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Vol. XXXVII No.1

The weekly newspaper serving the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland

December 30, 1992

50¢

1992 - The Year in Review

Burn plant, DWI fatalities and reval top Bethlehem's 199th year

January

• Bethlehem Judge Roger Fritts is appointed county public defender by County Executive Michael Hoblock.

• First Bethlehem and area baby of '92, Kelly Melissa Wiedman and her mother, Kathleen, ride from the hospital to their Glenmont home in style thanks to Delmar Limousine Service.

• Richard LaChappelle is sworn in as Bethlehem's new chief of police. The department also gets a clean bill of health



from the U.S. Department of Justice in a case involving criminal violation of the rights of James Gauthier, who had alleged police brutality.

• New Scotland Democratic Party Chairman Thomas Dolin resigns.

• Judith Kehoe is appointed town comptroller and budget director, replacing Phil Mahar, who left the job to become Albany County Budget Director.



Bethlehem and New Scotland were rife with battles and tragedy during 1992. Selkirk residents fought off a proposed regional landfill and Bethlehem became a town divided over a proposed waste-to-energy plant. Two young lives were also cut short due to drinking and driving.

Grievants fail in claims court

By Mel Hyman

Bethlehem property owners who went the small claims route in 1992, in most cases, took a bath.

Unlike the year before when most of the 384 people filing small claims against the town assessor were successful, the majority of those filing this year did not obtain a reduction in their assessments.

One hundred more property owners filed claims this year, as opposed to last. A total of 484 filed in 1992, according to former Town Assessor Brian Lastra. He attributed the increase to people feeling buoyed about the 1991 results.

Unfortunately for most grievants, there was a world of difference between 1991 and 1992. This was the first year that up-to-date, accurate assessment figures were on the books for the Town of Bethlehem, thanks to the townwide revaluation completed in time for the March tax rolls.

For the first time ever, Bethlehem's property tax rolls were drawn up using full valuation assessment procedures.

"The fact that the reval occurred helped us because we had current sales figures and a state-approved

CLAIMS/page 14

February

• Former Albany County Commissioner of Public Health Dr. William Grattan accurately predicts the onset of rabies in the county.

• Although the year is still new, Bethlehem police have already issued about 70 tickets for illegal window tinting.

• Four pupils from St. Thomas the Apostle School, Melissa Kanuk, Matthew Melcher, Taza Schaming and



Doryen Bubeck, win awards for their essays in the Albany YWCA Black History Month Essay Contest.

• Bethlehem School Superintendent Leslie Loomis says the district's proposed \$31.1 million budget is at "rock

bottom."

• The Progress editions of the Spotlight Newspapers are the largest papers ever published by the company. The Spotlight in Delmar was 100 pages.

1992/page 9

Popular Voorheesville principal to retire

By Dev Tobin

The year was 1975.

Gerald Ford was president, the original Not Ready for Prime Time Players were all alive, nice suburban houses sold for about \$30,000, and Peter Griffin was the new principal at Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School in Voorheesville.

An era will come to an end next year, as



Griffin

Griffin retires to "do something different. I might find one or two days to go fishing, but that's not the primary reason for the change.

"I think it's the right time for me to retire and for someone else to run the show," he said, adding that he was looking at two post-retirement options that would allow him to spend more time with his wife Joanne, their two children and one grandchild (so far).

"This is a very demanding position, and I wanted a little more freedom of schedule," he said.

Griffin, 54, came to Voorheesville from the Scotia-Glenville district, where he was

assistant principal for five years. Prior to that, he taught mathematics and served as the high school dean of students at neighboring Guilderland High School.

Reflecting on his more than 30 years in education, Griffin said, "The world around us has changed, but kids are kids — I don't think they've changed that much."

Griffin noted that the expectation level for students is much higher now, and the challenges for students are greater than ever.

"Schools have opened up more to parents. That's a very positive change," he said.

RETIRE/page 18



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Woman perishes in Route 85 collision

By Mel Hyman

The apparent violation of a simple rule of the road on Monday morning led to the needless death of a Delmar woman.

That's the initial conclusion reached by Bethlehem police investigating the fatal accident on Route 85 about one-half mile north of Blessing Road. A Gansevoort man who was attempting to pass a slow-moving vehicle in the south-bound lane was critically injured in the mishap.

"It looks to be an unsafe pass," said Det. John R. Cox. "One witness said he had enough time to get back in, another said he didn't."

"Why it happened we're still trying to figure out," he explained. "We won't know for sure until we talk with him, and the way he is now, I don't know if we'll ever get the chance."

Clark, of 497 Delaware Ave., was on her way into work at about 10:55 a.m. when her car collided head-on with a transportation van driven by Frank L. Tranowicz Jr.,

56, of 38 Kabor Road, police said. Tranowicz was listed in critical condition Tuesday in the intensive care ward at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Although road conditions Monday were affected by light snow that fell intermittently throughout the day, slippery pavement was not considered a factor. The white SLS transportation van was the third of three vehicles attempting to pass the slow-moving motorist, police said.

Tranowicz never made it back

into the driving lane. The vehicle he was trying to pass was reportedly traveling about 45 mph, Cox said, and it did not appear that Tranowicz was speeding at the time.

Police have deferred filing charges until the investigation is completed. "It will be vehicle and traffic charges, if anything," Cox said. "It doesn't look like it was a reckless act."

Rescue workers from the Slingerlands Fire Department worked for about 30 minutes trying to

extricate Clark from her vehicle. She was still breathing when firefighters arrived, Cox said, "but it doesn't appear she had much of a chance."

She was rushed to Albany Med where she was pronounced dead on arrival.

Tranowicz, who was not wearing a seat belt at the time, was driving with a suspended license, Cox said. The Albany County District Attorney's Office is considering whether to file criminal charges. Said District Attorney Sol Greenberg, "We're looking at it."

Library largesse



The Feura Bush Library will be warmer thanks to a donation by Selkirk Cogen, represented by Tom Berry (right rear), to Judith Wing of the Feura Bush Neighborhood Association. Looking on are Kimberly Gardner, Alyson Martin, Jill Stumbaugh, Autumn Clure, Vicki Roth, Amy Gardner, Kelly Gardner, Jessica Gardner, Joseph Cherry, Sean Hachey and Ken Frodyma. The donation, along with help from Airco, Bethlehem Self Storage, DeGennaro Fuel Service, GE Plastics, Peter K. Frueh Excavation Contractor, Robert J. Smith Heating and Plumbing, Stewart's and Whistlewood Financial Engineering, will help buy and install insulation and storm windows at the library.

Elaine McLain

V'ville grade school earns blue ribbon

By Dev Tobin

A strong community involvement in education has led to the second Blue Ribbon National School of Excellence award in two years in the two-school Voorheesville School District.

Last week, Voorheesville Elementary won the national award that Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School had won in 1991. The award is a program of the federal Department of Education.

"The schools in Voorheesville are truly community schools," Superintendent Alan McCartney said. "This honor should be a very deep source of community pride."

McCartney explained that the district went through the Blue Ribbon application process in part as a self-evaluation of how well the schools are doing their job.

"The process has made us a better district," he added.

Voorheesville Elementary principal Edward Diegel agreed that the process helped improve education at the school.

"If you don't look at yourself,

you never get better," Diegel said. "The award validates what we're doing, and there's unfortunately not a lot of that in education — there are no Oscars or Emmys."



Diegel

Diegel noted that a detailed report from the site visitor and the evaluation panel will draw attention to the school's weaknesses, further improving education at the school.

"I'm anxious to see it. We can always get better," he said.

Voorheesville, with 680 pupils and 42 teachers from kindergarten through sixth-grade, was one of 228 schools nationwide (out of 478 nominated) to receive the Blue Ribbon honor.

McCartney said there will be a presentation ceremony in Washington, D.C., sometime in the next few months, after which Voorheesville plans a local celebration.

Family disputes jump during holidays

Police say Krumkill Road conflict reflects trend

By Mel Hyman

Bethlehem Police Chief Richard LaChappelle was in his cruiser on the way back from a meeting in Albany last week when he heard the call come in.

A man in the Krumkill Road area had reportedly threatened his girlfriend with a gun and locked

her out of the house. Inside with the man was the couple's 14-month-old daughter.

Domestic disputes that require police intervention are commonplace throughout the year, but the incidents seem to increase around the holidays, said Bethlehem Police Lt. Fred Holligan.

"It was a family fight that got a little violent," Holligan said. The Albany police apparently agreed this was a serious situation because they blocked traffic onto Krumkill Road from the city.

Several Bethlehem officers responded to the scene, but the distraught man had already left the premises with the baby. Both the man, said to be 31, and the woman, 22, were intoxicated at the time of the argument, Holligan said.

Officers were cautious because of the presence of a gun in the house and because they did not know the man's state of mind,

Holligan said. A shotgun mainly used for hunting was later discovered at the scene, but there was no indication that threats had been made, according to the police report.

LaChappelle apprehended the boyfriend walking along Krumkill Road with the baby tucked under his arm. The suspect offered no resistance and, once the baby was rescued, both parties spent the night at separate residences, Holligan said.

No charges have been filed. "These things happen every day," Holligan explained. "Particularly this time of year because people get upset over the lack of money after they've bought Christmas presents they couldn't afford."

Exacerbating the situation is the use of alcohol, which increases this time of year. Moreover, depression can often set in around the holidays. "These are the main things that set people off and trigger fights," Holligan said.

Freezin' season opens at Elm Avenue rink

By Mel Hyman

It was plenty cold enough to think about skating over the Christmas holiday.

Unfortunately, the ice at the Elm Avenue Park wasn't thick enough until Sunday, Dec. 27. That's when the skating season opened for Bethlehem town residents.

"We require four inches of ice," said town Parks and Recreation Commissioner Dave Austen. "It's the same recommendation they give out at the state Department of Parks and Recreation. We feel that depth is needed, especially with the large numbers of people we get at one time."

Even though it's been a cold and dreary winter thus far, "The week before we had some warm weather and a lot of rain," Austen said. "That destroyed any ice we had up until that time."

At least four or five days of really cold weather are needed to provide the necessary depth.

The rink will be open seven days a week. On Sundays through Thursdays, rink hours will be 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Fridays and Saturdays, the hours will be from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The rink will be open until 10 p.m. on school vacation days as well.

INDEX

Editorial Pages	6-8
Obituaries	20
Weddings	19
Sports	16-17
Neighborhood News	
Selkirk/South Bethlehem	10
Voorheesville	12
Family Section	
Business Directory	27
Calendar of Events	22-24
Classified	26
Crossword	24
Martin Kelly	23
Teenscene	23
Legal Notices	25

Living dolls



Mary Ahlstrom, *Spotlight* assistant to the publisher, brightens the *Spotlight* offices with Patty, a 33-year-old family heirloom.

Elaine McLain

N. Scotland to press eviction

By Dev Tobin

Two days before Christmas, the New Scotland Town Board met in executive session to discuss the impending eviction of Donald Terhune and his four children from the family farm next to town hall.

In the public part of last Tuesday's meeting, Supervisor Herb Reilly explained that Terhune had not upheld his agreement, reached in state Supreme Court, to leave the property in early December.

"The agreement was made very clear to him. The deadline has gone by and now the judge has to respond," Reilly said.

In September, State Supreme Court Justice Edward Conway held in abeyance a 30-day jail term for contempt and more than \$70,000 in fines, provided that Terhune vacate the property in 75 days.

"It's out of our hands. The judge made a decision and the decision's been violated," Reilly added. "I'm afraid he's walked to the edge of the gangplank."

The town brought the action against Terhune, whose mother Beatrice owns the 81-acre property, because of long-standing

violations of its zoning law, junk ordinance and junk car ordinance.

In an interview with *The Spotlight* three weeks ago, Terhune called the agreement blackmail and charged that the town had wanted to acquire his family's farm for more than 25 years.

"I was just trying to keep my

I'm afraid he's walked to the edge of the gangplank.

Herb Reilly

kids out of foster homes" by staying out of jail, Terhune said.

Board Member Craig Shufelt questioned the amount of money being paid to attorney Cynthia LaFave, who is handling the Terhune case.

"Forty two dollars to send a letter to the sheriff is a bit much. It seems there's a pot here with a ladle in it," Shufelt said.

"We're incurring these costs only because the other party is fighting it," Reilly replied. "We'll get it back when the property is sold."

As part of the September agree-

ment, in which Beatrice Terhune was represented by an attorney, LaFave's fees and the cost of cleanup will become an approximately \$40,000 lien on the property. The agreement also stipulates that the property be put on the market as soon as possible.

The prospect of a winter eviction troubles Reilly, but he said the town has no choice.

"We have no personal animosity against him, but the zoning law has to be complied with," Reilly said. "If you don't enforce it, what's the point of having a building inspector, a planning board and a zoning board?"

In other business at the year-end meeting, the board voted to approve a new, four-year contract with the ANSWERS solid waste consortium.

Under the contract, for the next two years the town will pay \$55 per ton, which will increase based on the Consumer Price Index beginning in 1995.

The current contract calls for a \$64 per ton fee, Reilly noted.

On a 3-2 vote, the board nixed Reilly's resolution to allow town employees to leave work early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

"This is a courtesy to our employees so they can be home with their families," Reilly said. "If they have to work, they would not be paid overtime."

Democratic board member John Sgarlata joined Republicans Peter Van Zetten and Shufelt in opposing the half-day holidays.

"It's not a question that we don't want them to be home with their families. We work a lot on setting up the year's holiday schedule, and we should stick to it," Sgarlata said.

In another matter, Sgarlata said he had spoken informally with Voorheesville village officials regarding consolidation of services.

"I think we can save some money in at least half a dozen areas," he said.

Finally, the board scheduled its organizational meeting, at which appointments for the 1993 year are made, for Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m., one hour before their first regular meeting of the year.

CDTA gives free rides on New Year's Eve

For the ninth consecutive year, the Capital District Transportation Authority is offering free rides to its customers New Year's Eve and early New Year's Day.

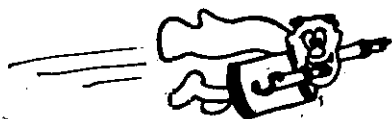
"CDTA offers free rides to give our customers a safe, convenient way to travel on New Year's Eve," said CDTA Chairman Robert G. Lyman. "Drinking and driving is a major concern on New Year's Eve. We hope that our efforts, combined with other STOP DWI programs, reduce accidents and fatalities this year."

The free rides will be offered beginning at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, until approximately 12:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 1, on any route operating past 8 p.m. on Thursday.

These routes include No. 1 Central Avenue, No. 2 West Albany, No. 3 Quail Street, No. 9 Whitehall Road, No. 10 Western Avenue, No. 12 Washington Avenue, No. 13 New Scotland Avenue, No. 17 Four Mall Circuit, and No. 18 Delaware Avenue.

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Police speculate speed was factor in ski fatality

Preservation of open space in the town of Bethlehem may be much easier to accomplish thanks to the newly-formed Albany County Land Conservancy.

By building up an endowment, the group hopes in the years ahead to have sufficient cash to acquire conservation easements from rural landowners in the county. In the meantime, the conservancy will try to encourage owners of farmland and/or undeveloped rural tracts to attach conservation easements to their property in exchange for generous tax breaks.

A master plan for the town is expected to be completed this March. In part, it will pinpoint the open space areas in the town and assess their importance to the quality of life for the community.

Most of the larger, undeveloped tracts in the town are located in the southern section where abandoned farms are tempting targets for developers.

There are many ways to arrange a conservation easement, said Mark Fitzsimmons, a member of the conservancy's board of directors. Someone with a hundred acres, for example, can have restrictions placed on 95 and still keep five acres for a family

The Bethlehem Business Women's Club will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the Normanside Country Club.

Cocktails will be offered beginning at 6, and town of Bethlehem Building Inspector John Flanigan will present a program on fire safety.

Tickets are \$10. For reservations, call Ruth Bouyea at 434-0342.

The easements place legal restrictions on a deed that limit what the land can be used for. Conservation easements limit or prohibit development. Agricultural easements allow only farming to take place and wetland easements preclude just about any type of activity that could change the landscape.

The market value of a property would be much lower if a deed covenant precluded its use for development. Other tax breaks

A resident of Delmar and former chairman of LUMAC, Fitzsimmons noted that there are some "very nice areas in both Bethlehem and New Scotland that deserve to be protected." Of particular interest within Albany County, he said, is the Helderberg Escarpment in New Scotland that is environmentally unique in many respects.

Bethlehem Supervisor Kenneth Ringler said he was pleased to hear of the conservancy's formation. "I think it's a great way for people to set aside land for the protection of open space. The nice thing is that the community benefits, and the donor gets something back in return."

State Police speculate that a Delmar skier may have been going too fast at Ski Windham on Saturday when he apparently lost control and crashed into a tree.

Paul Vanas, 44, of 30 Salem Road, suffered a fatal head injury as a result of the accident. He was a program analyst with the state Office for the Aging and, by all accounts, an accomplished skier.

"According to his family, he was an intermediate to advanced skier," said State Police dispatcher Winslow Marsters. "Certainly he was not on a trail beyond his capability."

The only cause for the accident

that police could determine was a high rate of speed, which may have caused Vanas to lose control and go off the edge of the trail, Marsters said.

About a dozen deaths are reported each year on ski slopes throughout the Northeast. A similar accident occurred last year at Ski Windham involving an accomplished skier.

The Bethlehem Public Library will close for the New Year holiday on Thursday, Dec. 31, at 5 p.m. It will reopen on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 10 a.m.

For information, call 439-9314.

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Matters of Opinion

A disputatious year

If the preceding 365 days were to pass in review, an inevitable question at the year's end would have to be:

What topics proved to be the most vexatious to the most people?

There are ample candidates for that distinction. Our waning year locally seemed more in turmoil than at peace.

The burning issue that agitated citizens most deeply probably was solid-waste disposal. Siting of landfills, the recycling effort, and perhaps most of all the various proposals for waste incineration stirred individuals, loose organizations, and layers of government for months on end. On the hottest item—incineration or no—the official answer was supplied in June when a referendum turned thumbs down. But the end is far from in sight on the whole problem of what to do with disposables. We can count on reruns of numerous policy aspects in the year ahead.

Revaluation of all properties in Bethlehem was a mixed bag insofar as property taxpayers were concerned. Numerous properties' assessments were lowered, but many others received notices of increases, some of them substantial. Perplexity reigned on the unsettling—and unsettled—question as to the justification for the new look at properties' value and, further, as to the equity of the result. But in the end (after considerable readjustments

Editorials

in the figures), taxpayers ended up living with the state-mandated regulations.

Closely tied in with the impact of revaluation was the so-called "Homestead" provisions that actually created two categories of property taxation—quite contrary to the principle involved in the revaluing process. The BC school board first seemed to advocate Homestead, then voted it down—but meanwhile a majority of the Town Board, acting on the school district's initiative, adopted it and later refused to retract the decision despite ardent appeals. At times, the heat the issue generated threatened to rival incineration's as a source of dispute.

Finally, the school board was further involved in acquiring support of the annual budget (it was approved after more than customary dissent); in its potential role in district's young people; and most recently in rejecting the urging of some "activists" among the student body that the schools distribute birth-control devices.

It was, without doubt, a year that was!

Also see editorial, 'Well done!' to Dick Conners, on page 8.

Albany County's \$1992

The change in administration of Albany County's day-to-day business, which began as 1992 got underway, turned out to be the major governmental and political event of the year.

Two flashpoints of controversy and problem-solving emerged almost immediately. One of them, in fact, had been lying in ambush for Michael J. Hoblock, the problem-solver Albany County's citizens had chosen in November 1991. The county was in dire fiscal straits, contemplated a budget that would be far out of balance, and faced a potential inability to meet the payroll during the year—and even possible bankruptcy.

One of the most discouraging aspects was the unwillingness of the Democrats, who had presided over the growing mess, to face up to the need for severe remedies. One of these was a sharp reduction in personnel, which the new County Executive promptly homed in on—meeting dogged resistance.

The second point of controversy was a proposed drastic reform of the county's charter, which had been constructed around a weak executive/strong legislature theory. Mr. Hoblock proposed, the legislators disposed, at least temporarily. He had urged speedy action in 1992; the ultimate revisions, if any, were deferred until at least 1993. Meanwhile, both sides appointed committees to study the need and make recommen-

dations. The Hoblock group, chaired by Paul L. Gioia, reported in September; the legislators' group—presumably more attuned to the status quo, is due to make its proposals shortly.

Fiscally, the picture has improved—within limits. A one-cent increase in the county's sales tax (actually, boosting the tax by one-third) is providing much-needed revenues for a 12-month period and thereby helping to ameliorate the immediate crunch. But it didn't come close to closing the gap. On this, Mr. Hoblock persisted in his determination to scale back the payroll—and he won a tense showdown with Democrats who had been insisting on retaining this core of their traditional strength.

But Albany County's budgetary crisis is far from solved, even so, and 1993 is certain to require a lot more head-scratching and soul-searching about where the dollars will come from, and where they deserve to go. The forthcoming issue most likely will center around services for which the county is responsible—and specifically which ones can be pruned with least damage to the clientele.

Mike Hoblock will be unflappably at the storm center of the ongoing debate. If Time Magazine were to focus on our county for a "Man of the Year," he unquestionably would be the inescapable choice.

