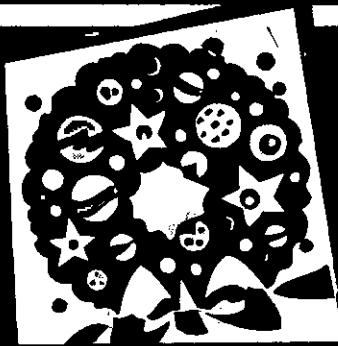


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## INSIDE: Spotlight Newspapers HOLIDAY Gift Guide II



Vol. XXXVII No. 50

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland

December 8, 1993

50¢

### Santa's sugarplum



Dr. Michael Looney of Delmar played a wonderful Santa on Saturday for the Tri-Village Welcome Wagon holiday breakfast at Haggerty's. Oblivious to all the hoopla is Kent Okada. Mel Hyman

## Snarls down road in town traffic web

By Mel Hyman

Bethlehem Town Board is expected to hear some sobering news tonight, Dec. 8, about traffic congestion within the town.

It's not going to get better, and any solutions will be costly and problematic, according to Dave Jukins, senior transportation engineer of the Capital District Transportation Committee.

The CDTC has been working closely with the town's Land Use Management Advisory Committee for the past few years on the traffic component of the proposed

master plan.

"In general, areas that are bad now," like New Scotland Road, Route 9W and Delaware Avenue, "are going to get progressively worse," Jukins said. "As we dump more traffic on these roads as a result of new development and an increase in the ownership of auto-

mobiles, the congestion will increase."

In the last 10 years alone, the ratio of cars on the road compared to licensed drivers has increased dramatically, Jukins

□ SNARLS/page 27

**It's not going to get better, and any solutions will be costly and problematic.**

Dave Jukins

## Revived Al Tech loans shot in arm for business

By Susan Graves

The president of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce is very excited about a loan program that could be a boon to local business.

"There are some (business people) who I know can qualify and benefit from this," said Marty Cornelius.

County Executive Michael Hoblock said the Al Tech Loan Fund, which has not been lending money for two



Cornelius

years, now has \$800,000 that local businesses can apply for. The fund will be administered jointly by the county and the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"They (Bethlehem business people) can come to me and get all the details they need," said Cornelius, who said the loans will range from \$25,000 to \$60,000. She said the Bethlehem chamber will

try to help with the application process in any way it can.

In addition to the money, Cornelius thinks that businesses who apply for loans early will also benefit from the publicity they most likely will receive as a result of

□ LOANS/page 27

## Drivers hit road to help others

By Susan Graves

Some folks are naturally driven to help others. And the American Cancer Society is hoping many more will take the wheel in its Road to Recovery program.

Bethlehem residents who have participated in the program for years say it's rewarding in a number of ways. "You get so much more than you give," said Ann Gridley, who has been taking cancer patients to the hospital for eight years.

Gridley was schooled as a social worker, but said she decided not to work when she moved here. With time on her hands, she felt that volunteer work was the way to go.

"Sometimes you take somebody for three days in a row, and sometimes it's a one-shot deal. I find it extremely rewarding," she said. "You never do the clapping, you never talk about the weather, you talk about what's important."



Tom Gallup ready for another run.

Cancer patients who are treated with chemotherapy or radiation have to get treatment for six weeks, which can take its toll on family and friends, who have often already used up all their personal time at their jobs.

"It can be a pretty dark picture," said Tom Gallup, who speaks with authority as

a former cancer patient himself. He considers himself lucky to have had his colon cancer detected early. "The secret is to catch it early," said Gallup, who has been driving for the Road to Recovery program for three years.

Many patients "just can't ask their neighbors" for transportation. "We're like a last resort," for those patients, who have no way of getting back and forth to the hospital for treatment. Because of the shortage of volunteer drivers, Gallup said he has driven as many as four times a week,

but that the usual stint is once or twice a week.

Prospective drivers should also know that the American Cancer Society backs up the person's liability insurance, Gallup said.

□ HELP/page 17

### Residents to have say on stop signs

By Mel Hyman

Residents of Fernbank Avenue will have an opportunity to air their views tonight, Dec. 8, on whether the town should add stop signs to three intersections at Fernbank Avenue and Brookside Drive.

The public hearing is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. and, while neighborhood sentiment appears solidly in favor, the Bethlehem Town Board will have to consider that the endorsement of the traffic safety committee was lukewarm at best.

Two committee members voted

□ STOP/page 27

# You can't go Back Home again — at least for now

By Mel Hyman

The long list of restaurants that have called 55 Delaware Ave. home, grew a little longer last week.

The Back Home Buffet & Bakery has at least temporarily called it quits after only 11 months. Building owner John Hodgkinson spent a considerable sum renovating the restaurant/banquet hall to accommodate his all-you-can-eat establishment.

But apparently, there just weren't enough empty stomachs in Delmar. A sign on the door of the bakery indicates the proprietors intend to come back, but the sign gives no indication of just when that would be.

"I'm baffled," said Marty Cornelius, president of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce. "We've had at least four different restaurants at that particular location over the last several years, and I just don't understand what the problem is."

The prices seemed reasonable — \$7.29 for dinner and \$5.49 for lunch. Plus there was a wide variety of foods to choose from including fish, meat, steamed vegetables,

raw vegetables, desserts, beverages and baked goods.

But while the restaurant was fairly busy for the first few months, with many seniors appearing to take advantage of the discount, business gradually seemed to tail off with only a handful of cars seen in the parking lot at any one time.

"Their location seemed good, right near the bridge into Albany," Cornelius said. "I'd like to see someone try again. We shouldn't give up on it."

The previous tenant, Sweetwater's Bistro, also seemed to get off on the right foot, but that venture likewise proved short-lived as the pair of Vermont restaurateurs who owned it suddenly dropped out of sight in mid-1992.

When Hodgkinson acquired the property in 1988, he leased it out to a nephew who opened up a Ponderosa Steak House. The Ponderosa remained in business until a family problem caused its closing in 1990.

Following the Ponderosa was Servedio's Italian Garden. It didn't last long.

The most successful venture at



The Back Home Buffet & Bakery has apparently fallen on hard times. The sign on the door says it's closed temporarily with plans to re-open sometime in the future.

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Dec. 12	Sun.	1:00-3:00 pm
Dec. 18	Sat.	12:00-3:00 pm
Dec. 19	Sun.	1:00-3:00 pm

**Special Price \$3<sup>00</sup>**

*Santa's Shed Courtesy of Classic Sheds*

this location was Alteri's Restaurant, which had a fairly lengthy run during the 1980s.

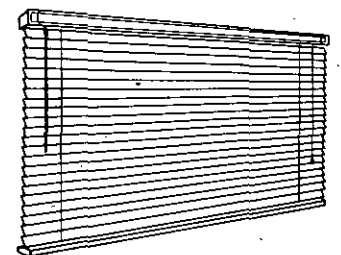
"There are lots of plusses" to the site, Cornelius said. "There's plenty of parking. Geographically, it's well-suited. And they can accommodate a lot of people."

When the Back Home first opened, 70 people, including numerous young people from the Delmar area, were put on the payroll. How many were still on staff at the end is uncertain.

Hodgkinson was unavailable for comment. Calls left on the Back Home answering machine were not returned.

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# School decision making plan raises questions

## Parents want more say

By Dev Tobin

As currently proposed, the new shared decision making (SDM) teams at Bethlehem Central schools will have twice as many teachers as parents, which didn't sit well with the approximately 20 parents who attended a public meeting on the plan Monday at the middle school.

"Shared decision making has to be accepted as a balanced, fair process," said parent Kevin McCarthy. "At the middle school level, six teachers would represent about 80 teachers, while three parents would represent about 1,000 parents. That's an enormous stretch."

McCarthy argued that the final plan should also provide a way for parent team members to communicate with other parents.

"We need equal, if not greater, representation of parents on the teams," said parent Lucy McCaffrey. "An equally-balanced board would be a stronger ship."

Jaclyn Brilling, a parent member of the committee which has been working on developing the SDM plan, replied that the committee did not look specifically at the ratio between teachers and parents, but more at the ratio between teachers and the total number of team members.

"The teachers have the hands-on contact with students, and many of them are also parents," Brilling pointed out.

Superintendent Leslie Loomis said the SDM committee was "listening carefully" to parents' concerns about increasing their representation on the site teams.

"We have a uniquely talented group of parents, to whom we have not been as well connected as we should be," Loomis added. But parents should consider that "Teachers are the professionals who deal on a daily basis with the realities of the classroom."

One parent questioned the results of the SDM consensus process which was used to formulate a restructuring of the school day at the middle school this year. The restructuring increased instructional time by 25 percent, but also eliminated separate enrichment classes for gifted and talented pupils.

"This may have no connection with the shared decision making model, but the quality of education at the middle school has been disassembled," said Jim Dunne, urging the school district to make only "minimal, incremental" changes to conform to the state mandate.

Loomis responded that the SDM process will "maintain a central core of the tradition of quality" at BC. He also defended the middle school restructuring, noting that enrichment now occurs in heterogeneous sections.

## Mandate aims to increase participation

By Dev Tobin

The state mandate on shared decision making (SDM) and site-based management is part of a trend throughout society to move away from top-down, autocratic management, according to Judith Wooster, assistant superintendent of the Bethlehem Central School District.



Wooster

"As with an industrial factory floor, the people closest to the work have important insights about ways to improve the work; in this case, student achievement," said Wooster, who coordinated the BC Shared Decision Making Committee.

"The idea is to flatten the hierarchy, to remove artificial inhibitors to improvement by recognizing the contributions everyone can make," she added.

The new SDM teams at each BC school, composed of teachers, parents, support staff and administrators, will have "significant input" on site issues like hiring and allocation of staff, how to spend the per-pupil allocations and student behavior and discipline, and district-wide issues like curriculum, assessment of student achievement and selection of instructional materials.

The SDM teams are a state mandate that emanates from the Regents' New Compact for Learning. The mandate calls for "participation of parents and teachers in school-based planning and shared decision making."

Every school district in the state is required to have a plan approved by Feb. 1. Details about how many parents, teachers, support staff, administrators and others will be on the site teams, and what decisions they will have input on, for example, are the substance of most SDM plans, including BC's. (The Spotlight will report on the SDM plans of the Voorheesville and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk school districts in upcoming editions).

According to the second draft plan drawn up by the SDM Committee, the site teams at the district's five elementary schools will consist of the principal, two parents, one support staff, one supervisor and three to five teachers, including at least one special education teacher.

At the middle school, the team will include the principal or assistant principal, three parents, one support staff and six teachers.

At the high school, the team will consist of the principal or an assistant principal, three parents, one support staff, one supervisor and eight teachers.

The Bethlehem plan also envi-

sions a new, 17-member district-level coordinating council to work on issues of staff and curriculum development.

Overall, 17 administrators or supervisors, 19 parents, seven support staff and 40 to 50 teachers, for a total of 83 to 93 people, will be involved in the new planning process.

The selection of the school-based planners will be coordinated by union representatives, calling for nominations and holding a closed ballot vote for the teachers and support staff, and by each school's PTA president, calling for letters of intent and voting in a manner to be decided at the building level for the parents.

Decisions by the SDM teams will be reached by consensus, with a quorum of more than 60 percent necessary. The plan calls for the teams to meet twice a month during the school year. Meeting times will be decided by the teams, Wooster said.

The SDM teams should be formed and begin meeting this spring, according to Superinten-

dent Leslie Loomis.

The estimated cost (mostly for compensatory time for teachers and training in consensus decision making) of implementing SDM is \$10,000 to \$20,000, Loomis said.

Loomis noted that ultimate legal responsibility for decisions like curriculum changes and hiring new staff still resides with the school board, but that input from SDM teams will be helpful.

"With consensus from these groups, there is more ownership in the decision," he said.

Copies of the draft plan are available at every BC school and at the Bethlehem Public Library.

Comments from interested parties, for instance, on the strengths, weaknesses and costs of the plan, should be sent to Wooster at the district offices, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, by Dec. 15. The SDM Committee will meet in later this month to discuss the second round of feedback, and present its final plan to the school board on Wednesday, Jan. 19.

## Glenmont PO grows again

Anyone with 4,000 square feet of floor space available in the Route 9W/Feura Bush Road area should contact the U.S. Postal Service.

That's because the Glenmont Post Office on Route 9W is looking to move to larger quarters. Postal officials want to double the size of their space, which now consists of about 2,000 square feet.

The development boom in the Glenmont area has strained the current facility and its ability to deliver a high level of service.

The current facility is in a poor location, according to Bethlehem Supervisor Ken Ringler.

Located in a dip in the road between Bender Lane and Feura Bush Road, it has poor sight lines,

he said, especially considering the high volume of traffic that moves along Route 9W.

It would be nice if the Postal Service decided to utilize "one of the vacant spaces we have in the shopping centers over there," Ringler said. "That would be a much better location for everyone concerned."

Advertising for a new location, which could involve constructing a new facility and leasing it back to the Postal Service, began on Nov. 30.

Potential site owners have until Dec. 30 to submit their proposals, after which the Postal Service will do an evaluation and award a contract.

## Fire elections on tap

Qualified voters in Bethlehem's five fire districts will be asked to elect new fire commissioners next week.

Elections are scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14.

While there is only one official candidate in each of the districts, voters can still cast a write-in ballot.

In the Selkirk Fire District, Jack Bailey, who was appointed to replace the late Charles Fritts, is seeking a full five-year term on

the board of fire commissioners. Balloting will be at Firehouse No. 2 on Glenmont Road.

Incumbent Jack Brennan is running for a new, five-year term on the Elsmere Board of Fire Commissioners. Balloting will be at the Elsmere Firehouse at 15 West Poplar Drive.

In Slingerlands, incumbent Walter Eck is running for a new, five-year term on the board of fire commissioners, while Roger Swanson is seeking a new, three-year term as treasurer for the fire district. Balloting will be at Firehouse No. 1 at 1520 New Scotland Road.

In North Bethlehem, Phil Schweppenhauser, chairman of the board of fire commissioners, is seeking another five-year term. Balloting will be at the firehouse on Russell Road.

In Delmar, incumbent William Wright is also running for another five-year term on the board of fire commissioners. Balloting will be at the firehouse at 145 Adams St.

All of the fire commissioner positions are volunteer.

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## Spotlight Newspapers pick gift certificate winners

Christmas came early this week for 12 area residents, who will share \$2,000 in gift certificates in the first drawing of the fourth annual Spotlight Newspapers Holiday Gift Certificate Giveaway.

Edna Strumpf of Selkirk won the first prize of \$500 in gift certificates from participating merchants and service providers. Strumpf entered the contest at the Garden Shoppe on Feura Bush Road in Glenmont.

Second prize winners, of \$300 each in gift certificates, were Jan Mitola of Latham and Gloria Johnson of Delmar.

Third prize winners, of \$200 each in gift certificates, were Diane Guillem of Latham, Virginia Powell of Loudonville and Claire Ruslander of Delmar.

Fourth prize winners, of \$100 each in gift certificates, were James Brown of Clarksville, Jean Gardner of Delmar, Jennifer Hamilton of Altamont, Yolanda Valenti of Colonie, Laura VanValkenburg of Glenmont and Alberta Houlihan of Loudonville.

The second drawing in the contest, for another \$2,000 worth of gift certificates, will be Friday, Dec. 17, and the winners will be announced in *The Spotlight*, the *Colonie Spotlight* and the *Loudonville Weekly* of Dec. 22.



# A touch of elegance...

The Bethlehem Historical Association's annual Christmas Silver Tea at the Little Red Schoolhouse Museum was held on Sunday, Dec. 5. The museum was decorated by the Bethlehem Garden Club in a "Nutcracker Theme." Finger foods, tea, punch and an open buffet were featured.



Julie Kelley, president of the Bethlehem Historical Association, admires the Christmas tree decorations.



Seven-year-old Meaghan Persing, bottom, and her sister Kate, 10, enjoy the festivities.



Bethlehem Historical Association member James Wiedeman was on hand to greet guests.



Mercedes Hickman, left, and Eleanor Noonan enjoy this year's Silver Tea.



Joan Persing, president of the Bethlehem Garden Club, helped coordinate decorations.

*Photos by Elaine McLain*

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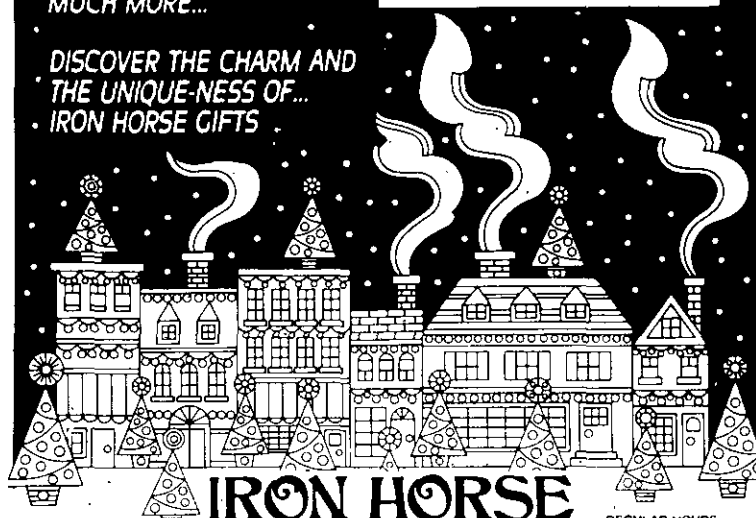
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208 Delaware Ave., Delmar

# Progress Club members make service a priority

By Susan Graves

In an age when many groups are hard pressed for volunteers, the Delmar Progress Club at 350 strong has a waiting list of prospective members.

The local women's volunteer club was formed in 1901 by Elva Hinman (Dyer), who had attended a women's group meeting in Cobleskill and brought the idea "of mental, moral and social development" along with the "betterment of the community" back home. Some husbands felt the new club "boded no good," but 11 women responded to Hinman's call nonetheless.

Ever since that time, Progress Club members have worked to make significant contributions to the community. "The library was the biggest," said Mary Tinney, club president.

***It's very interesting. One day you're lugging a tree to a festival, then conducting a meeting, then decorating the library and then counseling the homeless.***

Mary Tinney

In 1912, the club raised money for books and set up the first library in a room of the former Delmar Elementary School on Kenwood Avenue, which is now the Masonic Temple.

Other significant projects the club is credited for are the naming of streets — to facilitate mail delivery — and garbage collection to end the practice of "digging holes in backyards to bury the refuse," said Alice Porter in a history of the club.

"They were really ahead of the time," said Eunice Spindler, who is a Progress Club past president and current third district director of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Progress Club work has been and is far-reaching, encompassing diversified interests ranging from arts and crafts and gardening to counseling work with the homeless. "It's almost a full-time unpaid job," Spindler said of the presidency.

Tinney, who is in her second year as president, agrees the job is demanding, but credits members for their help and support.

"As a group, each woman is valuable in numerous ways," said Spindler. During her tenure as club president, Spindler started a volunteer literacy program at the Job Corps in Glenmont.

"Every year, the president tries to bring in something new," Tinney said.

Recent projects include collecting and distributing toiletries for women in prison, collecting for the cancer fund, working on the muscular dystrophy telethon, and outreach work with homeless people. Tinney works with the homeless at the Albany mission. The club also provides scholarships for high school students.

"It's very interesting. One day you're lugging a tree to a festival, then conducting a meeting, then decorating the library and then counseling the homeless," Tinney said. "But it would not be as much fun without the complete and utter support of each member."

The individual chairwomen, said Tinney, really work hard to ensure the success of the club's programs. "They are the creme de la creme, these are the best," Tinney added.

"This is just a smattering of the things the Delmar Progress Club does," said Spindler.

At one time the Progress Club was thought of as "the thing to be in in Delmar," said former *Spotlight* staffer Allison Bennett in an article on the group when it cele-



Officers of the Delmar Progress Club, above, put their heads together at a recent holiday tea, including Velma Jones, left, second vice president, Sherry Putney, corresponding secretary, Mary Tinney, president, Muriel Welch, first vice president, and Ann Young, treasurer. The Progress Club was also one of the groups represented at the recent Third District meeting of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs. Officers of the NYSFWC, shown below, include Gloria McDonald, president, May Blackmore, second vice president, Eunice Spindler, third district director, and Joy Ford, Albany County chairman.

Photos by Hugh Hewitt



brated its 85th anniversary. Even today, the group continues to function on a social level. The club's annual holiday tea on Monday at Normanside Country Club boasted a big turnout.

But overall, the club, which is the largest one of its kind in the state, will likely be remembered for its dedication to the community it serves.

