.S. cities on its 80-week U.S. tour. "It's one of the most popular shows we've done," Lewi said. "It toured the U.S., Canada and Japan. It's back in the U.S. and will go to Europe and South America."

Lewi said Disney's World on Ice shows are received by "packed crowds" wherever they perform. "It's amazing. Disney is worldwide."

This "best of Mickey" show features many of Mickey's famous friends, including Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck, Daisy, Goofy, Pluto, Chip and Dale, the Big Bad Wolf and the Three Little Pigs, according to Lewi. "That's what the kids want to see."

Mickey Mouse as the Sorcerer's Apprentice in the scene from "Fantasia" is "phenomenal," Lewi said. "It compares with the movie. It is one of the more memorable moments."

MICKY at the Knick

Mickey and Minnie Mouse will host the "world's largest indoor Easter egg hunt" in the concourse area of the Knickerbocker Arena on Sunday, March 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. More than 1,000 colored eggs will be hidden for the children, ticket holders for the 1 p.m. performance, to find. Prizes will be awarded for the most Easter eggs found, in the Easter Roll Race and for the best Easter bonnet, which will be judged by Mickey. Prizes include filled Easter baskets and souvenirs from Disney on Ice.

Shakespeare and youth: Marriage made in heaven

By Mike Larabee

Tina Packer, director of the the New York State Theater Institute's current production of "Othello," sees a kinship between Shakespeare's time and the world of the modern adolescent.

To her, the two were more or less made for each other.

"The Renaissance, when Shakespeare was writing, is very close in its spirit to the adolescent," Packer said, breaking for an interview during a hectic final day of rehearsal last Friday. "The energy is pouring out, your emotions are very close to the surface, you're full of rebellion against authority, you're passionately in love, you're always wanting to break away from your parents."

"This is the stuff of the plays," she said.

That's one reason why Packer's home theater association, the recently-combined Lenox, Mass. centered Shakespeare & Co. and the Boston Shakespeare Company, emphasizes outreach to high school students. She said theater members regularly go into classrooms both to direct and perform.

She believes it's crucial to present Shakespeare's work to young people as something alive, not something couched in rigid and formal academic terms.

"Once the kids get over this hump of Shakespeare being dry and dusty, it gets on the level where what happens is they start seeing that Romeo and Juliet's predicament obviously is theirs, and their fight with their parents is theirs," she said.

"They suddenly have the language to say it with, and they can take off with it," she said. "They can run around saying to teachers 'A pox on authority!'"

Packer has appeared with the Royal Shakespeare Company and directed the Bard's plays at the London Academy of Dramatic Art. Since founding Shakespeare & Company, she has directed all of its major productions, including "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "The Winter's Tale," "Romeo and Juliet," "The Tempest," "Twelfth Night," "As You Like It," "Macbeth," "The Comedy of Errors," and "Antony and Cleopatra."

While she has directed works by others, the English-born and Royal Academy



David Bunce, left, and Richard Barrows plot the death of the heroic general Othello in William Shakespeare's tragedy, a NYS Theater Institute production being shown this month.

SHAKESPEARE/ page 23

**Wednesday
March 20**

**BETHLEHEM
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
SERVICES**

Parks and Recreation Office,
Delmar, 2-4 p.m. Information,
439-0503.

TALENT SHOW AUDITIONS
Town of Bethlehem citizens, for
April 12 talent show, 3 p.m.,
location to be announced.
Information, 439-6406.

**DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH
LENTEN STUDY**
386 Delaware Ave., Delmar,
"Who is Jesus?" or "What Good
is Prayer?" 7-8:30 p.m.
Information, 439-9929.

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 Monday and
Wednesday mornings.
Information, 439-6391.

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB
meets first and third
Wednesdays, Old Center Inn,
Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 7 p.m.

LENTEN SERVICE
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85
Elm Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 439-4328.

**ECUMENICAL LENTEN BIBLE
STUDY**
First United Methodist Church,
428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar,
"Let Your Light Shine" with Rev.
Gregory Pike, 9:30 a.m.
registration, 10-11 a.m. study
begins.

BETHLEHEM ELKS LODGE 2233
meets at lodge, Rt. 144, Cedar
Hill, 8 p.m. first and third
Wednesdays.