Words for the week

Flak: Strong, clamorous criticism, opposition etc. Originally, the fire of anti-aircraft guns. (From the German: Fliegerabwehrkanone—flier defense gun).

Fortitude: The strength to bear misfortune, pain, etc., calmly and patiently; firm courage.

World-class: The highest class, as in international competition.

Omnipotent: Having unlimited power or authority; all-powerful (accent on second syllable).

Gully: (from gullet) A channel or hollow worn by running water.

Why Clinton could win —problems he'll face

Editor, The Spotlight:

I believe your readers will be interested in insights offered by the editor and commentator Fred Barnes when he addressed the New York Farm Bureau convention on the subjects of the recent presidential election and what we should expect from the incoming administration.

The 1992 election, he said, was characterized by use of "800" calls for fund-raising and by candidates appearing on TV talk and news-entertainment shows, such as Larry King, Donahue, and Arsenio Hall.

Mr. Barnes said three broad factors determined the outcome. The first was the economy; the American people felt President Bush "couldn't produce sustained prosperity in a second term." Furthermore, most people didn't think he had a plan for the economy. Though he had a plan, Mr. Bush "packaged it late and never hammered it home." Mr. Barnes noted that it's hard to win an election if people do not think you have a plan to address the country's economic woes.

Governor Clinton, on the other hand, had a plan. He was also extraordinarily optimistic about his plan. That frame of mind was one of the main reasons voters were drawn to President Franklin Roosevelt and President Ronald Reagan in the past. Though a wave of pessimism has swept the country in recent years, Clinton's optimism was successful in overcoming it.

The second reason given for the Bush defeat and Clinton's win was "the Churchill effect." In 1945, Prime Minister Winston Churchill went down in defeat at the polls, just 11 weeks after the end of World War II. Barnes said that the "interests, concerns, and priorities" of the British people changed overnight. Churchill and his party were vague on what they'd do for the country, while the Labor party had a plan. In a similar respect,

Vox Pop

the cold war ended and the peril was gone, yet Bush still ran as a cold war president.

The final factor behind the Clinton victory involved the Arkansas governor's ability to "move the Democratic party to the center." During the campaign, he was able to get the right of Bush on many issues, including Bosnia and the need for more police in this country.

One challenge for Clinton, Mr. Barnes said, will be to stay on a centrist course while having a foot in both camps—the center and the left. He feels that Clinton has no idea of the pressure he'll get from the liberal camp—especially the special-interest groups and the Congressional majority. During his fight for the nomination, the president-elect experienced no real challenge from the liberals. Weak candidates on the left enabled him to pursue and hold a centrist position. To stay on course, he'll need to forge alliances with some strange bedfellows—the Republicans.

Liberals believe the federal government did not spend enough during the Reagan-Bush era. Mr. Barnes disagreed with that premise and noted that in the last 12 years the share of the gross national product (GNP) spent by the national government actually rose from 22 to 25 percent.

The left wants to spend more, including for education and cities. The Clinton program means more spending. To accomplish all he'd like to do, Mr. Barnes said, Clinton wants to raise \$150 billion (i.e., surtax on millionaires, raising the maximum income tax level from 31 to 36 percent, and step up enforcement of the tax laws on foreign firms operating in the U.S.). However, his tax proposals will bring in only about \$50 billion.

CLINTON/page 8

THE Spotlight

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Assistant to the Editor —

Editorial Page Editor — Dan Butten

Assistant to the Publisher — Mary A. Ahlstrom

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Your Opinion Matters

Spaha—and other needed words

I learned a new word just the other day—perhaps indicating that you can, after all, teach an old dog.

The word is one that you'll not find in your dictionary. It belongs in the Swahili language (deriving from east central Africa and Zanzibar, I believe).

The word is *spaha*. And it has a very specific meaning: "The space between the lightning and the thunderclap."

Its pronunciation seems to be just about what you would expect, with two soft "a's." I am intrigued by the existence of a word with such an exact significance—and one, in fact, that describes an event that none of us in more established cultures have ever given a thought to.

Thinking about it has given me some ideas for other words—non-existent so far—that would colorfully and precisely describe some other "spaces."

For example, we are now in the period between the election of a new President and his assuming office, some eleven weeks plus a day. Learned writers are terming it an "interregnum," but this is being deplored by some purists who point out that the use descends from old-time situations when the ruler had died but there was no heir ready to assume the throne and a regency had to be established while a child grew up and could effectively become king or queen.

So if this is not properly an interregnum, what is it? What should be the word that would

cover the very infrequent situation? Do we need to coin a word—or perhaps adopt one from the Swahili or another language?

Uncle Dudley

That little problem can't help but lead to further "spaces" in time:

- What should be the word for the space between the time when the alarm goes off, and you realize what day it is?

- What would be a descriptive term for the time between when you wake up in the middle of the night, and when you fall back to sleep?

- And what about a word for the time between your last, uncompleted thought at bedtime and the onset of sleep?

Not everything has to relate to sleep; let's look at other troublesome situations:

- What phrase would be adequate to describe the 15 minutes between telling the waiter you won't be ordering drinks and the time he chooses to reappear?

- How should you describe the time between turning the key in the ignition and the reassuring sound of igniting fuel?

- Now that you're in the car, think about an acceptable word for the time-space between the traffic light's changing to green and the honk that you hear from behind?

- Or, the space between seeing the light ahead change to red and your first tap on the brake?

- Better yet, let's find a word that will give meaning to the time between beginning to pull open the refrigerator door and the appearance of the interior light?

- How should we describe the space between the first stroke on the kitty's back and the first purr in response?

- Again in the animal kingdom, there must be a suitable term for the space between the puppy's first bark in the middle of the night and the second bark?

These suggestions obviously are only the beginning. I am working in two directions now: to expand the list of possibilities—and, even more important, to find the words that will fit the occasions. Your ideas in either direction will be warmly welcomed. Send them to Uncle Dudley at *The Spotlight*.

One more thing: I learned about *spaha* from a group in Saratoga Springs which has taken that as a name for sixty teenagers brought together by two adult citizens, Robin and Amber Yule, who had become disturbed to see young people—"society dropouts"—hanging out in the city's downtown area, where they were regarded as a "Number one eyesore." They come together twice weekly at the Yules' for activities with specialists who are invited to work with them in art, drama, creative writing, and other "self-growth" areas.

And that seems to be a first-rate reason to identify with the explosive time between lightning and thunder.

toward the arid: so dry that I saw a cottonwood tree following a dog; so dry that catfish came up from the river to get a drink at my pump;

Constant Reader

so dry that when a farmer in the field was struck by a raindrop he fainted in astonishment and, to bring him around, his wife had to throw a bucket of dust in his face; so dry that this year the creek ran only half a day a week."

There's less occasion out there for stories about rainy weather. "Almost every summer we get a gully-washer or two, but on those occasions humor focuses not so much on the season as on the event: 'I hear you got over twelve inches of rain last year.' 'Yep, and I felt lucky to be home that night, too.'"

Or, "I don't know for sure how much rain we got last night, but a five-gallon bucket in my backyard was full up and would have been even fuller if it weren't for the two-inch hole in the bottom!"

Of other spectacularly localized rains, Mr. Welsch mentions the milkmaid carrying two empty buckets, "trying to outrun a Plains storm and arriving at the barn with one bucket full of water and the other empty."

Some other tall stories: "Dee Steffenhagen heard there was a 50 percent chance of rain this morning so she wore one overshoe to town" and "When I was working construction, we used to call off work on account of rain when six raindrops hit one brick. Of course, sometimes we had to move that brick around a lot."

"What a relief it was, that it rained only twice last week—once for three days and a second time for four. . . . There are rumors about a farmer who had so much flooding in his pastures that he finally had to cut an opening in his barbed wire fence to let the water run out."

So often, Mr. Welsch muses, "in today's America orally transmitted stories grow like mushrooms, swelling into full maturity in a couple of days and then disappearing. . . . On the rural Plains, wet-year knee-slappers have a similarly brief moment of life."

"Sooner or later, when the rains come and stay again, it will be my turn, or my daughter's, to say, 'Yeah, I'm getting a little worried about all this rain. I hear Gaylord Obermiller has been gathering animals over at his place, two by two.'"

The Dick Conners story: a hero for all of us

The contributor of this Point of View, the son of New York State Assemblyman Richard J. Conners, is a member of the Albany County Legislature.

Point of View

By Michael F. Conners



At a time when people are losing faith in their leaders, in institutions, and even in themselves, we pause to celebrate someone who reminds us of the touch of God within us all. . . . Dick Conners. A celebration of his 51 years of outstanding elective service to the community took place Dec. 29 at the Desmond Americana. Typical of Dick's style, the price was set at a modest level so the people he so loves could afford to attend. This party was for us, not Dick Conners. We got to celebrate what he means to the community, his friends, and even his family.

Dick Conners loves people. His enthusiasm, energy, and charisma are fed by the people he has touched. He drew on us, from us, to become a "beloved politician." Our hopes, dreams, aspirations have become his in a way that transforms us to be more than we thought we could be and empowers him to do the things that "couldn't be done." We become more because of the selfless way he gives.

Dick loves stories almost as much as the people he tells the stories about. He can light up a room when spinning a tale about the exploits of the friends and characters that populate our community. Baseball, politics, the Irish, North Albany, his faith, family, and friends are favorite topics. Funny thing about Dick's stories: they are full of heroes, everyday heroes, the people you and I see day in and day out. Dick has the ability to make you laugh and see the greatness in us all.

My dictionary defines a hero as a man or woman of valor, fortitude, or bold enterprise, larger than life, brave, venturesome, the central figure in a poem, play, or novel.

A lot has been written about Dick's accomplishments, long tenure, great pluralities, tremendous willingness to help anyone, the massive number of people he touched with his compassion, ground-breaking legislation for veterans, the disabled, and the elderly. His warm, caring style is legend. His record should be chronicled—and will be. I thought you might like to know what really went on behind the scenes, what he was really like out of the headlines, away from the stage of politics. Some of these stories might help you see the man behind the stories.

Valor: Dick has always been considered the true loyalist but few knew one of Dick's heroes was a man who had battled the Barnes machine and the Democratic organization, helping the O'Connell brothers rise to power. Rock-solid for his family, friends, faith, and party was Dick's public persona, but at heart Dick had the rebel's ability to stand alone. He never let the bullies stop him from publicly showing kindness to his opponents, outsiders, or the unpopular.

He caught a lot of flak from party people for his friendship offered to Republican opponents, his willingness to promote independent and insurgent Democrats, and his sense of fair play. Despite the heat, he went out of his way to help others. I'll never forget watching my father assist a former opponent for the Assembly seat get a job. He held up legislation for the Rensselaer high-tech park until the Speaker of the Assembly put Republican Neil Kelleher on the bill because the development was in Neil's district.

Dick made outsiders feel like they were on the inside and put petty partisanship aside for respect of the individual: **Valor!**

Fortitude: Courage has been described as grace under pressure. Dick never caved in to anyone. During a progressively bitter battle between the firefighters' union and the Democratic Party in the early '70s, Dick fought with Mayor Corning over recognizing the union and eventually brought a union leader, a priest, and County Treasurer Gene Devine to Dan O'Connell's house to discuss the battle and eventually break the deadlock. Neither the public nor the firefighters ever knew Dick was helping the

CONNERS / page 8

Major farm product—tall tales

A couple of weeks ago I reported to you on the riddle of Columbus and the egg. It was a thoughtful essay by the science writer Stephen Jay Gould, and it appeared in the December issue of *Natural History* magazine.

What I am about to commit is another peek at the same magazine, same issue. The tone of the article that I want to focus on is quite different, as indicated by the standing title given to the section in which it appears: "Science Lite." The writer is Robert L. Welsch, who is described as a folklorist living on a tree farm in Nebraska.

"America's principal agricultural product—tall tales—is also produced in roughly equal parts in regard to hot and cold," he writes.

"For every story about the day it was so cold that folks were going to church just to hear about hell, there is one about the day it was so hot the farmers had to feed the chickens cracked ice so they wouldn't lay hard-boiled eggs."

But rather than heat and cold, Mr. Welsch has decided to contemplate wet and dry. Out in his country, it's mostly dry, year after year.

"The clear preponderance of the tall-tale inventory has run

Matters of Opinion

□ **Conners** (From page 7)

firefighters in the battle with his boss. The mayor put pressure on better than anybody in modern politics and hammered Dick for going over the mayor's head to the county chairman. Dick politely listened and went back to Dan's house to push for recognition of the union, despite his tremendous respect for Erastus Corning: *Fortitude!*

Bold enterprise: What bolder dream is there than believing in other people? Dick was never afraid to make the call on the impossible—and somehow it got done. The level of trust Dick shows others is amazing. He gets more effort and results out of people than any person around. A great deal of his sales ability comes from asking you to do him a favor for someone else. Dick is forever trusting people to do some impossible task that had been tried dozens of times but failed. I don't know how he does it, but when he believes in you, you move mountains. *Faith is a bold enterprise!*

Larger than life: Growing up in a giant's shadow was tough on all the family. I know that before the glass of the windows I broke hit the ground, someone had told my father of my latest delinquent behavior. *Omnipotent* was a concept I understood before I was 10, because Dick was. The absolute faith people have always had in Dick is amazing.

One old North Albanian friend called (knowing of Dick's baseball background, sportswriter, Hawkins Stadium on-field announcer, and tenure as New York State Legion baseball chairman) and asked if Dick could get his 25-year-old son a tryout with the Yankees. Dick began asking for the young man's baseball credentials and the old North Albanian friend allowed how his son had no experience in baseball, and really, no ability either. As my father gracefully probed on, the old friend said "I know my son don't have the qualifications to play Little League ball, let alone with the Yankees, but I know you can get something done, so I called you."

The pressure of such faith must have been enormous, yet Dick never complained, he just made the call to Gabe Paul of the Yankees and started pitching the young man's attributes. Paul never gave the kid a tryout but sent tickets to the World Series because of the man's world-class faith in Dick. *Larger than life!*

Brave: My father saw the woman he loved struck down by a stroke caused by obvious malpractice after a routine stomach operation in 1970. He never retaliated with a lawsuit, never grew bitter, and never looked back. He provided care for my mother for 17 years, as she lay paralyzed, loving her all the more in her infirmity. Not one word about the unfairness of life, not one expression of bitterness, not one minute of not loving. *Brave!*

Venturesome: My three older sisters achieved an unbelievable amount of accomplishments because of his belief and my mother's belief in equality. He's proud of what they've done, become, and accomplished in their lives, but telling them isn't something he'd do. All three girls broke barriers in their own way, largely due to the willingness to explore, the faith to push boundaries, and the drive to succeed in a sexist world. These qualities were gifts from Dick. *Venturesome!*

Central figure in a poem, play, or novel: If life is a stage, politics a game, and every person's life a great novel, Dick Conners was a central figure of the political world of our community for the last 51 years. His gift to us wasn't just the sacrifice of time, family, and heart, but the proof—yes, positive proof—that politics could be a noble profession. His style and soft touch with people is the poetry of Keats, Longfellow, and lessons of Shakespeare. The earnest dark drama of day-to-day living is made more beautiful through the prism of Dick's great stories spun out like some great play for our enjoyment and edification—always touching, always moving, and always bringing us closer together.

How many of present and future politicians' lives have been enriched, broadened and shaped by the example of a true gentleman? Dick's gift to us is the impact he made on tens of thousands of lives he touched moving through his life, practicing his faith while being our hero.

God Bless and thank you Dad, you'll be missed on the stage, but never forgotten. *Central figure in a poem, play, or novel!*

Dick Conners is a hero for all of us. The dictionary's definition of hero fits Dick. Let's remember he sees the hero in all of us.

'Well done!' to Dick Conners

Editorial

The moving tribute to the Honorable Richard J. Conners in our Point of View column today bears a headline that says it all, summing up the words used by his son to describe a half-century of public service and the man behind that unusual career. Yet there are other words to fit the unique circumstances.

Without question, Dick Conners possesses innate qualities that have marked him as almost literally one in a million among politicians. To his great credit, he has brought those qualities to bear throughout his long public life (as in his personal life).

Accordingly, some important words need to be added to those that Mike Conners chose to use in telling about his dad.

One of these is *dedication*, for surely he exemplifies a public man's dedication to duty and responsibility. Another is *humanity*, for this very unassuming man has the rare abil-

ity to understand insightfully the most humble citizen or the mightiest—and to respond appropriately to that individual's special need, wish, or problem.

Even more tellingly, the missing words can define Dick Conner's place in the hearts of those who have known him so well for so long: *Respect* is foremost among these, perhaps; along with *honor* and *esteem*. Certainly, *affection* is most aptly applied to one side of the high regard—and *awe* is another.

As he ends his public career this week, this good and faithful public servant can carry with him the "Well done!" that he has earned . . . and the thankful good wishes of the multitude who have known and benefited from his life, who may indeed have been inspired to live better lives themselves.

□ **Clinton**

(from page 6)

To get the money he needs, Mr. Barnes indicated, Clinton will have "to scale back spending or get money elsewhere." One potential means of raising money involves a Democratic proposal floated last year—the Long-term Care Family Security Act of 1992. One aspect of that bill would lower the amount of property that can pass tax-free to heirs, from \$600,000 to \$200,000. This would put billions of dollars, that now are not subject to federal inheritance tax, on the front burner of taxation.

proposal would not be helpful to anyone hoping to pass family farms, small businesses, or homes on to the next generation. Farmers and other rural landowners need to fight "tooth and nail" to thwart any attempt to lower the amount exempt from federal inheritance tax. Letters are needed to President Clinton and the New York Congressional delegation in order to protect taxpayers from another attempt to raise taxes and destroy what's left of business profitability and the American dream.

Mark F. Emery

Director, Communications
New York Farm Bureau

Mr. Barnes warns that this Glenmont

Stump speech?

Editor, The Spotlight:

In the Dec. 16 *Spotlight*, Mr. Ringler said the town needs a place (the North Street dump) to deposit non-compostable residual yard waste, including stumps. Since Bethlehem clean-up notices forbid inclusion of stumps, where, then, are all these stumps coming from? It stumps me!

Anthony Burt

Glenmont

Editor's note: The stumps in question result from public projects of the town: right-of-way clearing, etc.

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1992

(From Page 1)

March

• Voorheesville proposes a school budget which would raise taxes by 12 percent.

• Mr. G's Take Out Shop opens on Delaware Avenue.

• BC teachers, disgruntled by an impasse in contract negotiations, decide not to participate in some voluntary activities.

• Bethlehem's Solid Waste Task Force looks at three plans for disposal options. **Bruce Secor**, task force chairman, says there are hard choices ahead for the town.

• Taxpayers receive revaluation figures after townwide reassessment. Nearly 2,000 residents see possible increases of \$500 or more.

• Supervisor **Ken Ringler** says he will not run for a new state Assembly seat that had been proposed because of redistricting.

• BC Superintendent **Leslie Loomis** advocates a homestead provision "to minimize the effects of re-evaluation." Under the provision, residential property owners would receive about a 2 percent break on taxes.

• DARE Officer **Mike McMillen** plans to take the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program to the high school.

• Clayton A. Bouton student **David Bartholomew** dies of injuries sustained in a DWI-related accident.

April

• The Bethlehem Town Board enacts the homestead provision in a 3-2 vote. **Sheila Fuller**, **Sheila Galvin** and **Charles Gunner** vote in favor; **Supervisor Ken Ringler** and **Fred Webster** vote against. Bethlehem business owners, including **Wayne Johnson**, **Roger Smith** and **Bob Verstandig**, speak out against the unfairness of the homestead provision.

• BC grad **Anita Kaplan** earns more national recognition when her team, the Stanford Cardinals, take the NCAA Division I Championship.

• Selkirk resident **David Hodges** wins \$76,733.50 in the Pick Five lottery game.

• *The Spotlight* announces an eight-week series on solid waste issues in Bethlehem. This month's stories address the history of the regional "crisis."

• Area physician **Richard Orsi** speaks out against incineration because of negative health effects.

• BC music teachers **George Smith** and **Louise Ferris** win Chamber Music America Awards.

May

• South Bethlehem residents

confront the Solid Waste Task Force on options and their effects.

• The solid waste series examines the task force's role in solving the problem. Stories also review waste-to-energy facilities and landfills.

• The Albany County Health Department and Capital District veterinarians schedule a series of clinics to inoculate dogs and cats in anticipation of a rabies epidemic. **Dr. Robert Lynk** of the Delmar Animal Hospital urges pet owners to participate.

• Bethlehem taxpayers get an extension to grieve property reassessments. Former town assessor **Brian Lastra** says the grievance period was extended because of the large number of changes on the tax rolls.

• New county legislative districts carve out new turf for lawmakers.

• Bethlehem Work On Waste members argue against incineration. **Betsy Lyons** says aggressive reduction, reuse and recycling is the best solution.

• New Scotland Supervisor **Herb Reilly** tosses his hat into the ring for the state Assembly seat in the 104th District.

June

• Town Attorney **Bernard Kaplowitz** announces he'll run for a New York Supreme Court seat.

• Community members urge the school board to ditch the homestead provision.

• *The Spotlight's* solid waste series outlines the Energy Answers proposal for a regional resource recovery facility.

• *The Spotlight* holds a forum on the incineration issue. More than 500 attend and many speak against the incineration plant proposed for Cabbage Island.