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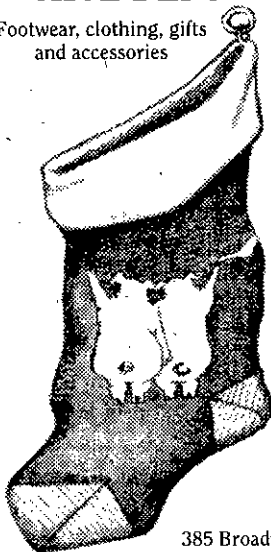
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## Matters of Opinion

### An important initiative

The legislation initiated by Rep. Michael R. McNulty and signed into law as part of the 1994 Defense Authorization by President Clinton last week certainly represents the prospect of good news for many of the Watervliet Arsenal's employees.

And it is a forward-looking move potentially of national import in converting former war-production facilities into contemporary domestic uses. Mr. McNulty's legislation will enable the Arsenal to "manufacture products or provide services in conjunction with the private sector."

The Congressman notes the Arsenal's uncertain future, and terms diversification "the best way to create new work for our skilled work force, while maintaining our readiness to meet national security needs." The latter expectation seems, at this time, out of line with probability for the long-range future of a cannon-production plant that is now deemed expendable.

Diversification of one-time "defense" facilities is part of the answer to the nation's effort at a retooling which must surpass even the pullback after World War II. The Arsenal quite logically is part of that picture. For better or worse, each of the far-flung plants and bases

### Editorials

cannot be expected to receive special attention and treatment such as the "McNulty Amendment" offers the Arsenal. Obviously, hundreds of special-pleading amendments to the Defense Department's plans would be an impossibility and not desirable.

The Arsenal's union president, cheering the "great news," observes that "It is absolutely vital to the future of our workers that the Arsenal find new work... that will keep our workers employed." Presumably, this would mean a retraining program involving as many of the employees as possible, for on the face of it there's a considerable gap between manufacturing cannon and producing items intended for quite different use. The "state-of-the-art manufacturing facility" there is highly specialized, as are the duties of the work staff.

And, of course, mapping strategies for retraining and relocating displaced employees of not only downsized war plants but among private-sector employers, is one of the largest challenges facing the country and the Clinton Administration.

### The Festival of Lights

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, begins this evening when the first candle is lit on the Menorah. In Judaism, Hanukkah celebrates the deliverance of the mighty into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few, and the wicked into the hands of the righteous. By kindling the candles for eight days, Jews are reminded that divine help can overcome all obstacles and that the righteous ultimately triumph.

In 175 BCE, King Antiochus of Syria imposed Greek customs on the Jewish people, forbade Torah observances, ordered Jews to bow down to pagan idols, and defiled the Holy Temple. The Maccabees, brave Jewish fighters, struggled for years to drive the enemy from their land, and after long fighting Judah and his men drove the Syrians out. On the 25th day of the month of Kislev in the year 165 BCE (exactly three years after the defilement of the Temple Sanctuary), they rededicated the Temple to the service of God.

The Menorah, the candelabra, which symbolized the Divine Presence and Spiritual

light, was rekindled with undefiled olive oil that had been discovered in the Temple. Miraculously, the one-day supply burned for eight days, until new pure oil could be produced.

Hanukkah lights are required to be kindled in such a way that their light can be seen outside. It is not enough to illuminate one's own home with the light and warmth of Judaism; it is also necessary to illuminate the neighborhood and the community at large.

The light of the previous night is not sufficient. Every night a new light is added. This teaches that, however satisfactory one's religious observance is today, there is an obligation to do better tomorrow, continuously adding more goodness and holiness in daily life.

Tonight's ceremony falls on the 25th day of the month of Kislev. Though it falls on different dates in the solar calendar generally used in today's world, it still commemorates the triumphal re-entry into the Temple on that date in the lunar calendar of the Jewish year.

### Help stock the pantries

Most mailboxes these days undoubtedly are too small to contain the goodwill offerings of food that families would wish to donate in the Postal Service's annual effort to sustain the hungry of our area.

Carriers by the many hundreds will be looking for boxes and cans of non-perishable foodstuffs this week (through Saturday). Their collections will go to organized food pantries via the local postoffices.

Tons and tons of staples and of delicacies, too, thus will stock the depleted shelves of the pantries; ready to help bring some cheer to persons and households whose tables—even in this sacred season—would be seriously lacking in adequate meals.

In putting out their contributions, most residents surely will be voicing words of thanks to the Postal Service employees who are helping in this worthwhile cause.

### Words for the week

**Tippet**: A shoulder cape of fur or cloth, often with hanging ends. Also, a long hanging end of cloth attached to a sleeve, cap, or hood.

**Insightful**: Possessing the ability to see and understand clearly the inner nature of things, especially by intuition.

**Quirky**: Describing a peculiar trait or idiosyncrasy, or a vagary.

**Berm**: A ledge or shoulder, as along the edge of a paved road.

## Planning board faulted on wetlands fallout

Editor, The Spotlight:

I spent 45 minutes clearing water that seeped into our basement after the torrential rainstorm on Sunday, Nov. 28. Since we bought our house last April, we have been plagued by a wet basement, caused in part by the wet area in which the home was built.

Needless to say, I was surprised to find that the Bethlehem Planning Board was prepared to allow the developer of Colonial Woodlands to begin construction in an area designated by the Army Corps of Engineers to be wetlands. Or should I say that it was once designated as wetlands. Apparently the Corps has determined that only a portion of the area is now wetlands and that the developer may build in the other areas. At least, this is what the developer has told the planning board.

For its part, the planning board has decided to accept the developer's interpretation of the Corps findings without further investigation or documentation. The feeling by the board is that this issue does not fall within its jurisdiction.

I, however, am of the opinion that the board needs to pursue this matter further. Regardless of the jurisdiction under which the wetlands issue falls, I think that the board has a responsibility to the town to make certain that a development does not go up in an area that is not suitable for housing. This is not to say that members of the board are not trying hard to resolve the issues surrounding this development in a fair manner. However, in their effort to protect the town from possible future litigation, they neglected to consider other factors that weigh equally in this debate.

Having lived for the past six months, in the same area where this development will be built, I can confirm the Army Corps' original finding that this area is a wetland. And if the Army Corps of

### Vox Pop

Engineers, the Planning Board, or the developer have any doubts about the propensity for water in this area, they need only look as far as my basement after a good rainstorm. They will see what happens when you build in wetlands.

Delmar John H. Cunningham

### Animal Control Officer Sleurs is appreciated

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am writing a letter that is long overdue. I refer to the wonderful work that the animal control officer, Craig Sleurs, is doing in our community. Officer Sleurs responded to our frantic call for help within five minutes on Dec. 3.

We had found a large, very sick (and later diagnosed as rabid) raccoon in our garage. Officer Sleurs quickly dispatched the animal and disposed of its body in a most competent and sanitary manner. He even disinfected all the ground that the animal had traveled over.

We are grateful indeed for this fine service and feel that Officer Sleurs is owed a vote of thanks.

Selkirk

Ruth Eyres

### Rescue squad thanked

Editor, The Spotlight:

This letter is about the Delmar Rescue Squad. On Dec. 1, I was in an automobile accident on Route 85 by Stonewell. I want to thank Lars Allanson, Brian Taylor, and Mike Fabe for their professional and caring help extended to me. If it had not been for their sincere help, I would have been a complete basket case. Thank you so much.

Cheri Somanico

## THE SPOTLIGHT

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Assistant to the Publisher — Mary A. Ahlstrom

Assistant to the Editor

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## Your Opinion Matters

## A wise and witty man passes

If the overused term "wit and wisdom" ever was aptly applied to one individual, that would have to be Al Abrams.

The temptation would be to write something like, "I lost a great friend this week," and that's true enough — but the real truth is that we all lost a real friend ... a friend of the people ... when Albert J. Abrams' big heart finally gave out on Monday afternoon.

Among his personal friends were countless people of the political world, for Al had been in legislative halls in Albany for very close to six decades. But Al's world was much broader than that statistic suggests, and within its many facets he was admired and respected.

Readers of this Spotlight page are familiar with Al Abrams' personality, in no other way, through his frequent contributions to our Point of View column — the most recent of which was published last week. And the week before that, he was one of the contributors to the special section titled "Why should Americans be thankful?"

I negotiated both those articles — one brief, one long — with Al, as I had nearly a dozen times in similar instances over the past half-dozen years. Each time I called him with a suggestion or an inquiry, his response was prompt ... and to the point. He wrote well; his writing reflected an acute mind at work. Among the wise words, the fruits of wisdom gained through

experience and observation, were the witty expressions — alternately benign and sharp — that we, his friends, always associate with this fine gentleman.

## Commentary

Dan Button

Al Abrams was very intuitive, positive in thought and approach, strong-minded, quickly decisive, and of course politically astute. Generations of officeholders and would-be officeholders and political junkies relied on him for the candid expression of opinion to which these qualities and traits entitled him. When he first came to serve the Legislature, many of today's legislators had not even been born.

Al was innately a partisan, a Republican, but his friendships, his coterie of followers, and his influence went well beyond party lines. In his many years as Secretary of the Senate, he was very much in command of operations; he exercised total control for much of that time over how the Senate ran, how its money was to be spent, and what prerogatives various senators might be entitled to have (or not). He held the reins in an all-inclusive way that no longer exists in the secretary's domain. And the most telling aspect is that everyone maintained complete confidence in his judgment and his fairness.

In the last extended conversa-

tion I had the privilege of sharing with Al, we chatted over sandwiches at the restaurant in Albany's Center Galleries I was there on time, but Al had beaten me down the hill. We chatted on a variety of topics of mutual interest, but much of the time Al talked about his impressions of Erastus Corning and his analysis of how the late mayor had maintained control of a city in the way he did.

My last two requests of Al were met, as ever, promptly and good-naturedly. I commend for re-reading his comments about "The heritage of choice" in our Nov. 24 issue, and his sharply devastating observations about the idea of holding a constitutional convention, as published in the Dec. 1 issue. Al got a lot off his chest in that one. It was vigorous, biting, outspoken; it was Al at his best. He conceded the "painful, arthritic-like legalese" of the state constitution, but warned of "the desperate effort by special interests" to gain subversive goals in a "con-con." It was incisive thinking and writing at its very best. Shortly after he turned it in, Al's heart done him wrong. During several days of hospitalization, he worried that the column was too long. Far from it; I assured him.

Sadly, I write this little tribute. But I'm pleased to say that there's one more of Al Abrams' columns ready for Point of View. Some week very soon.

## The mission of our unselfish friends

By a stroke of luck, I am able to write on one of my favorite subjects by virtue of having come across some fine excerpts in two different sources. The subject is the dog, and the respective sources are the November/December issue of the magazine "Harrowsmith Country Life" and an anthology of well-written essays; this one was first published in 1910.

The magazine piece, titled "Absolute, Unselfish Friends," poses the question of "What is the ideal country dog?" to five authorities on the subject. They include a veterinarian in Vermont; a trainer; a sheep-raiser in Virginia; a hunter; and Roger Caras, who happens to be the author of more than 50 books on pets and wildlife, as well as a TV personality, and the president of the ASPCA.

For anyone interested in dogs because of being owned by one or more (or being potentially inspired to buy one), these articles are very worthwhile. Introducing the 10 pages of well-illustrated text, the editors recall E.B. White's tale of having had a spaniel that defrocked a nun, and then plunge into less quirky reminiscing:

"That's one of the things we love about dogs: they introduce us to situations we could not imagine without them. Dogs live in a world entirely different from our own, even when they're beside us

on the seat of the pickup or sleeping at the foot of the bed. What they see or otherwise sense, what they think about, how that makes

## Constant Reader

them feel, we can only guess. But clearly a lot of things that seem vitally important to us don't measure up to an unidentifiable splat of something smelly to them.

"How is it that two species viewing the world from such different perspectives have managed to share the same homes for some 20,000 years? The success of the relationship has more to do with the flexibility of the dog than with the generosity or goodwill of mankind."

Each of the writers has useful information and tips about selecting and understanding a dog. Roger Caras writes feelingly about the qualities of "random-bred" dogs as compared with purebreds: "I can honestly say after many years and many dogs that we have never found any breed to be a better or more loving pet than some of the splendid random-breds that have been part of the family."

The 1910 article by Henry Merwin (who put horses just below dogs, just above men) is remarkably insightful and sensitive in conveying his view of the canine world. "The mission of the dog—I say with all reverence—is

the same as the mission of Christianity; namely, to teach mankind that the universe is ruled by love. ... The most beautiful sight in the world is the expression in the eyes of an intelligent, sweet-tempered pup ... a look of confiding innocence, a consciousness of his own inexperience and weakness, a desire to love and be loved, which are irresistible."

This is a longish essay, with many byways: "Some persons object to having a dog on the bed at night; and it must be admitted that he lies a little heavily upon one's limbs; but why be so base as to prefer comfort to companionship? To wake up in the dark night, and put your hand on that warm soft body, to feel the beating of the faithful heart—is this not better than undisturbed sloth? The best night's rest I ever had was once when a cocker spaniel puppy, who had just recovered from stomach-ache and was a little frightened by the strange experience, curled up on my shoulder like a fur tippet, gently pushed his cold, soft nose into my neck, and there slept sweetly and soundly until morning."

An introductory note informs us that "A memorial seat on Commonwealth Avenue (Boston) marks the place where, whenever his pen was not scratching for a living, Mr. Merwin used to sit and meditate (about dogs and horses)."

## An eye-opening trip for a privileged boy

*The contributor of this Point of View, who acknowledges that he once was young, lives and teaches in suburban communities.*

By Jack Rightmyer

I teach sixth-graders in one of those nice, safe suburban schools. Most of my students wear neat, fashionable clothes, and many of them play musical instruments. Quite a few of them have traveled overseas, and they all seem to have the latest Nintendo games.

## Point of View

But I sometimes wonder if they know how good they have it? At times I think they are insensitive to the poor. Maybe they need the kind of experience I had, because when I was almost their age, I was the same way. And then an incident helped to open my eyes.

During the 1960s, I went to St. Ambrose elementary school in Latham. I was a kid during the turmoil of the Vietnam war. When I was a pupil in the fourth and fifth grade, the nightly news showed assassinations and anti-war protest demonstrations, but my life seemed filled with baseball cards and spelling tests. My friends and I may have worried about Mickey Mantle's future (he was in his last year as a player) but we let our parents worry about all that other stuff.

Our teachers rarely had time to discuss the tumult. They were too busy showing us how to diagram sentences and do long division. A few times a year, though, we collected soap for those serving in Vietnam. "Our boys are risking their lives for us," said my teacher, "and one thing they have very little of is soap." My friends and I sometimes thought "the boys" were lucky because if they didn't have soap they wouldn't have to take a bath or shower, and we hated it when we were required to bathe.

And every year before Christmas our school organized a canned food collection drive. We were expected to bring some of our toys to be given to a mission in Albany. Every day for a week we'd drop those cans or toys into the big cardboard box in our classroom.

Our teacher usually made a competition out of it. "Class, Grade 6 has collected twenty more cans than we have, and tomorrow is the last day. I expect us to do better, class. Can we beat Grade 6?" We'd pump our fists and scream that we could—but the next day most would forget the cans again.

One Christmas the pastor asked a few of us if we'd like to drive with him in the school's van to deliver the cans and toys to the mission. We jumped at the chance to get out of class.

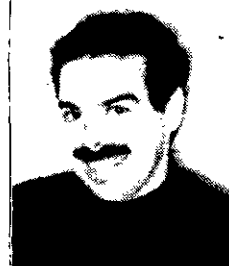
That year, I recall, I had been particularly absent-minded about bringing in things. The toy I donated was a old ragged-looking plastic doll of my sister's. I also brought in a few cans of food that I never liked to eat, such as kidney beans and peas.

We piled up the van with about ten boxes of food and toys. The mission was in some quite mysterious place called the South End. We drove past the Capitol, down State Street, and then turned off into an area of dilapidated buildings. Papers were blowing around, and many of the apartments and tenements had broken windows or, it appeared, none at all.

We pulled up in front of the mission, and suddenly we all stopped talking. The pastor walked up the steps and opened the door. We followed, not wanting to be left behind. I don't remember much about the inside, but I do remember some of the people. They looked more than poor. Most of the men were (to our eyes) old with scruffy gray beards. Their eyes appeared glassy or bloodshot. A couple of women, with long stringy hair and bad teeth, were on hand.

We met the man who ran the mission. He shook our hands and thanked us for the help, then he called to a few men who were eating in the kitchen. They helped us carry in some boxes, appreciative that we brought food. We piled the boxes in a room behind the kitchen.

The plastic doll I had donated was lying on top of one of the boxes. It looked as though its head was ready to pop off, and it



## Matters of Opinion

### □ Eye-opener

(from page 7)

made me ashamed that I hadn't brought something better.

When we were in the van and ready to drive back to our school in safe and clean Colonie, the director of the mission came out to speak with us one more time. "Thank you so much for your food and toys," he said. "I'm afraid that for many of the children in our area these will be the only toys they receive."

I had an empty feeling as we drove away, back up the State Street hill, and past the Capitol. I felt like such a phony by receiving his praise while knowing I had not helped very much. I also realized

uncomfortably that my safe little suburban world wasn't the only place where people were living. There was another world, one that wasn't quite so safe. And it also occurred to me that these food drives, and the Salvation Army

***'I learned of another world that wasn't as safe as mine was'***

and Toys for Tots, and similar organizations really make a difference to some people.

And now, as we head into the Christmas season, I will once again encourage my students to bring in cans for the food drive and give their toys. And I will tell them my experience of traveling to the mission in the school van. And I will be hoping that they will listen and really understand.

### Collection points set for letters to Santa

Letters to Santa can be dropped off at the Bethlehem Town Hall, McDonald's, and the Bethlehem Public Library, all on Delaware Avenue, through Dec. 21.

Santa's senior citizen volunteers and the Bethlehem Police Youth Bureau will make sure that each child receives an individual reply.

### Bethlehem chamber slates holiday party

The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce will hold a "Holiday Business Afterhours" at the Village Furniture Co., Main Square Shoppes, Delaware Avenue, on Thursday, Dec. 16, from 5 to 7 p.m.

For information, call 439-0512.

## Flag etiquette



Blanchard American Legion Post Commander Warren Boutelle presents a supply of "Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette" pamphlets to Judith Wooster, assistant superintendent of schools for BCHS.

### Ravena church lists schedule of events

The Grace United Methodist Church, 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ravena, has set the following schedule for the week of Dec. 9:

On Thursday, Dec. 9, AA will meet at 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, Dec. 10, Chancel Choir will rehearse.

On Sunday, Dec. 12, Sunday School will begin at 9 a.m., morning worship at 10:30 a.m., and

coffee and fellowship at 11:30 a.m. The bell choir will rehearse at 7 p.m.

On Monday, Dec. 13, AA will meet at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, Dec. 15, junior choir will rehearse at 6:30 p.m., TOPS Club will meet at 6:30 p.m., AA at 7 p.m., and Bible study at 7:30 p.m.

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# Comic book drives home serious point

By Dev Tobin

Traffic jams in Bethlehem and New Scotland are small potatoes compared to what happens in the parallel world of Congestron.