**ONESQUETHAW CHAPTER,
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**
first and third Wednesdays at
Masonic Temple, Kenwood
Ave., Delmar, 8 p.m.

NEW SCOTLAND

**HOME ECONOMICS
PROGRAM COMMITTEE**
7-9 p.m., Cornell Cooperative
Extension, Martin Rd.,
Voorheesville. Information, 765-
3500.

**MASTER GARDENER STAFF
MEETING**
9:30 a.m., Cornell Cooperative
Extension, Martin Rd.,
Voorheesville. Information, 765-
3500.

**VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC
LIBRARY STORY HOURS**
51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 4
p.m. Information, 765-2791.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public
Library, 51 School Rd.,
Voorheesville, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Information, 765-2791.

**MOUNTAINVIEW
EVANGELICAL CHURCH**
evening service, 7:30 p.m.; Bible
study and prayer, Rt. 155,
Voorheesville. Information, 765-
3390.

**NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR
CITIZENS**
every Wednesday, Wyman
Osterhout Community Center,
New Salem. Information, 765-
2109.

**Thursday
March 21**

**BETHLEHEM
BETHLEHEM HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION**
meeting, 8 p.m., School House
Museum, Rt. 144, Selkirk.
Information, 436-8289.

**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
SERVICES**
Parks and Recreation Office,
Delmar, 9:30 a.m.-noon.
Information, 439-0503.

BETHLEHEM SENIOR CITIZENS
meet every Thursday at
Bethlehem Town Hall, 445
Delaware Ave., Delmar, 12:30
p.m. Information, 439-4955.

KABBALAH CLASS
class in Jewish mysticism, every
Thursday, Delmar Chabad
Center, 109 Elsmere Ave., 8 p.m.
Information, 439-8280.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
meeting every Thursday, First
United Methodist Church,
Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 7 p.m.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP
sponsored by Project Hope and
Bethlehem Opportunities
Unlimited, meets Thursdays, First
United Methodist Church,
Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information,
767-2445.

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
Thursdays, Bible study, 10 a.m.,
Creator's Crusaders, 6:30 p.m.,
senior choir, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 439-4328.

BOWLING
sponsored by Bethlehem
Support Group, for parents of
handicapped students, Del
Lanes, Elsmere, every Thursday,
4-5:30 p.m. Information, 439-
7880.

**AMERICAN LEGION
LUNCHEONS**
for members, guests and
membership applicants,
Sidewheeler Restaurant, Albany
Motor Inn, third Thursday, noon.

FOOD STAMP FORM AID
third Thursday of odd numbered
months, Bethlehem Town Hall,
Delmar, 9:15 a.m.-noon.
Appointments required, 439-
4955.

**NEW SCOTLAND
AGRICULTURE PROGRAM
COMMITTEE**
7:30 p.m., Cornell Cooperative
Extension, Martin Rd.,
Voorheesville. Information, 765-
3500.

CLARKSVILLE TABERNACLE
890 Delaware Ave., Clarksville, 7
p.m. Information, 768-2733.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public
Library, 51 School Rd.,
Voorheesville, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Information, 765-2791.

**NEW SCOTLAND KIWANIS
CLUB**
Thursdays, New Scotland
Presbyterian Church, Rt. 85, 7
p.m.

**Friday
March 22**

**BETHLEHEM
SCHOOL'S OUT FILM**
"Snowball Express", 2 p.m.,
Bethlehem Public Library, 451
Delaware Ave., Delmar.
Information, 439-9314.

BRING ON THE SPRING
activities for toddlers to three
years, Bethlehem Public Library,
451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 10
or 11 a.m. Information, 439-
9314.

**NEW SCOTLAND REPUBLICAN
COMMITTEE**
15th Annual Dinner-Dance,
Crossgates Restaurant,
Washington Ave., Cocktails 6:30-
7:30 p.m. Music by The Melody
Three, tickets \$25 per person.
Information or reservations, 765-
4470 or 765-2781.

**BETHLEHEM OPPORTUNITIES
UNLIMITED LIVE AUCTION**
Bethlehem Central High School,
7:30 p.m., \$5 adult, reserve at
Main Square Office or pay at
door. Information, 439-6885.