• Supervisor **Ken Ringler** announces he will vote for the incineration plant. He says he thinks "an incinerator can be built that is safe and will not have any negative impact on the environment." Work On Waste continues its aggressive campaign against the incinerator.

• Supporters of **Ross Perot**, including **Jim Grady** of Delmar, work on a petition drive to get the billionaire on the ballot.

• Bethlehem voters turn down the proposal for a waste-to-energy burn plant on Cabbage Island. The tally in the special election on June 18 was 4,596 to 3,102.

July

• The ANSWERS solid waste consortium narrows its list of sites for a regional landfill to three — one in Selkirk off Beaver Dam Road and two in Coeymans.

• The BC school board approves a new three-year contract for district teachers. The contract calls for 4 percent annual salary increases in return for higher health insurance deductibles and increased co-payments for prescription drugs.

• **Christian Scharl** of Voorheesville, a junior at Syracuse University and a 1990 graduate of Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School, receives a heart transplant July 20 at Presbyterian University Hospital in Pittsburgh. Scharl's heart had been badly damaged by a virus.

• **Briggs McAndrews**, assistant superintendent for instruction at BC, announces he is leaving the district after 19 years to become superintendent of the Niskayuna Central School District.

• **Jeannette Pace**, an art teacher at BCHS, is honored as New York Art Educator for 1992 by the National Art Education

□ 1992/page 18

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The Spotlight remembers 10 years ago

This week in 1982, these stories were making headlines in *The Spotlight*.

- Alcohol-related incidents were the top problem for the Bethlehem town court, according to town justices Roger Fritts and Peter Wenger. In one night, 39 out of 98 cases involved driving while intoxicated. "We have more of an alcohol problem than a drug problem, unlike five years ago," Fritts said.

- Winners in the Bethlehem Garden Club's annual holiday decorating contest included: the Furey home on Montrose Drive in Delmar, the Riccardo home on East Wiggand in Glenmont, the Berman home on Keith Road in Delmar, the Ford home on East Bayberry in Glenmont, the Dorsey home on Peel Street in Selkirk and the Douglass home on East Bayberry in Glenmont.

- The new fees for the Bethlehem town landfill were \$1 a yard for demolition debris, 50 cents a yard for non-compacted trash and \$2 a yard for compacted trash.

- BCHS graduate Martha Tomlinson, a junior at St. Lawrence University in Canton, St. Lawrence County, was coaching the local high school swimming team. A veteran of the Delmar Dolphins and the BCHS swim team, Tomlinson led her team to a 6-4 record, a dramatic turnaround from its 2-8 record of the previous year.

Thursday gala to benefit homeless

Onyx Productions will sponsor a New Year's Eve gala, "Let the Good Times Roll," on Thursday, Dec. 31, at 9 p.m. at the Omni Albany Hotel (formerly the Albany Hilton), on the corner of State and Lodge streets.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Labourer Shelter For Homeless Families.

The gala will feature a full breakfast, party favors, a midnight champagne toast, and music from the

50s, 60s and 90s. WGY's Doc Perryman and "Frank the Music Man" will orchestrate the selection of music.

The cost per person is \$20 with reservations, and \$25 at the door.

For reservations, call 427-6699.

In Glenmont The Spotlight is sold at Cumberland Farms, CVS, Glenmont Deli, Grand Union, Stewarts, TAC's, and Van Allen Farms

Albany girls academy announces honor roll

Several local students recently qualified for the Albany Academy for Girls honor roll for the first trimester of the year.

They include Melissa Clark, 12th-grade, Sara Donnaruma, 11th-grade, Kimberly Prince, 10th-grade, and Doryen Bubeck, ninth-grade. All live in Delmar.

Josephine Tracey of Ravena, an 11th-grader, also qualified.

Brewer wins award at Dartmouth College

E. Davis Brewer Jr. of Slingerlands recently received the Frank Papa Memorial Award as an outstanding sophomore member of the Dartmouth College Curling Team.

A 1991 graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Brewer is a member of Epsilon Pi Rho, the national physics fraternity. He has achieved a 3.97 grade point average and is majoring in forest preservation.

BCHS grad to spend semester in Berlin

Britta Wehmann of Delmar, a junior majoring in psychology at the University of Rochester, is spending the spring semester in Berlin.

She is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School.

PTSA plans program

The Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Parent Teacher Student Association has scheduled a "Preparing for College" program following its meeting on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at the senior high school library.

Representatives from the State University of New York at New Paltz, Union College and Columbia Greene Community College will speak to parents on the value of a Regents Diploma and what college admissions offices look for when reviewing applications. For information, call 756-2155.

RCS school board sets Monday meeting

The Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Board of Education will meet Monday, Jan. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the board office at 26 Thatcher St., Selkirk.

A work session, which is open to the public, will begin at 6 p.m. For information, call 767-2513.

Special ed support group to meet at middle school

The RCS special education parents support group will meet Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. at the middle school on Route 9W, Ravena.

For information, call 756-2214.

Receipt collection to continue at Becker

The A. W. Becker Elementary

NEWS NOTES

Selkirk
South Bethlehem
Michele Birtz
439-3167



School will continue to accept pink Price Chopper cash register receipts through Jan. 31.

Halfway through the campaign, collections totaled \$58,000, with a goal set at \$100,000. The receipts will be redeemed by the supermarket chain to purchase classroom learning materials and physical education equipment.

The school is also collecting "Labels For Education" from Campbell's products. Call 767-2511 for information.

High school students earn CPR certificates

More than 40 RCS high school students recently earned their Red Cross adult CPR certificates as a result of a unit on CPR in their health class.

To receive certification, students had to pass practical exams on manikins and score at least 80 percent on the National Red Cross written exam. Manikin skills included rescue breathing, obstructed airway and adult CPR techniques.

Several students are still working toward certification.

Square dance club to swing in new year

The Tri-Village Squares will sponsor a New Year's dance on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 8 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

Dan Guin will call class level dancing until 10:30 p.m. Plus level will be called from 10:30 to 11.

For information, call Connie or George Tilroe at 439-7571.



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Armadillo Cafe	439-4995	Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce	439-0512	Walden Asset Group	475-0500
		Northeast Real Estate	439-1900		

Postal provisions



Delmar residents donated more than 15,000 pounds of food and \$200 in cash to the Delmar Post Office's holiday food drive. Helping to prepare the food for delivery to local food pantries are, from left, Dan Lammers, Milt Baron, Bill Rozell, Jim Mulholland, Paul Rushkoski, Mary Hampton and Ken Hoose. Elaine McLain

For Delmar firm, organization sells

By Mel Hyman

If you have a non-profit organization but you can't afford full-time staff, Matterson Associates will do what it takes to keep the ship afloat.



Matterson

Now in its 15th year in business, Matterson has become a fixture on Kenwood Avenue in Delmar, about a block from the Four Corners. The company specializes in doing the nitty-gritty stuff that trade associations, government agencies and other organizations don't have the time or personnel for.

Company president Curtiss Matterson moved the business to Delmar in 1984 after it outgrew its former headquarters on State Street in Albany.

Around 1983, he recalled, there were quite a few properties along Delaware Avenue that were for sale. But before he could settle on one, the prime locations were taken. Matterson expanded his search, and when an old Victorian-style house at 427 Kenwood became available, he purchased the building and began an extensive renovation.

Delmar is a good location, he said, since the company services several agricultural organizations and Bethlehem is one of the last outposts of farming in the Capital District.

The types of organizations seeking his assistance are varied. Matterson recently organized a major convention for the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists in New York City. "I just got the

hotel tab for \$60,000," he quipped.

The company conducts meetings, conventions and trade shows from Montreal to Orlando, and also engages in governmental lobbying efforts on behalf of groups that cannot mount such efforts on their own.

Before starting his own company, Matterson worked for 10 years as an industrial arts teacher in northern New York. He then worked for the New York State Teachers Association and the New York State Society of Professional Engineers, where he picked up his management skills.

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- Those who will be entering Grade 8 are invited to take the CBA Entrance Exam.
- Applicants for Grade 10 should contact the Admissions Office for details.



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Director of Admissions 462-5447

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The American Intercultural Student Exchange is seeking American families who are interested in hosting a foreign exchange student in their home for the 1993-94 school year.

Families may request a student from over 20 countries in Europe, Asia, South America and Australia. All exchange students are in excellent health, fluent in English, and have met the academic standards set forth by A.I.S.E.

The students are between the ages of 15 and 18. They have their own spending money and medical

insurance. Host families provide room, board and a family environment.

For information, call 1-800-SIBLING.

Open house planned in new society offices

The Albany County Unit of the American Cancer Society, which is relocating its offices to 1450 Western Ave., Albany, will sponsor an open house in the new facilities on Tuesday, Jan. 5, from 4 to 6 p.m.

For information, call 438-7841.

Holiday schedule adjusts deadlines

Because of the New Year's holiday, advertising and editorial deadlines for *The Spotlight* of Wednesday, Jan. 6, are Thursday, Dec. 31, at 3 p.m. for display and classified advertising, and Wednesday, Dec. 30, at 5 p.m. for editorial submissions.

The Spotlight offices will close Thursday, Dec. 31, at 4 p.m. and will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 4.



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Both have advantages, but your dentist's recommendation will depend on the condition of your teeth. Capping your front teeth with porcelain-fused-to-metal has

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Bethlehem Recycling Corner

By Sharon Fisher, town recycling coordinator

If you'd like to have your natural Christmas tree turned to mulch, bring it to the Garden Shoppe on Feura Bush Road on Saturday, Jan. 9, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Bring a container, and use the mulch to help protect plant roots from the winter's cold. Coffee and doughnuts will be served for the whole family.

If pine pitch gets on your hands, rub with salad oil and then wipe with a paper towel or rag.

To freshen candles which have lost their luster, rub them lightly with alcohol, lemon juice or salad oil. Then, wipe thoroughly to remove excess. The candles will look new and clean again.

Scented aerosol sprays should be avoided, even if they claim that they are CFC free. Sprays coat the lining of the nose rather than rid the house of odors.

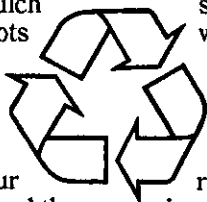
To make a room smell fresher, mix some vinegar, a few cloves

and a little cinnamon in small glasses or jars, heat in the microwave for about a minute and place them where needed. Or, simmer orange rind, cloves, cinnamon sticks and fresh ginger in water over low heat.

Everyone should make a New Year's resolution to buy more products made from recycled materials, to switch to cloth shopping bags and to install at least three compact fluorescent light bulbs and at least one low-flow shower head or faucet aerator. Conservation and reuse save energy, resources and water.

Another resolution we can all make is to campaign against road litter. Pick up one piece of litter per week or sign up your neighborhood or organization in the Adopt a Highway Program.

For information about this program, call the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce.



Community Partnership to meet

Bethlehem Community Partnership will meet on Monday, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m., at the Bethlehem Networks office at 355 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

The partnership has several task forces working on various aspects of the problems of youth substance abuse. Information on joining a task force will be available at the meeting or by contacting a task force leader.

One task force, headed by Holly Billings, 439-6885, is working to produce a video for parents on the reality of teen drinking.

Marge Kanuk, 439-9628, is heading a task force to help young people plan their own activities.

The middle school parents network is headed by Marcia MacKrell, 439-0831, and the "Blitz Team," a task force working to combat denial, is headed by Mona Prenoveau, 439-7740.

The teen night club group is headed by Jeannette Rice, 439-5258.

For information about the partnership, call 439-7740.

PTA promotes fund-raising drives

Voorheesville PTA will continue its drive to collect specially marked red Coca Cola caps from 16 ounce bottles through January.

Residents can send the caps to school with a child or drop them off at the school business office. These caps should be in a container or zip lock bag.

The PTA is also selling Entertainment and Dine-A-Mate books. Dining specials, discounted movies, motels, car wash, summer and sports events, videos and more are offered in the books. To obtain either of these books, contact Linda Pasquail at 765-4990 or stop at the Greetings Shop at Stonewell Plaza.

Association honors Bouton principal

O. Peter Griffin, principal of Clayton A. Bouton Junior Senior High School, was honored by the School Administrators Association of New York State.

Griffin received the James E. Allen Award presented annually to the secondary school administrator/supervisor who, "has given outstanding service to the cause of education and leadership at the secondary school level." Congratulations to Principal Griffin.

Helderview club elects officers for 1993

The Helderview Garden Club elected its board of officers for 1993.

The officers are: Ellen Coyle, president; Colette Csiza, first vice-president; Mary Ann Veeder, second vice-president; Pat

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville

Susan Casler
765-2144



Maloney, secretary; and Agnes Weaver, treasurer. Guests are welcome at the monthly meetings.

For information, call Csiza at 765-4583 or Veeder at 765-4514.

V'ville fire department needs community support

The Voorheesville Fire Department is conducting its annual calendar fund drive. Residents can support this drive by mailing a contribution to the fire department. For information, contact Dick Berger, chief, at 765-4048.

Area schools participate in basketball tournament

The third annual Lady Bird Basketball Tournament was hosted on Monday, Dec. 28, and Tuesday, Dec. 29, at Clayton A. Bouton Junior Senior High School. Cobleskill Central, Greenville Central, Coxsackie-Athens and Voorheesville participated.

V'ville sports boosters to meet at high school

The Voorheesville Sports Booster Club will meet on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Clayton D. Bouton Junior Senior High School in Room 105.

Bylaws and goals of the group will be presented. For information, call Joanne St. Denis at 765-4748.

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- ☐ Quit Smoking
- ☐ Quit Drinking
- ☐ Eat Healthier

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Concert set for tonight

The ever-popular Cathy Winter will perform in a concert for the whole family at the library tonight, Dec. 30, at 7 p.m.

The show will feature the versatile singer and storyteller doing a mix of sing-alongs and tales full of the details that run through children's lives. Whether she sings about boo-boos or peanut butter, her concerts for young

**Voorheesville
Public Library**



people touch on their fantasies, fears and daily realities.

Adults in the audience will appreciate Winter's first-rate guitar work that incorporates elements from classic blues singers of the 20s and 30s like Billie Holiday and Bessie Smith.

A veteran performer who has played all over the U.S. and Canada over the past 15 years, Winter has recorded three CD's and a children's cassette.

Her latest release, *Next Sweet*

Time, on the Flying Fish label, integrates Cathy's talents as a songwriter, singer and guitarist and is musical storytelling, poetry and good humor woven together in the age-old tradition of folk music.

No matter what your age, Cathy is sure to have something in her repertoire that will speak to you! Join us tonight for a memorable experience in the library's community room.

The library would like to wish all of our patrons a happy and healthy '93 and remind them that we close at 1 p.m. on New Year's Eve and will be closed all day on Jan. 1. Regular hours will resume Saturday, Jan. 2. Winter story hours begin on Monday, Jan. 11.

The Food for Fines program will be in effect through Jan. 15. During this time, overdue fines can be paid off with a can of food for each dollar owed up to a maximum of three dollars. Take advantage of this great opportunity to clear up your debts while helping your community.

Christine Shields

Claims Community directory free at reference desk

(From Page 1)

methodology to defend ourselves," Lastra said. "We had accurate data and measurements for the first time in recent memory."

The reversal process apparently did not help the clients of Walter J. Walsh. A fiscal services analyst with the state Office of Mental Health and a Delmar resident, Walsh has been representing property owners for the past seven years in their attempts to reduce assessments.

Up until this year, his track record was excellent. Of the 209 property owners he represented this year, only 39 were successful, according to unofficial figures provided by Lastra.

Coincidentally, 1992 marked the first year Walsh requested retainers from people before taking on their cases. He promised that the \$250 retainer would be deducted from the final invoice.

In a letter mailed to taxpayers earlier in the year, Walsh claimed that "this revaluation was done inaccurately." His cover letter went on to state that "based on ... the results of my research of the new tax rolls, I am confident that I can dramatically reduce your new assessments."

Commenting on the reversal in fortune for his clients this year, Walsh maintained that the town-wide revaluation did not eliminate all inequities and that he pursued the cases on that basis.

"I feel like I did a lot of work," he said. "I put together a good argument and the decision of the small claims hearing officer is final."

Walsh said he was undecided about whether to continue his advocacy work in 1993.

The library often works with other area organizations to provide services to the community. Two currently available services made possible with help from other groups include the library's Community Contacts Directory and sign language classes.

Check It Out
Bethlehem Public Library

The 1992-93 edition of Community Contacts has just been published. The free, 26 page booklet lists information about organizations in and around the Town of Bethlehem.

The library produces Community Contacts with financial assistance from the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of The Bethlehem Public Library.

Community Contacts grew from a reference card file of local organizations. In 1980, it was published as a 13 page photocopied list of 45 groups. Thanks to additional funding for reproduction costs, the professionally printed directory now runs 21 pages with a five page index, and includes 93 groups.

Each entry includes an address, phone number, description of group activities and one or two contact persons. The booklet includes an index of organizations by their subject of focus, such as crafts, the environment, parenting, business and sports.

Reference Librarian Michael

Farley who directs the project, says, "An effort has been made to be selective in order to keep the booklet a reasonable size, but also to concentrate on and offer exposure to, mainly grass-roots organizations that cannot be found in any other directory or phone book."

"Many of the established groups have been listed year after year. Others have come and gone over time, and generally a few new organizations are added with every edition," Farley said. To obtain a free copy, stop by the library's reference desk.

Another valuable service is being scheduled again this year. The library will offer free sign language classes funded with a federal library service and Construction Act grant through the Upper Hudson Library System. UHLS is the entity which enables public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer counties to work together in serving their communities.

The classes will begin on Thursday, Jan. 14, and will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for 10 weeks, ending on March 18. The sessions will be taught by a certified sign language instructor from the Center for Independence in Albany. Class size is limited. Pre-register by calling the library at 439-9314.

The library will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31, and will remain closed for New Year's Day, reopening at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 2.

Five Rivers plans New Year's bird count

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center will host its annual New Year's Day Bird Count on Friday, Jan. 1, at 9 a.m.

Led by center naturalists, the walk will offer basic tips about bird identification and winter bird ecology.

The program begins the center's yearly list of bird species found on the 328-acre grounds. Previous New Year's Day counts have found 25 to 38 species.

Participants should dress for the outdoors and bring binoculars and a bird identification book if possible. Some equipment will be available for loan.

For information, call 475-0291.

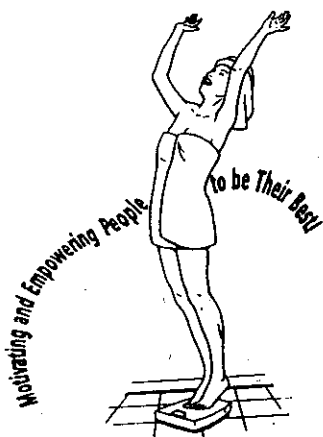
In Elsmere The Spotlight is sold at Brooks Drugs, CVS, Grand Union, and Johnson's Stationery

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\$24M renovation puts jail at top of class *Expansion breaks ground with 'New Generation' design*

By Kathleen Shapiro

Inmates moving into the Albany County Correctional Facility's recently-completed 300-cell addition are in for a surprise — individual cells, brightly-colored walls and common living areas with butcher block tables and comfortable chairs similar to those in an upscale fast food restaurant or a college dining hall.

Although separated by only a few hundred feet of corridors, the old portion of the jail, built in the institutional style of the 1930s, and the newly-constructed expansion are as different as night and day.

"I'm thrilled," said Superintendent Edward W. Szostak. "I never thought I'd see this in my lifetime."

In addition to making it one of the largest correctional facilities in the area, the new addition places Albany County at the forefront of the movement for more humane, efficient and cost-effective jail design.

Commonly known among corrections officials as "New Generation" jails, the state-of-the-art facilities reflect the results of three decades of effort by jail administrators, architects and psychologists to determine the most effective way of detaining prisoners in an environment that is acceptable to both inmates and staff.

First built in the 1970s, many "New Generation" jails are based on the New

York, Chicago and San Diego federal detention centers, which were commissioned as prototypes by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons during the late 1960s.

More than 20 years later, despite widespread resistance from conservative prison officials across the country who favor traditional jail styles, "New Generation" jails are finally beginning to gain acceptance on a nationwide scale. The turnaround is due, in large part, to their proven record of cost-efficiency, safety and ability to control inmates in a relatively normal environment.

Like most "New Generation" facilities, the recent addition to the Albany County jail includes several features not found in older prisons. Living units have been redesigned to make them more manageable and to give corrections officers an unobstructed view of inmates. The linear tier system, in which 25 cells in a row line a hallway, has been replaced by a modular design which clusters the cells around a central living area.