Wright

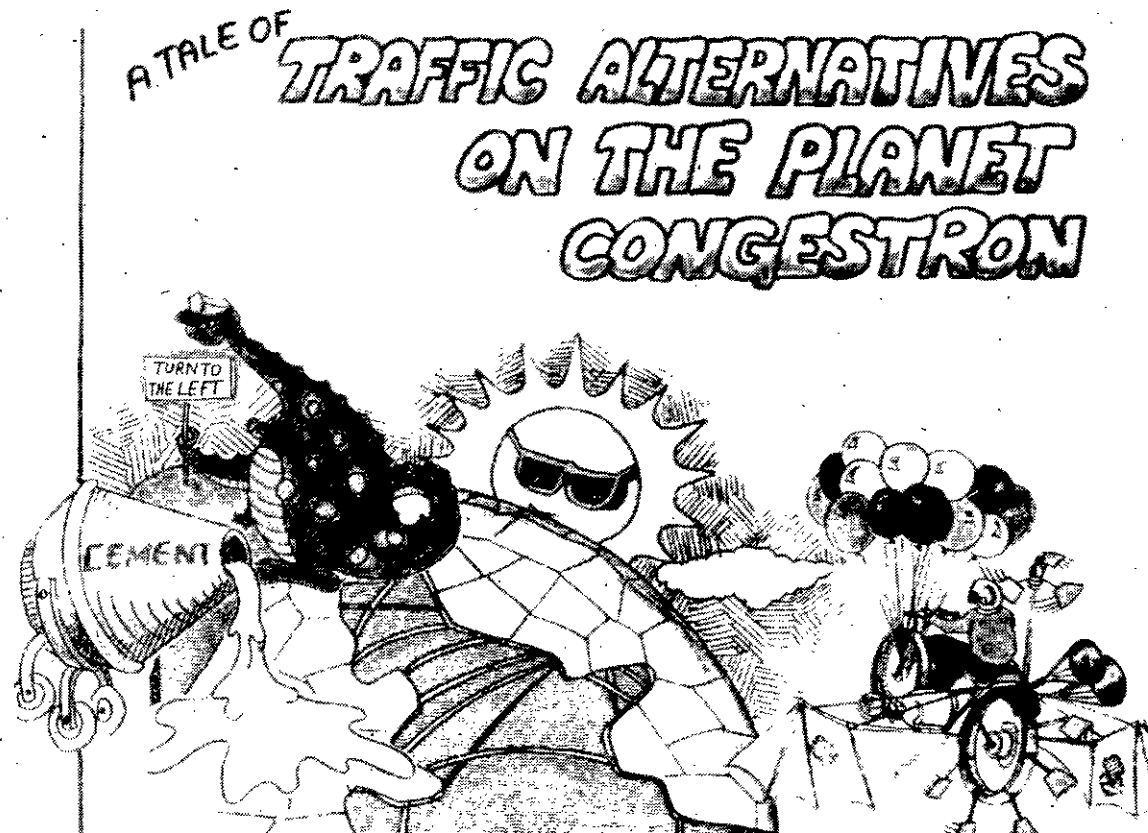
People have meetings and play tennis while waiting in traffic; electronic equipment keeps cars from crashing into each other; until one day, everything just grinds to a halt.

This comic-book story of traffic overload and how to avoid it, "A Tale of Traffic Alternatives on the Planet Congestron," was conceived and written by James Wright of Delmar, an assistant public relations officer with the state Department of Transportation.

Wright was recently honored for the comic book with a creative excellence award from the Association for Commuter Transportation, a national group that works to reduce drive-alone commuting.

Wright said that using the comic book format allowed the message of "driving smarter and driving less" to reach schoolchildren, who hopefully will adopt the value of minimal driving and talk to their parents about it.

A parallel world allows a lot of



creative license, and also makes it easier to constructively criticize what happens here without offending people, Wright said.

"If we just say, 'People waste a lot of energy by driving too much,' it would turn a lot of people off," Wright said. "By making it fun, we're trying to get people to smile at themselves."

The comic book is already through its first print run of 10,000, and "The feedback has been very, very good," Wright said.

"In an environment where people don't do a lot of reading, it's gotten a great deal of attention, comparatively," he said, adding that he has received more than 100 letters about the book.

The project, begun under the auspices of former DOT Commissioner Franklin White, was supported by current Commissioner John Egan of Slingerlands, Wright said.

"It's very exciting recognition for Jim, and an excellent vehicle to get the message on mobility issues out to the public, especially to young people," Egan commented.

Copies of the comic book are available from Wright at the DOT Office of Communications, Building 5, Room 524, Harriman State Office Campus, Albany 12232.

## Carols concert slated

The Delmar Community Orchestra will serve up a Holiday Concert and Carol Sing-A-Long on Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., from 2 to 3 p.m.

The concert is free and open to the public.

## Quilters plan party

Quilters United in Learning Together will meet at the First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., on Friday, Dec. 10, at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting will feature a holiday block exchange, cookies, a gift exchange and a visit from Santa.

For information, contact Stella Muzicka at 283-0522.

## Lutheran church sets Christmas concert

The Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., will host a Christmas concert by dvd productions on Saturday, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m.

The program will feature both popular and sacred Christmas selections.

There is no charge for the concert, and all are welcome. For information, call the church at 439-4328.

In Selkirk

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## New Scotland man arrested for sodomy

Underage alcohol abuse has led to felony charges against a 20-year-old New Scotland resident.

Christopher Holden of 2038 New Scotland Road was charged with first-degree sodomy, second-degree aggravated sexual abuse and first-degree sexual abuse, all felonies, as well as two misdemeanor counts of endangering the welfare of a child, sheriff's investigator Craig Apple said.

On Monday night, Holden, an unemployed mechanic, allegedly gave a quantity of alcohol that he took from his home to a 16-year-old female from the town of New Scotland.

The couple then went to a parking lot of Route 85A, where Holden sodomized the female without her consent, Apple said.

The girl arrived at her home highly intoxicated, then told her mother that Holden had forced himself on her, Apple said.

Holden was arrested Monday at 11:05 p.m. at the sheriff's substation, where he gave police a statement, Apple said.

Holden was arraigned before Town Justice Thomas Dolin and sent to Albany County Jail without bail. A preliminary hearing was set for Thursday.

## Man charged in fatal crash

Bethlehem police arrested a Gansevoort man last week in connection with a fatal crash on Route 85 in Slingerlands last December.

Frank L. Tranowicz, 57, of 37 Kober Road, was arrested by Police Det. John Cox on Friday, Dec. 3, on charges of criminally negligent homicide, reckless driving and aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

The charges were handed up on Tuesday, Nov. 30, by an Al-

bany County grand jury.

Tranowicz was behind the wheel of a minivan on Dec. 28, 1992, when he passed a car, but allegedly failed to return to the driving lane.

His vehicle collided head-on at about 11 a.m. with a car driven by 24-year-old Angela Clark of Delmar. She was pronounced dead at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Tranowicz, who had numerous suspensions of his license in the past, was released on \$1,000 bail last week.

## Five Rivers to offer decorating workshop

The Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on Game Farm Road in Delmar will offer a "Deck the Halls for the Holidays" program on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m.

Participants will create holiday decor from natural materials.

For information, call Five Rivers at 475-0291.

## Area potters plan Sunday holiday sale

Four area potters will exhibit their works at the Sunday, Dec. 12, holiday sale at the Hudson River Clay Factory, 621 River St., Troy, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The potters are Mary Watson of Selkirk, Jan Treadway and Zoja Estey of Delmar, and JoAnn Axford of Glenmont.

## Mothers to meet at Delmar church

A Mothers Time Out meeting is scheduled on Monday, Dec. 13, at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

The topic of discussion will be first aid for children. All are welcome to attend.

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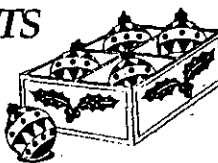
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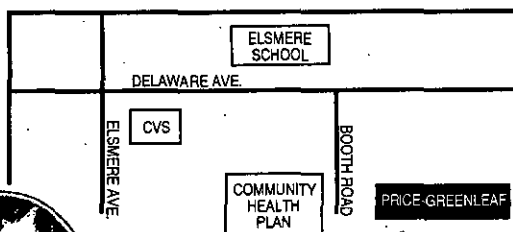
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## Board OKs new coach for BC winter track

By Dev Tobin

Parents and athletes involved in the Bethlehem Central High School winter track team won school board approval for an additional coach, provided that they raise the money to pay for the new position.

The popularity of the winter activity is reflected by the 60 participants on four teams — boys and girls varsity and junior varsity. Without the extra supervision, the teams would have to be cut down to 40 athletes, according to parent Quinn Davey.

"The cuts are scheduled for Dec. 8," Davey told the board at last Wednesday's meeting. "We need some commitment now."

Senior Mike Fritts, a member of the winter track team, noted that it was difficult for two coaches to provide specialized training in the many facets of track and field. "It's unfair to have two coaches for four teams" when some teams, like football, have assistant coaches, he said.

Davey proposed that one of the five coaches for spring track be transferred to the winter program, but Superintendent Leslie Loomis disagreed.

"I can't see that it's possible to move a coach," Loomis said. "But there is precedent for loaning a parents group the funds to pay for a coach, as long as the money is

repaid in the same fiscal year."

Loomis estimated that bringing on a third coach now would cost about \$1,000, depending on the contract with the Bethlehem Teachers Association. He also said that the way resources are allocated in the entire school athletic program was currently being reviewed by athletic director Fred Powers.

In other business, the board received a report on proposed high school curriculum changes. The report recommends adding Russian II, Business Law, Participation in Government with Service, Law in Everyday Life and a Senior Art Mentored Thesis.

The report proposes dropping, mostly due to under-enrollment, science and technology, robotics and lasers, desktop publishing, college accounting, transcription, office information processing, independent living and independent study.

The board also received an update from the Instructional Technology Committee, including surveys of teachers that show a perceived need for more and better technology and a current hardware and software inventory.

Also at the meeting, the board honored Betty Vet, noon-hour aide at Elsmere Elementary School, for her work in beautifying the school with flowers.

## A dog's life



From left, John Kapczynski, 6, Rebekah Bratrud, 6, Joshua Kapczynski, 10, and Katie Kapczynski, 8, help out at their grandparents' booth at the Hamagrael craft fair.

Elaine McLain

### Masons plan program on safety for kids

A program for middle and elementary school children on what to do in an emergency will be offered at the Onesquethau Masonic Lodge, 421 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parents as well as Boy and Girl Scouts are welcome.

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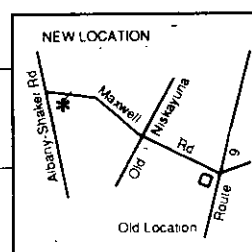
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## Ravena church slates 'Christmas House Tour'

St. Patrick's Church, 21 Main St., Ravena, will sponsor a "Christmas House Tour" on Sunday, Dec. 12, from 2 to 6 p.m.

The tour will feature homes decorated for the holiday season in New Baltimore, Coeymans, Ravena and Selkirk.

One house included in the tour will be a Dutch stone home in Coeymans, built between 1695 and 1720 by Ariaantje Coeymans and her brother Samuel. Many of the home's original features remain, such as the Delft tile mop board and "wattle and daub" wall construction.

The Wolfe house in New Baltimore, another stone home built in the 1700s, will also be featured. The restored house has been in the Steven Parsons family for generations. It is furnished and

decorated for the holidays in an Early American style.

Another stop will be at the Putney home, an 11-room Victorian Italianate-style house built in 1857 by merchant Barent Winne. Located on the Hudson River, the house was recently featured in Hudson Valley Magazine.

Also featured will be a modern New Baltimore A-frame home with a huge tree decorated with hand-made ornaments and a 40-year-old Selkirk home.

The tour will begin at the parish center, where maps and directions will be available. Tickets purchased in advance cost \$6 per person, and will be sold for \$8 the day of the tour.

For tickets or information, call 756-3145, 756-2957 or 767-9916.



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## Bethlehem Recycling Corner

By Sharon Fisher, town recycling coordinator

Plastics are made up of building blocks called hydrocarbons, derived from petroleum or natural gas. These monomers (small molecules) are chemically bonded into chains called polymers or plastic resins. Different combinations of monomers yield different resins, each with special properties and characteristics.

Different types of plastics have different recycling properties.

Approximately 400 millions pounds of polyethylene terephthalate were recycled in 1992. The substance, also called No. 1 PET, is used to make soda bottles, peanut butter jars, some dish-washing liquid bottles, juice bottles and mouth-wash bottles.

When recycled, PET is transformed into containers, fabrics, carpets and packaging. The new packaging, such as blister packs, is not acceptable in recycling bins.

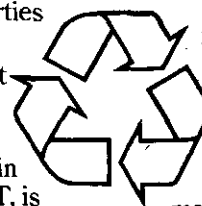
No. 2 HDPE (high density polyethylene) is used in milk, juice and laundry product bottles. Although HDPE makes up 57.5 percent of plastic bottles by resin type, recycling is limited. Common end uses for recovered HDPE include products such as detergent and motor oil bottles, garbage cans, pails, recycling bins, crates and nursery containers.

However, motor oil containers contain contaminants that can ruin a bale of plastics. For this reason, these containers should be thrown in the trash.

No. 3 vinyl or PVC (polyvinyl chloride), makes up approximately 5 percent of the plastic bottles found in an average household. About 2 million pounds of post-consumer PVC bottles were recycled in 1991.

PVC is used to make credit cards, shampoo and soda bottles as well as pressure pipe. Although the bottles are recyclable, the credit cards and other things are not and should be thrown in the trash.

LDPE No. 4 is used primarily as film in applications such as bread bags, grocery sacks, trash bags and shrink wrap. Plastic store bags (not trash bags) can be recycled at the grocery store but shrink wrap markets are almost nonexistent.



Although the American Plastics Council reported that 76 million pounds of LDPE and LLDPE were recycled in 1992, much of this recycled film is presently made into other, non-film products, such as flower pots.

No. 5 polypropylene (PP) is used in making screw-on caps and lids, yogurt and margarine tubs. Most of these items are not recycled. If the plastic will break or crack if stepped on, it should not be included in recycling bins. Lids are also not acceptable.

PP is used in the next generation of automotive batteries and for such items as lawn-mower wheels and barbecue grills. Markets for No. 5 bottles are slowing coming on line.

Although 24 million pounds of polystyrene No. 6 was collected in 1991, it was mainly from institutions. The material is mostly used for food containers, packing "peanuts," meat trays, rigid disposable drinking cups and cutlery. The nearest facility for recycling PS is located in New Jersey.

Instead of using throwaway polystyrene, consumers should reuse real dishes, glasses, silverware and Tupperware (a mixed plastic item.) "Peanuts" can be taken to Mail Boxes Etc. for reuse.

No. 7 is mixed plastic, with several kinds of plastic are sandwiched or mixed together. These can be remade into such items as plastic lumber and curb stops.

Recycling is designated as a closed loop. For decades, glass, metal and paper have gone full circle and again become the same packaging as was originally formulated. Post-consumer plastics are beginning to close this loop.

### 'Home Alone' program planned

"Home Alone," a program for middle and elementary school children and parents is scheduled at the Onesquethau Lodge, 421 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The program will focus on what to do in an emergency and how to be safe and healthy. Featured speakers include representatives of the Bethlehem Police, Delmar EMT, Elsmere Fire Department and DARE.

Lunch will be provided. The event is open to the public.

### Police investigate Stewart's break-in

State Police at Selkirk are investigating a burglary which occurred on Friday, Dec. 3, at Stewart's at the intersection of routes 9W and 32 at about 2 a.m.

Entry was gained through a window and a small amount of cash was taken. Investigation is continuing by troopers Daniel Craven and Robert Whipple and the BCI at Selkirk.

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# Kiwanis selling holiday wreaths

The New Scotland Kiwanis Club will continue its wreath sale through Friday, Dec. 10, at the following locations in Voorheesville: Stewart's on South Main Street, the Voorheesville Pharmacy and Mobil Mart on Maple Road, Davis Stonewell Market on New Scotland Road in Slingerlands.

The fresh cut wreaths cost \$14 and are 25 inches in diameter. Proceeds will benefit youth activities in the town of New Scotland.

Kiwanians will also be selling McDonald's Care Coupons for \$1. The coupons can be redeemed at the McDonald's restaurants at 1602 Western Ave., 74 State St., Albany or Delaware Avenue, Elmsire. These coupons make great stocking stuffers will be available from any Kiwanis members at the wreath sale.

Another holiday gift for sale will be the Dine-a-Mate books for \$25. These two-for-one books allows you to purchase one dinner and receive the second dinner free at many area restaurants.

For information, call Bob Stapf 765-2451, Don Cootware at 765-2761 or Jim Hladun at 765-4241.

## Bouton to discuss CAR report Dec. 13

Residents are encouraged to attend the Voorheesville school board meeting at Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School on

## NEWS NOTES

### Voorheesville

Susan Casler  
765-2144



Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. The special topic to be discussed will be the statewide comprehensive assessment report.

### PTA to meet at elementary school

The Voorheesville PTA will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at the elementary school at 7:30 p.m. in the library. New members are invited to the special program planned for the January meeting.

For information, call Jan Kurposka at 765-3644.

### Church to present Christmas program

The public is invited to the Mountainview Evangelical Free Church on Route 155 in Voorheesville for its Christmas Musical program on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

### Light display continues at Altamont fairgrounds

The holiday season has begun with the beautiful Capital Lights at the Fair at the Altamont Fair-

grounds and will continue through Jan. 2. There is a display of colored lights, designs, caricatures and sculptures for the entire family to enjoy in the comfort of their car. The show is from 5 to 9 p.m. and the cost is \$8 per car.

For information, call 1-800-258-3582.

### Stewart's conducts appreciation week

The Stewart's Shop in Voorheesville held a customer appreciation week in November. The following organizations were able to publicize and recruit new members at the store: Voorheesville Ambulance, Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School Booster Club, New Scotland Kiwanis, PTA, Sheriff's DARE Program, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts.

### Five Rivers to offer workshops for Scouts

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on Game Farm Road in Delmar is planning several "mini-workshops" for youth and Scout groups on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 1 p.m.

The workshops will discuss recycling, bird feeders and other topics in conjunction with badge work.

For information, call Five Rivers at 475-0291.

## State Ed approves RCS plans for new building additions

Roger Lewis, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District business administrator, recently announced that the state Education Department has approved the district's plans for building additions.

District voters approved a bond referendum earlier this year to close the Ravena Elementary

School and to build new additions to A.W. Becker and Pieter B. Coeymans schools. The district will now begin to accept construction bids for the work.

"The district's architect, bonding attorney and financial adviser are in the process of firming up preparation for the bond," Lewis said.

## BC guidance hosts seminar

The guidance department of Bethlehem Central High School is hosting a financial aid seminar, College Financial Aid: How to Get Your Fair Share for parents of college-bound juniors and seniors at the high school on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The seminar will be presented by Peter Laurenzo, a certified financial planner and president of College Aid Planning Associates of Albany.

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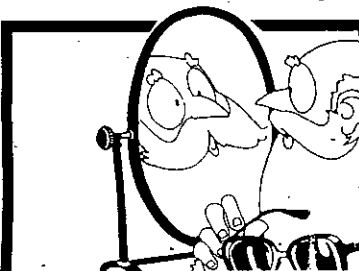


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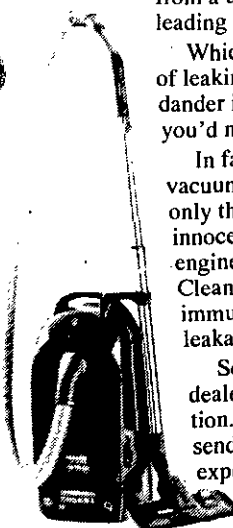
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# R-C-S tuning up for holiday concerts

The R-C-S music department will hold holiday concerts at the middle school on Thursday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m. and at the senior high school, Route 9W, Ravena, on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Becker third-and-fourth-graders under the direction of Ben Rau will present a musical holiday production at the senior high school on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

## Sunshine Seniors plan holiday luncheon

The Sunshine Seniors will hold its annual holiday luncheon on Monday, Dec. 13, at 12:30 p.m. at the South Bethlehem United Methodist Church Hall on Willowbrook Avenue.

The church-prepared turkey luncheon will be served following a social hour.

Entertainment is planned, and door prizes will be drawn. The cost is \$6 per person.

Non-perishable foods and monetary donations will be accepted that day for the local Venture Food Pantry.

Reservations can be made by calling Roger or Ruth Russell at

## NEWS NOTES

**Selkirk**  
**South Bethlehem**  
**Michele Bintz**  
**439-3157**



482-1494.

## Library plans program on crafts for adults

The Feura Bush Library on Route 32 behind the Jerusalem Reformed Church will hold an organizational meeting for a new program "Crafts For Adults" on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. A holiday craft is planned that day.

For information, call Judy Wing at 439-2948.

## Bethlehem Grange holds holiday potluck dinner

The Bethlehem Grange will host its annual holiday potluck supper on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. at the grange hall on Route 396 at Becker's Corners in Selkirk.

The dinner is free and open to the public. A covered dish to share is welcome.

For information, call 767-2770.

## Decorate the giving tree at Becker school

Principal Diane Kilfoile has announced that the school has received several requests for holiday assistance from area families.

A tree has been placed in the lobby of A.W. Becker School, Route 9W, Selkirk with tags identifying the age, size and any special request that was submitted. If you are able to help, please take a tag from the tree and return it with a wrapped gift with the tag attached by Thursday, Dec. 16. Parent volunteers will help with the delivery of the gifts.

For information, call 767-2511.

## Special ed parents schedule meeting

The R-C-S Special Ed parents support group will hold its next meeting tonight, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. at Pieter B. Coeymans Elementary School.

For information, call 756-2214.

## Becker PTA to host a holiday gift shop

The A.W. Becker Parent Teacher Association will host its annual holiday gift shop at the school on Friday, Dec. 10, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A varied selection of quality

gifts priced from 50 cents to \$7 will be available.