RECOVERY, INC.
self-help for those with chronic
nervous symptoms. First United
Methodist Church, 428
Kenwood Ave., Delmar, every
Friday, 12:30 p.m.

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

**NEW SCOTLAND
VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC
LIBRARY FILM**
"The Loneliness of the Long
Distance Runner", 51 School
Rd., free, 7 p.m. Information,
765-2791.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public
Library, 51 School Rd.,
Voorheesville, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Information, 765-2791.

**VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC
LIBRARY STORY HOURS**
51 School Rd., Voorheesville,
10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Information, 765-2791.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS
United Pentecostal Church, Rt.
85, New Salem, 7 p.m.
Information, 765-4410.

**Saturday
March 23**

**BETHLEHEM
CRAFT FAIR**
Glenmont Elementary School,
Rt. 9W, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Information, 463-1154.

BRING ON THE SPRING
activities for toddler to three
year, Bethlehem Public Library,
451 Delaware Ave., Delmar,
10:30 a.m. Information, 439-
9314.

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

**NEW SCOTLAND
LIFE IN THE FUNNY PAGES**
comic book illustrator John
Herbert is featured,
Voorheesville Public Library, 51
School Rd., Voorheesville, 2
p.m., free. Information, 765-
2791.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public
Library, 51 School Rd.,
Voorheesville, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Information, 765-2791.

4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
Farnsworth Middle School,
Guilderland, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Information, 765-3500.

**Sunday
March 24**

**BETHLEHEM
SUZUKI METHOD VIOLIN
RECITAL**
students ages four and older of
Robin Osgood, Bethlehem
Library, 2:15 p.m., refreshments.
Information, 477-5603.

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF
BETHLEHEM**
church school, 9:30 a.m.;
worship, 11 a.m.; youth group, 6
p.m. Rt. 9W Selkirk. Information,
436-7710.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF DELMAR**
worship, 9:30 a.m.; church
school, 9:45 a.m.; youth and
adult classes, 11 a.m.; nursery
care, 9 a.m.-noon. Information,
439-9976.

**GLENMONT REFORMED
CHURCH**
worship, 11 a.m., nursery care
provided, 1 Chapel Lane,
Glenmont. Information, 436-
7710.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday worship service, 10:15
a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.;
Tuesday Bible study, 7:15 p.m.
Meetings held at the Auberge
Suisse Restaurant, New Scotland
Road, Slingerlands. Information,
475-9086.

**BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday School, 9 a.m., 3-year-
olds through adult, morning
worship service, 10:30 a.m.,
nursery care provided, evening
fellowship, 6 p.m. Information,
439-3135.

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
family worship, 8 a.m. and 10:30
a.m., Sunday school and Bible
classes, 9:15 a.m. Nursery care
available during worship
services. Information, 439-4328.

DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH
church school and worship, 9
and 11 a.m., nursery care
provided, 386 Delaware Ave.
Information, 439-9929.

**DELMAR PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
worship, church school, nursery
care, 10 a.m.; coffee hour and
fellowship, 11 a.m.; adult
education programs, 11:15
a.m.; family communion
service, first Sundays.
Information, 439-9252.

**EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**
worship, Sunday school and
nursery care, 10 a.m., followed
by a time of fellowship, Retreat
House Rd., Glenmont.
Information, 463-6465.

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
SCIENTIST**
service and Sunday school, 10
a.m., child care provided, 555
Delaware Ave., Delmar.
Information, 439-2512.

**NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.,
Sunday service, 11 a.m., 10
Rockefeller Rd., Elsmere.
Information, 439-7864.

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
Eucharist followed by breakfast,
8 and 10:30 a.m., followed by
coffee hour, nursery care
provided, Poplar and Elsmere
Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-
3265.

**SLINGERLANDS COMMUNITY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
worship service, church school,
10 a.m.; fellowship hour and
adult education programs,
nursery care provided, 1499
New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands.
Information, 439-1766.

**SOUTH BETHLEHEM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
worship, 11 a.m., followed by
coffee hour, Willowbrook Ave.,
South Bethlehem. Information,
767-9953.

**UNITY OF FAITH CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**
Sunday school and worship, 10
a.m., 436 Krumkill Rd., Delmar.
Information, 438-7740.