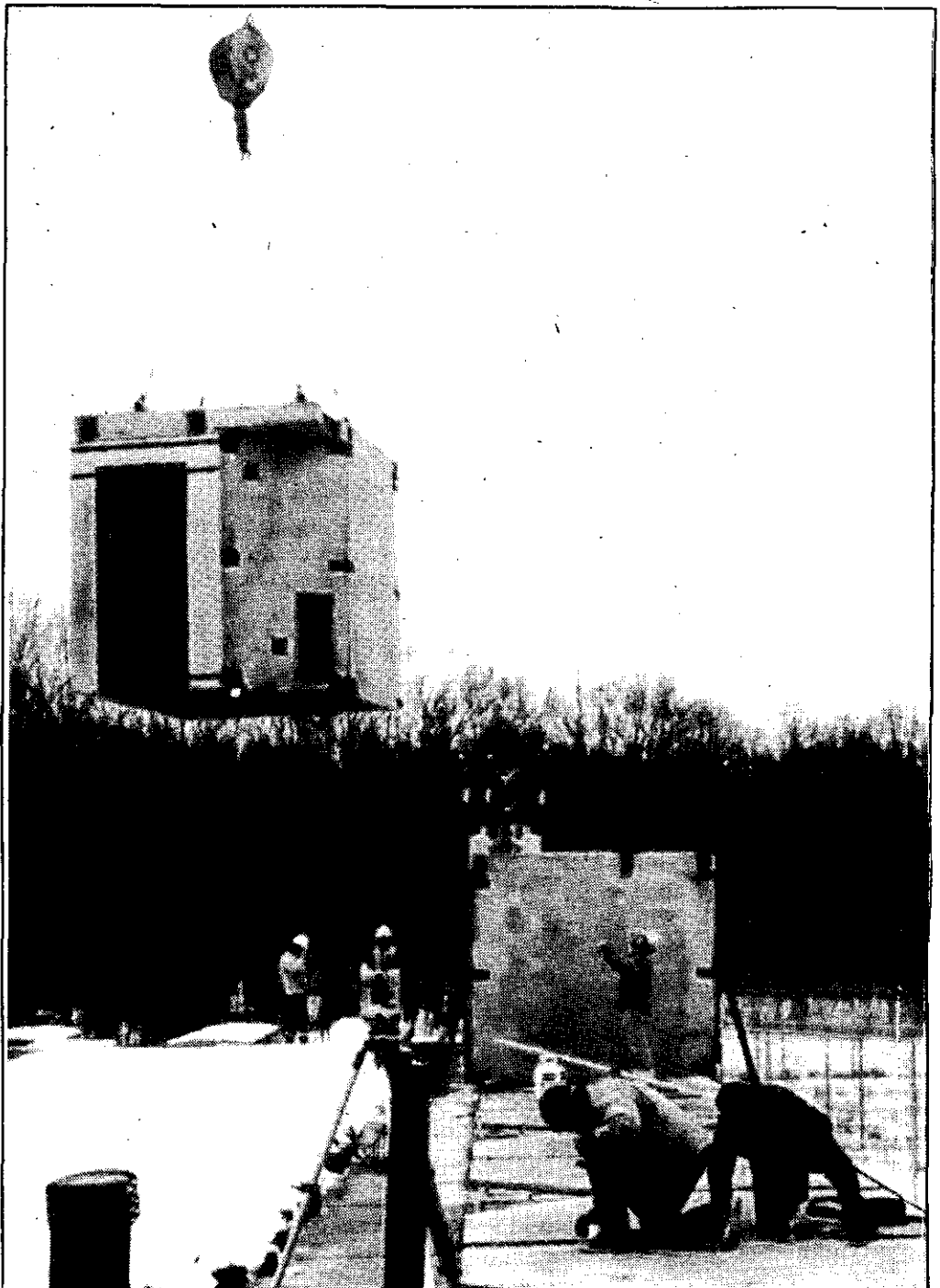
Like the spokes of a wheel, each set of cell blocks radiates out from a central control booth manned by corrections officers. The new, more open design keeps prisoners clustered in small groups within their own blocks, while allowing the guards in the booth to easily supervise several clusters at once, rather than constantly patrolling the hallways, spot-checking cells and worrying about what's going on behind them.

The control center, which is protected by a security shield, also includes a bank of surveillance cameras, as well as master controls to open and close all the cells, either individually or in blocks.

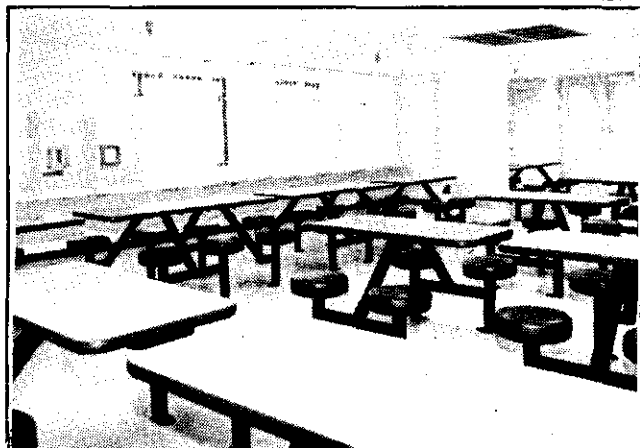
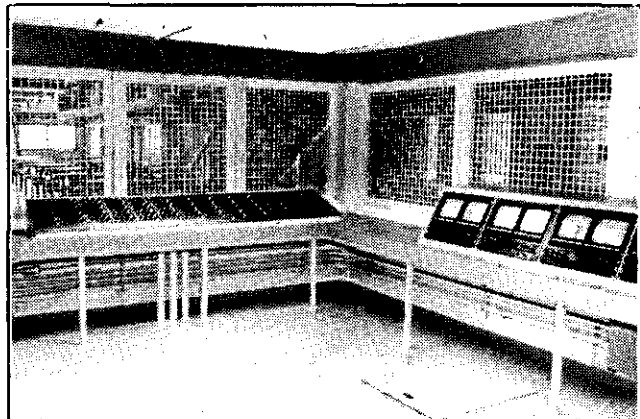
"The officer is in there. He sees more and hears more," said Szostak. "He's right in the middle of things."

As a result, the new system is safer for both inmates and officers, he said, pointing to national statistics which show a reduced rate of assaults and suicides under the new system.

In addition to saving on manpower — instead of



Workers prepare to install prefabricated cell blocks in the new wing of the Albany County Correctional Facility. The cells were constructed off-site and shipped to the Albany-Shaker Road location.



The "New Generation" design style features a central guard station, top photo, which allows officers a clear view of inmates. Visiting rooms offer comfortable chairs and butcher block tables.

two guards for every 50 prisoners, the new design allows three officers for each 100 — the design also encourages contact between officers and inmates, which reduces tension and allows officers to develop leadership and communications skills.

Typically, the attractive surroundings in "New Generation" jails actually discourage vandalism, according to reports from facilities which have been using the new design system for many years. In these facilities, inmates generally bow to peer pressure to keep their living environment in good repair.

At the Albany County Jail, solid doors or safety glass have replaced bars in many areas, including cells. Each cell has its

own security window, and is equipped with a bed, storage locker and toilet. A special light switch allows inmates to dim the light, preventing old — and sometimes dangerous — tricks like fashioning makeshift lampshades out of cardboard or other flammable materials.

To keep noise at a minimum, the cells also come with a set of headphones that can be plugged into a built-in wall receiver. Inmates can choose from three pre-programmed radio stations.

In the common living area, pay phones are set up to allow inmates free access to collect calls, instead of having to be es-

A 'Dirty Dozen' remembered

Great escape of '72 prompted closer look at county lockup

By Eric Bryant

"There's something going on down there," Capt. Gary McGivern remembers thinking as he gazed from a window in the locked detention tier and caught glimpses of 12 inmates making their escape from the Albany County Jail on the evening of Oct. 27, 1972.

It was, if anything, a bold attempt. Over the next several months, as law enforcement officials combed the area (most intensely Albany's Arbor Hill) for those still on the lam, it would become known as the escape of the Dirty Dozen — the last mass jailbreak from the Albany County Jail. In retrospect, the incident may have been a catalyst to change the county jail from an albatross around the neck of local politicians to a well-respected facility where a successful escape has not taken place since 1975.

The escape of the 12 young Albanians, in jail for a variety of felony and misdemeanor charges, triggered a grand jury investigation led by then-District Attorney Arnold Proskin and another investigation by the state Corrections Commission into security problems. It also forced Albany County politicians to take a hard look at the jail which, at that time, had only six corrections officers guarding 150 inmates and had suffered two other escapes earlier in 1972.

In the end, it took two months for law enforcement officials to round up all 12 of the Dirty Dozen.

Tyrone Murphy, a 16-year-old detained at the jail on a robbery charge, was apprehended on an Arbor Hill rooftop the day after the escape.

One of two sets of brothers involved in the escape, Arthur and Vraden Branch, 16 and 17 respectively, turned themselves in after their mother heeded an appeal from local clergy for their safe return. Vraden's twin brother Vernon, also an escapee, had earlier fractured his ankle jumping from a second floor window trying to elude police.

Others were captured at their homes, and one was apprehended in the basement of a friend's apartment.

"There are two types of escapes," said the current assistant superintendent of the correctional facility, Art Fruscio, who did not come on staff at the jail until 1975. "Generally, they are well thought out. Obviously, they usually want to get out at night. They usually have a map and someone waiting for them."

"It's the ones that are spontaneous that are trouble. It's every corrections officer's nightmare. It usually involves violence and the taking of hostages."

The Dirty Dozen escape was apparently a mix of the two, with several ringleaders using careful planning to complement brutal force and the element of surprise. Several of the inmates involved had only been at the jail for a matter of days.

The ringleaders were identified as trustees, prisoners who had gained the trust of guards and were given special work details. It was these work details that formed the basis for the breakout, and the whole incident began with a simple cup of coffee.

According to contemporary reports in local newspapers, a well-established custom at the time was the delivery of leftover coffee by prison kitchen workers to guards at their posts.

At approximately 9 p.m. on Oct. 27, one trusty, who was not identified in the reports, delivered a cup of coffee to 61-year-old guard Bernard Pajack, who was man-

Two days after the incident, then-Warden Robert E. Beam said, "Every prisoner in the tier (about 50) could have walked out if they wanted to" at that point.

Despite an alarm having already been sounded, the 12 escapees managed to gain access to a "control cage," where they overpowered a 65-year-old guard and stole several .38 caliber police revolvers, a

various locations around the county by members of the Colonie Police Department, Albany County Sheriff's Department and the State Police, but to no avail. The empty getaway van was found an hour and a half after the escape on Third Street in Albany.

An interesting sideline to the incident was the theft of over \$2,000 from the five

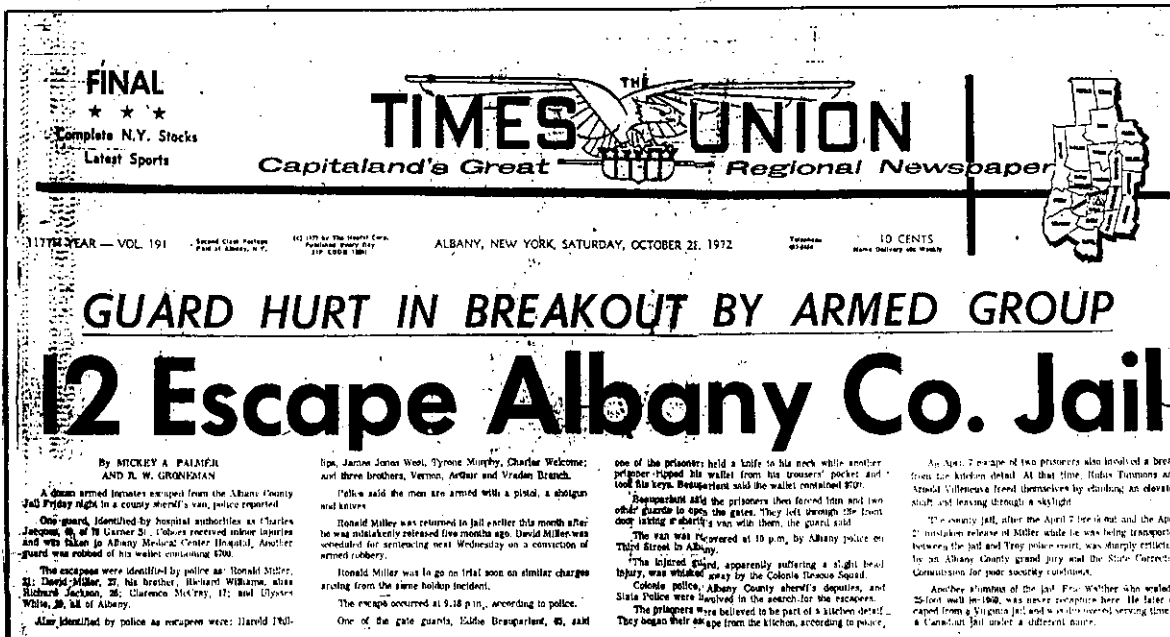
guards attacked by the escaping inmates, with one of the guards alleged to have over \$1,000 stolen from him personally. Guards at the time made between \$5,800 and \$6,300 annually. Charges of illegal gambling and other illicit activities were investigated by a Supreme Court grand jury, but were never unsealed by court judges, according to Proskin.

Following one grand jury hearing, however, one of the guards admitted to having lied to reporters and investigators about the source of money stolen from him.

Guard Patrick Murray, who had been overpowered during the escape and locked in a closet, had originally told reporters that \$600 of the \$1,050 stolen from him that evening had belonged to the Waterford Rural Cemetery where he worked part-time. Murray, who was subsequently charged with

perjury, later said that the cash was his and had included four weeks pay from the county sheriff's department, money from his cemetery job and rent from a tenant who lived upstairs at his Cohoes home.

The escapees were each charged with either felony or misdemeanor escape, depending on the charges for which they had been originally detained. Several, including Jackson, Phillips, McCray, White and Vernon and Arthur Branch, were also charged individually with assaulting and



Banner headlines blazed across the front page of the *Times Union* back in 1972 after a dozen inmates escaped from the Albany County Jail. All 12 were eventually captured after a massive manhunt throughout the Capital District.

ning the facility's grand jury tier, a cell block for prisoners awaiting court action. As Pajack swung open the door to accept his coffee, the prisoner, brandishing a homemade knife, quickly overpowered him.

The prisoner then released another inmate and the duo bound and gagged Pajack, locked him in a cell and released 10 other prisoners along the cell block using the guard's keys. From there, the dozen headed straight for the front door, overpowered and beat three other guards in their path and stole their keys as well as some \$2,000 in cash. The guards were then locked in a utility closet.

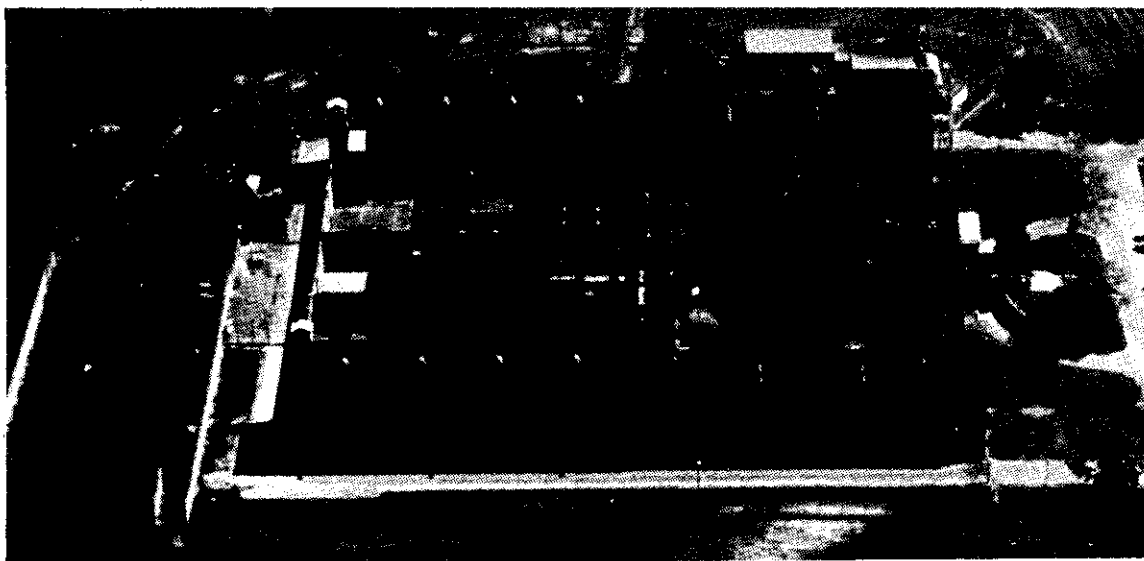
Once the guards had been overcome, several of the escapees returned to the cell block with the intention of killing Pajack, according to newspaper reports. However, McGivern said, some prisoners who did not participate in the escape plan dissuaded the escapees from harming the guard further.

Sgt. Charles Jacques, who was beaten unconscious and suffered a concussion after attempting to quell the escape, told *Times Union* reporter John McLoughlin on Oct. 30: "Several of the prisoners had overpowered me and were beating me. A couple of the prisoners kept hollering 'now that we've got him, let's kill him.' But then, other prisoners started yelling from their cells that 'you better not hurt Sgt. Jacques.'"

Jacques was the only guard to be transported to the hospital for his injuries.

rifle and the keys to a 15-passenger van. They then walked out the Albany County Jail's front door to at least temporary freedom.

Among the escapees were the three Branch brothers, being held on a variety of arson, robbery and burglary charges; Murphy; Ulysses White, 20, charged with robbery, burglary and petit larceny; Richard Williams, 16, held on charges of petit larceny and possession of stolen property; Clarence McCray Jr., 17, held on charges of assault, rape and robbery; brothers



On the night of October 20, 1972, 12 prisoners awaiting trial overpowered several guards at the county facility and made their escape through the front door of the jail.

David and Ronald Miller, 23 and 21, charged with hindering prosecution and criminal trespass, respectively; Ronald Phillips, 23, who escaped on his very first day in jail for drug possession; Dennis Jones, 20, charged with possessing stolen property; and Charles Welcome, 20, held on charges of robbery and petit larceny.

Roadblocks were immediately set up at

robbing the guards.

"Things have really changed out there," said Proskin recently. "The difference really is night and day compared to what it had been 20 years ago. The warden and the sheriff back then, they were great guys, but things were just overwhelming. I'd like to think that some of things, some of the problems we pointed out, had an effect on making it a better facility."

□ Jail

(From Page 1)

corted by an officer to use a phone in another part of the building. Specially-designed holes in the wall serve as cigarette lighters, eliminating the need for matches or lighters among the prisoners. Ice machines are easily accessible, so that inmates won't need to run the water in their sinks all day to chill cans of soda.

"Little things like that go a long way," said Szostak, adding that the jail may have to set up a special bidding system to cut down on competition between staff members for assignments in the new wing.

Despite their attractive appearance, the new jails can actually cost less than a conventional jail. Items like the butcher block tables which are used in Albany County and other facilities cost roughly \$165 when bought in bulk on the open market. An institutional-style stainless steel table is priced at roughly \$1,600.



Construction of the 300-cell expansion at the Albany County Correctional Facility began in March 1989 and was completed in October, making it one of the largest and most modern jails in the area.



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Expansion engineer balanced speed, safety

By Mike Larabee

Thomas L. O'Brien, the Clough, Harbour & Associates engineer behind the \$24-million large-scale Albany County Correctional Facility expansion, admits that from the start there was something just a little different about the project.

Every now and then, he confessed, engineers and architects steal a moment to consider their work with an eye on the future, wondering how a new design will fare over the test of time and imagining a descendant pausing proudly to admire the creation of a grandparent or great-grandparent.

But O'Brien admits that as an engineering student at Clarkson University he never imagined himself leaving behind anything like the recently-completed correctional

facility expansion. A sports arena, yes. But a jail?

"My goal was to design a sports arena," said O'Brien. "At some point in my career, I wanted to design an arena. I never thought about jails."

O'Brien, 32, was able to fulfill his wish when Clough-Harbour was signed on for the design and construction of Albany's Knickerbocker Arena. During work on the project, O'Brien said, he often drew inspiration from the vision of future generations gazing high into the exposed, arching trusses that support the facility's roof.

With the jail, however, he wasn't quite sure he liked the thought of his friends and family getting all that familiar with his handiwork. "This is something I'd like them to see from the outside," he said, laughing.

Right now, O'Brien manages the building systems



Thomas L. O'Brien

group for the large Colonie engineering, surveying and planning firm, though a promotion to partnership is in the works once an ownership change is complete early in 1993, he said.

It was in his current capacity that the Troy resident was called on to find an answer to overcrowding problems nearing crisis at the aging Albany County Correctional Facility. Though he already knew something about the facility because of work Clough-Harbour had done there previously, the problems presented by the nearly 50-year-old lockup were daunting, he said.

"They had people sleeping in the hallways," said O'Brien. "They had all kinds of makeshift housing throughout the facility and they had to do something quick."

O'Brien said the central dilemma facing Clough-Harbour and Joe Roblee, the architect hired by the firm to design the new structure, was this: How do you complete a major construction project quickly at a facility where a minor disruption can lead to disaster and work can never be allowed to compromise security?

The tension between the need for new space and fail-safe security led to some complex engineering acrobatics. First, a minimum security 64-bed dormitory was built outside the walls of the main facility. Designed as a temporary shelter for prisoners requiring less supervision, the unit freed up space quickly and paved the way for the next phase of the project — the fast assembly of another temporary dormitory, this time hoisted by crane piece by piece over facility's outer wall into what had been a recreational courtyard.