The sale is open to the public. For information, call 767-9289.

## Children's literature on PTA agenda

The Becker PTA will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. at the school.

Rita Silverman, a teacher at R-C-S Middle School, will speak on children's literature. Child care is available at \$1 per child.

For information, call 767-9518.

## Leadership teams schedule meetings

The Pieter B. Coeymans Elementary School Building Leadership Team will meet on Monday, Dec. 13, at 3:30 p.m. at the school.

The A.W. Becker Elementary School team will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 3:30 p.m. at the school and the R-C-S Middle School BLT will meet Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. at the school.

## Funds donated to R-C-S by Blue Circle Cement

The R-C-S Senior High School is the recipient of \$14,505 donated by Blue Circle Cement of Ravena to help develop the journalism studio.

Twelve Macintosh computers

and a laserprinter were purchased with the donation.

Peter Buttiker, Blue Circle Cement, plant manager and community resident, asked that the studio be dedicated to George E. Bleezarde to honor his lifelong contributions to both the community and the school district.

## Brownie Troop 59 holds Investiture

Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council, Brownie Troop 59 of the Ravena Neighborhood, recently held its Rededication and Investiture Ceremony at A.W. Becker Elementary School.

Five first-year Scouts received their Brownie pins. They are: Sarah Anderson, Krista Gudcz, Stephanie Scalzo, Sarah Schools and Tia Whitton.

Six second-year Brownies received their World Trefoil pins. They are: Ashley Beach, Jacqueline Bintz, Holly Cafiero, Aimee Babcock Ellis, Jessie Hamilton and Krystal Nates.

Scout leaders Michele Bintz and Pat Hamilton were also invested into the Girl Scout Association.

Parents and family members attended this candlelighting ceremony and breakfast reception. Junior Troop 838 came as helpers and participated in various segments of the program.

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# Celebrate world's holidays

Children and families are invited to participate in holiday traditions at "Celebration All Around," on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. Experience the majestic wonder and simple charm of stories of celebrations from around the world at this special community event featuring storyteller Anne Brew and classical pianist Adalena Kirvochiena.



Brew, a Delmar resident, is an artist and teacher at the Center for the Disabled and has been a storyteller for more than 10 years. She writes many of her own stories and uses puppets she creates herself to make stories come alive for her special needs students.

At the celebration, she will tell two stories she wrote, one about Chinese New Year using a dragon puppet, and "The Eight Lights," a story about a little boy named Alexander and how he and his family celebrate Hanukkah.

She will also read the American classic "The Night Before Christmas."

She will be joined by local high school student Mita Gupta, who will tell and sing a folk song about the Diwali festival in India. Diwali, or "Festival of Lights," is a celebration that occurs in the fall and marks the start of the Hindu New

Year.

Adelena Kirvochiena, a former citizen of the U.S.S.R., will accompany the stories on the piano.

Playing the piano since she was 5, she studied and taught at the Leningrad and Kiev music conservatories. Seeking religious and artistic freedom, Kirvochiena decided to remain in the United States while on tour with the Kiev National Ukrainian Theater in 1990.

"Adelena will play one song that originated in Russia, but that everyone will recognize," Brew said. "A program like this shows how small the world is."

The festivities will conclude with a gathering of good cheer. Please bring a half-dozen of your favorite holiday cookies to share and the library will provide punch. Call 439-9314 to RSVP. The program is not suited for children under age 4.

Toddlers are invited to "Let's Play," a story, craft and activity time exploring the many avenues of play on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 10:30 a.m., and Monday, Dec. 13, at 10:30 a.m. Children will create Cindy and Cedric, the shape-sorter caterpillar game. Children age 22 months to their third birthday are invited, along with an accompanying adult. Call 439-9314 to RSVP.

During winter vacation, the library will show free "School's Out Films." On Tuesday, Dec. 28,

at 10 a.m., kids in grade-three and up are invited to see "The Hoboken Chicken Emergency" and "Jacob Have I Loved." Children in preschool through grade-two are invited to see "The Mouse and the Motorcycle" and "The Snowman" on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at 10 a.m.

The lucky winner of the Children's Book Week "Wish-upon-a-Book" contest is Allison Kuta, age 11 of Delmar, a sixth-grader at St. Thomas School. She wished for a copy of her favorite book, *Sixteen: Short Stories by Outstanding Writers for Young Adults*. The Children's Room author of the month is David Macaulay, author of *Unbuilding, Ship, Castle* and many other books for children and young adults. Also during December, Sheila Lobel of Delmar will display her collection of Russian dolls.

Anna Jane Abaray

## BC football boosters sell Christmas trees

The Bethlehem Football Boosters sponsor their annual Christmas Tree Sale at Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., on Saturdays and Sundays until Christmas, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All proceeds will go toward the purchasing of uniforms and equipment.

## Tri-Village AARP sets safe driving course

The Tri-Village Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons is planning a "55 Alive Safe Driving Course" on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 28 and 29, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

Those completing the course will receive a 10 percent discount on their automobile liability and collision insurance.

The course costs \$8. For information, call 439-4955, ext. 170. Preregistration is requested.

## HOME ALONE

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## Holiday creation



Artist Diane Wozniak helps 6-year-old Amanda Dionne of Voorheesville create a holiday card Saturday at the Voorheesville Public Library. Elaine McLain



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# Life's but a dream program

Dream a Little Dream is the theme of a special family evening story hour scheduled at the library on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m.

Youth Services Librarian Linda Fasano will be sharing favorite books on the subject, including *A Giraffe on the Moon*, which cap-

at 10 a.m., Wednesdays at 4 p.m., and Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Registration is not required, and there is no minimum age.

Adults will have their pick of literary activities this week with a meeting of the Writers Group set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9, and a gathering of Quiet Voices, the new women's writing group on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.

The Writers Group, aka the "Every Other Thursday Nite Poets," are quite excited to have three of their members reading at Borders Books and Music, 59 Wolf Road in Colonie, on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m.

Group coordinator Barbara Vink will share the spotlight with fellow poets Larry Rapant and Tom

Corrado.

For information about any of the library's writing programs, call Vink at 765-2791.

The Nimblefingers Needlework group and the Library Quilters continue to meet Tuesdays from 1 until 3 p.m. under the tutelage of Magdalene Zeh and Linda O'Connor respectively. Anyone is welcome to join the group.

The library's annual Food for Fines program kicks off next Wednesday, Dec. 15, giving patrons a chance to contribute to local food pantries and clear up their overdue charges at the same time.

Through Jan. 15, library users can pay off fines, up to a maximum of \$3, by substituting one food item for each dollar owed.

Canned goods, pasta and boxed convenience foods are especially needed. Glass items will not be accepted. All food will be distributed to local families through the Human Concerns Committee of St. Matthew's Church.

Stop by with a bag of groceries, even if you don't owe any fines, and take this chance to help your community.

Works in pen and ink and oil by Jean Eaton of Voorheesville are on display this month. Her paintings are primarily of birds and wildlife of the Northeast.

Also on exhibit are examples of pottery in the Native American tradition done by students in Marie Triller's art classes at Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School.

Christine Shields

## Citgo donation



Scott Gebbie, general manager of the Citgo Terminal, presents volunteer Mary Martinage with a \$500 check for the Bethlehem Food Pantry. At right is Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce president Marty Cornelius.

## Voorheesville Public Library

tures the magic of a child's imaginative dreams with its whimsical illustrations. A video and a craft activity are also on the agenda. All are welcome.

Daytime story hours continue through Friday, Dec. 17, on Mondays at 10:30 a.m., Tuesdays

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## Delmar church to host winter farmers' market

Just to prove that area farmers don't hibernate during the cold weather, the Capital District Farmers' Market Association will host a holiday farmers' market on Saturday, Dec. 11, at the First United Methodist Church, 421 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar.

Among the homegrown and

handmade local farm products for sale will be apples, homemade bread, tie-dyed clothing, herbs, cheese, bean sprouts, homemade pies and cakes, jellies, holiday craft items, houseplants, flowers and handmade children's clothing.

By special arrangement, Girl Scout Troop 396 will be selling handmade holiday gift bags as a fund-raiser.

Also, Geurtze's barbecue chicken to go will be ready for sale at noon. Due to limited supply, orders should be placed by Friday night, at 439-7760.

Call 732-2991 for information.

### Village to sponsor Christmas party

The Voorheesville Firehouse will host a Christmas party for village kids on Sunday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 2 p.m.

The event, sponsored by the Voorheesville Village Board, fire department and fire auxiliary will include entertainment, snacks and a visit from Santa.

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## Snarls

(From Page 1)

said, not only in Bethlehem, but in the region as a whole. In 1980, there were about 70 registered vehicles for every 100 drivers. In 1990, that ratio increased to 85 cars for every 100 drivers.

"We're fast approaching the saturation point," he said. Other parts of the country, such as Denver and Los Angeles, have already reached that level and by the turn of the century the Capital District is expected to join the ranks.

The problem unique to Bethlehem, Jukins is expected to tell the board, is that the major arterials in town are old farm-to-market roads that serve a multitude of businesses and residences in addition to the abundance of commuter traffic making its way into Albany.

There's a limit to how much the load can be lightened on streets like Kenwood, Elsmere and Delaware avenues or Feura Bush Road, which in turn lessens the quality of life for people living in the vicinity of these roads, Jukins said.

The CDTC has been examining more than 40 different options provided by the town planning department for easing the congestion, but none of them will be easy to implement because of the town's unique topography.

There are a lot of streams and ravines that add enormously to

the cost of doing anything, Jukins said. "There just aren't any straightforward solutions."

The emphasis may need to be on better management of the existing corridors, he said, like consolidation of driveways serving business and commercial establishments.

In the meantime, the CDTC is continuing to press forward with plans to construct an extension of the Slingerlands bypass from the Blue Cross/Blue Shield building south to Cherry Avenue. That would eliminate about 50 percent of the traffic that accumulates each day on New Scotland Road, he said.

Also on the CDTC funding list is a bypass for Route 396 in Selkirk that will hopefully remove much of the truck traffic that rumbles through the hamlet at all hours of the night and day.

Although funding of these projects must still be procured, the design work is proceeding.

The CDTC traffic study, which is still in draft form, will be incorporated into the town master plan once it is finalized.

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## Crafts fair



Justin Rivituso, left, Thressa Hotaling, and Bridget Hotaling enjoy the Bethlehem Ambulance Service's recent crafts fair held at the new building. Elaine McLain

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## Middle school library seeks plants, posters

Mary Hill, librarian at the Bethlehem Central Middle School, said the library is seeking plants, posters, floor pillows and holiday decorations to liven up the decor.

To help, contact Hill at 439-7460.

## Delmar man named policy institute head

Delmar resident David F. Schaffer has been named president of the Public Policy Institute, the not-for-profit research affiliate of the Business Council of New York State, Inc.

The institute has concentrated its studies on such issues as New York state tax and fiscal policy, containment of health care costs and education reform.

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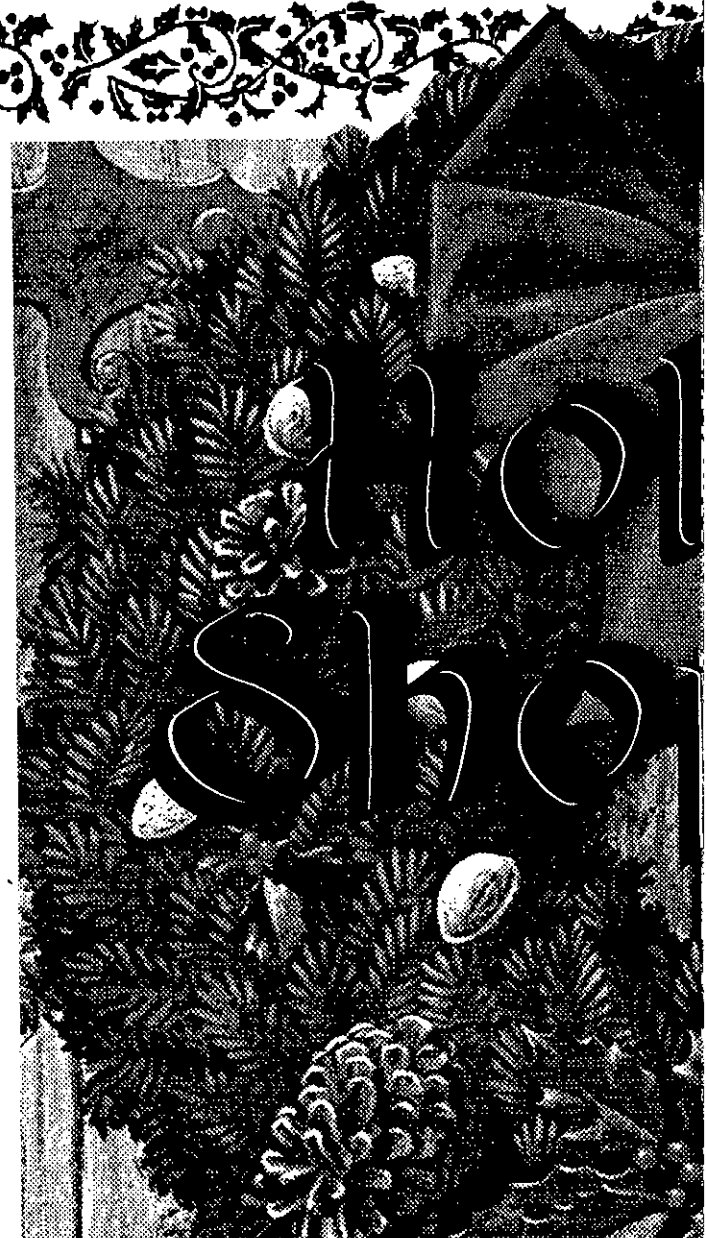


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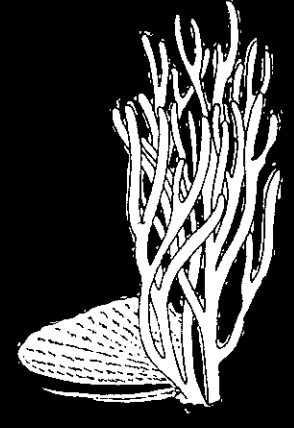
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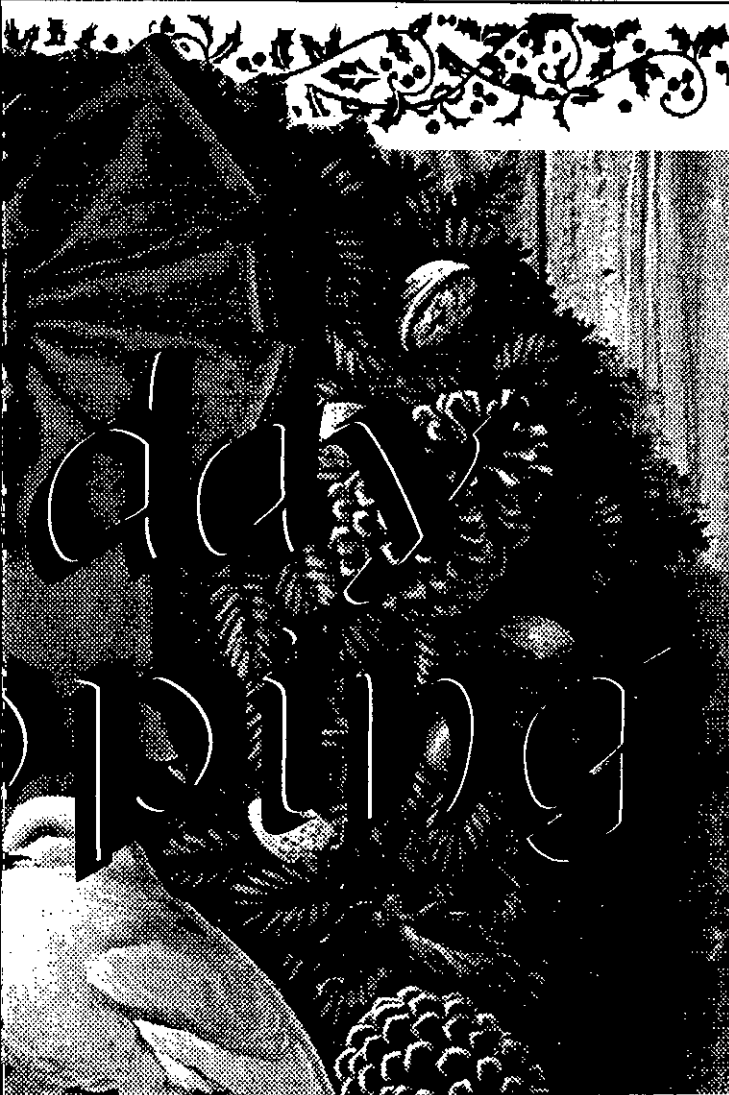
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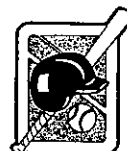
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# SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

## Jesse Braverman helps BBC kick off its season

The opening ceremony for the Bethlehem Basketball Club (BBC) this past Sunday at the Middle School featured the traditional player and coach introductions as well as a tribute to Bethlehem high school coach and educator Jesse Braverman.

In his address to the large crowd, Braverman spoke of the positive effect that coaches can have as role models as well as the key role that family plays in an athlete's life. A full slate of games in every division followed the opening ceremony.

In the All-Star Division, a balanced scoring attack helped the Hawks upend the Sixers 38-31. For the Hawks, Rory McNerney and Mark Winterhoff led the way, while Pete Wagle grabbed seven rebounds for the Sixers.

Geoff Linstruth scored 16 points to pace the Magic over the Heat 50-40. Matt Tulloch scored 16 points to keep the Heat close

throughout the game.

Geoff Hunter's two, three-pointers were not enough as the Mavs fell to a tough Spurs squad 61-47. Eric Hjeltne led the way for the winners with 24 points.

Chris Brown and Jayson Feliciano combined for 31 points to help the Rockets defeat the Bucks 42-29. For the Bucks, Brain Davies scored six points and pulled down eight rebounds.

In Pro Division play, Jon Burroughs hit a jump shot at the buzzer to lift the Pistons past the Celtics 34-32. Dan Rosenthal blocked two shots and grabbed nine rebounds to help the Celtics.

In spite of Pat Hughes' 30 points, the Lakers downed the Bulls 46-36. Brendan Bannigan poured in 15 points to lead the winner's attack.

Josh Plattner dished out seven assists and scored five points as the Nets thumped the Hornets

30-18. The Hornets were led by Josh Myer with six points.

The Nuggets used a fast-breaking offense to throttle the Knicks 44-20. Nick Conger and Ryan Schreen combined for 22 points to lead the winners while Dennis Clarke contributed four points and three assists for the losers.

College Division action also was marked by close games and outstanding efforts. Providence downed Seton Hall 37-23 as Tim Corson paced the winners with 10 points. Melissa Pinchback played stubborn defense and grabbed six rebounds for Seton Hall.

Miami edged Pitt 30-29 as Lauren Murray scored nine points for the winners. Ian Morgan played well on both sides of the court as he scored 10 points and played stingy defense for Pitt.

In an exciting, hard-fought contest, Georgetown edged Villanova 32-26.



Mildred Braverman, left, and wife Debbie Allen, helped pay tribute to coach Jesse Braverman during Bethlehem Basketball Club ceremonies Sunday.



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## BC boys swim team expected to repeat

By Scott Isaacs

The Bethlehem Central Varsity Boys Swim Team has been undergoing weeks of brutal practices to prepare for what could be its 22nd consecutive Section II title and 24th straight undefeated season in Section II.

The quest to continue this amazing legacy began on Tuesday, Dec. 7, versus Niskayuna at home.

BC Coach Ken Neff has high hopes for the season. "We have no excuses this year. We are heavily favored to win sectional and the state state championship. If we lose, it is due to lack of effort. The team looks great on paper and is prepared to win."

Bethlehem's sectional rivals, Shaker, Burnt Hills and Shenendehowa "have a few great swimmers, but are not as solid all around as we are," said Neff. "Our toughest competition this year comes

from out-of-section rivals Tappan Zee and New Hartford, the only teams to beat us last year."

Neff would not identify any individual standouts, stating that "this is a team where everyone is equal." Although he did say the team needed to improve on its sprint freestyles before the start of the season.

The motivation for the team this year is to defeat Tappan Zee, who blew out the Eagles last year. They get their chance for revenge on Saturday, Dec. 18, at Tappan Zee.

"They are tough, mainly because they train year-round. It should be a lot closer this year, and I'm really looking forward to it," Neff said.