**NEW SCOTLAND
EVENING SERVICE**
Clarksville Tabernacle, 7 p.m.,
Route 443. Information, 768-
2733.

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**Palm Sunday
Celebration
March 24,
1991
Palm
Sunday**

Worship Services at
9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Bagpipe soloist featured
(Nursery Care provided at both services)

Delmar Reformed Church
386 Delaware Avenue
(at the Four Corners)



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Lenten Concert

Palm Sunday, March 24 4:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church

The REQUIEM

by Gabriel Fauré

A work for chorus, string ensemble,
harp and organ and works
by Mozart and Franck



Presented by the combined choirs of
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St. Thomas the Apostle Church
(and St. John's Episcopal Church (Troy))

Soloists: Ken Loiacono, Susan Monohan, and Frank Leavitt
Joe Farrell, conducting

A free will offering will be taken at the door to help support the concert
and to help support the Albany Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless

First United Methodist Church 428 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar

THE SPOTLIGHT CALENDAR

CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m., coffee hour following service, nursery care provided. Information, 768-2916.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF VOORHEESVILLE
worship 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., church school. Information, 765-2895.

MOUNTAIN VIEW EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Bible hour for children and adults, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m., Sunday evening service, 7 p.m., nursery care provided for Sunday services, Rt. 155, Voorheesville. Information, 765-3390.

NEW SALEM REFORMED CHURCH
adult Bible study class and Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., service at 10:30 a.m., nursery care provided, Rt. 85 and Rt. 85A, New Salem. Information, 439-7112.

ONESQUETHAW CHURCH
worship, 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Sunday school.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN NEW SCOTLAND
worship, 10 a.m., church school, 11:15 a.m., nursery care provided, Rt. 85, New Scotland. Information, 439-6454.

UNIONVILLE REFORMED CHURCH
worship, 9:30 a.m., followed by fellowship time, children's story hour, 11 a.m. Information, 439-5303.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Sunday school and worship, 10 a.m., choir rehearsal, 5 p.m., evening service, 6:45 p.m. Rt. 85, New Salem. Information, 765-4410.

DELMAR KIWANIS
meets Mondays at Sidewheeler Restaurant, Rt. 9W, Days Inn, Glenmont, 6:15 p.m.

AL-ANON GROUP
support for relatives of alcoholics, meets Mondays, 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.

BETHEHEM ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP
provides regular volunteers with excavation and laboratory experience Monday and Wednesday mornings. Information, 439-6391.

NEW SCOTLAND VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY STORY HOUR
51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10:30 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

CRAFT AND FILM PROGRAM
"Wake Up, It's Really Spring." Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., 4 p.m., free. Information, 765-2791.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

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

Tuesday March 26

BETHEHEM DELMAR ROTARY
meets Tuesday mornings at Days Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont. Information, 482-8824.

NEW SCOTLAND BEDTIME STORY HOUR
"Carrot Noses." Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., 7 p.m., free. Information, 765-2791.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY STORY HOUR
51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

Wednesday March 27

BETHEHEM YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office, Delmar, 2-4 p.m. Information, 439-0503.

LENTEEN STUDY
"What's God Got to Do with Evil?" or "What's the Use of the Bible?" Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., 7-8:30 p.m. Information, 439-9929.

LITERARY LECTURE SERIES
Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf. Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9314.

ECUMENICAL LENTEEN BIBLE STUDY
"The Joy of Freedom." First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar. Coffee and registration, 9:30 a.m. Bible study, 10-11 a.m. Information, 439-9976.

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.

BETHEHEM ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP
provides regular volunteers with excavation and laboratory experience Monday and Wednesday mornings. Information, 439-6391.

NEW SCOTLAND MOUNTAINVIEW EVANGELICAL CHURCH
evening service, 7:30 p.m.; Bible study and prayer, Rt. 155, Voorheesville. Information, 765-3390.

VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY STORY HOUR
51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 4 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR CITIZENS
every Wednesday, Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem. Information, 765-2109.

WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION
Alice Ashe, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

NEW SCOTLAND ELKS LODGE
meets second and fourth Wednesdays, 22 South Main St., Voorheesville, 8 p.m.