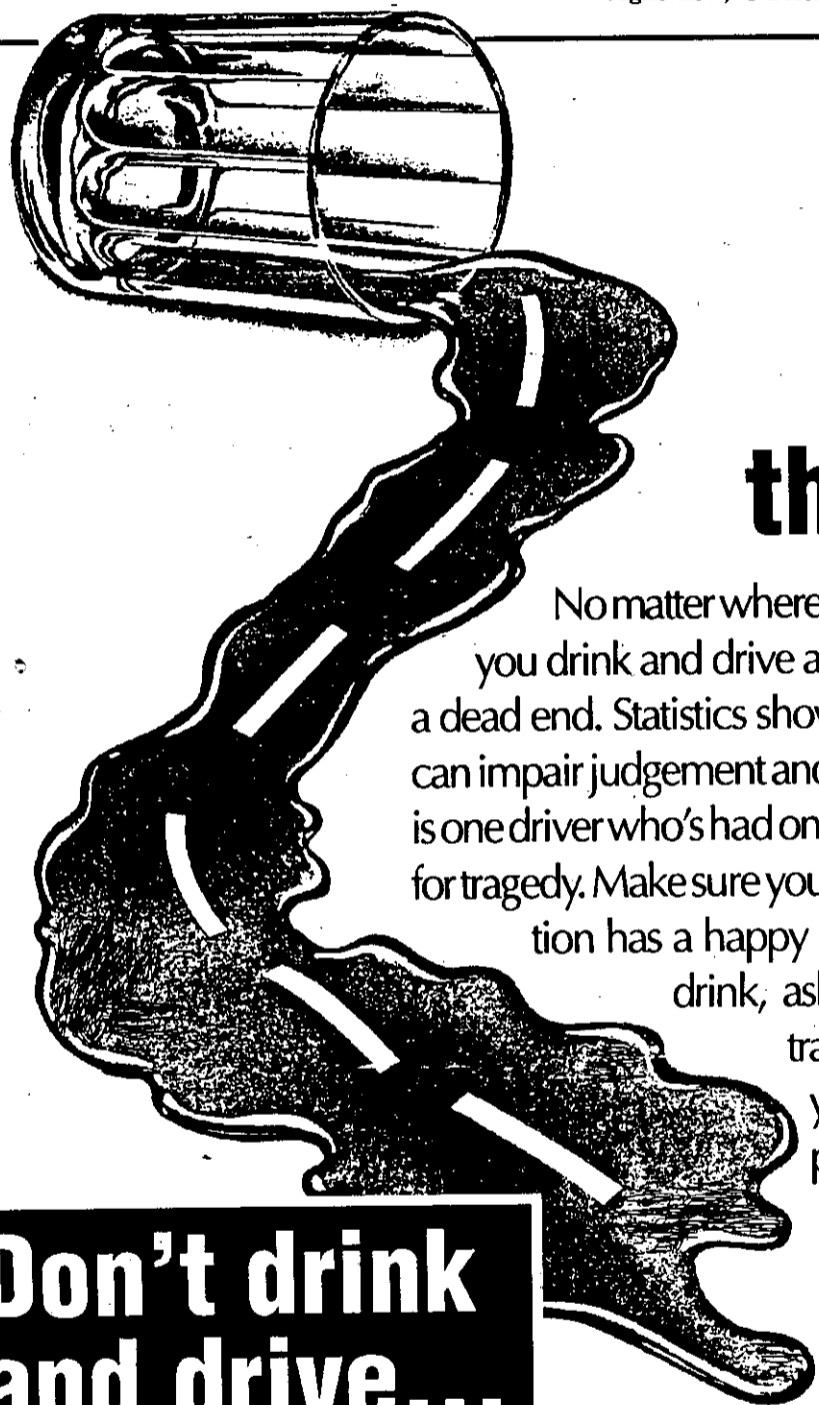
Once that was complete, work soon began on the meat and potatoes portion of the project — the first of three permanent 100-cell additions, designed in state-of-the-art fashion in the "New Generation" style taking root in the industry. Again, speed was paramount, and it was agreed that a single section of the fully-secured cell blocks would be built first so that inmates could be transferred into the new quarters long before the final, and largest, phase of the project was finished.

That last phase included a reconfiguration of the facility's parking and grounds layout and the construction of the remaining two 100-cell units plus highly-enhanced housing for support services staff and operations. To do that, O'Brien said, workers had to install and secure an interim entrance to the facility that would function as safely as the old one.

All through the process, O'Brien said, he made a point of talking, often with facility Superintendent Edward W. Szostak, county Sheriff James Campbell and others with extensive experience in corrections. The stories they told were mesmerizing, he said, but more than that they helped him better understand the rigors of work in the field and offered insight into deficiencies in construction plans.

"We had progress meeting after progress meeting after progress meeting to make sure what we were doing here was going to work functionally for them," he said. "It's a lot of common sense. But a lot of these inmates are extremely bright that can come up with many ingenious ways to try to get out of here."

"You have to think of them before they do," he said.



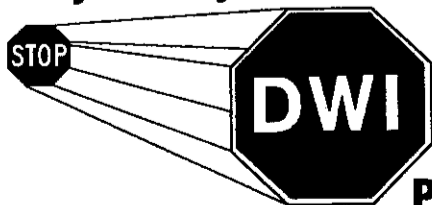
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Budget innovation proves profitable

First-time offenders offered option of labor program

By Corinne Lynne Blackman

Six months ago, Paul Schwartz was convicted of a drug crime. It was his first offense. Today, he serves a 12-month sentence at Albany County Correctional Facility.

But Schwartz is not an inmate. He is one of 20 offenders presently in Albany County's Work Alternative Program, which is designed to keep lawbreakers out of jail by providing jobs within their communities.

Unlike sister programs such as Work Release, which give inmates an opportunity to earn money while in prison, the Work Alternative Program allows non-violent, first-time offenders the chance to exchange jail time for labor.

Schwartz, who began the program in July, spends most of his eight-hour work-day vacuuming, mopping and cleaning the county jail. On evenings, however, he works part time to support his family in Clifton Park.

Schwartz is just one of three people in the program who work at the jail. Other participants are scattered in various non-profit agencies throughout the Capital Dis-

trict, ranging from the Sisters of St. Joseph's Provincial House nursing home to the kitchens of Albany's Meals On Wheels program. Sites depend on the skills of offenders and their living areas.

Coordinator Sgt. Michael Moffre is very proud of the success of the program since its inception in April 1991. Moffre believes the program is a good way to help lawbreakers pay off their debt to society productively and inexpensively.

"It's much better to teach an offender some good work habits and skills than to have him sit in jail at taxpayers' expense," he said.

According to Albany County Correctional Facility officials, the daily cost of housing a prisoner is \$75. The 53 participants in last year's April 1991 to January 1992 program provided a total savings of more than \$125,000 to the facility, says Moffre. The savings doubled to more than \$200,000 from January to November of this year.

The program also makes financial sense to non-profit employers who accept the services of work alternative participants,

accounting for more than \$56,000 in savings this year alone, Moffre said.

Work Supervisor Victor Rogers helped mold the program since it began a year and a half ago. He, too, is pleased with contributions to the community which range from a repainted Albany County Youth Bureau to assistance in constructing a playground in Voorheesville.

"When you think about it, it's free labor," he said.

Moffre and Rogers carefully screen each participating employer to ensure that both the offender and the agency are aware of their responsibilities. If policies are violated, prisoners are removed from the program.

"If people don't come to work, they go

It's much better to teach an offender some good work habits and skills than to have him sit in jail at taxpayers' expense.

Michael Moffre

back to jail. It's as simple as that," Moffre explained.

The program is open to any non-profit agency willing to accept its services. Participants cross all age and ethnic lines, professions and income brackets. "We take anybody and everybody," Moffre said.

As the program enters its third year, Rogers will no longer hold on to his position as work supervisor. "I was asked if I would help out with the program," he said. Now that a solid foundation has been put in place, Rogers will be moving on to other duties. Taking his place will be Andrew Penn.

In the meantime, Moffre hopes to add more work supervisors to the staff to help out with mounds of paperwork and the transportation of individuals to and from work sites. He will also continue to find ways of improving the system for both the prison and those involved in the program.

For now, however, he is convinced that the Work Alternative program is helping to "break the cycle of a return to criminal activity."

Jail cuts housing costs with rental arrangement

By Robert Webster Jr.

"Room for rent: Intimate one-room flat in a community setting. Well-lit grounds with on-site security. \$70 a day, includes meals, medical bills and all utilities. Inquiries should be addressed to the Albany County Jail."

Like everything else these days, the cost of housing a prisoner in the local county jail has grown exponentially. At \$70 per day however, the Albany County Jail continues to offer one of the lowest costs per day for maintaining a prisoner, said Edward W. Szostak, superintendent of the Albany County Jail.

Last year's cost per day was around \$56, said Szostak, just above 1992's national average cost per day of \$49.95 among 85 prison systems surveyed.

Quoting from the 1992 edition of "The Corrections Yearbook," the jail superintendent said per-day costs range anywhere from "\$20 per day in Nueces County, Texas, to \$110 per day in Hudson County, New Jersey. Albany County is very competitive in terms of its per-day costs."

With the recent improvements to the jail and the rising cost of living, the increase to \$70 was necessary in order to keep the jail running at a level acceptable to Szostak's and the county's standards. But the increases are not implemented without a little thought.

"We have to justify each annual increase," said Szostak. "Construction costs, heating, overhead costs, meals, salary and benefit packages of the employees, medical budgets" all enter into the picture when the correctional facility's budget is measured. The jail's \$13 million budget for this year encompasses some 300 employees, 600 inmates and contractual agreements with three unions.

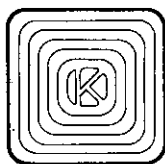
To make use of their newly expanded facility and offset rising costs, the jail has a contract with the federal government to keep beds open and available to board federal prisoners at a cost of \$70 per day, said Szostak. Prisoners from other counties in New York are also housed in the Albany facility at a cost of \$75.

Because the federal government put money up-front for the construction project to defer costs, said Szostak, they have bids on space to house 25 inmates, available on a per-day basis.

"It is an incentive to rent beds for the feds," said Szostak of the arrangement. "We have have to operate a housing unit with one person on it or 50 people on it. This provides us with a slight profit margin for housing."

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Jail tours part of Campbell's prevention efforts

Sheriff strives to keep kids clear of corrections

By Dev Tobin

Although Sheriff James Campbell has a brand-new jail, one of his main concerns is preventing young people from winding up there.

"Whether it's drunk driving or using drugs, enforcement alone won't work," Campbell said. "We have to concentrate more on education and prevention."

Campbell, 52, a Democrat from Watervliet, was elected sheriff in 1989 following a 24-year career with the New York State Police.

Campbell's 425-member department is responsible for the jail, transporting prisoners, the Voorheesville patrol (which provides police services for New Scotland and the Hilltowns), and security in and around the airport and other county facilities.

Tours of the new correctional facility are part of the sheriff's crime-prevention education efforts. Two types of jail tours for young people have been very successful, according to Campbell.

"We do a 'Just Another Inmate's Life' tour on Mondays, where we treat them like new inmates. That tour is booked straight through to March," he said. "We also have one-on-one tours for kids with discipline problems. They're more in-depth, like 'Scared Straight.'"

The positive response from parents and school officials fills folders in his office. "They thank me and tell me the tours have had an effect," he said.

Campbell's office also runs a Work Alternative Program (see story on page 5), which allows non-violent first offenders to work for local non-profit groups instead of going to jail.

"That program saved the county \$225,000 by keeping these people out of jail while providing more than \$100,000 worth of services to the non-profits," he explained. "It also teaches them good work habits."

Campbell also pointed to DARE, where police officers teach fifth and sixth-graders in school about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, as a key part of the prevention effort.

"We have Deputy Gary Fish as the DARE officer in the Voorheesville and Berne-Knox-Westerlo schools, and we'd like to work on expanding DARE to the high schools," he said, adding that another deputy had just graduated from a juvenile aide course. "He'll work with youth in the Hilltowns, and maybe set up an Explorers post."

On enforcement, Campbell has set up a new drug unit headed by John Burke, a retired inspector with the Albany Police Department.



Sheriff James Campbell

"We can work countywide on enforcement and training, and have made more than 400 arrests and seizures since May 1991," Campbell said. "We also have a new K-9 unit with two dogs."

Campbell coordinates the law enforcement side of the county's Stop-DWI campaign, setting up blanket patrols three times a year with the cooperation of all the police agencies in the county.

"Albany County is unique in that all the police departments work very well to-

gether with no turf issues," he said.

Campbell said public awareness of the dangers of drunk driving has increased in the last few years.

"People are more aware of the consequences of a DWI conviction, and I'm seeing more designated drivers at the social gatherings I attend," he said. "But we have to continue the education effort."

The budget picture for Campbell's \$18 million department has been brightened by contracts with the federal government for housing those in federal custody.

"In 1989, we paid more than \$500,000 to board our own prisoners elsewhere. This year, we will receive about \$4 million in boarder revenue," Campbell noted.

Although the county is in tight fiscal straits, Campbell said, "I get along very well with County Executive Mike Hoblock (a Republican), and he recognizes that you can't play politics with my department because it pertains to public safety."

Earlier this year, Campbell was elected first vice chairman of the county Democratic Committee on the condition that the party post not interfere with his job as sheriff.

"And next year, I'll be involved in running my own campaign," he added. "I want to continue moving the department in a progressive direction."

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Jail chief brings business sense to post

By Susan Graves

The superintendent of the Albany County Jail runs a tight ship in more ways than one.

Edward W. Szostak, who began his career in corrections only as a means of getting through tough economic times, today says he ended up doing what he intended from the beginning — running a business.

When Szostak took a job as a corrections officer in 1975 because of the guaranteed \$7,250 yearly income, he had visions of leaving within a year to move on to bigger and better things. "I came here because the economy was bad," he said. "I wanted to be in the business world."

On his very first day on the job, "There were two fights and my shirt was ripped off. There was blood all over the place. ... I didn't even know what a jail was about." But, despite the rocky start, Szostak stayed in the field — largely because of promotions and being "in the right place at the right time."

By 1979, he had been promoted to the rank of sergeant and, in 1980, he moved up two notches, first to lieutenant and then to captain. Two years later, he was chief corrections officer. In 1986, Szostak assumed the position of assistant superintendent, moving to acting superintendent in 1990 and earning the full-fledged title the following year.

"I started taking tests, and the rest is history," said Szostak, who recently turned 39.

One of the superintendent's primary responsibilities is preparing and maintaining a budget. This year's \$13 million package encompassed some 300 employees, 600 inmates and contractual agreements with three unions.

What is particularly satisfying to Szostak is that he not only maintained the budget but came out in the black to the tune of millions. "I'm excited to say we came out \$4 million ahead," in part, as a result of boarder revenue, he said.

Albany County receives \$70 dollars per day for boarding federal prisoners and \$75 for prisoners from other counties in New York. Albany guarantees the availability of 55 beds for federal prisoners.

The county recently received a check for \$625,000 to offset the cost of the new construction at the jail. The federal marshal, Henry Hudson, who presented the check, said the Albany facility was one of the finest in the country, Szostak said.

"I treat this as if it were my business," he added, "Jails aren't supposed to be money-making, but they can be."

Szostak, who refers to himself jokingly as a "cheapskate," said he watches every penny as if it were his own, and constantly looks for ways to generate new revenue. When the new addition to the Albany facil-



Edward W. Szostak

ity was in the design phase, Szostak, who was in charge of construction, said one consideration was creating a cell block that housed 100 inmates and only needs two corrections officers. In the old tier, three officers were needed to oversee the same number of inmates.

Even buying and preparing food is an important consideration for the superintendent. "I try and treat it as if it were home. My wife and I don't eat steak or pork chops every night." Consequently, he said, "When we buy food (for the jail), we treat it as if we are buying it for home."

Although corrections can be a tough field, Szostak said, it is also rewarding and

offers plenty of room for advancement. "Anybody can become a supervisor or a superintendent," with hard work.

"It's a good career with a lot of room for advancement."

According to Szostak, people in the corrections field wear a lot of different hats. "You're a corrections officer, a police officer, but also a counselor and sometimes even a maintenance man."

The superintendent's goals for the future of the jail include renovating the old building so that it complements the new state-of-the-art addition. "Once we're totally in (the new building), I'd like to go into the old and bring that up to speed."

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SPOTLIGHT ON

SPORTS

BC cagers break the ice The next Anita Kaplan?

By Joshua Kagan

The Bethlehem boys basketball team (2-2, 2-4) broke into the winning column last week, defeating Gold Division rivals Mohonasen and Scotia.

On Wednesday, Dec. 23, the Eagles cruised to a 65-51 victory over the Mohonasen Warriors. After Mohonasen scored the opening basket, Bethlehem scored nine consecutive points and finished the first quarter leading 13-8. BC stretched its lead to 29-22 by halftime.

Bethlehem opened the third quarter with an 8-0 run. The Warriors countered with an 8-1 run, but were silenced by Bethlehem's Kory Snyder, who made two straight baskets including a three-pointer. Mohonasen never got close again.

Point guard Mike Pellettier scored 16 points to lead Bethlehem. Dave Bilicki scored 15 and grabbed 14 rebounds. Chris Macaluso and Matt Follis each contributed 10 points. Dan Dagostino scored 18 and Jason Schlegel 15 for the Warriors.

Bethlehem defeated Scotia 81-

67 on Tuesday, Dec. 22. BC jumped out to a 20-14 lead after the first quarter, but that dwindled to two by the end of the third quarter. Bethlehem then exploded in the fourth period, scoring 26 points to Scotia's 14.

Matt Follis scored 30 points, leading BC. Pellettier scored 21 points, in Macaluso added 12 points. Chris Rogers scored 32 for Scotia.

"The younger guys are maturing - getting playing time and getting used to winning," Moser said. "Our court presence was much better. We played better defense and rebounded better. That made our offense play better."

The Columbia Blue Devils are leading the Suburban Council Gold Division with a 2-1 record. The Eagles and Mohonasen are one-half game behind, with 2-2 records. Niskayuna and Burnt Hills follow with 1-2 records and Scotia is in last place with a 1-3 record.

Pellettier is averaging 17 points per game, third in the Suburban Council. He has sunk 12 three-point baskets, tops in the Gold Division and third in the Suburban Council.

By Emily Church

When Karena Zornow grew to 5'8" as a 14-year-old, her 10-year gymnastic career ended, but her love for athletics led her to make a mark in both basketball and diving.

Zornow, now a sophomore at Bethlehem High School and standing 5'11", has spent three years perfecting her form in both sports.

Zornow's involvement in basketball was fueled by her background. "It's in my family," Zornow said. "My father and sister have had a big influence on me."

Other than playing on the Eagles varsity squad, Zornow has been involved in both the American Athletic Union basketball camps and the Siena basketball camp. In 1991, her AAU team was strong enough to make it to the Nationals, and last summer she won the Most Valuable Player award at Siena.

Although Zornow intends to concentrate on basketball, she has



Karena Zornow

also become one of the strongest divers on the Bethlehem girls varsity swim team. For the last two years, she has placed sixth at the sectional meet, and last season she broke the BC pool record with 220 points.

Athletics have been a part of Zornow's life since she was four years old, and her desire to improve herself keeps her competing. "My main goal in basketball is a scholarship, and in diving it was to set the pool record, and since I've done that, I hope to go to the state meet."

Zornow has also become involved with the girls lacrosse team

at BC, and in her limited free time, she hopes to continue playing. "Basketball really takes up most of my time," she said.

The crunch will come when Zornow must make the decision whether or not to give up diving and lacrosse for basketball. "Right now I plan to work on all three sports," she said. "We'll have to see if I'm going to concentrate on basketball as I get closer to college."

If Zornow's family background and current skill level is any indication, a basketball scholarship with diving and lacrosse on the side is not unattainable.

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BC wrestlers struggling Coach is buoyed by Dolphins showing

By Jared Back

Times are tough for the Bethlehem Central wrestling team.

From Dec. 11 to 27, the Eagles faltered, coming in last at the Oxford Tournament and dropping consecutive dual meets to Burnt Hills, Scotia and Niskayuna.

Despite finishing sixth in a formidable group in the Clyde Cole Tourney at Oxford, Dec. 11-12, BC had several grapplers turn in solid, individual performances. Among them were Jon Wagner (91 lbs.), Anthony Genovese (105) and Zack Hampton (119). Each of them placed third in their respective weight divisions.

On Dec. 17, the Eagles were blown out in Burnt Hills by the score of 72-6. In dropping the match, Bethlehem suffered eight pins, two technical falls, two losing

decisions and one forfeit at the hands of the Spartans.

Only Hampton prevented BC from getting shut out, when he scored a pin in 2:37 in the 125 pound weight class.

Wrestling

On Dec. 19, the score was closer, although the outcome was the same as BC suffered a 42-33 defeat to Scotia. Aiding the Bethlehem cause were pins by Genovese, Bill Smith and a decision in favor of Ken Van Dyke.

The Eagles fought Niskayuna at home on Dec. 19 and were clobbered 66-12. Wagner highlighted the Eagles' effort with a pin in 5:34. For the most part, however, the BC grapplers were stymied by the Silver Warriors, who racked up five pins and three technical falls.

A large contingent from the Delmar Dolphins Swim Club recently attended the eighth annual Pilgrims' Pride meet at Shaker High School.

Head coach Doug Schulz, who accompanied the team, was pleased with the performances of all who took part.