This year's team is strong and eager to win. Another sectional victory and state championship would be the icing on the cake for an already impressive history.

## New girls coach has high hopes

By Jaime Czajka

Bethlehem basketball is nothing new to Lady Eagles coach Kim Zornow.

A 1985 BC graduate, she played varsity ball for all four years in high school and continued playing in college. She also brings considerable coaching credentials to her new job.

This year's team will see a new basketball philosophy, Zornow promised. "I'm instilling a different way of approaching the game to my team this year. My philosophy is to fast break at every opportunity. I believe in a fast-paced game. Controlled fast breaks allow the ball to be pushed up the floor continuously."

This philosophy has thus far proven successful. The girls defeated Troy in the finals of the Troy Tournament on Wednesday, Nov. 23.

"We really came together as a team to win the tournament," she

## Basketball

said. "Even though it was early in the season, a lot worked well and we looked good. I was very pleased."

This year's starting five is composed of two seniors, one junior and two sophomores.

Sophomores Kate Sherwin and Kiley Shortell are no strangers to varsity basketball. As freshmen, they both received considerable playing time. Sherwin will be the starting point guard.

"Katie is an excellent defender," Zornow said. "She makes sure that our offense is being run correctly and really takes charge out there."

Shortell, a starting forward, is a very hard-worker, the coach said. "Kiley is a very precise shooter and a great ball-handler. This reflects on her hard work at practice and dedication to the team."

Senior Sheila McCaughlin was

one of the high scorers last season. As co-captain, she is expected to be an offensive threat. "Sheila has a great outside shot, which gives us room inside," Zornow said.

Senior Sarah Mineau is an all-around type player and an incredible team leader, according to the coach. As a power forward and team co-captain, she will have the opportunity to shoot, rebound and dribble — all tasks that she completes quite well.

"Mineau is one of the hardest workers on this team," Zornow said. "She is strong in many areas of the game and has the ability to play at various positions."

Last, but not least, is junior center Karena Zornow. As the second highest scorer last year and team rebounding leader, she has made her mark as a potent offensive threat and as a defense stalwart. Her ability to shoot, rebound, dribble and block shots are just a few of the reasons she is recognized as one of the best players in the Suburban Council.

"Karena has excellent fundamentals," the coach said. "She rebounds well and has the potential to be a scoring threat as well as being intimidating defensively."

There is a lot of depth on this team, according to coach Zornow, and every player is just as important as the next. "My number one goal is to move together as a team and support each other at all times. At practice, we always work on team fundamentals and I stress that we will win games together and lose games together."

The Lady Eagles' stiffest competition will be Burnt Hills and Columbia. Both teams have been strong in the past.

"I don't like to say whether or not we're going to beat other schools, but I would really like to win our division."

The other players on the 11-member squad include seniors Melanie Dale, a guard, and Casey Cannistraci, a small forward; juniors Julie Davidson, a 6'3" center, and Leah Staniels, also a center; Sara Battles and Colleen Doody, both juniors, can play both the guard and forward positions.

The first regular season game is Saturday, Dec. 11, against Mohonasen at home. "I'm very excited for the season to get underway," Zornow said.

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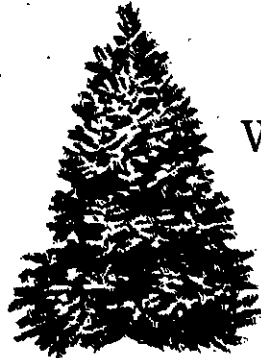


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# VV girls off and running BC boys fall to Colonie

By Jacob Van Ryn

It's getting close to the time of year when Santa Claus makes his annual appearance, so that must mean that the high school basketball season is just getting under way.

This means that the Voorheesville girls head basketball coach, Nadine Bassler, is preparing her team for play in the always-competitive Colonial Council.

This year the league will be extremely tight, with Holy Names and Lansingburgh leading the way. "I definitely feel that those two are the top teams in the league," Bassler said. "This year it appears that there will be a lot of teams in the pack. The league is very evenly matched."

"Hopefully, if we stay healthy and continue to play better each game, we can better our 9-9 record from last year."

The team started off their season on the right foot on Thursday, Dec. 2, when they defeated Greenville 52-33 in a non-league matchup. "Our press wore them down," Bassler said, "and we were able to get some easy baskets."

Their winning ways continued

on Friday, Dec. 3, when the girls traveled to Mechanicville to begin league play. The Birds defeated the Red Raiders 40-22, behind a balanced scoring attack.

The scoring was paced by freshman Kristin Person, who led the team with 10 points. Kristin Dougherty had eight, while Kelly Griffin chipped in with six.

Bassler said she was happy with the even distribution of scoring through the first two games. "We have a very unique attack on offense. It's nice to have and it's something that I haven't had in awhile."

This Birdsteam is a very young with only has one senior, Megan McCartney. Rounding out the squad are juniors Cristie Arena, Jamie Conklin, Kristin Dougherty, Kelly Griffin, Jen Person and Jessica Reed; sophomore Jill Klefbeck and two freshmen, Becky Dawson and Kristin Person.

"It's nice to have such a young group, because I feel that we will be strong for several years," Bassler said.

By Joshua Kagan

The Bethlehem basketball team (1-1) opened their season by finishing second in the Colonie Tip-Off Tournament, beating LaSalle with a thrilling comeback and losing to Colonie in the final.

The Colonie Raiders won the championship 61-51 on Saturday, Dec. 4. Colonie opened up an 18-point lead by halftime. The Eagles cut the gap in the second half, but couldn't come back far enough.

"They played a lot of different defenses and we didn't respond well to them," BC point guard Rob Kind said. "We didn't run our offense. They're pretty good, but I think we could have beaten them, because we won the second half by 10 points."

Bethlehem didn't have to play against Colonie star Joe Trimarchi. However, this may have hurt the Eagles more than the Raiders.

"It was probably bad for us," said Kind, "because I think we got excited thinking that it would be easier for us to win, so we didn't come out as strong as we should have."

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**Girls:** Michelle Yates 171 and 495 triple.

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## Bartholomew tribute

The Voorheesville wrestling team will honor former standout wrestler David Bartholomew on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. at the high school.

The team will formally recognize the new school trophy case that has been purchased through the David Bartholomew Memorial Fund, established in his honor after his death in 1992.

The recognition will take place prior to the first home wrestling match against Coxsackie.

David was a member of the team from 1989-92.

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# Coach Carrk hopes VV boys team keeps improving

By Kelly Griffin

"Right now, we are such a question mark," said coach Skip Carrk of his Voorheesville boys basketball team.

This year's relatively young flock of Blackbirds is lacking in players with varsity experience, having only two returnees from last year's squad.

Dave Burch and Josh White, both juniors, had good seasons last year. Carrk will rely on these young men to act as leaders for the less experienced team members.

The team consists of one senior, six juniors, and possibly three sophomores. For the sole senior Steve Halligan, this will be his basketball debut.

Juniors Jacob Van Ryn, Eliot Cresswell, Adam Keller, Robert Baron, Burch and White make up the core of the team, while sophomores Brandon Emerick, Mike Beadnell and Thom Iarossi round out the squad.

"The sophomores may not be permanent," said Carrk. "I can still move them down to JV after four or five games. If they're not ready, I don't want to rush them."

"The league is really strong this year," Carrk said. "A lot of the teams that have traditionally been at the bottom have gotten better. I expect Schalmont, Watervliet, Ravena and Albany Academy to be competing for the title."

"We've been among the top four teams in the league for the last four or five years. I would like to do that again."

In an exciting season-opener, the Blackbirds faced Mechanicville at home on Friday, Dec. 3. The two teams proved to be evenly matched, as neither led by much more than a couple of points.

"We were three-up, three-down, two-up, and so on all night long. I think it was a very well-played high school game," said

Unfortunately, the outcome of the game did not favor Voorheesville. The score was tied at 44 with one minute left to play.

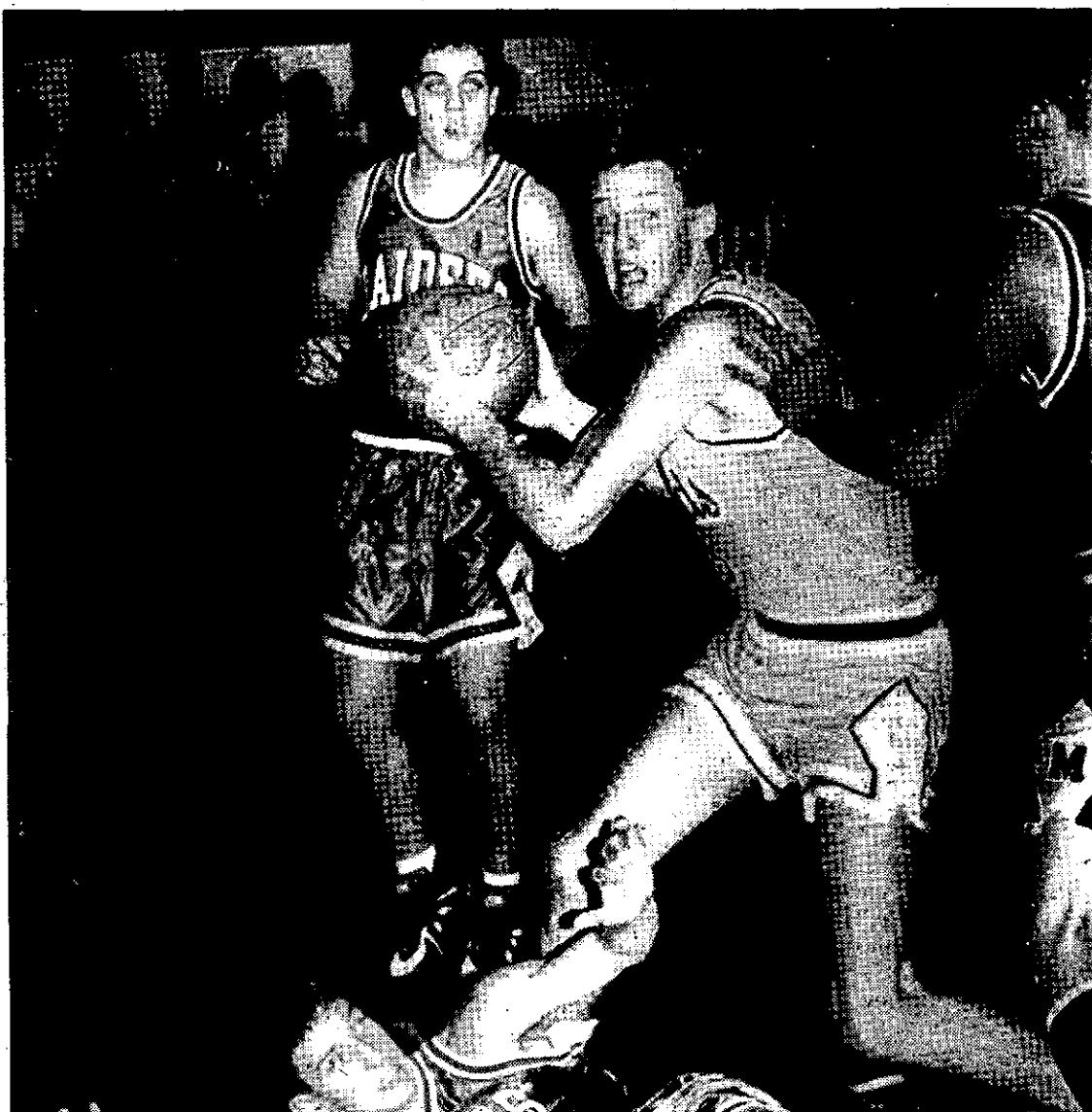
A couple of unlucky breaks sent Mechanicville to the line twice, where they were a perfect four for four. The final score was 48-44.

Blackbird center Dave Burch was the big story for Vville that night. He hit 10 of 14 shots from the field, and was three for four from the foul line.

In addition, Burch also tallied nine rebounds, eight steals and six blocked shots.

Adam Keller had an excellent game at point guard, as did Brandon Emerick, who played for the freshman team last year.

The Blackbirds have an important Colonial Council game on Friday at Watervliet.



Blackbird center Dean Burch fends off a group of Mechanicville players during action last Friday at home. The Blackbirds dropped a close one 48-44. Jonathan Getnick

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## Loans

(From Page 1)

the program. "If you're one of the first five, you'll probably get a lot of attention," she said. "I think they should go after it."

There is a required \$350 fee to file the application. If a loan request is denied, \$100 of that will be refunded.

Laura Taylor, owner of Laura Taylor Ltd. in Delmar and at Stuyvesant Plaza, is on a new committee that will oversee loan decisions. The committee will meet monthly to consider the applications under new guidelines.

Applicants must demonstrate a need for financing and a means to repay the loan. No loans will be given to government agencies, and loans will be made to businesses in Albany County and to businesses owned by county residents.

Special consideration will be given to businesses owned by

women and other minorities as well as technology-oriented businesses. Taylor said the application fee is used for administrative costs — or for the time and expertise that goes into filling out the application. If a consultant were to perform these services, she said, the cost would be far greater.

"The whole purpose of the loan fund is to create jobs in Albany County," said Taylor. Resurrecting the fund comes at a particularly opportune time, since banks aren't granting many loans especially for start-up businesses. "There's going to be money available for start ups," she said.

"Any business that needs money and is having trouble getting it from a bank should look into this," Taylor said.

The Al Tech fund was created as a revolving loan fund in 1976 as part of an agreement with Al Tech Specialty Steel of Albany and Chautauqua counties. As Al Tech paid back the loan, it was put into

a self-sustaining revolving loan fund. Loans have not been granted in the last two years because of questions about the financing of the Albany County Olympic Ice Rink in Colonie.

Hoblock, who will serve as an ex officio member of the loan committee, said reinstating the fund will promote growth in the county.

"Albany County needs an edge to keep new businesses here and to assist them and others who want to grow with us. We have location and environment along with the best people you'll find anywhere," Hoblock said.

Hoblock's office began working to restructure the fund in early 1992 and received approval for the new guidelines and structure from the U.S. Commerce Department Economic Development Administration.

## Stop

(From Page 1)

of any new stop signs on Fernbank, while other members had reservations about whether the new signs would actually help deter speeding and reduce the volume of cars on the street.

"Even though we weren't convinced that this was the right solution, we felt that the neighborhood feelings were strong enough that it should allowed a chance to work," said Police Lt. Richard Vanderbilt, committee chairman.

In the spirit of compromise, the committee agreed to recommend installation of the new signs provided that the traffic situation was reviewed after one year's time.

If the new signs fail to have the desired effect, the committee will likely recommend to the town board that the local law permitting them be repealed.

"I don't know if it would have

passed our committee if that caveat had not been added," Vanderbilt said.

Residents of Fernbank and adjoining streets have pushed hard for the additional signs because of rising concern over the heavy volume of traffic using the road as a shortcut to Delaware Avenue.

Many of the neighbors expressed fear for the safety of schoolchildren because of the lack of sidewalks, combined with the apparent speeding problem.

About 195 neighbors signed petitions seeking the stop signs at Brookside. They are particularly concerned about speeding along the stretch of Fernbank between Wisconsin and Palmer avenues.

In Selkirk

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Andy's Subs, Bonfare, Deli  
Plus, 3 Farms, and Stewarts

## Help

(From Page 1)

Ricky Talmage, patient services coordinator, said she can't say enough about the contribution the drivers give. "They're just irreplaceable. ... They just don't give rides ... they act as a friend" to the patients. "It goes beyond transportation," said Talmage, who added that the demand for drivers has "grown incredibly."

Charles Estey of Bethlehem said when he heard of the need for drivers at a meeting of the Second Milers Club, he decided to join up. "I like to drive. I enjoy it. The people are pleasant and appreciate what you do," Estey said he has taken people from as far

away as Rotterdam and Amsterdam for daily treatments. But that's no problem since Estey likes driving so much.

DeForest Whipple was another driver who came to the program after a bout with cancer himself. "I was one of the fortunate to recover and went back to volunteering. ... Now, volunteers are very, very low," he said. "It's a very rewarding experience. All the volunteers are great people."

To volunteer as a driver, or just to learn more about Road to Recovery, call Talmage at the cancer society's Albany County unit at 438-7841.


## Winter activities set at Elm Avenue Park

Elm Avenue Park in Delmar will offer activities such as skating, sledding, hockey, cross country skiing and snowmobiling this winter as weather permits.


For skating information, call the park at 439-4131.

## Blood pressure screening slated

The Town of Bethlehem Blood Pressure Screening will be in the auditorium of the Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., on Tuesday, Dec. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



### Southwood Tennis & Fitness Club

<p><b>Gift Certificates Available</b></p> <p><b>\$35 per month</b></p> <p>20% off 6 months</p> <p>Special Weekend Rates: \$20, \$35/couple, \$10/child</p> <p> <b>NURSERY</b></p>	<p>Aerobics Classes Cardiovascular Equipment Muscle toning Circuit.</p> <p>Corporate Memberships Available</p> <p>No Membership fee</p> <p>Unlimited Aerobics Classes</p> <p><b>787 South to 9W &amp; Southern Blvd., Albany</b> (behind Howard Johnson's Restaurant)</p>	<p><b>Daily &amp; Weekly Rate Available for visiting family &amp; friends.</b></p>
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Lucy Wall and Stephen Reilly

## Wall, Reilly marry

Lucy Anne Wall, daughter of James and Estelle Wall of Elsmere, and Stephen Clark Reilly, son of Wayne and Pamela Reilly of Roanoke, Va., were married Sept. 18.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. James Daly in the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Delmar, with a reception following at the Altamont Manor.

The maid of honor was Elin Swanson, and bridesmaids were Debbie Kranz and Janice Lopez.

The best man was Peter Reilly, brother of the groom, and ushers

were George Catledge and Todd Smith.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Cornell University and New York University Law School. She is employed as an assistant attorney general by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The groom is a graduate of Middlebury College and Harvard Law School. He is employed by the firm of Hale & Dorr in Boston.

After a wedding trip to Portugal and the Azores, the couple lives in Boston.

## Audubon Society sets annual bird count

More than 43,000 people from Alaska to Brazil will spend one day counting and recording birds as part of the National Audubon Society's 94th annual Christmas bird count, from Friday, Dec. 17, to Monday, Jan. 3.

The Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club will co-sponsor three local bird counts. The Schenectady count will be on Saturday, Dec. 18, the southern Rensselaer count on Sunday, Dec. 26, and the Troy count on Sunday, Jan. 2.

For information, call Bill Lee at 374-3426 about the Schenectady county, Frank Murphy at 482-1942 on the southern Rensselaer count or Cliff Lamere at 462-9827 on the Troy count.

## Delmar woman named employee of the month

Kelley Harling of Delmar has been awarded the Albany Medical Center Hospital Employee Recognition of the Month Award for August.

Harling is a physical therapist and inpatient manager of the physical medicine and rehabilitation department at the Albany Medical Center. She has worked at the hospital for four years.

## Hogan joins club at Bates College

James F. Hogan, son of Frank and Dorothy Hogan of Delmar, is currently a member of the Outing Club Council at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.

The club, the second oldest of its kind in the country, plans weekend activities including hiking, cycling, canoeing, and skiing trips.



Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Moren

## Mielnik, Moren marry

Jane Alison Mielnik, daughter of Ethel Mielnik of Delmar and Ewaryst Mielnik of Daytona Beach, Fla., and Dr. Dennis Robert Moren, son of Larry and Elma Moren of Swanzey, N.H., were married Sept. 11.

The ceremony was performed by the Revs. Jane Borden and Robert Hess in Saratoga Springs Methodist Church, with a reception following at the Bass Manor in Malta.

The maid of honor was Alison Hahn, niece of the bride. Bridesmaids were Sharon Gretter, Stacy Goldfarb and Meghan Mielnik, niece of the bride.

The best man was Chris Cluff, and ushers were Dan Moren, brother of the groom, Dave Mazgaj, Dean Sophocles and Ed Krukowski.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and SUNY Morrisville. She is currently attending Russell Sage College.

The groom is a graduate of Bates College and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. He is a dentist in Cobleskill, Schoharie County.

After a wedding trip to the Rockies and the Pacific Northwest, the couple lives in Cobleskill.

## TOWNSCAPE

Balancing growth and conservation in the 21st century  
A forum on the Bethlehem Master Plan



The Land Use Management Advisory Committee (L.U.M.A.C.) invites you to attend a workshop in your neighborhood to discuss the Draft Master Plan for the Town of Bethlehem

How will the plan affect your community; your neighborhood; your streets and roads; your environment; the places where you work, shop and play; and the community you want?