Monday March 25

BETHEHEM MOTHER'S TIME OUT
Christian support group for mothers of preschool children Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, nursery care provided, 10-11:30 a.m. Information, 439-9929.

Bethlehem Lions Club ANNUAL PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST
Sunday, March 24th, 1991
8 am-1 pm
Poplar Drive, Elsmere
ALL YOU CAN EAT!

First United Methodist Church
Palm Sunday
Worship Service
March 24, 9:30 a.m.
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Shakespeare

(From page 19)

of Dramatic Art-schooled Packer described her relationship with Shakespeare in terms of a personal calling.

"He is my lodestar, if I can put it like that, because my passion is to keep asking what life's about," she said. "Shakespeare is the person who keeps asking the question with you best, or with me best I find."

"He keeps leading me onwards and upwards and forwards and backwards. I find it so exciting," she said.

The institute "Othello" production, which will run at the Egg in Albany through March 27, is the first institute play Packer has directed. She said true to her experiences with Shakespeare in the past, she's made discoveries about the story through the process of engaging it. She while she had expected to stage the play on its theme of racial prejudice, she said, she's found "Othello" to have a great deal to say about sexism as well.

She finds it instructive that because of the struggle between Othello, a black

general in the service of the Duke of Venice, and his malicious lieutenant Iago, it is the pair's wives Desdemona and Emilia who are murdered.

"When her (Desdemona's) father is a bigot and screams and yells, Othello has power, they need him and want him for his skills and courage, so in fact he wins the day," Packer said. "When the prejudice turns and starts to be leveled against the women they have no support at all."

"I find the thing fascinating," said Packer. "The poetry, of course, is staggeringly beautiful."

She said her reading of the play is reflected in the staging of Desdemona as a woman of great courage.

"Most people normally show him smacking her once and then he rather gently smothers her," she said. "I've got her fighting for life every inch of the way."

Tickets are still available for performances of "Othello," which opened last Saturday, are 10 a.m., March 20 (today), 21, 26, and 27; 2 p.m., March 24; and 8 p.m., March 22. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for senior citizens and students and \$6 for children to age 12.

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Weekly Crossword

"POETICALLY SPEAKING"

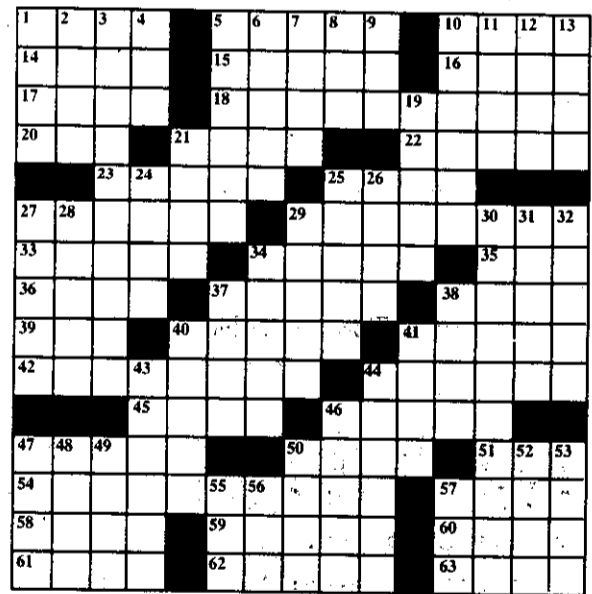
By Gerry Frey

ACROSS

- "Little" comedian
- Firm
- Head honcho
- Wimbledon's Arthur
- 747, eg
- Dueling sword
- Islands in the Seine
- FAMOUS LIMERICK POET
- "Miserables"
- Chow _____ Chinese style dish
- Smallest of the litters
- Barter
- Short race
- Javelins, eg
- LONGFELLOW POEM
- Makes coffee, eg
- Refusals
- King in France
- Perry Mason occup.
- Smidgens
- Gloomy
- Broadway sign
- Fathers
- Lull
- POET-SINGER
- Ransacked
- Prevarications
- Modeling wood
- Step
- Chomp
- Hereditary acid
- ENGLISH ROMANTIC POET
- Crazy bird
- Pay the kitty
- Babble
- Word with mate or harp
- Golf devices
- POETIC RHYTHM
- Little brown bird