Medalists among the 8-and-under boys included Thalys Orietas who was sixth in the 25-yard breaststroke. The 100-yard freestyle relay team of Orietas, Scott Solomon, Joseph Cardamone and Ricky Grant finished fourth.

Bradley Bailey had a personal best time in the 25 freestyle.

Among the 8-and-under girls, Becky Corson brought home medals for her second-place finish in the 25 breaststroke, third in the 25 butterfly, fourth in the 100 Individual Medley (IM) and fifth in the 25 backstroke.

Kathleen Shaffer was sixth in both the 25-yard backstroke and breaststroke. The girls 100-yard freestyle relay team of Corson, Shaffer, Courtney Arduini and Larissa Suparmanto took second place.

Brian Dowling dominated the boys 9-10 age group, winning three of his events, achieving three National "AAA" times, and setting two new meet records. He won the 100 IM in 1:13.62, and the 50 backstroke in 35.07, both new records, and the 50 butterfly in 32.00. He was second in the 50 freestyle.

Chris Shaffer won medals for his second place finish in the butterfly, fourth in the backstroke and

fifth in the IM. The boys 200 yard freestyle relay team of Dowling, Shaffer, Richard Bailey and Bobby Pasquini won third place medals.

Among the 9-10 girls, Elyse McDonough was second in the IM, butterfly and freestyle and third in the 50 backstroke, achieving personal best "AA" times in all four events. The freestyle relay team of Katie Xeller, Sara Gold, Megan Scharmann finished fifth.

Scott Strickler won the 11-12 boys 50 backstroke in 34.35, a personal best. He was also fourth in both the 50 freestyle and 100 IM.

Steve Corson was second in the IM, fourth in both the butterfly and breaststroke, and sixth in the 50 freestyle. The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Strickler, Steve Corson, Todd McCoy and Tim Corson brought home second place medals.

Maggie Tettelbach was second in the 11-12 girls 50 backstroke

and fifth in both the 50 freestyle and 100 IM.

Medalists among the 13-14 year olds included Billy Leary, who was second in both the 100 butterfly and 100 breaststroke and third in the 200 IM. Reid Putnam was fourth in the 100 backstroke. Andy Masino was sixth in the IM. The 200 freestyle relay team of Leary, Masino, Putnam and Brian Strickler took third place.

Fourteen-year-old Cailin Brennan won the senior girls 500 yard freestyle in a time of 5:54.28. She was fourth in the 100 backstroke.

Erika McDonough was third in the backstroke and sixth in the 100 freestyle. Nadine Maurer was fourth in the breaststroke.

Kelly Roberts had personal best performances in both the breaststroke and 100 freestyle. Lynne Iannacone also had an outstanding swim in the 100 freestyle. The 200 freestyle relay team of Brennan, McDonough, Maurer and Kate Link won their event.

Star Bowlers



Bowling honors for this week, at Del Lanes in Delmar, go to:

Sr. Cit. Men — singles: Harold Eck 279, Robert Eberle 235; triples: Ernie Steck 560; four game series: Ken Decker 876.

Sr. Cit. Women — singles: Betty Contento 180; triples: Doris Aupler 476.

Men — singles: Harold Eck and Ken Decker 279; triples: George Phillips 683; four game series: Lee Aiezza 977.

Women — singles: Jean Kanser 241; triples: Bonnie Robbins 575; four game series: Peg Were 849.

Jr. Classic

Maj. Boys — singles: Jeff Diendorf 252; four game series: Dan Gallagher 837.

Maj. Girls — four game series: Beth Matthews 796 and Heather Selig 790.

Jr. Boys — singles: Dave Rose 235; four game series: Chris Brown 746.

Jr. Boys — triples: Paul Belmjan 487 and James McLaughan 448.

Jr. Girls — triples: Nicole Hoke 488 and Danielle Pope 434.

Prep Boys — triples: Ricky Rabideau 437.

Prep Girls — triples: Rachel Kessler 410 and Deanna Dougherty 395.

Bantam Boys — triples: Noah

Bacon 369 and Greg Powell 355.

Bantam Girls — triples: Katherine Duncan 357.

Adult-Junior

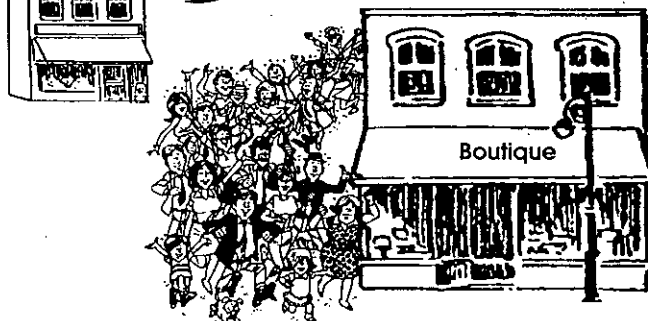
Men — singles: Bill Yates 218. Women — triples: Linda Watt 538.

Boys — triples: Tom Preska 634.

Girls — triples: Jennifer Preska 430.

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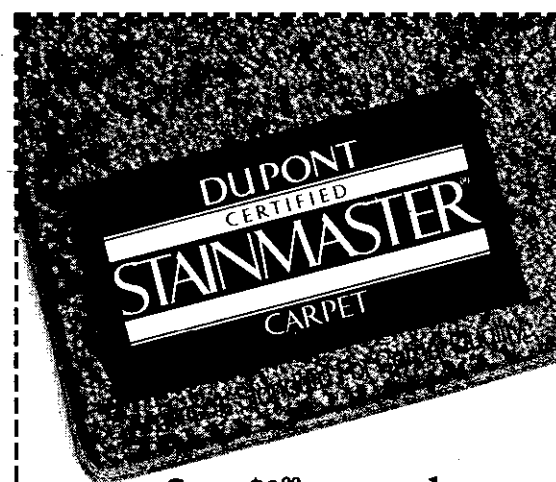
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1992

(From Page 9)

Association.

• In a second election, voters in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District reject spending on interscholastic sports and extra-curricular activities.

August

• Voorheesville football coach **Chuck Farley** dies on Aug. 10. Farley, 37, had been head coach for two years, and had worked with the junior varsity program for 10 years before that.

• The Bethlehem Central School District tax rate for the 1992-93 school year rises 6.2 percent in the town of Bethlehem and 10.9 percent in the town of New Scotland.

• Sixteen-year-old **Erin Cox** of Delmar is killed in a drunken-driving related crash Aug. 26. Fellow BCHS student **Christopher Arnold**, 17, also of Delmar, is charged with criminally-negligent homicide and DWI.

• The Bethlehem Planning Board rejects the draft environmental impact statement for the Unocal truck stop near Thruway Exit 22 in Selkirk.

September

• Mandatory recycling begins

in New Scotland and Voorheesville Sept. 1, as required by state law.

• **Dr. James Crucetti**, a Delmar resident, is named commissioner of the Albany County Health Department.

• The Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Company celebrates its 50th anniversary by hosting the Albany County Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention.

• In a district that includes New Scotland, **John McEneny** defeats three contenders to win the Democratic primary, replacing retiring Assemblyman **Richard Connors**.

• The new Selkirk Cogen project will pay more than \$24 million in town taxes and \$36 million in school taxes (to the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk district) over the next 20 years.

• **Spotlight Publisher Richard Ahlstrom** receives the De Witt Clinton Award for his community service work from the Onesquethaw Masonic Lodge.

October

• Hundreds of volunteers build the Kids' Place creative playground at Elm Avenue Park over five days ending Oct. 4.

• The Bethlehem Soccer Club begins construction of its new, 20-acre Soccerplex on Wemple Road.

• The federal government gives 60 acres north of the Glenmont Job Corps facility to the town of Bethlehem. The tract, which runs from Route 144 to the river, will be developed as a nature preserve.

• Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk science teacher **Gary Kosowsky** is sentenced to four-and-a-half to nine years in state prison after pleading guilty to felony reckless endangerment for handing out candy laced with poison to three fellow teachers.

• **Mike Gambelunghe** shatters the BC single-game rushing record with a 304-yard effort against Troy. The senior tailback also scores four touchdowns in the Eagles' decisive 34-13 win.

November

• In local election results, Democrat **George Kansas** stuns veteran GOP County Legislator **W. Gordon Morris Jr.** in Bethlehem's 34th County Legislative District (LD). Other winners include: **John McEneny** (104th Assembly District), **John Faso** (102nd Assembly District), **Peter Bishko** (Bethlehem Town Justice), **Tom Dolin** (New Scotland Town Justice), **Dom DeCecco** (33rd LD), **James Ross** (35th LD), **Robin Reed** (36th LD), **Charley Houghtaling** (38th LD), **Mary Lou Connolly** (32nd LD), **Sal Garufi** (10th LD) and **Frank Commisso** (12th LD).

• The 1993 New Scotland town budget will raise taxes 3 percent in the town and 5.1 percent in the village of Voorheesville.

• **Christopher Arnold** of Delmar, the BC senior who killed 16-year-old **Erin Cox** of Delmar in a drunken-driving crash, is sentenced to one-and-a-third to four

years in state prison for second degree vehicular manslaughter by State Supreme Court Justice **Thomas Keegan**.

• Cable TV rates will rise 2 percent in the town of Bethlehem, as the cable company will pass along an increase in the town franchise tax from 3 to 5 percent.

• The BC school board votes unanimously not to allow condom distribution at the high school following a two-hour public hearing.

• The publishers of the Tri-Village Area Directory announce that the book published in 1992 was its last. The 60-year-old telephone and services directory for Elmsmere, Delmar and Slingerlands was put together by volunteers from the First United Methodist Church in Delmar.

December

• Republican County Legislator **James Ross** of Delmar announces that he will step down as minority leader due to time constraints.

Retire

(From Page 1)

Griffin was quick to praise his co-workers for the success of the school, which was designated as a Blue Ribbon National School of Excellence two years ago and has a consistently high percentage of graduates who go on to college.

"I feel the number one accomplishment of my tenure is the team of excellent educators we've put together here," Griffin said. "They really are student-centered, and they never took a step back when confronted with all the challenges education has faced lately."

As Griffin leaves, he sees "a whole technology window opening" that will require increased industry and government support

Ross is replaced by **Jay Sherman** of Colonie.

• Drilling begins at 13 Smith Lane in New Scotland on a new well to serve Orchard Park residents whose wells are contaminated with methane and salt.

• Residents of the North Street neighborhood in Bethlehem complain about the town's continued use of a yard waste dump on the **Marie Privler** property. Supervisor **Ken Ringle** responds that there "is nothing to indicate that a public health hazard exists" at the dump.

• State plans to build a replacement bridge to carry Delaware Avenue over the Normanskill move ahead as the state begins eminent domain proceedings to acquire two properties on the Albany side of the creek.

• Voorheesville teenager **Lawrence Salvagni** pleads guilty to one count of criminally-negligent homicide and one count of driving while intoxicated in the March death of his friend, **David Bartholomew**. Salvagni is sentenced to one-and-a-third to four years in state prison.

of schools' efforts to prepare for the workplace of the 21st century.

Superintendent **Alan McCartney** praised Griffin for going "out of his way to help kids. He's a real kids' person. If everyone had a mentor like Pete Griffin, very few of them would be at risk."

Griffin grew up on a farm in the Connecticut River valley town of Southwick, Mass. After graduating from St. Michael's College in Winooski, Vt., he spent two years pitching in the minor leagues in Waterloo, Iowa.

"By going two years without a hit, I helped usher in the designated-hitter rule," he joked.

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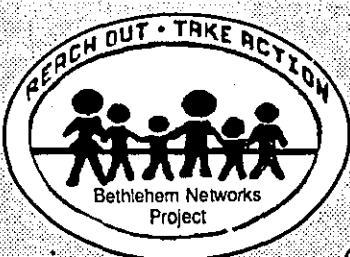
Talk to teens now about avoiding alcohol

The beginning of a brand new year is an appropriate time to make a resolution to help young people resist alcohol and other drugs.

The Bethlehem Networks Project has been working for many years to promote consistent messages about alcohol use. The benefits of not using alcohol can be communicated to young people by parents, youth, teachers, relatives, clergy, employers, coaches, advisers, activity directors and any adult in the community. Hearing the same message from many people can make a powerful, positive influence on the choices young people make about alcohol use.

What can you do in 1993 to promote positive choices among young people?

- Talk to your child about your family's values and decisions on alcohol use.
- Stay involved in your child's life.
- Model positive behavior.
- Listen and encourage good behavior.
- Help your child learn how to handle stress.
- Become a part of the Bethlehem Community Partnership, a coalition of 68 concerned individuals who work to combat the drug and alcohol problem in town.
- Take advantage of Bethlehem Networks Project's classes to help improve parenting skills. A class in self-esteem begins on Jan. 12. For information, call 439-7740.
- Join Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited (BOU), a community-based organization dedicated to youth, by sending \$7 (single) or \$10 (family) to: BOU, PO Box 492, Delmar 12054.



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FIBERGLAS



Given and Frances Hynds today (above) and on their wedding day (below)

Hynds celebrate 50 years

Given and Frances Hynds of Burtonwood Place, Delmar, and Black Point Road, Ticonderoga, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with friends and relatives Sept. 12 at the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard American Legion Post in Delmar.

They also celebrated with their summer residence friends and neighbors at a dinner party at the Ticonderoga Country Club in August.

The couple was married in the Unitarian Church on Sept. 12, 1942. They do not have children.

Mr. Hynds graduated from Bethlehem Central High School and attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, and later worked in aviation and for James Ackroyd & Sons.

Mrs. Hynds graduated from Albany High School and the



Mildred Elley Business School, and attended Siena College. She worked for many years for the state Department of Taxation and Finance.

They both retired in 1977.

The couple will continue to pursue their many interests, including roller-skating, golf and travel.

Deleskiewicz, Green to wed

Trudie Deleskiewicz of Feura Bush has announced the engagement of her daughter Lisa to Richard J. Green, son of Richard A. Green and the late Carol Green of Selkirk.

Deleskiewicz is employed by the Professional Insurance Agents Association in Glenmont and Green is employed by Callanan Industries of South Bethlehem.

An Aug. 7, 1993 wedding is planned.

Red Cross to sponsor course for lifeguards

The American Red Cross is sponsoring a lifeguard training course on Thursday evenings from Feb. 25 through June 10 at the Bethlehem Central High School pool on Delaware Avenue in Delmar. Classes will run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The cost is \$32 per person, and pre-registration is required. For information, call 433-0151.

Five Rivers to offer outdoor program

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, Delmar, will offer a family-oriented outdoor nature program on Saturday, Jan. 9, at 2 p.m.

Naturalists will lead participants on one of the center's trails and will present information on the forest and how it is affected by winter conditions.

The program is free of charge and parents and children must accompany each other. For information, call 475-0291.

Area AARP to sponsor seniors driving course

Bethlehem Senior Services is accepting reservations for a 55 Alive Safe Driving Course on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 14 and 15.

The course is sponsored by the Tri-Village Chapter 1598 of the American Association of Retired Persons. The course fee is \$8 and early registration is encouraged.

To register, call 439-4955, extension 170, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

In Clarksville The Spotlight is sold at the Kwik Mart and Stewarts



Mr. and Mrs. Brian Dragon

McMullen, Dragon marry

Elizabeth McMullen, daughter of Robert and Dorothy McMullen of Ravena, was married to Brian Dragon, son of Dennis and Jo Mary Dragon of Selkirk on Sept. 26.

Shawn Coons was best man. Ushers were Mark Walker, Joey Dragon and Brent Dragon, brother of the groom. Greg McMullen, the bride's nephew, was ring bearer.

The Rev. John Williams performed the ceremony at Coeymans Hollow Trinity Methodist Church. A reception followed at Knights of Columbus Hall in Ravena.

Barbara McMullen, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Dawn Dunican, Stacy Dragon and Amanda McMullen, the bride's niece. Carolyn McMullen, another niece, was flower girl.

The bride is a graduate of Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Junior Senior High School. She is employed at the Manda Bear Nursery.

The groom, also a graduate of Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Junior Senior High School, is employed at Winter's in Selkirk.

The couple lives in Selkirk.



Count birds on New Year's

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center sponsors its annual New Year's Day Bird Count Friday at 9 a.m. at the center on Game Farm Road.

Participants should dress warmly and bring their bird identification books. For information, call 475-0291.

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Receptions

Normanside Country Club, 439-2117. Wedding and Engagement Parties.

Photographer

Gustave Loney Studio Don Smith Photographer, 211 Old Loudon Rd. Latham, NY 12110. Wedding Packages and Social Events. Full coverage or hourly rates.

Your Occasion—Our Photography. Wedding, Candid, Video, Creative Portraits. The Portrait Place, 1188 Central Ave., Albany 458-9083.

Invitations

Johnson's Stationery 439-8186. Wedding Invitations, Announcements, personalized Accessories.

Paper Mill Delaware Plaza, 439-8123. Wedding Invitations, writing paper, Announcements. Your Custom order.

Jewelers

Harold Finkle, "Your Jeweler" 217 Central Ave., Albany. 463-8220. Diamonds - Handcrafted Wedding Rings & Attendant's Gifts.

Honeymoon

Delmar Travel Bureau. Let us plan your complete Honeymoon. We cater to your special needs. Start your new life with us. Call 439-2316. Delaware Plaza, Delmar.

Obituaries

Douglas Martin

Douglas R. Martin, 62, of Delmar, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Mr. Martin was born in Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, and lived in Delmar since 1967.

He graduated with honors from Central City Business Institute in Syracuse and received his bachelor's degree from American University in Washington, D.C. He received his master's degree in public administration from New York University.

Mr. Martin was employed by the federal and state governments. He worked for the General Accounting Office, the Department of the Interior and the Health, Education and Welfare Department while in Washington. He also served as an assistant budget director at the Smithsonian Institute. With the federal government, Mr. Martin traveled to Turkey twice for the Department of State.

He began working for the state in 1967, where he was employed for 25 years as an administrator. He first served with the department of Audit and Control and later for the department of Parks and Recreation. He then became executive secretary of the State Board of Public Accountancy.

Mr. Martin had also been a professor at the Siena College Evening Division for 15 years.

He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Society for Public Administrators and the New York State Society of CPAs. He also was a member and past regional vice president of the Association of Government Accountants.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Delmar.

Survivors include his wife, Alene Betty Martin; a son, Bruce S. Martin of Latham; a daughter, Tracy Lee Fayle of Marcellus, Onondaga County; and three grandchildren.

Services were from Applebee Funeral Home, 403 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

Burial was in Syracuse.

Contributions may be made to the First United Methodist

Church Good Pantry Fund, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar 12054.

Daisy Sharp

Daisy VanDenburg Sharp, 94, of Rock Hill Road in New Salem, a former violinist, died Thursday, Dec. 24, at her daughter's home.

She was born in Parker's Corners in Guelderland and moved to New Salem in 1929.

She was a homemaker and member of the New Salem Dutch Reformed Church, where she was an organist and choir director for many years. She was also an accomplished violinist.

Mr. Sharp was a charter member of the New Scotland Senior Citizens.

She was the widow of Lester F. Sharp.

Survivors include three daughters, Lillian Duffus of Huntington Station, Suffolk County, E. Lois Wood of New Salem, and Diane Stedman of Altamont, a son, Lester D. Sharp of East Greenbush; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services were from Fredendall Funeral Home, Altamont.

Contributions may be made to the New Salem Dutch Reformed Church.

Donald Stahlman

Donald C. Stahlman, 67, of Glenmont, former state worker, died Thursday, Dec. 24, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Mr. Stahlman was born in Albany, and lived in Castleton until 1961, when he moved to Glenmont.

He was a dairy farmer in Castleton for nine years, when he entered state service with the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Most recently, he was employed as a supervisor in the printing department of the State Department of Transportation, where he worked for 27 years before retiring in 1989.

Mr. Stahlman was a member of the First Baptist Church in Rensselaer; Greenbush-Schodack Lodge 87 F&AM; Genet Chapter 668 Order of the Eastern Star; Philippine-Gratitude Lodge 256 Order of the Eastern Star; Ravena

Grange 1457; and the Albany County Pomona Grange. He was a former state officer in the Order of the Eastern Star and a past president of the Automobilists of the Upper Hudson Valley.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Hadley Stahlman; two daughters, Deborah E. Jackson of Sharon Springs and Susan B. Frasier of Averill Park; a son, Charles H. Stahlman of Coeymans Hollows; three brothers, Harold and Warren Stahlman, both of Castleton and Norman Stahlman of East Greenbush, a sister, Barbara Maxam of Sturgis, Mich.; and a grandson.

Services were from Ray Funeral Home, 59 Seaman Ave., Castleton.

Burial was in Bloomingrove Cemetery in North Greenbush.

Contributions may be made to the Castleton Volunteer Ambulance Service or the Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance Service.

Margaret Shepherd

Margaret Jane Shepherd, 76, of Delmar, a former secretary, died Friday, Dec. 25, at the Albany County Nursing Home.

Mrs. Shepherd was born in Albany and has lived in Delmar since 1964.

During the late 1960's and early 1970's she worked as a secretary for Dr. Irving Van Woert in Delmar for five years and then for the New York State Higher Education Assistance Corporation in Delmar for five years.

Mrs. Shepherd was active in the Albany High School Alumni Association for many years. She was a member of the Bethlehem Senior Citizen and a communicant of Church of St. Thomas The Apostle in Delmar.