## COME JOIN US!!!

North Bethlehem Fire House • Monday, DECEMBER 13, 1993 at 7:30 p.m.

Glenmont Elementary School • Wednesday, DECEMBER 15, 1993 at 7:30 p.m.

Slingerlands Elementary School • Thursday, DECEMBER 16, 1993 at 7:30 p.m.

Selkirk Fire House No. 1 (Maple Ave.) • Wednesday, JANUARY 5, 1994 at 7:30 p.m.

Town of Bethlehem Town Hall • Thursday, JANUARY 6, 1994 at 7:30 p.m.

Attend any meeting and hear a brief presentation covering the implications of the plan for the Town in general. Discussion will then focus on what the plan means in your area. A question and answer period will follow.

## L.U.M.A.C.

## Special on WMMT CHANNEL 17

The Continuing Adventures of the Rolling Stones: 25 X 5  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Are You Being Served? Christmas Special  
Thursday, 10:40 p.m.

The Nutcracker with Mikhail Baryshnikov  
Friday, 8 p.m.

Benny Goodman: Adventures in the Kingdom of Swing  
Saturday, 9 p.m.

Carreras, Domingo, Pavarotti in Concert  
Sunday, 8:55 p.m.

A Peter, Paul & Mary Holiday Concert  
Monday, 8 p.m.

NOVA: Taller Than Everest?  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.

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Charles Hite and Nancy Doran

## Hite, Doran to marry

Charles Allen Hite of Delmar, son of Paul Hite of Castleton and Mary Luter of Suffolk, Va., and Nancy Elizabeth Doran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Doran of Troy, are engaged to be married.

The future groom is a graduate of Maple Hill High School. He is a licensed surveyor and owner of

his own surveying firm in Ravena.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Catholic Central High School, Dean Junior College, SUNY Cortland and Russell Sage College. She is a teacher with the Enlarged School District of Troy.

The couple plans a July 1994 wedding.



Elizabeth Kane and Peter Glass

## Kane, Glass to marry

Richard and Connie Kane of Voorheesville announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Marie Kane, to Peter T. Glass III, son of June Glass and the late Peter T. Glass II of Rensselaer.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton High School and Hudson Valley Community College. She is employed as a

registered nurse for Personal Health Care Services in Albany.

The future groom is a graduate of Rensselaer High School and attended HVCC. He is employed as a machinist at the Watervliet Arsenal.

The couple plans a May 28, 1994 wedding.

## Births

### St. Peter's Hospital

Girl, Ashley Lynn Touzin, to Jolene Touzin, Selkirk, Oct. 14.

Boy, Ryan James McCall, to Linda and Bernard McCall, Selkirk, Oct. 22.

Boy, Michael Christopher Aleschus, to Catherine Handy and Joseph Aleschus, Voorheesville, Oct. 23.

Boy, Torin James Anders, to Patricia and David Anders, Slingerlands, Oct. 25.

Boy, Matthew Loring Greene, to Ellen Sax and Patrick Greene, Delmar, Nov. 7.

Girl, Brittany Rae Myers, to Kelly and Scott Myers, Glenmont, Nov. 8.

Boy, Adam Harrison Brown, to Kathryn and Stephen Brown, Delmar, Nov. 14.

Boy, Nicholas Carleton Brockley, to Ivy and Thomas Brockley, Voorheesville, Nov. 18.

### Bellevue Hospital

Boy, Logan Michael Taylor, to Kathaleen and Robert Taylor, Slingerlands, Nov. 1.

Girl, Emilie Frances Johnston, to Kathy and Wade Johnston, Delmar, Nov. 7.

### Elsmere Boy Scouts clean up Albany lake

Boy Scout Troop 58 of Elsmere has completed a community service project at the Van Rensselaer Lake Preserve on Fuller Road in Albany.

Working with several students from RPI, the troop recently cleaned up one section of the lakefront.

### Mail weddings, engagements

The Spotlight would like to publish your engagement, wedding or anniversary announcement and photo.

Black and white photos are preferred, but color photos are acceptable. Polaroid photos cannot be printed.

For information and submission forms, call 439-4949. Mail announcements to 125 Adams St., Delmar 12054.



Martha and Richard Eriksen

## Casper, Eriksen marry

Martha Casper, daughter of former Delmar residents Reginald and Betty Casper, and Richard Eriksen, son of Barbara and the late Charles Eriksen of Berne, were married Oct. 2.

The Rev Janice Jenson performed the ceremony in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Berne, with a reception following at the Chariot Banquet House, Guilderland.

The maid of honor was Wanda Bush and the matron of honor was Laura Wilkie.

The best man was Dale Jones, and the usher was Curtis Jessee,

cousin of the groom.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and SUNY Cobleskill. She is employed as a procedures writer for Key Bank.

The groom is a graduate of Berne-Knox-Westerlo High School and attended Hudson Valley Community College. He is an equipment operator for the state Department of Transportation.

After a wedding trip to Nashville, the couple lives in Voorheesville.



## Community orchestra schedules holiday concert of carols

The Delmar Community Orchestra will offer a holiday concert and carol sing-a-long on Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., from 2 to 3 p.m.

The concert is free and open to the public.

## Here's to a Wonderful Wedding!



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# Obituaries

## Tillie Schako

Tillie 'Tekla' Gambal Schako, 94, of Delmar, died Monday, Nov. 29, at her home.

Born in Poland, she emigrated to the United States in 1926. She had lived in Proctor, Vt., with her husband until 1982, when she moved to Delmar to live with her daughter.

She was a member of St. Dominic Church in Proctor and Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar. She also was a member of the Bethlehem Senior Citizens.

She was the widow of John Schako.

Survivors include a daughter, Ann Byer of Delmar; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was the loving friend of Wieslawa Szymanska.

Services were from Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, with burial was in Riverside Cemetery in Proctor.

Arrangements were by Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the St. Thomas Church Memorial Fund.

## Anna Kellogg

Anna E. Kellogg, 88, of the Good Samaritan Home in Delmar, died Thursday, Nov. 25, at the residence.

Born in Minerva, Essex County, she had lived at Good Samaritan since 1992. Mrs. Kellogg was Minerva town clerk for 38 years before retiring in 1980.

She was active in many organizations, including the Minerva Fire Department auxiliary, the Minerva Historical Society, the Minerva Senior Citizens and the Adirondack Tri-County Nursing Home Ladies Auxiliary.

Mrs. Kellogg was a communicant of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Olmstedville, Essex County.

She was the widow of Frank P. Kellogg.

Survivors include two sons, John Kellogg of North Creek, Warren County, and Leo Kellogg of East Greenbush; a sister, Margaret Mitchell of Emporium, Pa.; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Services were from St. Joseph's Church.

Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Irishtown.

Arrangements were by the Edward L. Kelly Funeral Home,

Schroon Lake, Essex County.

Contributions may be made to the Minerva Rescue Squad or the Good Samaritan Home, 125 Rockefeller Road, Delmar 12054.

## Gwendolyn Nelson

Gwendolyn Nelson, 93, of Jordan Boulevard in Delmar, died Monday, Nov. 29, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in Jamaica, West Indies, she moved to this country in 1924. She lived in Queens and on Long Island before moving to Delmar in 1990.

Mrs. Nelson was a communicant of the Black Apostolate of the Diocese of Albany.

She was the widow of John Herbert Nelson.

Survivors include two daughters, Yvonne Nelson of Delmar, and Beverly Gray of Uniondale, Nassau County; a sister, Geraldine Fraser of Randletown, Md.; a brother, Lloyd Creary of Poughkeepsie; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services were from the Black Apostolate, Albany. Arrangements were by the Tebbutt Funeral Home in Albany.

Contributions may be made to the Black Apostolate Church, Livingston Avenue and Thornton Street, Albany.

## John Hansen

John Bjorn Hansen, 83, of Herrick Avenue in Delmar, died Friday, Nov. 19, at his home.

Born and educated in Laeso, Denmark, he moved to the United States in 1928. He lived in Bayport, Suffolk County, and moved to Delmar in 1991.

Mr. Hansen worked as an experimental machinist at Republic Aviation in Farmingdale, Nassau County, retiring in 1975. While at the company, he worked on the landing gear for Apollo 11. He also was a woodworker and cabinet-maker.

Survivors include his wife, Elsie Svenner Hansen; three daughters, Sine Pounder of Cohasset, Mass., Karin Henrikson of Delmar, and Jill Young of East Longmeadow, Mass.; a son, John Hansen of Jamaica Plain, Mass.; three brothers; a sister; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Cremation was at the Gardner Earl Crematory and Chapel.

Arrangements were by the J. Gregory Nealon & Son Funeral

Home, Watervliet.

Contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Program of Northeastern New York, Albany.

## Charles Cornish Jr.

Charles H. Cornish Jr., 58, of Delmar died Sunday, Dec. 5, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in Brooklyn, he was a graduate of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa.

At the time of his death, he was vice president of the Confirm Insurance Agency in Albany. He retired from the Travelers Insurance Co. after 30 years of service in 1989.

Mr. Cornish held professional memberships in the Society of Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters and Associated Risk Managers International.

Survivors include his wife, Sally Land Cornish; a daughter, Virginia Clark of Troy; a son, Charles H. Cornish III of Enfield, Conn.; a sister, Janet Hardy of Maplewood; and two grandchildren.

Services and arrangements were from the Daniel Keenan Funeral Home, Albany.

Contributions may be made to St. Peter's Oncology Unit, Nurses Education Fund, 315 S. Manning Blvd., Albany 12208.

## George Picarazzi Sr.

George L. Picarazzi Sr., 73, of Selkirk died Friday, Dec. 3, at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Phoenix.

Born in Rome, Italy, he came to this country when he was 13-years-old. He served in the Army from 1941 to 1971 and retired as a master sergeant. He served during World War II, was a prisoner of war after being captured in North Africa and held for three years.

Mr. Picarazzi served one tour during the Korean War and two tours in the Vietnam War and received numerous medals.

He was a communicant of St. Patrick's Church in Ravena.

He was husband of the late Jean Passafiume Picarazzi.

Survivors include two daughters, Katherine Parker and Judy Miller, both of Arizona; a son, George L. Picarazzi Jr. of Schenectady; three brothers, Perry Picarazzi of Texas, Louis Picarazzi of Selkirk and Anthony Picarazzi of Ravena; three sisters, Helen Brennan, Victoria Donnelly and Mary Picarazzi, all of Selkirk; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were from St. Patrick's Church.

Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Glenmont.

Arrangements were by the Chicorelli Funeral Home, Albany. Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Albany.

## Albert J. Abrams

Albert J. Abrams, 78, of Thorndale Road in Slingerlands, who served in the New York State Legislature in numerous capacities for more than half a century, died Monday, Dec. 6, at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Born in Stamford, Conn., Mr. Abrams lived in New York City for nearly 10 years. As a young man, he attended a Yeshiva in old Harlem. He subsequently graduated from New York University, where he majored in government.

After teaching at Seward Park High School, he won an internship to Washington, D.C., where worked under Harry Hokens in the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

Mr. Abrams was sent to Albany in 1936 to work for state Senator Thomas C. Desmond for a three month period as a legislative assistant. The job lasted 20 years, until he became city manager of Newburgh, a position he held for several years.

In the Legislature, Mr. Abrams held almost every staff job, from assistant up to Secretary of the Senate. He served as executive director of the Senate Committee on Cities, the state Joint Legislative Committee on Nutrition and the Joint Legislature Committee on Aging, the first such committee in the nation to focus on the problems of older people.

More recently, Mr. Abrams served as a senior policy analyst in the New York State Senate for the past several years. Previously, he was Secretary of the Senate and served as the right-hand man to four successive majority leaders, Walter J. Mahoney, Joseph Zaretzki, Earl Brydges and Warren Anderson, over nearly 30 years.

Mr. Abrams initiated the National Association of Jewish Legislators, which he served as volunteer executive director. He was president of the National Conference of State Legislatures and research director of the National Association of Legislative Leaders. He founded the National Council on Aging. While on the staff of the Legislature, he was instrumental in developing the first known health insurance for retirees; this formed the seedbed for the AARP. Mr. Abrams also served as a management consultant to the United State Senate at one time.

Mr. Abrams also served as an adjunct professor at SUNYA's graduate school in public administration and at Siena College. At SUNYA's downtown campus, a cherry tree and granite plaque memorialize his contributions.

Mr. Abrams was instrumental in developing the field of gerontology, having served as director of the first legislative committee in the country dealing with problems of the aging. As founder of the National Council on the Aging, he served as its president. He wrote the law on state aid for senior citizen centers and other pioneering legislation affecting the aging. He served as president of the Albany Senior Services Center Inc., and initiated its foundation as well as founding the Visiting Nurses Association.

He was chairman of the committee on aging for the United Jewish Appeal, and served on the board of the Daughters of Sarah Nursing Home and B'Nai B'rith Parkview Apartments. His writings on aging have been widely published. His many other activities in the field include the presidency of the Center for the Study of Aging and development of the concept for the Ringel Gerontology Institute.

Mr. Abrams received the Ollie A. Randall Award and the Henrietta Rabe Award for service to the aged and to senior centers.

He won the Alfred E. Smith Award for outstanding administration and the Arthur Levitt Award from the Alliance of Public Employees Association.

Mr. Abrams was a long-time member of the board of directors of the Albany Symphony Orchestra.

Survivors include his wife, Lorena Abrams of Slingerlands and four children, Marc, David, Geni and Valarie.

Services will be Thursday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. from the Levine Memorial Chapel on Washington Avenue in Albany.



Albert J. Abrams

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SPOTLIGHT ON

# Family Entertainment

CALENDAR • ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Booksellers' shelves offer holiday gift potpourri

By Elaine Jackson Cape

In this era of electronic gadgets, when it seems that no new toy on the market takes less than 16 batteries, there is one low-tech gift idea for kids that is actually growing in popularity. Books.

According to Melissa Steen, owner of I Love Books on Delaware Avenue in Delmar, "Kids around here really like to read. They run in after school to see if the newest title by their favorite author is in yet, and they spend their own babysitting or lawn mowing money to buy it."

"It's a real passion for them."

Steen credits the Bethlehem school system with this increase in literary interest. There are a number of programs, she said, beginning in the earliest grades, which promote reading by kids, both alone and with parents.

Denise McCoy, owner of the Bookmark in Newton Plaza, agrees that the proliferation of programs in the schools, especially the introduction of "whole language," is an important factor in the recent upsurge in reading by kids. "Teachers now use literature to teach other subjects, such as history or geography. Eric Carle's books, for example, are often used to teach younger kids about science."

Another trend McCoy has seen is that parents are spending more time reading with and to their children, and at younger and younger ages. Many experts, she said, recommend that parents begin a daily reading program at the age of 3 months.

According to Steen, there are a number of new releases that would make wonderful gifts for the very youngest readers. "Go Away Green Monster," by Ed Emberly, is perfect for kids who are afraid of monsters, and is almost as much fun for

those who aren't, she said.

Using clever cutouts on colorful pages, the book builds up a picture of a scary monster, adding eyes, nose, mouth, hair and other features one by one. Then, page by page, the features disappear, along with the monster.

Another excellent gift idea for preschoolers, she said, is "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" by Iza Trapani. The old story, published for the first time in a book with all six verses, has "beautiful, beautiful

storage for year-round use.

The information is interesting, she said, for modern kids who "think ice always came out of the refrigerator," and the story is moving and beautifully told. The illustrations should also have a personal appeal for area children, she said, since the illustrator lives in Columbia County and bases his pictures on the Hudson Valley.

To add to the book's area appeal, the author and the illustrator will be at I Love Books on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 1 to 3 p.m., to sign their works.

"Santa Calls," illustrated by William Joyce, is "a must" for 6- to 12-year-olds, said McCoy. A fantasy tale, the story is about a boy who makes a wish to go to the North Pole, and then finds out he must take his sister. In the course of defending her from the evil queen, he comes to appreciate his sibling and, in a surprise ending, we find out that this was his sister's wish all along.

"This book really captures the meaning of Christmas, and of sibling rivalry. It works on all levels, even for adults," McCoy said.

For older kids, McCoy advises parents to check their reference books. With all the changes in the world during the past year, many of the atlases and encyclopedias are now out of date. Two updated works which she recommends are "The Rand McNally Children's Atlas" and the "New York Times Atlas of the World."

Another new-release that really appeals to kids over 10, she said, is the "Kids' Cookbook," which carries the subtitle "All recipes made by real kids in real kitchens." Compiled in conjunction with the American Heart Association, the recipes not only offer a "healthy message,"

□ BOOKS/page 32

**Kids around here really like to read. They run in after school to see if the newest title by their favorite author is in yet.**

Melissa Steen

illustrations, with special effects that will appeal to everyone from babies to 5-year-olds."

Adults will really enjoy reading one new book this year, Steen said. "The Reindeer Christmas," by Atsuko Morozumi, tells the story of how Santa tried out different animals to pull his sleigh.

Using "beautiful, soft illustrations," the story also contains an element of humor. The elephants, for example, create predictable problems when they land on a roof.

"When I can read a children's book and laugh out loud, I know this is a book that will have a wide appeal," Steen said.

For slightly older children, from around 6 to 12, Steen highly recommends "The Ice Horse" by Candace Christiansen, illustrated by Thomas Locker. The book, using fictional characters, describes how workers in the past used to cut ice from the river and put it in



Area bookstore owners Melissa Steen, above, and Denise McCoy, below, recommend a number of popular children's books as holiday gifts. Elaine Jackson Cape



## Old-fashioned Christmas on view at area landmarks



This tree, decorated with handmade cards, is on display at Cherry Hill. Elaine McLain

By Mel Hyman

To get a real feel for the particularities of Christmas past, plan on an outing to the Cherry Hill mansion.

Visiting the historic home on Sunday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 5 p.m. you'll get a chance to see what they served for the Christmas meal 80 years ago, plus there's a 10-foot Christmas tree on display adorned with replicas of the greeting cards of the time.

The cards, which have been handmade by schoolchildren and Boy Scouts from throughout the area, are probably worth a gander by themselves. In the commercialized, mass culture of the '90s, people have forgotten that holiday cards were once hand-crafted and considered a work of art.

"We provided the teachers and Scout leaders with a booklet of instructions on the materials used in making the original cards," said Historic Cherry Hill director Liselle LaFrance. "They were far more elaborate than today's cards. Some of them had feathers and lace and were even three-dimensional."

Cherry Hill, which was originally in the Town of Bethlehem, was the home of five generations of an Albany family of van Rensselaers from 1787 until 1963. There are numerous Christmas and New Year's cards in the mansion's permanent collection, particularly from the 1870 to 1980 period.

Since there were very few Christmas tree ornaments left behind, LaFrance believes that the families used these cards

as major holiday decorations.

The holiday celebration at Cherry Hill was actually quite modest. The Christmas meal was prepared for only seven people, including the family. And there was not that much decorating. "Everything was somewhat understated," LaFrance noted.

That doesn't mean there weren't touches of elegance. There will be a stunning set of Chinese Canton china on display Sunday that was used for the Christmas meal.

There will also be music, refreshments and a special display of World War I memorabilia commemorating the 75th anniversary of the war.

Once you finish at Cherry Hill, which is located on South Pearl Street just over the Bethlehem town line, you might want to venture down the road a bit into the south end of Albany to visit the Schuyler Mansion, an 18th century state historic site that was home to General Philip Schuyler.

The holiday program at the Schuyler, which also runs from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, will feature Colonial music, a sing-along of carols and a demonstration of colonial crafts and a scavenger hunt for children.

Visitors to the Schuyler will also enjoy seeing recent restoration efforts along with special holiday decorations provided by the Fort Orange Garden Club.

Admission to both events is free of charge.

# ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

## THEATER

### GREETINGS

by Tom Dudzick, Capital Rep. South Pearl Street, Albany, through Dec. 19, Tuesdays through Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Fridays, 8 p.m., Saturdays, 4:30 and 8:30 p.m., Sundays, 2:30 p.m. Cost, \$16 to \$23. Information, 462-4534.

### DAMES AT SEA

Schenectady Light Opera Company, Opera House, 826 State St., Schenectady, through Dec. 12, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. Cost, \$14, Fridays and Saturdays; \$12, Sundays; Children, half price. Information, 377-5101.

### DANGEROUS LIAISONS

Lab Theatre, Performing Arts Center, University at Albany, through Dec. 11, 8 p.m. Cost, \$8, \$6 students, senior citizens and university staff. Information, 442-3995.

### HEIDI

New York State Theatre Institute, Schacht Fine Arts Center, Russell Sage College, Troy, through Dec. 22. Cost, \$14, \$12 senior citizens and students, \$7 children. Information, 274-3256.