DOWN

- Berate
- Small island
- ENGLISH POET & ESSAYIST G.K. _____
- "For _____ a Jolly Good Fellow"
- Puts the pedal to the metal
- "By the Light of the Silvery Moon", eg
- Grass covered yard
- "Like a pig _____ poke"
- German article
- Source of caviar
- Agape
- Chair
- Short for Sun. talks
- Sketches
- The red planet
- Risque
- Eats in luxury
- Squeals
- Involuntary muscular contraction
- Chem lab dish
- Hostelry
- BARD
- Dwelling
- Broadcasted
- Telegrams
- Muck
- Gentle strokes
- Arouses
- Word with north or south
- Playground fixtures
- CBS newscaster
- "You're welcome" in Munich
- Hit sharply
- Musical sound
- Laugh Ins Johnson



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S M I L E S A D B U I L T
T A L L H E W R O B R D Y
R I L D E A D P A N M I N
O N E W A Y U S E P A R E
M E R I T S S I R I S E S
R E S E T S I N
H O M E R U N T I M E O U T
E M I T P O L A R T I R E
R I T A E R A S E A L E E
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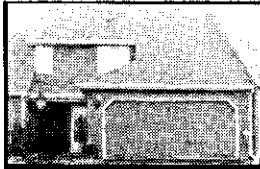
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attractions, the Children's Museum offers rides on a 1900s carousel, spelunking in a simulated limestone cave and a huge collection of toy trains.

- Heading for the eastern seaboard? Between the White House, the Smithsonian Institution, the Washington Monument, Congress and countless other attractions, the District of Columbia makes an outstanding destination for a family trip—especially in spring, when the cherry trees bloom. In Philadelphia, you'll find the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. Nearby is Gettysburg National Military Park. Boston's famed "Freedom Trail" offers another interesting glimpse into American history, as you see the sites of the Boston Tea Party, the Battle of Bunker Hill and Paul Revere's home.

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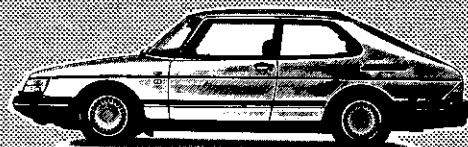


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Human service directory available

A directory of human services organizations in Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties is now available from the Council of Community Services of Northeastern New York, Inc.

The directory is divided into three sections: a subject index, with several categories in alphabetical order; basic information about

each human service agency listed; and an alphabetical index listing the names of specific agencies.

The directory is available to organizations and the general public for \$8 at the council office, 901A Madison Ave., Albany, or for \$10 by mail. Purchase orders and vouchers are \$11 per copy.

For information, call 489-4791.

Soccer scholarships open to youth

The Jeff Tilroe Memorial Soccer Fund will award at least two \$200 scholarships to soccer players over age 12, to attend a soccer camp of their choice.

To apply, write a note about what soccer means to you, and why you want to go to the camp specified. Send the essay, along with your

name, address, telephone number and cost of attendance at the camp to George and Connie Tilroe, 84 Salisbury Rd., Elsmere, NY 12054. Also include a parent's signature to indicate their approval of attendance.

All entries must be received no later than May 1.

Authors featured during Library Week

During National Library Week, local authors will join with thousands of stars across the nation to encourage the love of books and reading with a "Great American Read Aloud" at Bethlehem Library on Wednesday, April 17, at 6:30 p.m.

The first part of the evening will be geared for children and young adults, with a break at 7:30 p.m. This program is free, open to the public and refreshments will be served by Friends of the Library.

RSVP by calling 439-9314.

BCHS class plans 10th reunion

The Bethlehem Central High School graduating class of 1982 is beginning plans for their 10th Reunion. The reunion will be during the holiday season of 1992 (Thanksgiving-Christmas). At this point, information, addresses, and new names are needed. It is very important that graduate's where-

abouts are known so that they can be updated on class news, according to organizers. Please send any information to Permanent Class President, Kristen Bosse Corell, 123A Cross Pond Road, South Salem, NY 10590. For questions, call (914) 763-5956.

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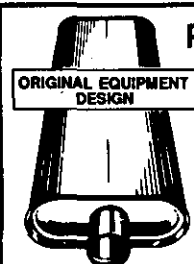
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