She was the widow of William B. Shepherd.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Lynne Brown of Delmar; a brother, Guyer C. Berbrick of Delmar; and two grandchildren.

Services were from Applebee Funeral Home, 403 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Bethlehem Senior Services c/o Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Dela-

ware Ave., Delmar 12054.

Clarence P. Traeger

Clarence P. Traeger, 82, a native of Bethlehem, of Pine Avenue, Colonie, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, in St. Clare's Hospital in Schenectady.

Mr. Traeger worked for many years as a milkman for Normanskill Dairy. He retired in 1972.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret R. Vavasor; two sons, Edwin E. Traeger of Albany and Richard Traeger of Guelderland; a sister, Mildred Traeger of Deltona, Fla.; five grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Services were from Hearley & Son Funeral Home, 1561 Western Ave., Guelderland. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Glenmont.

Joseph Baldwin Sr.

Joseph 'Skeeter' Baldwin Sr., 62, of Maple Avenue in Voorheesville, died Sunday, Dec. 20, at his home.

Born in Albany, he lived in Voorheesville for the past 21 years.

He worked as a security guard for the Ann Lee Nursing Home for 11 years.

Mr. Baldwin was an honorary member of the Voorheesville American Legion Post and a founding member of the Maple Avenue Cultural Society in Voorheesville.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley Sewell Baldwin; four daughters, Estella 'Penny' Blodgett of Delmar, Barbara Baldwin-Byron of Slingerlands and Patricia Derocher and JoAnn Baldwin-Ireland, both of Voorheesville; a son, Joseph Baldwin Jr. of Delmar; a sister, Margaret Pightling of Pinellas Park, Fla.; two brothers, Donald Baldwin of Albany and Robert Baldwin of North Carolina; and seven grandchildren.

Services were from Reilly & Son Funeral Home on Voorheesville Avenue.

Contributions may be made to the Voorheesville American Legion.

Eugenie Katler Unger

Eugenie 'Jean' Katler Unger, 73, of Gladwish Road in Elsmere, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, at her home.

Born in Passaic, N.J., she lived in the Capital District for more

than 40 years.

Mrs. Unger was a life member of Hadassah and of the Daughters of Sarah Home. She was also a member of the Abigail Lodge United Order of True Sisters and a former member of Temple Beth Emeth.

She was a receptionist and bookkeeper for her husband's optometry practice in Albany for more than 30 years.

Survivors include her husband, Dr. Irving Unger; a daughter, Amy Bove of Burlington, Vt.; two sons, Harris Unger of Greenfield Center and Ron Unger of Davis, Calif.; a brother, Mitchell Katler of Elmwood Park, N.J.; and four grandchildren. Services were from Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to St. Peter's Hospice or the American Heart Association.

Roger C. Coryell

Services were Tuesday from St. Peter's Church in Albany for Roger C. Coryell, who died Saturday, Dec. 26, at his home in New Baltimore. He was 76.

From 1960 to 1970, Mr. Coryell was advertising director and assistant publisher of the Albany Times Union and the Knickerbocker News.

Subsequently, he was publisher of newspapers in Hartford and Fresno. His professional activities included a term as president of the New York State Publishers Association.

In the 1960s, Mr. Coryell was a director of the Albany Red Cross chapter, the International Center, and the YMCA.

Born in Nebraska, he served in the Philippines in World War II. He was associated with papers in Davenport and Miami before moving to Albany.

In recent years, Mr. Coryell and his wife, Julia, have operated River Hill, an inn in New Baltimore. Survivors, in addition to his wife, include a son, Roger Coryell Jr. of California; and three daughters, Elizabeth Coryell of Albany, Julia Lange of Troy and Coreen Haydon of Fredericksburg, Va.

In Glenmont The Spotlight is sold at Cumberland Farms, CVS, Glenmont Deli, Grand Union, Stewarts, TAC's, and Van Allen Farms

Death Notices

The Spotlight will print paid Death Notices for relatives and friends who do not or have not lived in the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland. The charge for a paid death notice is \$25.

We will continue to print Obituaries of residents and former residents of the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland at no charge.

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Lackluster fan support may drive Pontiacs out

By Eric Bryant

They have a pair of league championships and five division titles. They finished their 1991 season without losing a single home game. They hold the highest one-game attendance record in the history of their league and they've helped develop two current National Basketball Association coaches and a slew of talent that still pounds the hardwoods from Atlanta to Seattle.

They're probably not going to be here for another season without your support.

I am speaking, of course, of the Capital Region Pontiacs, nee Albany Patroons, whose owner announced last week that despite rumors to the effect, the team will not be shipping out mid-season. Ponts owner Joe O'Hara did hint however that the team may be forced to consider that option in 1993 if attendance doesn't pick up for the remainder of this year.

The fact that the Pontiacs can only manage a paltry 2,095 in average attendance is truly a shame, especially considering the team's past history and the real quality of talent that plays in the Continental Basketball Association — the NBA's official development league. Last year's Patroon standout Mario Elie was traded up to the Portland Trailblazers late in the season and made a surprising impact off the bench to help lead the team to the NBA finals. Vince Askew, probably the best known former Patroon, is now a mainstay with the Seattle SuperSonics.

CBA games are every bit as exciting as their parent league counterparts and would be even more so if the team could draw more than a few thousand warm bodies to the spacious Knickerbocker Arena. What's keeping keeping area basketball fans away? Beats me. It's not:

□ PONTIACS/page 22



Major league intensity shows in the face of Capital Region Pontiacs guard Sean Gay as he plays tight defense against Grand Rapids earlier this season.

CD Islanders prepare to blast rink opponents

By Eric Bryant

Join the fun!

That's generally the atmosphere in the season ticket holder sections at most Capital District Islanders games. Whether it's thinking up and chanting a nasty nickname for an opposing player or giving a penalty-happy ref a group raspberry, the typical CD Isles game at the RPI Fieldhouse is not a sedate affair. Did you expect it to be?

Following a heartbreaking seventh game playoff loss to the defending Calder Cup champ Springfield Indians last year, the Islanders are off to an impressive start in 1993 and currently lead the Northern Division of the American Hockey League. Even though they have one of the more die-hard corps of fans in the area, good seats are almost always available at Islander home games.

Ticket prices are \$8, \$10 and \$12 and there are also discounts for college students, senior citizens and children under 18. Season ticket holders can see up to 30 percent savings over the regular ticket price with a full season package.

The Isles have a pair of home games against the New Haven Senators coming up over the next few weeks: tomorrow (Thursday) at 5 p.m. and Jan. 6 at 7:35 p.m.

Returning to the CD Islanders this year are several of last year's standout players including left wing Brent Grieve (34 goals in 1991-92 season), center Phil Huber (26 goals, 32 assists in 1991-92), defenseman Kevin Cheveldayoff (holds CD Islander penalty minutes season record) and goalie Danny Lorenz.

Although it is the only major league American sport that doesn't have some type of network television contract, hockey is really one of the most exciting spectator sports going. Fast paced and exciting to even the unknowledgeable fan, hockey action is also best appreciated in person. While television shrinks and flattens the game, a seat in Row 12, Section 7 at the fieldhouse is a multi-sensory experience. You have to be there to hear the bodies hit the boards.

For more information on game schedules, call 272-0203.



Capital District Islanders goalie Danny Lorenz is all eyes in recent AHL action.

Classical guitar group gears up for 1993 concerts

By Susan Graves

Tune in the New Year with the Capital District Classical Guitar Society on Jan. 9.

Members of the society will give a free Saturday performance beginning at 2:30 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library on 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

Works from Granados, Scarlatti, Boccherini and others will be performed by society members Ray Andrews, Mike Rivest, Tony Sano and Maria Zemantawski.

In addition to the performance, group president Joe Hetko will talk about "who we are and what we do," and guitar builder

□ GUITAR/page 22



ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS

ALBANY FIRST NIGHT

more than 80 acts in more than 50 venues in downtown Albany, capped off by fireworks at midnight.

OUT OF CONTROL

rhythm and blues band, New Year's Eve bash, Marriott Hotel Ballroom, Wolf Road, Colonie. Thursday, Dec. 31, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Information, 797-3939.

FLASHBACK

at Vee's Paddock Bar, 1629 State St., Schenectady. Thursday, Dec. 31. Information, 372-1114.

TEA TIME IN TOKYO

New Year's Eve bash, The Chambers, 1 South Pearl St., Albany. Thursday, Dec. 31, 10 p.m.

THEATER

"THE SUBSTANCE OF FIRE"

Capital Repertory Company, 11 North Pearl St., Albany. Jan. 1 to 31, Tuesday to Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Information, 462-4531.

MUSIC

NOONTIME ORGAN CONCERTS

each Friday, 12:30 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Albany. Information, 434-3502.

ONE HEART

Ken Shea and Maureen DeLuxe, Monaco's Village Inn, Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Information, 899-5780 or 393-5282.

HAN-KIM-FRANK TRIO

music by Beethoven, Smetana and Brahms, Union College Memorial Chapel, 17 South Lane, Schenectady. Sunday, Jan. 3, 3 p.m. Information, 370-6172.

DANCE

OLD SONGS COUNTRY DANCE includes contras, squares and circles, Guilderland Elementary School, Route 20, Saturday, Jan. 2, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-2815.

FILM

"PINOCCHIO"

Disney classic film, New York State Museum, Albany. Thursday, Dec. 31; Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 2 and 3, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

FAMILY PLAYERS OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

auditions for *Agnes of God*, roles for three women, Loudonville Elementary School, Osborne Road, Jan. 19 and 20, 7 to 10 p.m. Information, 869-0303.

SPOTLIGHT PLAYERS

singers and dancers needed for fund-raising concert, Columbia High School, Luther Road, East Greenbush, Tuesday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m. Information, 447-6877.

CATSKILL GALLERY

artists invited to submit slides and proposals for exhibit beginning July 1993, Catskill Gallery and Mountain Top Gallery. Information, 943-3400.

HOOTS NIGHTS

open stage, The Eighth Step, 14 Willett St., Albany. Sign up every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Information, 434-1703.

SUBURBAN SOUNDS COMMUNITY CHORUS OF GUILDERLAND

seeks new members, RD 2, Box 2, Altamont, Through mid-June. Information, 861-8000.

FAMILY PLAYERS OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK seeks director and music director, choreographer and other staff positions for July 1993 production of *The Music Man*. Auditions in April. Send resumes to Family Players, PO Box 13322, Albany 12212. Information, 869-0303.

CLASSES

INTERMEDIATE DRAWING CLASSES

reviewing contour, gesture and modeling, Broadway branch of the Adirondack Trust Bank, Saratoga Springs. Jan. 6 through Feb. 24, 9 a.m. to noon. Information, 584-4132.

VISUAL ARTS

SILENT CITIES

photographs by Camilo Vergara for the book *Silent Cities: The Evolution of the American Cemetery*, State Museum, Albany. Through March 7. Information, 474-5877.

PARTS BUT LITTLE KNOWN

Adirondack Centennial exhibit, State Museum, Albany. Through Jan. 18. Information, 474-5877.

THE ADIRONDACKS: AN AMERICAN TREASURE

photos by Nathan Farb, State Museum, Albany. Through Jan. 3. Information, 474-5877.

A MOHAWK IROQUOIS VILLAGE

re-creation of a Mohawk Iroquois longhouse, State Museum, Albany. Information, 474-5877.

HANDMADE HOLIDAYS

exhibit and handmade gifts, GCCA Mountaintop Gallery, Main Street, Windham. Through Jan. 4. Information, 734-3104.

SMALL WORKS FINE ART EXHIBIT AND SALE

paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and sculptures, Catskill Gallery, 398 Main St., Catskill. Through Jan. 9, 12 to 4 p.m.

THE ELECTRONIC GARDEN

cybernetic sculptures, The Hyde Collection, Warren Street, Glens Falls. Through Jan. 3. Information, 792-1761.

IN MEDUSA'S GAZE

works illustrating the scope of still life paintings from 17th to 20th centuries, Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany. Through Feb. 14. Information, 463-4478.

OBJECTIVITY

sculpture, painting and mixed media work, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany. Through Feb. 21. Information, 463-4478.

BETTY WARREN

portrait artist, Albany Center Galleries, 23 Monroe St., Albany. Through Jan. 1, Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 12 to 4 p.m. Information, (800) 258-3582.

FREDERICK VOELBEL: FAMILIAR PLACES

exhibition, Hudson Art Gallery, 502 Warren St., corner of 5th and Warren, Hudson. Jan. 2 to 31, Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Information, 828-4882.

ADE BETHUNE

painting exhibit, Visions Gallery, Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, Pastoral Center, 40 North Main Ave., Albany. Jan. 5 to 26, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Information, 453-6645.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

"LASER LIGHT MAGIC"

laser show, New York State Museum, Albany. Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

CATHY WINTER

family concert, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road. Wednesday, Dec. 30, 7 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

"CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS"

mime, magic and music, New York State Museum, Albany. Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

Winged predators



Earl Shriver, his prized golden eagle and other birds of prey are featured at the Saratoga Springs Hunting and Fishing Show Jan. 8, 9 and 10 at the Saratoga Springs City Center.

Pontiacs

(From page 21)

• **Cost** — Tickets for Pontiac home games are \$5, \$8 and \$11, hardly a major dent on the pocketbook compared to prices you pay to get into Madison Square Garden or Boston Garden. That is, if you can get in. Discount ticket packages are also available for groups and individuals at Pontiac games.

• **Distance** — With the thousands of people who work in downtown Albany, I'm surprised that so few hang around

after work to attend games. From almost anywhere in the Tri-Cities area, the Knick Arena is no more than 20 minutes away.

• **Parking** — Maybe it's a concern when the Grateful Dead or Frank Sinatra come to town, but free on-street parking is often readily available downtown during weekday evenings or weekend afternoons.

So, if you call yourself a sports fan, what are you waiting for? Can we stand by while another franchise falls by the wayside or gets shipped off to Boise?

Guitar

(From page 21)

Kevin Rielly will explain how the instrument is designed and constructed.

The society, which has about 50 members throughout the region, was formed in 1987 by Andrews and Sano. It's basically a network of people interested in classical guitar, said Hetko. "We all really love the instrument."

In addition to public performances, society members meet at house parties and sponsor concerts and master classes.

Classical guitars differ from their folk and rock cousins in a number of ways. The classical instruments are strung with ny-

lon, as opposed to steel strings on folk and rock guitars. Classical guitarists also use their fingers rather than picks, and strings on the instruments are farther apart. "This means you can play more voices at once," Hetko said.

The guitar society plans to give other free performances at local libraries to help promote the instrument. "People of all ages really enjoy it," Hetko added.

On Saturday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. the society will give a benefit concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Rensselaer. For information about the performance and other upcoming events, call Bill Simcoe at 489-1508.



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AROUND THE AREA

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 30**
ALBANY COUNTY
BABYSITTING

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 5:30-8 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SQUARE DANCE

St. Michael's Community Center, Linden Street, Cohoes, 7:30 p.m. Information, 664-6767.

RENSSELAER COUNTY
CHORUS REHEARSAL

Capitaland Chorus, Trinity Episcopal Church, 11th Street and 4th Avenue, North Troy, 7:30 p.m. Information, 237-4384.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
RIVER VALLEY CHORUS MEETING

Glen Worden School, 34 Worden Road, Scotia, 7:30 p.m. Information, 355-4264.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 31**
ALBANY COUNTY
DISNEY'S "PINOCCHIO"

Kid Pix film series, New York State Museum, Albany, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

SENIOR CHORALE

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 1 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

BABYSITTING

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

**FRIDAY
JANUARY 1**
ALBANY COUNTY
SENIORS LUNCHEAS

Albany Jewish Community Center, Whitehall Road, Albany, 12:30 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
RECOVERY, INC.

self-help group for former mental and nervous patients, Salvation Army, 222 Lafayette St., Hillard Room, Schenectady, 10 a.m. Information, 346-8595.

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 2**
ALBANY COUNTY
DISNEY'S "PINOCCHIO"

Kid Pix film series, New York State Museum, Albany, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 3**
ALBANY COUNTY
DISNEY'S "PINOCCHIO"

Kid Pix film series, New York State Museum, Albany, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

SCOTTISH DANCING

Unitarian Church, 405 Washington Ave., Albany, 7 to 10 p.m. Information, 377-8792.

**MONDAY
JANUARY 4**
ALBANY COUNTY
BABYSITTING

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SENIORS LUNCHEAS

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 4:45 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

RECOVERY, INC.

self-help group for former mental and nervous patients, Unitarian Church of Albany, 405 Washington Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 346-8595.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
SCOTTISH DANCING

Salvation Army, Smith Street, Schenectady, 8 to 10 p.m. Information, 783-6477.

RECOVERY, INC.

self-help group for former mental and nervous patients, Unitarian House, 1248 Wendall Ave., Schenectady, 7:30 p.m. Information, 346-8595.

**TUESDAY
JANUARY 5**
ALBANY COUNTY
BINGO

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

Albany Senior Squadron, Albany Airport, 7 p.m. Information, 869-4406.

BABYSITTING

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SAMARITANS SUPPORT GROUP

for suicide survivors, 160 Central Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 463-2323.

SENIORS LUNCHEAS

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 12:30 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SAFE PLACE

support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide, St. John's Lutheran Church, 160 Central Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 463-2323.

SINGLE PARENTS MEETING

sponsored by Parents Without Partners Chapter 380, Colonie Community Center, Central Avenue, 7 p.m. Information, 869-0870.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
SECULAR SOBRIETY GROUP

group for recovering alcoholics, Temple Gates of Heaven, corner of Ashmore Avenue and Eastern Parkway, Schenectady, 7:30 p.m. Information, 346-5569.

EATING DISORDERS GROUP

Union College, fourth floor campus center, Schenectady, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Information, 465-9550.

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 6**
ALBANY COUNTY
BABYSITTING

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

SENIORS LUNCHEAS

Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road, Albany, 12:30 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

APPLE COMPUTERS USERS CLUB

Farnsworth Middle School, State Farm Road, Guilford, 7 p.m. Information, 482-2609.

SQUARE DANCE

St. Michael's Community Center, Linden Street, Cohoes, 7:30 p.m. Information, 664-6767.

RENSSELAER COUNTY
CHORUS REHEARSAL

sponsored by Capitaland Chorus, Trinity Episcopal Church, 11th Street and 4th Avenue, North Troy, 7:30 p.m. Information, 237-4384.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
RIVER VALLEY CHORUS MEETING

Glen Worden School, 34 Worden Road, Scotia, 7:30 p.m. Information, 355-4264.

SCHENECTADY
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

meeting, First United Methodist Church, State and Lafayette streets, Schenectady, 7:30 p.m. Information, 463-1674.

SPOTLIGHT

By Martin P. Kelly

First Night celebrations expand around the country since 1976

With the *First Night* events scheduled in downtown Albany Thursday night (Dec. 31) to celebrate the New Year, the area continues its place among American cities which have gathered its arts community together to help people enjoy the holiday in a novel and enlightening way.

Since 1976 when Boston initiated the idea, dozens of American cities have adopted the tradition.

Albany began seven years ago, and each year the festival of *First Night* has continued to grow.

Following a 6:30 p.m. parade from Lark Street, down Washington Avenue to City Hall, the *First Night* festivities involve more than 80 performers who will be seen at 50 different locations in the downtown Albany area.

Persons who purchase the \$10 *First Night* buttons will be able to travel on CDTA buses travelling the route connecting these events. The button also permits entry into the various events held at one end at the Palace Theater to the Albany Armory at the Lark Street beginning point.

First Night buttons are available at Price Chopper markets today but only at City Hall, the State Museum and the Albany Armory on New Year's Eve.

New year still dim for arts groups in Capital Region as struggle continues

In various recent statements, area arts leaders generally wish for more audience attendance at their events during the coming year. With the cutback in governmental and corporate funding, a sort of "Catch-22" situation has evolved. As individual groups receive less funds from these big contributors there has been a need to go to audience members for increased contributions or worse yet, higher ticket prices. Performing arts groups find it risky to use the market-place theory of lowering prices until the point is reached when the ticket prices become appealing. Instead, ticket prices appear based on need, rather than what the public will bear.

This strategy is self-defeating. It starts to put the price out of reach for both the avid fans as well as the casual purchaser of theater, music or dance tickets.

Performing arts groups need to work towards better merchandising. Most producers of area performing arts groups began as performing artists themselves with no real idea of how to conduct themselves as business people. There's a frustration involved when the market place seems to intrude upon artistic goals, yet that is a fact of life and must be dealt with in a reasonable manner.

There was a dark age of arts in this country from the late Forties through the Sixties when private producers fell by the wayside as television captured audiences which previously went to live performances. When the government stepped in to begin funding on a national, state and local level, non-profit arts groups sprang up to make use of this funding. They also gained help from corporate sponsors. However, these new arts producers were not of the same mold as the old entrepreneurs who bankrolled theater, dance and music troupes. They became dependent upon funding and often were motivated to organize because of the funding.

When cutbacks occurred, many of these non-profit producers were not equipped to cope with the market-place world.

Basically what is needed is a growth of the idea begun early last year when the Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce agreed to have its members serve as mentors of various arts groups to help them operate in a business-like manner. To date, not too much has resulted. Perhaps this idea was interpreted more by the arts groups as a source of funding rather than as a fountain of ideas to create a better economic climate within their own organizations.