### THE ADDING MACHINE

by Elmer Rice, Western No. 10 Theatre, 500 Western Ave., Albany, Dec. 9, 10, 11, 8 p.m., and Dec. 12, 4 p.m. Cost, \$9, \$8 senior citizens and students. Information, 438-5503.

## A MEDIEVAL MASQUE FOR YULETIDE

Maureen Stapleton Theatre, Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, Dec. 10 and 11, 8 p.m., and Dec. 12, 2 p.m. Cost, \$7.50, \$5 senior citizens and students.

### PITZ AND JOE

Swyer Theatre, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, Thursday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m. Information, 459-7911.

### THE SHEPHERD'S PLAY FROM OBERUFER

performed by the Spring Hill Waldorf School, Dance Theater, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, Sunday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m. Information, 584-7643.

## MUSIC

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

The College of Saint Rose Masterworks Choral and Chamber Singers, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Eagle Street and Madison Avenue, Albany, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. Cost, \$7 adults, \$5 students and senior citizens. Information, 454-5231.

### BOSTON CAMERATA

"Noel, Noel," medieval and Renaissance French Christmas music, Memorial Chapel, Union College, Schenectady, Wednesday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. Information, 388-6172.

### WINTER FEST

concert by Capital Chamber Artists, Doane Stuart Chapel, 799 South Pearl St., Albany, Saturday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. Cost, \$12, \$8 students. Information, 458-9231.

## OUT OF CONTROL

rhythm and blues band, The Bijou, Broadway, Saratoga Springs, Friday, Dec. 10, 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m., and Five Corners Pizzeria, Broadway and Princetown Road, Rotterdam, 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Information, 797-3939.

### PIANO RECITAL

Naskay Kim, freshman at Niskayuna High School, First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Ave., Schenectady, Sunday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m. Information, 370-2781.

### CONCERT

Alan Parsley on French horn and Sylvia Parker on piano, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, 88 Fourth St., Troy, Tuesday, Dec. 14, noon. Information, 273-0038.

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

Russell Sage College Women's Chorus, Bush Memorial Center, Russell Sage Troy Campus, Thursday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m. Information, 270-2246.

### CONCERT

"A Sagette Christmas," Bush Memorial Center, Russell Sage Troy Campus, Friday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Information, 270-2246.

### FOR US A CHILD IS BORN

by J.S. Bach, performed by the choir of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 262 State St., Albany, Sunday, Dec. 12, 10:15 a.m. Information, 436-8544.

## FLASHBACK

"'60s and '70s Show and Dance," Farrington's, Northway Inn, Central Avenue, Albany, Friday, Dec. 10. Information, 438-9953.

### STUDENT UNDERGROUND

The Eighth Step, 14 Willett St., Albany, Friday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Cost, \$4. Information, 434-1703.

### THE STORY

The Eighth Step, 14 Willett St., Albany, Saturday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. Cost, \$10. Information, 434-1703.

### THE MESSIAH

performed by The Capital Hill Choral Society and St. Cecilia Orchestra, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, State and Second streets, Troy, Saturday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. Cost, \$15. Information, 273-0038.

### CHRISTMAS SALUTE

featuring the Capital Chorus/Sweet Adelines International, Uncle Sam Chorus, and the Yankee Doodle Band, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, State and Second streets, Troy, Sunday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m. Cost, \$5. Information, 273-0038.

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

Mendelssohn Club of Albany, Hart Theatre, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, Dec. 10, 8 p.m., and Memorial Chapel, Union College, Schenectady, Sunday, Dec. 12, 3 p.m. Information, 395-8863.

### VOICE OF THE TURTLE

songs of the Sephardic Jews, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, Sunday, Dec. 12, 3 p.m. Cost, \$12, \$8 children. Information, 473-1845.

## PUBLIC CONCERT

University Percussion Ensemble and the University-Community Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Main Theatre, University at Albany Performing Arts Center, Albany, Monday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. Information, 442-3995.

### SENIOR RECITAL

Michele Senitzer, performance artist and composer, Recital Hall, University at Albany Performing Arts Center, Saturday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. Information, 442-3995.

## DANCE

### A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

performed by the eba Dance Theatre, eba Theatre, Lark Street, Albany, Friday, Dec. 10, 10:30 a.m. and Saturday, Dec. 11, 2 p.m. Cost, \$4. Also at the Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, Tuesday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m. Cost, \$5. Information, 465-9916.

### EIGHTH STEP CONTRADANCE

First Lutheran Church, 181 Western Ave., Albany, Friday, Dec. 10, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Cost, \$6; \$2 children. Information, 438-3035.

## LECTURES

### THE AMERICAN VISION

broad view of American painting from colonial to modern times, Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, Wednesday, Dec. 15, 12:10 p.m. Information, 463-4478.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS AS ART AND EVIDENCE

by historian Dr. Kenneth Ames, New York State Museum, Albany, Sunday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m. Cost, \$2. Information, 474-5877.

## READINGS

### ALLEN FISHER

British poet to read from his work, Humanities 354, University at Albany uptown campus, Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m. Information, 442-5620.

## POETRY

### OPEN POETRY NIGHT

reading, writing, and listening in a noncritical, sharing atmosphere, Share Gifts, 20 Elm St., Albany, Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. Information, 465-0241.

## We need your help!

The Spotlight is planning a feature on fun things to do with kids over winter vacation.

We're looking for readers to share their ideas on how they've solved the vacation blues, without spending a fortune.

Send ideas to Vacation Kids, The Spotlight, 125 Adams St., Delmar, N.Y. 12054.

## Weekly Crossword

### "Santa Claus et al"

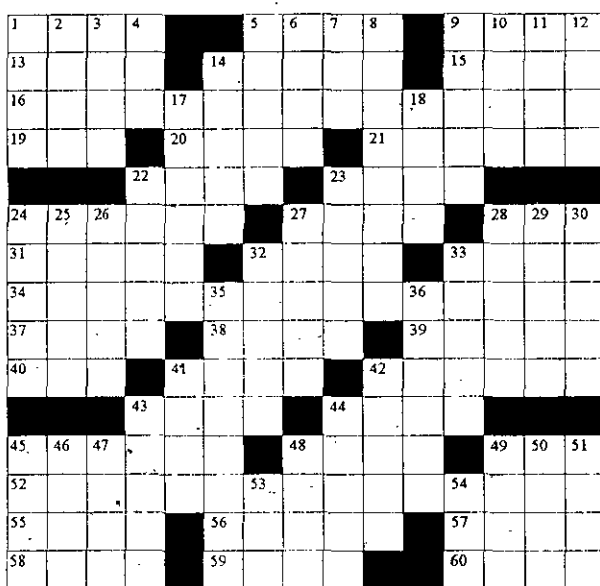
By Gerry Frey

#### ACROSS

- 1 Senate gopher
- 5 Indian dress
- 9 Thick pads
- 13 Land unit
- 14 Ocean liners
- 15 Russian sea
- 16 Santa's City, Boat, Race Track
- 19 Vat
- 20 Stitches
- 21 Chicken part
- 22 Gorillas
- 23 British county
- 24 Bridge supporters
- 27 My fodders house?
- 28 Los Angeles player
- 31 Fire capper Red
- 32 Prisoner's room
- 33 Italian coin
- 34 Santa's City, Wind, Saint
- 37 Against
- 38 Table scraps
- 39 City in New York
- 40 Angeles lead-in
- 41 Spanish cat
- 42 Rejects
- 43 Comfort
- 44 Spinning toys
- 45 Small piano
- 48 Pine follower
- 49 Deli order
- 52 Santa's Island, City
- 55 Actor Baldwin
- 56 Geeky
- 57 "Beware the \_\_\_ of March"
- 58 Bird bed
- 59 Girls
- 60 Bold

#### DOWN

- 1 Treaty
- 2 Civil rights org.
- 3 Snatch
- 4 Ever to Poe
- 5 Bandleader Artie & family
- 6 Broadcasts



7 Troy, NY College

8 Spanish queen

9 French artist

10 Opera solo

11 Makes lace

12 Narrow flat strip

14 Pintail ducks

17 "Ad astra per \_\_\_" Kant's motto

18 Italian river

22 Excuse

23 Ovens

24 Group of conspirators

25 Bell town

26 Simpson and Starr

27 Old Asian treaty org.

28 Kitchen tool

29 Noun suffix following barb

30 Averages

32 A la \_\_\_

33 Humdingers

35 Cooking

36 Chopped off

41 Highlander

42 Mayor Bono

43 Legislative word

44 Amphibians

45 Browse

46 Anemic

47 Residents of

48 Sagan or Lewis

49 Took the bus

50 River to the North Sea

51 New York River

53 Teacher's org.

54 Tear

#### POTENT POTABLES



## Books

(from Page 31)

but they are also "easy and fun to prepare," she said.

An old favorite which should appeal to both boys and girls in this age group, McCoy said, is "Bigfoot and Other Legendary Creatures" by Paul Robert Walker. The author has written stories about fabled monsters, then explains how the story came about, based on newspaper stories, sightings and other information.

"It forces the kids to think about what is fact and what is fiction, and shows how legends grow," she said.

For those hard to please teenage boys on your list, McCoy said, Stephen Biesty's newest book of cross-sections, "Man of

War," should provide hours of fun. The book, which shows a real 18th-century warship, section by section, features "incredibly detailed illustrations and explanations."

"Striking Out," by Will Weaver, "Eye of the Beholder," by Daniel Hayes, "My Year," by Roald Dahl, and "Baby," by Patricia MacLachlan are other books McCoy said are very popular for teens this year.

Since children have such a wide variety of favorite books, another way for parents to decide which ones to buy for gifts is to bring them into the store to browse. "I've seen that children who come into the store often with their parents are very comfortable here. They really know what they like, and they're not afraid to ask for their favorite authors," McCoy said.

"It's one way for parents to show their children that reading is important."

## 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 December 22, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY to consider proposed Local Law No. 11 of 1993, to enable employees to waive insurance coverage in return for \$500.00.

All parties in interest and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard at the said hearing. The Town of Bethlehem provides reasonable accommodations for the disabled. Disabled individuals who need assistance in order to participate should contact David Austin at 439-4131. Advanced notice is requested.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
Kathleen A. Newkirk  
TOWN CLERK

Dated: November 23, 1993  
(December 8, 1993)

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem on the 22nd day of December, 1993 at 8:00 p.m. to consider Local Law No. 12 of 1993, Amending the Code of the Town of Bethlehem as follows:  
AMEND VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ARTICLE VI, SECTION 119-34, Schedule VIII, Yield Intersections as follows:  
Delete the following:  
Forest Hill Road, South, at intersection of Thorndale Rd. and Winne Road, southeast at intersection of Fernbank Ave.

AMEND VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ARTICLE VI, SECTION 119-31, Through Streets as follows:  
Add:  
Fisher Boulevard, entrance street Birkdale Court entering from the east, device stop sign.  
Turnberry Boulevard, entrance street Turnberry Drive entering from the west (both ends), device stop sign.

## LEGAL NOTICE

Union Avenue, entrance street Western Avenue entering from west, device stop sign.  
AMEND VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ARTICLE VI, SECTION 119-31, Stop Intersections as follows:  
Add:  
Forest Hill Road, north at intersection of Thorndale Road, Winne Road, north at intersection of Fernbank Avenue, Devonsh Drive northwest at intersection Forest Hill Road.

All interested persons and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard at the said hearing. The Town of Bethlehem provides reasonable accommodations for the disabled. Disabled individuals who need assistance in order to participate should contact David Austin at 439-4131. Advanced notice is requested.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
KATHLEEN A. NEWKIRK  
TOWN CLERK

Dated: November 23, 1993  
(December 8, 1993)



# AROUND THE AREA

**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER**
**8**
**ALBANY COUNTY**
**WELFARE REFORM  
CONFERENCE**

sponsored by the Hunger Action Network of New York State, First Presbyterian Church, 362 State St., Albany, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Information, 434-7371.

**WALK-IN VISIT**

showcasing new wallpaper and upholstery treatment, Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, 32 Catherine St., Albany, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information, 434-0834.

**WINTER FARMERS' MARKET**

Grand Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 11 a.m. Information.

**NATURAL SCIENCES  
COLLOQUIUM**

The College of Saint Rose, Saint Joseph Hall Auditorium, 985 Madison Ave., 2:45 p.m. Information, 458-5307.

**RENSSELAER COUNTY**
**EATING DISORDERS SUPPORT  
GROUP MEETING**

Russell Sage College, Sage Hall Counseling Center, Troy, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Information, 465-9550.

**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**
**SQUARE DANCE**

Single Squares of Albany, Ponderosa Hall, Airport Road, Scotia, 7:30 p.m. Information, 664-6767.

**RIVER VALLEY CHORUS  
MEETING**

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

**THURSDAY  
DECEMBER**
**9**
**ALBANY COUNTY**
**VICTIMS' SUPPORT GROUP**

sponsored by RID, Remove Intoxicated Drivers, Unitarian Church, 1221 Wendall Ave., Schenectady, 8 p.m. Information, 393-HELP.

**QUARTERLY MEMORIAL  
SERVICE**

for family and friends of those who died at St. Peter's Hospital during the past three months, Cusack Auditorium, St. Peter's Hospital, 315 South Manning Blvd., Albany, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 454-1602.

**ACCESS TO CREDIT**

workshop on raising money for businesses, sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County, Omni Hotel, State and Lodge streets, Albany, 9 a.m. Cost, \$25. Information, 765-3500.

**HOLIDAY GALA**

third annual, sponsored by The Capital District Chapter Alzheimer's Association, Rotunda of Albany City Hall, Washington Avenue, Albany, 8 p.m. Information, 438-2217.

**FACILITATED  
COMMUNICATION  
DISCUSSION**

sponsored by The Council for Exceptional Children at the College of Saint Rose, to discuss communication between disabled people through keyboards, Campus Activities Center, rooms 103-105, 420 Western Ave., Albany, 4 p.m. Information, 463-8275.

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP**

sponsored by the Capital District Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, St. Paul's Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 438-2217.

**WALK-IN VISIT**

showcasing new wallpaper and upholstery treatment, Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, 32 Catherine St., Albany, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information, 434-0834.

**SENIOR CHORALE**

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

**CONCERNED FRIENDS OF  
HOPE HOUSE**

meeting, support group for families of substance abusers, Child's Nursing Home auditorium, 25 Hackett Blvd., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 465-2441.

**SCHENECTADY COUNTY**
**THE AD CLUB'S HOLIDAY  
PARTY**

Glen Sanders Mansion, 1 Glen Ave., Scotia, 6 p.m. Cost, \$30. Information, 783-1333.

**FRIDAY  
DECEMBER**
**10**
**ALBANY COUNTY**
**RESHAPING THE WORKPLACE**

"Peter Senge: Cornerstones of the Learning Organization," teleconference, sponsored by the PBS Business Channel, Maureen Stapleton Theater, Hudson Valley Community College, 80 Vanderburgh Ave., Troy, 1 to 4 p.m. Cost, \$45. Information, 475-0152.

**LAW SYMPOSIUM**

"After Lucas: The Public Trust Doctrine and Public Nuisance Law in New York," Government Law Center, Albany Law School, 80 New Scotland Ave., Albany, 9 a.m. Information, 439-8731.

**MEMORAH LIGHTING**

B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 482-5283.

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

Memory's Garden, 983 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 869-9506.

**ALBANY AMATEUR RADIO  
ASSOCIATION**

monthly meeting, annual election of officers, town of Colonie Community Center, 1653 Central Ave., Albany, 7:45 p.m. Information, 869-1074.

**LAS VEGAS NIGHT**

Robert L. Weininger Memorial Post No. 8692 Ladies Auxiliary, Old Karner Road, Albany, 8 p.m. to midnight. Information, 869-5118.

**JEWELRY SALE**

sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of Memorial Hospital, Main Lobby, Albany Memorial Hospital, Northern Boulevard, Albany, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**WALK-IN VISIT**

showcasing new wallpaper and upholstery treatment, Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, 32 Catherine St., Albany, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information, 434-0834.

**MOTHERS' DROP IN**

sponsored by the Capital District Mothers' Center, First Congregational Church, Quail Street, Albany, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Information, 475-1897.

**SENIORS LUNCHEONS**

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

**RENSSELAER COUNTY**
**"A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS  
WISH"**

fourth annual Christmas show by the Highlight Acting Troupe, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Tate Lane, Reymertown, 7:30 p.m. Cost, \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. Information, 237-6936.

**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER**
**11**
**ALBANY COUNTY**
**STORYTELLING**

fairly tales and nursery rhymes for children, Albany Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Information, 434-6311.

**DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE**

sponsored by Leonard Hospital, Old Roessleville High School, 1237 Central Ave., Colonie, 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Information, 233-0797.

**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR**

Saint James School, 50 Summit Ave., Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 465-1973.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

the Albany YWCA, 28 Colvin Ave., Albany, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Cost, \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Information, 438-6608.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

East Berne Fire House, Main Street, East Berne, 8 a.m. to noon. Cost, \$3.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children, \$1.50 for picture with Santa.

## SPOTLIGHT

By Martin P. Kelly

### A Christmas Carol drawing audiences and mixed reviews at Palace Theater

The good news about the new production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at the Palace Theater in Albany is that it is as big and spectacular physically as it was promised. The sets are imaginative and evocative of the Victorian period as one would hope and the costuming and lighting are matching the work of set designer Desmond Heely.

The not so wonderful news is that the star Wilford Brimley is not everything one would hope for in an actor playing the role of Scrooge. The actor who has fine movie and television credits, was reported to be having difficulty in rehearsals when his style of acting didn't quite mesh with that of his supporting cast or director Frank Hauser. As a result some viewers of this new stage production will see him out of character with the idea of Scrooge while others will accept his style as a new twist on the role.



Martin P. Kelly

Everyone appears pleased with the supporting cast, including a number of local actors such as John Allen as Bob Cratchitt.

*A Christmas Carol* plays through Dec. 26 with matinees on Sat. & Sun. Tickets & info at 465-4663.

### Two local ballet companies schedule annual productions of *The Nutcracker*

This weekend (Dec. 11 & 12), The Berkshire Ballet Company brings three performances of its production of *The Nutcracker* to the Palace Theater with the extra stress of sandwiching it between shows of *A Christmas Carol* which will be dark on those two dates.

This touring company whose home base is now in Albany, is no stranger to fitting in tight places and has succeeded in establishing itself as an important dance company in the region.

Artistic director Madeline Cantarella Culpo combines resident members of the company and talented young dancers from the Capital Region community.

Performances will be given at 3 p.m. Sat. (Dec. 11) and at 1:30 & 4:30 p.m. on Sun. (Dec. 12).

Tickets are available at 465-4663.

The following week, New York City Ballet principals Kyra Nichols and Erlends Zieminch will join the Northeast Ballet Company in two performances of *The Nutcracker* at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady. This annual production will again be choreographed by Peter Anastos in his third year of working with the company.

This sixth annual production of *The Nutcracker*, directed by the founder of the Northeast Ballet Company Darlene Myers, will feature more than 150 cast members, including resident members of the local company and local child dancers recruited for the production.

Tickets & info are available for the Sat. evening & Sun. matinee at Proctors by calling 346-6204.

### Two community theaters add shows especially for the holiday season

The HomeMade Theater in Saratoga Springs presents five performances of Hans Christian Anderson's *The Snow Queen* as its contribution to the holiday theater fare.

Directed by Michael Burns the show will be presented Fri., Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m., Sat., Dec. 18 at 11 a.m. & 3 p.m., Dec. 19 at 3 p.m. & Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Little Theater in the Saratoga Spa State Park. Tickets: 587-4427.

Meanwhile, the Albany Civic Theater presents its one-hour show *The Incredible Jungle Journey of Fenda* (it means *Lady Maria*) for children this Fri. (Dec. 10) at 7 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. at 2 p.m. This show is directed by Michael Steese and suitable for children ages four and up as well as their parents.

The unique admission for this show has adults admitted free if accompanied by a child who pays fifty cents.

Info & reservations available at 462-1297.

### Around Theaters

Heidi, New York State Theater Institute at Russell Sage College through Dec. 22 (274-3256)...*Dames at Sea*, at Schenectady Light Opera Company, through Sun., Dec. 12 (377-5101)...*Social Security*, at Schenectady Civic Theater, through Sun., Dec. 12 (382-2081)

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# The Spotlight CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8

### BETHLEHEM

#### TOWN BOARD

town hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

#### HOLIDAY CONCERT

at Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-7460.