AROUND THEATERS!

The Substance of Fire, new play about moral values in the publishing field as a family struggles to control their firm, at Capital Repertory Company, Albany, Jan. 1 through Jan. 31. (462-4534)...*Christmas With The Taffetas*, musical revue of the '50s at Cohoes Music Hall, through Sunday (Jan. 3) (235-7969)...*Alice In Wonderland*, popular children's tale done by Buffalo Theatre of Youth at The Empire Center in Albany, Jan. 6 through Jan. 10. (473-1845).j



Martin P. Kelly

SPOTLIGHT TEENSCENE

By Michael Kagan

After spending weeks trying to find the perfect gifts for relatives and friends, the holidays finally come and we get to open our own gifts. Inevitably, we end up getting things that we never wanted and have no use for.

The two or three weeks after Christmas is just about the only time during the year when there's reason to wish the economy was in worse shape. The shopping season was said to be pretty good this year, which means that when everyone who didn't like their new ties and sweaters descends on the malls, there's not much left to exchange gifts for. Except, of course, what no one else wanted in the first place.

In my experience, it's easiest to return or exchange gifts from my parents and out-of-town relatives. My parents often give me things for the holidays which they would have ended up buying for me later on anyway, so it's more efficient for them to make sure I get what I want. Gifts from out of town are nice because the gift-giver never sees me to ask why I'm not using or wearing what they sent.

However, unwanted presents of local origin are a serious problem, especially when there is no indication where the item was purchased. I wouldn't want someone I see regularly to know they have no idea what my taste is. Likewise,

it's very difficult to call someone and say, "Oh, hi Uncle Joe. Could you tell me where in the world you got that thing you gave me because I'd like to return it."

Sometimes I find myself keeping unacceptable gifts because I don't want to offend someone. I've even worn some ghastly clothing, maybe even several times, just to avoid a possibly uncomfortable situation.

I'm not sure why this society hasn't moved past holiday shopping. Since so many gifts end up being exchanged for cash, while many others are unhappily accepted, it would be much easier just to send checks.

Although this change would eliminate many stores' busiest months, at least they wouldn't have to hire so many clerks just to handle returns. Besides, if everyone started getting checks with attached notes reading, "Go buy yourself a little something special," maybe most people would.

But the larger problem is that money, while great to have, is so impersonal. People often see gifts as a way of saying, "I really do know you."

However, when we scribble out our thank-you notes, it's frustrating that we can't write, "No, apparently you don't know me very well. When my birthday rolls around, just send a check."

The Spotlight CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 30**
BETHLEHEM
BINGO

American Legion Post 1040, Poplar Drive, Delmar, 8 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

every Wednesday, Parks and Recreation Office, Delmar, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Information, 439-0503.

WELCOME WAGON

newcomers, engaged women and new mothers, call for a Welcome Wagon visit, Monday to Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information, 785-9640.

TESTIMONY MEETING

every Wednesday, First Church of Christ Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

every Wednesday, Bible study and prayer meeting, 10 Rockefeller Road, Elsmere. Information, 439-7864.

BETHLEHEM ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

every Monday and Wednesday morning, excavation and laboratory experience for volunteers, archaeology lab, Route 32 South. Information, 439-6391.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

every Wednesday, evening prayer and Bible study, 1 Kenwood Ave., Glenmont, 7-9 p.m. Information, 439-4314.

NEW SCOTLAND

CATHY WINTER IN CONCERT
singer and storyteller for whole family, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 7 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR CITIZENS

every Wednesday, Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem. Information, 765-2109.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 31**
BETHLEHEM

CLASS IN JEWISH MYSTICISM
every Thursday, Delmar Chabad Center, 109 Elsmere Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-8280.

**FRIDAY
JANUARY 1**
BETHLEHEM

NEW YEAR'S DAY BIRD COUNT
dress warmly, bring bird identification book, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, Delmar, 9 a.m. Information, 475-0291.

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 2**
BETHLEHEM
CHABAD CENTER

every Saturday, services and kiddush, 109 Elsmere Ave., Delmar, 9:30 a.m. Information, 439-8280.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 3**
BETHLEHEM
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CHURCH

worship service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9 a.m.; evening fellowship, 6 p.m.; 201 Elm Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-3135.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

worship services, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; nursery care, 8 a.m.-noon, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-4328.

DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH

worship and Sunday school, nursery care provided, 9 and 11 a.m., 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, 585 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-9252.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST

service and Sunday school, 10 a.m., child care provided, 555 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-2512.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

church school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; youth group, 6 p.m., Route 9W, Selkirk. Information, 767-2243.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DELMAR

worship, 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; church school, 9:45 a.m.; youth and adult classes, 11 a.m.; nursery care, 9 a.m.-noon, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-9976.

GLENMONT REFORMED CHURCH

worship, 11 a.m., nursery care provided; Sunday school, 11 a.m., 1 Chapel Lane, Glenmont. Information, 436-7710.

NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday service, 11 a.m., 10 Rockefeller Road, Elsmere. Information, 439-7864.

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Eucharist, breakfast, coffee hour, 8 and 10:30 a.m., 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, adult education programs, nursery care provided, 1499 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands. Information, 439-1766.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

morning worship, 11 a.m., 1 Kenwood Ave., Glenmont. Information, 439-4314.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

UNITY OF FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday school and worship, 10 a.m., 436 Krumkill Road, Slingerlands. Information, 438-7740.

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

worship meeting, Bethlehem Grange Hall 137, Route 396, Beckers Corners, 11 a.m. Information, 235-1298.

NEW SCOTLAND
JERUSALEM REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by coffee hour, Route 32, Feura Bush. Information, 732-7047.

CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by coffee hour, nursery care provided, Clarksville. Information, 768-2916.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF VOORHEESVILLE

worship, 10 a.m., church school, 10:30 a.m. Information, 765-2895.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN NEW SCOTLAND

worship, 10 a.m., church school, 11:15 a.m., nursery care provided, Route 85, New Scotland. Information, 439-6454.

MOUNTAINVIEW EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

bible hour for children and adults, 9:15 a.m.; worship service, 10:30 a.m.; evening service, 6:30 p.m., nursery care provided for Sunday services, Route 155, Voorheesville. Information, 765-3390.

NEW SALEM REFORMED CHURCH

worship service, 11 a.m., nursery care provided, corner Route 85 and Route 85A, New Salem. Information, 439-6179.

ONESQUETHAW CHURCH

worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school, 10:45 a.m., Tarrytown Road, Feura Bush. Information, 768-2133.

UNIONVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship time, Delaware Turnpike, Delmar. Information, 439-5001.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Sunday school and worship, 10 a.m.; choir rehearsal, 5 p.m.; evening service, 6:45 p.m.; Route 85, New Salem. Information, 765-4410.

FAITH TEMPLE

Sunday school, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., New Salem. Information, 765-2870.

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday school, 9 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m., coffee and fellowship, 11:30 a.m., 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ravenna. Information, 756-6688.

**MONDAY
JANUARY 4**
BETHLEHEM
RESERVATIONS OPEN FOR "55 ALIVE SAFE DRIVING COURSE"

Bethlehem Senior Services, course scheduled on Thursday, Jan. 14, and Friday, Jan. 15. Reservations, 439-4955, ext. 170, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

FIRE DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Elmwood Park District Board of Fire Commissioners, North Bethlehem Fire House, 589 Russell Road, Albany, 7 p.m., regular monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m. Information, 869-6996.

BLANCHARD POST MEETING

first Monday, Poplar Drive, Elsmere, 8 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

TEMPLE CHAPTER 5 RAM

first and third Mondays, Delmar Masonic Temple.

MOTHER'S TIME OUT

every Monday, Christian support group for mothers of preschool children, Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, nursery care provided, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Information, 439-9929.

DELMAR KIWANIS

every Monday, Sidewheeler Restaurant, Days Inn, Route 9W, Glenmont, 6:15 p.m. Information, 439-5560.

AL-ANON GROUP

every Monday, support for relatives of alcoholics, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

every Monday, rehearsal, Bethlehem Town Hall, Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4628.

BETHLEHEM ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

every Monday and Wednesday morning, excavation and laboratory experience for volunteers, archaeology lab, Route 32 South. Information, 439-6391.

"MOMMY OR DADDY AND ME"

creative play time for the parents and children ages 2 to 3, bring a mat, Elm Avenue Park Office Building, Elm Avenue, Delmar. Program runs every Monday through March 8, at 9:30 or 10:40 a.m. or 1 p.m. Cost, \$17. Information, 439-4131.

NEW SCOTLAND
QUARTET REHEARSAL

every Monday, United Pentecostal Church, Route 85, New Salem, 7:15 p.m. Information, 765-4410.

STORY HOUR

every Monday, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10:30 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

4-H CLUB

first and third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., home of Marilyn Miles, Clarksville. Information, 768-2186.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 5**
BETHLEHEM
"ENERGIZED KIDS"

grades one to five, creative exercise and group interaction, every Tuesday through March 2, Elm Avenue Park Building, Delmar, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4131.

COMPETITIVE SWIM PROGRAM

classes will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, must be able to swim one length of the pool, Bethlehem High School pool, Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Cost, \$32. Information, 439-4131.

TREASURE COVE THRIFT SHOP

every Tuesday, First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 1-6 p.m.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

every Tuesday, Parks and Recreation Office, Delmar, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Information, 439-0503.

DELMAR ROTARY

every Tuesday, Days Inn, Route 9W, Glenmont. Information, 482-8824.

ONESQUETHAU LODGE 1096 F&AM

first and third Tuesdays, Delmar Masonic Temple.

MEDICARE FORM AID

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

NEW SCOTLAND
STORY HOUR

every Tuesday, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 6**
BETHLEHEM
"COME FLY WITH ME"

ages 4 to 5, group activities including games, crafts and exercise, every Wednesday through March 3, Elm Avenue Park Office Building, Elm Avenue, Delmar, 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Cost, \$16. Information, 439-4131.

BETHLEHEM BUSINESS WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

program on fire safety, Normanside Country Club, Salisbury Road, Delmar, 6 p.m. cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner. Cost \$10. Reservations, 462-1761.

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB

first and third Wednesdays, Normanside Country Club, Salisbury Road, Delmar, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4857.

Weekly Crossword

"Farewell 1992"

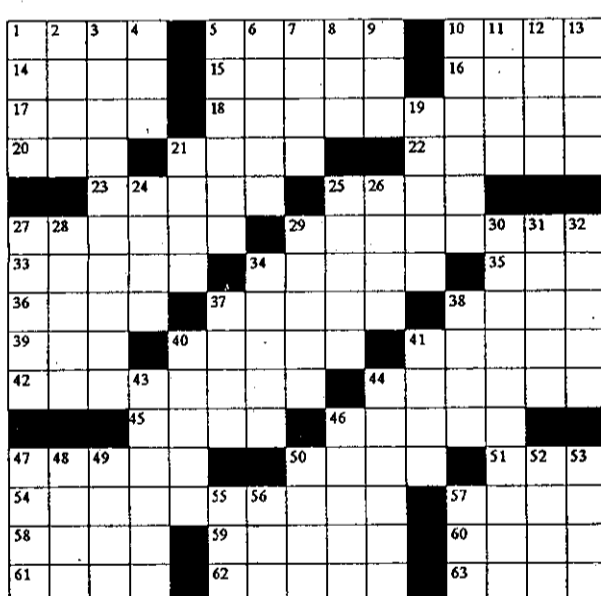
By Gerry Frey

ACROSS

- 1 Present
- 5 '92 NBA winner
- 10 Tatting
- 14 Medieval Danish money
- 15 "Give a man _____ he can sail"
- 16 Equal in Paris
- 17 Actress Martha _____
- 18 '92 prizes for Close & Hirsch
- 20 P.O. need
- 21 Without a date
- 22 Aromatic herb
- 23 Small island
- 25 "Puttin' on the _____"
- 27 '92 Holy tearer
- 29 '92 top rated TV show
- 33 Open the bottle
- 34 More anemic
- 35 Belonging to us
- 36 Paradise
- 37 Lavish parties
- 38 Decorate again
- 39 _____Tin-Tin
- 40 Gasps
- 41 Out _____
- 42 "_____ Night Live"
- 44 Slip by
- 45 Christmas
- 46 Type of acid
- 47 Difficult trips
- 50 An irritated state
- 51 Bro or sis
- 54 '92 LA man in the news
- 57 _____ Disney
- 58 Cornerstone word
- 59 Drill
- 60 Cultivate
- 61 H. S. Test
- 62 Parsonage
- 63 Actor Hackman

DOWN

- 1 '92 political winner
- 2 Somali model
- 3 '92 retiree
- 4 Italian three
- 5 Blink



- 6 German WWII sub
- 7 Protracted
- 8 Produce eggs
- 9 RR Depot
- 10 '92 Miss America
- 11 Farming:Combining word
- 12 Bounders
- 13 Otherwise
- 19 Gardeners need
- 21 Cuff
- 24 Actor Penn
- 25 Play parts
- 26 Noun suffix:Plural
- 27 Attorney's clients
- 28 Calcutta locale
- 29 Shabby
- 30 '92 TV series re AK
- 31 Naked people
- 32 Wear away
- 34 Word with law or code
- 37 Wither
- 38 Sorrel horse
- 40 Ordinary language
- 41 Dart
- 43 Remove the sheepshank ?
- 44 Expatriate
- 46 Ms. Bancroft and others
- 47 Plumbers concern
- 48 Mr. Reagan and son
- 49 Ms Ferber
- 50 Omen
- 52 Press
- 53 '92 Heavyweight winner
- 55 Sweet potato
- 56 Bantu language
- 57 Hen product

"Santa's Helpers"


Sargent sketches



The Hyde Collection in Glens Falls presents an exhibition of 44 works by the precocious painter John Singer Sargent from his teenage trip to the Swiss Alps. The two sketchbooks that form the basis of the exhibition are from the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The exhibition opens with a reception Jan. 9 at 3 p.m., and runs through March 7.

Classical pianist at the Swyer Theater

Pianist Akira Eguchi will perform a program of Chopin, Ravel and Liszt as part of the Empire Center's Julliard series of up and coming classical music stars on Sunday, Jan. 31, at 2:30 p.m. in the Lewis A. Swyer Theater.

A native of Japan, he graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music and studied with Herbert

Stessin at The Julliard School of Music, where he received his masters of music degree in 1990.

He was the 11th pianist selected for the Julliard-William Petschek Piano Debut.

Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$5 for children age 12 and younger.

For information, call 473-1845.

eba Center dance classes start Jan. 11

The eba Center for Dance and Movement has announced its winter sessions of classes, beginning on Monday, Jan. 11, and running through April 3, 1993.

Classes for adults include ballet, modern, Broadway, jazz, mid-Eastern, Tai

Chi, bodyshop, low impact, stretch and backache prevention workshops.

Children's classes include creative moving, ballet, modern and dance workshops.

For a free brochure, call 465-9916.

State Museum hosts family overnight camps

The New York State Museum will host two overnight Longhouse Family Camps, from Friday, Jan. 22, to Saturday, Jan. 23, and Feb. 26 to 27, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Participants will try their hand at crafts, learn about and join in traditional

children's games, listen to stories of the longhouse, and sleep in the exhibit hall.

The fee is \$24 per person and registration is required by Jan. 12 for the first camp-in and by Feb. 17 for the second.

For information, call 474-5801.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, ALBANY COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York will hold a public hearing on January 13, 1993 at 7:45 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY to consider proposed Local Law No. 2 1993, amending Local Law No. 5 of the year 1989 which establishes an Interim Development Density Act and Local Law No. 7 of the year 1991 which extends such act.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Kathleen A. Newkirk
TOWN CLERK
Dated: December 9, 1992
(December 30, 1992)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, ALBANY COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York will hold a public hearing on January 13, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY to consider pro-

LEGAL NOTICE

posed Local Law No. 1 of 1993, amending Chapter 111 Taxation-Article I Section 111.1 of the Code of the Town of Bethlehem permitting a partial real property tax exemption to persons who turn age 65 between March 1 and December 31 of a calendar year.

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

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN
BOARD
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
Kathleen A. Newkirk
TOWN CLERK

Dated: December 9, 1992
(December 30, 1992)

State Museum plans lights programs

The New York State Museum will feature two winter lights weekends on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 9 and 10 and 16 and 17, from noon to 4 p.m.

On the first weekend at noon and 2 p.m., which will focus on the theme "Lights in the Sky," Iroquois storyteller Steven Fadden will recount Native American tales about winter nights. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Also that weekend there will be a slide program on the aurora borealis at 1 and 3 p.m. both days. Admission is \$1 for adults and children will be admitted free.

"Star Light, Star Bright," a production of the Junior Museum, will be at 2 p.m. both days. "Making Chinese Lanterns" will be at noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m., and carries a \$1 materials fee per person.

The second weekend will revolve around the theme of "Lights in the Home."

Storyteller Ron Sopyla will use black light and shadow puppetry to tell heart-warming stories about how children brighten the home on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 1 and 3 p.m. There will be a \$2 fee for adults and \$1.50 for children.

There will be a workshop recommended for children in grades four through six entitled "The Extraordinary Mr. Edison" on both Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and 3 to 4:30 p.m. Participants will learn more about Thomas Edison's life in a slide presentation and will try their hand at experiments with batteries, wires and light bulbs to trace the steps used to discover electric light. The fee is \$6 per person and the registration deadline is Jan. 5.

There will be a candle making workshop for children at noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m., with a materials fee of \$1.

For information, call 474-5877.

Lubovitch dancers slated at Egg

The Lar Lubovitch Dance Company will perform on Friday, Jan. 15, at 8 p.m. at the Kitty Carlisle Hart Theater at the Egg as the second offering of the Empire Center's 1992-93 dance series.

The New York based company is in its 25th season will perform "Waiting for the

Sunrise," commissioned by Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project, and "American Gesture," as well as the revival of "Les Noces," created in 1976 and last performed in 1983.

Tickets are \$17.50 for adults and \$10 for children age 12 and younger. For information, call 473-1845.

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1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
\$8.30	11	\$8.60	12	\$8.90
13	\$9.20	14	\$9.50	15
\$9.80	16	\$10.10	17	\$10.40
18	\$10.70	19	\$11.00	20
\$11.30	21	\$11.60	22	\$11.90
23	\$12.20	24	\$12.50	25
\$12.80	26	\$13.10	27	\$13.40
28	\$13.70	29	\$14.00	30
\$14.30	31	\$14.60	32	\$14.90
33	\$15.20	34	\$15.50	35
\$15.80	36	\$16.10	37	\$16.40
38	\$16.70	39	\$17.00	40

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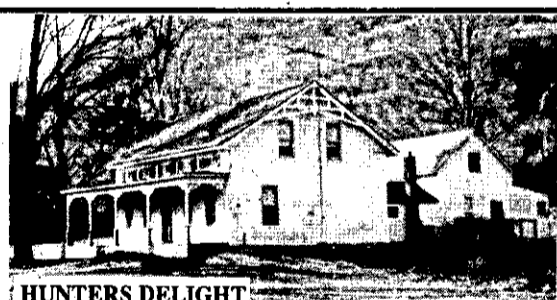
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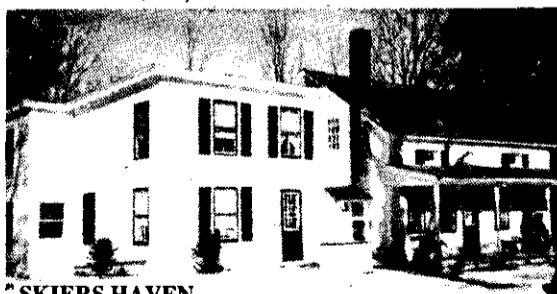
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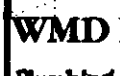
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Spotlight Newspapers 1st Baby of the New Year Contest

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Who the first baby of the New Year will be is anyone's guess!!

But now the time the first BABY will be born can be your guess!

Everyone can play!

If your entry is the "Best Guessed" you will win Dinner Gift Certificates valued at \$100 from Capitol House Restaurant.

At the same time, the first New Year's baby and parents will be showered with gifts from these participating merchants.

— CONTEST RULES —

1. The winning baby will be determined as the first baby born at an Albany County Hospital after midnight December 31, 1992.
2. Parents must be residents of Albany County for at least six months.
3. Exact day and time of birth must be certified in writing by attending physician.
4. All entrants must be at least 18 years of age.
5. In the event of a tie, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.
6. Decision of the Judges will be final.
7. Employees of Spotlight Newspapers or Participating Firms and their families are not eligible.
8. Entry forms must be deposited or postmarked by no later than Wednesday December 30, 1992.
9. Send entry forms to:

First Baby - Spotlight Newspapers

125 Adams Street

Delmar, New York 12054

or deposit your entry form at any one of the advertisers on this page.

B.B. Florist & Gifts
389 Kenwood Avenue, At the 4 Corners

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

to the
New Year's
Baby

from all of us
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Spotlight Newspapers

1ST

Baby of the New Year Contest

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

MY GUESS IS:

TIME (Hour/Min/AM/PM) _____

DATE (Jan.) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone# _____

Contest Closes Wednesday, December 30, 1992

Send entry forms to:

First Baby-Spotlight Newspapers • 125 Adams Street
Delmar, New York 12054

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