#### BINGO

Blanchard American Legion Post, 16 Poplar Drive, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

#### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Parks and Recreation Office, Elm Avenue Park, 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

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

#### SECOND MILERS LUNCHEON MEETING

First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., noon. Information, 439-6003.

#### DELMAR FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

firehouse, Adams Place, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-3851.

**SOLID ROCK CHURCH**  
evening prayer and Bible study, 7 p.m., 1 Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-4314.

#### RED MEN

St. Stephen's Church, Elsmere, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-3265.

#### ADVENT SERVICE

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

### NEW SCOTLAND

#### SPORTS BOOSTER CLUB

meeting at Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School, Route 85A, 7 p.m. Information, 765-4748.

#### NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR CITIZENS

Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem, call for time. Information, 765-2109.

#### NEW SCOTLAND ELKS LODGE

22 South Main St., Voorheesville, 8 p.m. Information, 765-2313.

#### AA MEETING

First Methodist Church of Voorheesville, 68 Maple St., 8 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

#### AL-ANON MEETING

First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville, 68 Maple St., 8 p.m. Information, 477-4476.

#### FAITH TEMPLE

bible study, New Salem, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-2870.

#### WRITERS GROUP

Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 7 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

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

#### CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Human Ecology Program Committee meeting, Rice Extension Center, Martin Road, 7 to 9 p.m.

#### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

program for professionals and local officials, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Martin Road, noon to 3 p.m. Information, 765-3500.

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 9

### BETHLEHEM

#### THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

presented by the Vincent J. Crummles Acting Troupe at Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m., adults (\$6) and students (\$4).

#### RECOVERY, INC.

self-help for chronic nervous symptoms, First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., 10 a.m. Information, 439-9976.

#### CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, 35 Adams Place, 7 p.m. Information, 439-7387.

### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Parks and Recreation Office, Elm Avenue Park, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Information, 439-0503.

**CHP DELMAR HEALTH CENTER**  
open house, 250 Delaware Ave., 6 and 8 p.m. Information, 783-1864.

**BETHLEHEM SENIOR CITIZENS**  
town hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 12:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

**CLASS IN JEWISH MYSTICISM**  
Delmar Chabad Center, 109 Elsmere Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-8280.

#### BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bible study, 10 a.m., Creator's Crusaders, 6:30 p.m., senior choir, 7:30 p.m., 85 Elm Ave. Information, 439-4328.

#### DELMAR FIRE DEPARTMENT LADIES AUXILIARY

firehouse, Adams Place, 8 p.m.

#### BETHLEHEM MEMORIAL VFW POST 3185

404 Delaware Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-9836.

#### ELSMERE FIRE COMPANY AUXILIARY

firehouse, Poplar Drive, 7:30 p.m.

#### AA MEETINGS

Slingerlands Community Church, 1499 New Scotland Road, noon, and Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., 8:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

### NEW SCOTLAND

#### FEURA BUSH FUNSTERS

4-H group for ages 8 to 19, Jerusalem Church, Feura Bush, 7 to 8 p.m.

#### FAITH TEMPLE

Bible study, New Salem, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-2870.

#### CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Agriculture Program Committee meeting, Rice Extension Center, Martin Road, 7:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 10

### BETHLEHEM

#### THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

presented by the Vincent J. Crummles Acting Troupe at Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m., adults (\$6) and students (\$4).



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### QUILT MEETING

Quilters United in Learning Together, First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., 9:30 a.m. Information, 283-0522.

#### HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP

sponsored by the A.W. Becker school PTA, Route 9W, Selkirk, 3:30 to 6 p.m. Information, 767-9289.

#### CHABAD CENTER

Friday services, discussion and kiddush at sunset, 109 Elsmere Ave. Information, 439-8280.

#### AA MEETING

First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Route 9W, 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

### NEW SCOTLAND

#### YOUTH GROUP

United Pentecostal Church, Route 85, New Salem, 7 p.m. Information, 765-4410.

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 11

### BETHLEHEM

#### THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

presented by the Vincent J. Crummles Acting Troupe at Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m., adults (\$6) and students (\$4).

#### SAFETY PROGRAM FOR KIDS

for elementary and middle school pupils, at the Onesquethau Masonic Lodge, 421 Kenwood Ave., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### TREASURE COVE THRIFT SHOP

at the First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 439-9976.

#### HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP

sponsored by the A.W. Becker school PTA, Route 9W, Selkirk, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Information, 767-9289.

#### POTLUCK DINNER

at the Bethlehem Grange, Route 396, Selkirk, free, bring a covered dish. Information, 767-2770.

#### CHABAD CENTER

Friday services, discussion and kiddush at sunset, 109 Elsmere Ave. Information, 439-8280.

#### AA MEETING

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 12

### BETHLEHEM

#### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m., free. Information, 439-4328.

#### HOLIDAY CONCERT

sing-along carols with Delmar Community Orchestra, at Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., 2 p.m., free.

#### DECK THE HALLS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, 2 p.m. Information, 475-0291.

#### UNITY OF FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday school and worship service, 10 a.m., 436 Krumkill Road. Information, 438-7740.

#### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Sunday school and worship service, 10 a.m., child care provided, 555 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-2512.

#### BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday school, 9 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., nursery provided, evening fellowship, 7 p.m., 201 Elm Ave. Information, 439-3135.

### ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Eucharist, breakfast, coffee hour, 8 and 10:30 a.m., nursery care provided, Poplar Drive and Elsmere Avenue. Information, 439-3265.

### SELKIRK CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Bible lecture, 9 a.m., Watchtower Bible study, 10:25 a.m., 359 Elm Ave. Information, 767-9059.

### SLINGERLANDS COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

worship service and church school, 10 a.m., fellowship hour, nursery care provided, 1499 New Scotland Road. Information, 439-1766.

### SOUTH BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., followed by coffee hour, Willowbrook Avenue. Information, 767-9953.

### DELMAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

worship service, church school, nursery care, 10 a.m., fellowship and coffee, 11 a.m., adult education, 11:15 a.m., family communion service, first Sunday, 585 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-9252.

### DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school and worship service, 9 and 11 a.m., nursery care provided, 386 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-9929.

### FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

church school, 9:30 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., youth group, 6 p.m., Route 9W, Selkirk. Information, 767-2243.

### GLENMONT REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school and worship service, 11 a.m., nursery care provided, 1 Chapel Lane. Information, 436-7710.

### CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Masses — Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and noon, 35 Adams Place. Information, 439-4951.

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Latin Mass, 10 a.m., Route 9W, Glenmont.

### SOLID ROCK CHURCH

worship service, 11 a.m., 1 Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-4314.

### NEW SCOTLAND

#### BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship service, 10:15 a.m., Auberge Suisse Restaurant, Route 85. Information, 475-9086.

### ST. MATTHEW'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Masses — Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30, 10 and 11:30 a.m., Mountainview Street, Voorheesville. Information, 765-2805.

### JERUSALEM REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., followed by coffee hour, Route 32, Feura Bush. Information, 732-7047.

### NEW SALEM REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., worship service, 10 a.m., nursery care provided, Route 85. Information, 765-2354.

### ONESQUETHAW REFORMED CHURCH

worship service, 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 service, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship, Delaware Turnpike. Information, 439-5001.

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Classifieds Continued On Page 37.

### REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIEDS

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Classifieds Continued  
From Page 35.

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	'90 SUBARU LOYALE SW., 5 spd., A/C, 61,703 mi. <b>\$7,995*</b>	'92 CHEVY 1500 A/C, Cruise, 40,491 mi. <b>\$14,495*</b>	'90 CHEVY V6, 5 spd., 34,458 mi. <b>\$12,995*</b>	'88 CHEVY SUBURBAN Auto., A/C, 8 pass., 89,923 mi. <b>\$9,995*</b>	'90 SUBARU LEGACY SW, Auto, A/C, cassette, 77,372 mi. <b>\$8,995</b>
	'91 DODGE DYNASTY 4 DR, Auto., A/C, 35,777 mi. <b>\$9,995*</b>	'87 OLDS CUTLASS Wagon, Auto., A/C, 78,509 mi. <b>\$4,995*</b>	'92 SUBARU JUSTY GL-5, A/C, cassette, 17,985 mi. <b>\$6,995*</b>	'91 HONDA CIVIC 2 DR, 5 spd., cassette, 27,891. <b>\$7,995*</b>	'91 SUBARU LOYALE 4 DR, A/C, 5 spd., 24,608 mi. <b>\$7,995*</b>
	'86 DODGE D50 AM/FM, 5 spd., 56,722 mi. <b>\$3,495*</b>	'91 CHEVY S10 5 spd., cassette, V6, 33,626 mi. <b>\$8,995*</b>	'93 MAZDA B2200 5 spd., 9,313 mi. <b>\$8,595*</b>	'92 CHEVY C15 Auto., V6, cassette, 24,704 mi. <b>\$12,595*</b>	'90 FORD RANGER V6, Auto, 33,485 mi. <b>\$8,995*</b>
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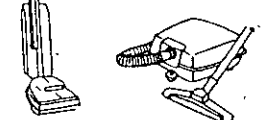
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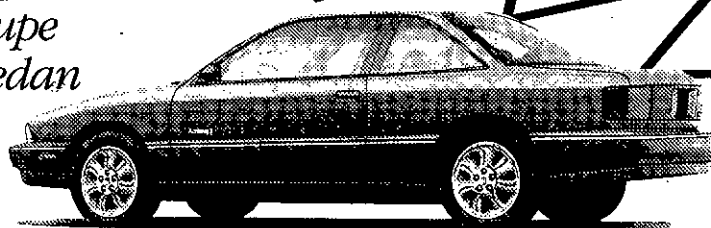
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CUTLASS CIERA	14,970*	\$248.68	\$250.00	\$1,550.00	\$2,048.68	36	\$13,770.00	\$8,952.48	\$8,233.50	45,000
CUTLASS SUPREME SL	16,995*	\$268.99	\$275.00	\$1,875.00	\$2,413.99	36	\$15,470.00	\$9,683.64	\$9,721.14	45,000
SILHOUETTE	19,995*	\$298.31	\$300.00	\$1,950.00	\$2,548.31	36	\$18,395.00	\$10,731.16	\$12,536.87	45,000
EIGHTY EIGHT ROYALE	19,995*	\$298.95	\$300.00	\$2,550.00	\$3,148.95	36	\$17,795.00	\$10,762.20	\$11,657.09	45,000
BRAVADA	24,995*	\$368.73	\$375.00	\$2,625.00	\$3,368.73	24	\$22,720.00	\$8,849.52	\$18,971.21	30,000
NINETY EIGHT REGENCY	24,995*	\$398.31	\$400.00	\$2,600.00	\$3,398.91	24	\$22,745.00	\$9,559.44	\$18,146.37	30,000

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And, right now we're offering a special price on selected Quality Care services, so bring in your Ford, Mercury or Lincoln with the coupon. Your timing couldn't be better.

**FORD**  
QUALITY CARE

Where the Quality Continues

Quality Care. Because time is one thing you never have enough of.



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799 CENTRAL AVE., ALBANY  
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### Stop in or call for BIG SAVINGS

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## GLENMONT FAMILY

### TIRE AND AUTO CENTER

52 ROUTE 9W • ACROSS FROM DAYS INN  
HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 6 pm, Sat. 8 am - 6 pm

## 436-TIRE (8473)

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Road Hazard - Workmanship - Puncture Warranties - Rotation

VALUABLE COUPON SAVINGS

\$3<sup>00</sup>
Glenmont Family Tire Coupon
\$3<sup>00</sup>

\$3<sup>00</sup>
off
\$3<sup>00</sup>

ANY NEW TIRE PURCHASE EXPIRES 12/22/93

COUPON

### Radiator Winterization

## \$39<sup>95</sup>

Drain & refill up to 2 gals. anti-freeze, inspect hoses, tighten all clamped connections expires 12/22/93

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Includes: replace oil filter, add up to 5 qts. oil, top all fluids 10W 30  
\*most American Cars expires 12/22/93

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**ACCENT ON** abundant love, security and opportunity for your newborn. Legal/confidential. Expenses paid. Please call Sheri & Chuck, (800)391-6642.

**ADOPTION:** A complete marriage, an incomplete home. It's lacking the laughter of a child. Financially secure couple with lots of love to give your newborn. Expenses paid. Call anytime, Janice and Bob, 1-800-251-6377.

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**THANK YOU** St. Jude for prayers answered. C.L. and E.L.

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**ADOPTION:** Secure, happy couple. Live in a nice suburban home. Share golfing, bicycling, other hobbies. Will love and cherish your baby. Carol and Rick, (800)618-6610.

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**ADOPTION:** We'll open our hearts to your baby and give him/her all our love and attention. Expenses provided. Caren & David. Evenings and weekends. Call 1-800-785-3494.

**ADOPTION:** Let us help one another through this difficult time. Young, married white couple wishes to start a family through adoption. We are able to offer newborn a loving home, a caring extended family, and the best possible education. Please give us, yourself and your baby a happier future. All medical expenses paid. Call Elaine & John at 1-800-648-1722. Working couple. Please call after 6 p.m.

**PETS**  
**PROFESSIONAL DOG** training. Private. Obedience, housebreaking, chewing, etc. Free evaluation, humane techniques. Guarantee, 734-4482.

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**SPECIAL SERVICES**  
**ATTENTION seniors!** House and apartment cleaning, shopping and errands. Call Therese, 462-5012.  
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**LOOKING FOR** a place to hold meetings, darts, shuffleboard or billiard leagues? Call Bob Rapp 372-9430 at Colonie VFW Post 8692 for information. Refreshments available.

**LOVE THE HOLIDAYS?** Hate to shop? D & E Shopping Service: Toys, gifts, clothing. Gift wrapping available, 475-0214.

**WANTED**  
**BASEBALL CARDS:** Pre 1970 preferred. Call 439-8661.  
**OLD BOOKS, PAINTINGS,** frames, civil war letters, Albany Print Club prints, travel posters, obsolete stock certificates, any older hand-written papers, Dennis Holzman 449-5414 or 475-1326, evenings.  
**OLD COSTUME AND BETTER** Jewelry. Call Lynn, 439-6129.



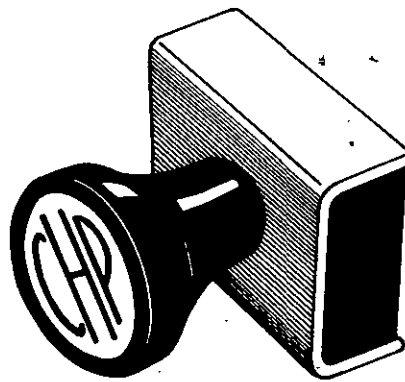
**You've been good this year!**

Pamper yourself so you can really enjoy the holidays.  
 No task is too small — we're here to help.

**Errands Unlimited ... the gift you should give yourself!**

**(518) 475-1997**  
**Insured & Bonded**  
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**FOR JUST \$78.62  
 MONTHLY, ALL THOSE  
 MEDICARE BILLS  
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 MEDICARE PLAN FOR JUST \$78.62 PER MONTH**

- Physician office visits, outpatient treatments, physical therapy and immunizations — all for a \$2 visit fee
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Come and learn more about MedicarePlus CHP.

CHP Delmar Health Center  
 250 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY  
 November 19, 1-2:30 p.m.

\*For a complete information packet, or additional meeting dates please call Marjorie Ward at 518/383-2366

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You and CHP, a healthy partnership

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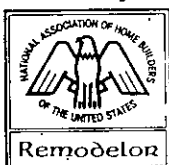
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Professional, Quality Service!

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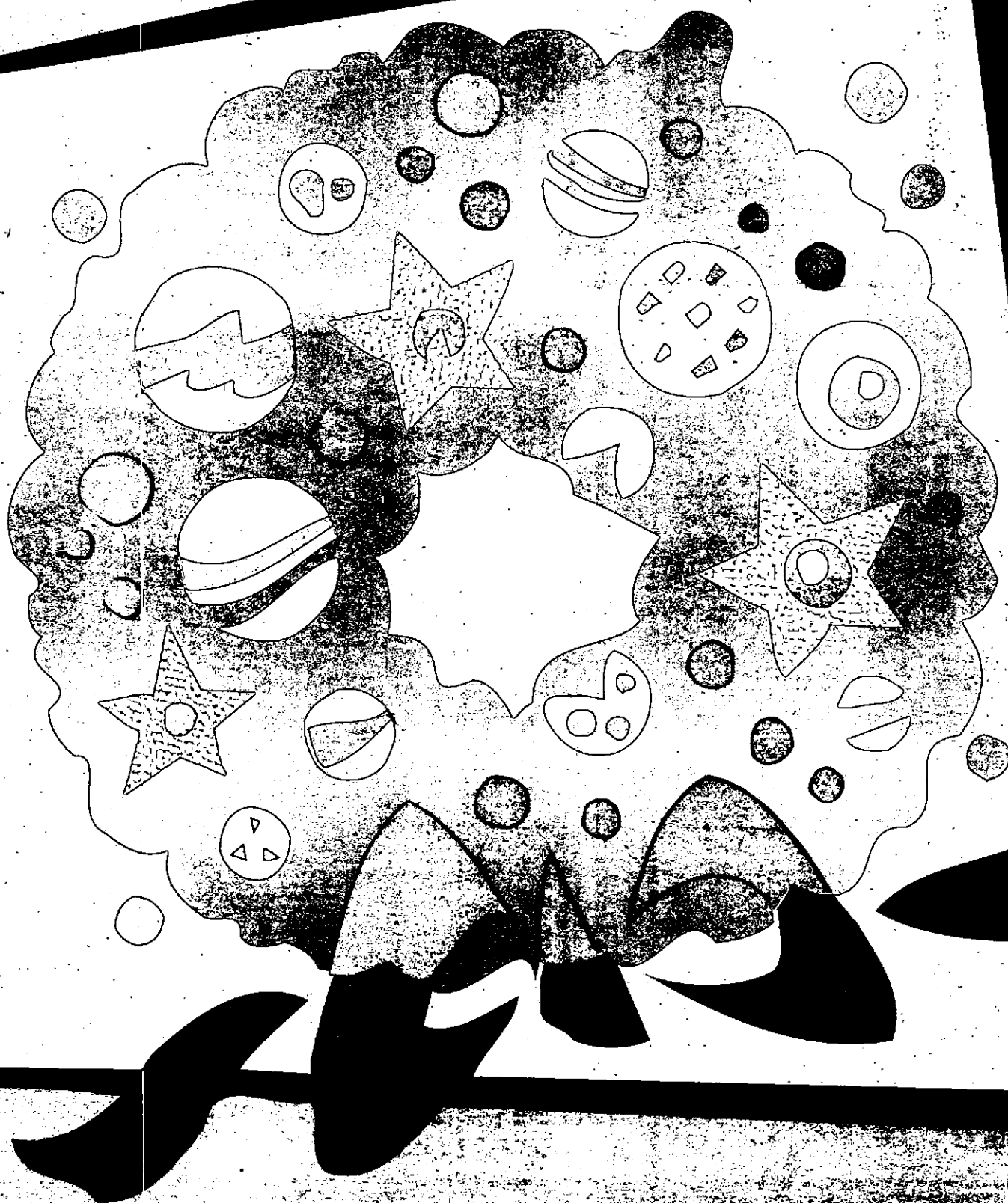
"Our Reputation Built By Word of Mouth"



H O L I D A Y

# Gift Guide II

A Section of THE SPOTLIGHT, The COLONIE SPOTLIGHT and The LOUDONVILLE WEEKLY





### Your Holiday Coupon to an Old Fashioned Christmas

 <p><b>CUT CHRISTMAS TREES</b> <b>SAVE \$3.00 OFF</b> Reg Prices Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, Scotch Pine Expires 12/25/93</p>	 <p><b>UNDECORATED WREATHS</b> <b>SAVE \$1.00 OFF</b> Reg Prices Sizes 10 Inch to 24 Inch • Expires 12/25/93</p>
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**10% Off Any Gourmet Basket**

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### 4TH ANNUAL MIDNIGHT MADNESS SALE

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Route 9, Latham • 785-0480



#### VILLAGE PET CENTER

Largest Super Center in The New England Area!

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**SAT., DEC. 11, 1993 10PM TO 2AM  
SUPER SPECIALS**

**FREE COFFEE - One Night Only**

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**25% Off** Any Single  
Non-Sale Item

Excludes Dog, Cat Food and Tanks • Only Dec. 11, 1993

**FREE GIFTS  
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ADDITIONAL SPECIAL SHEET WILL BE AVAIL-  
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**The Largest Tropical  
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All Fresh Water Fish  
guaranteed for life at  
1/2 price replacement!

10 Gallon  
Starter Kits **\$12<sup>99</sup>**

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15 Gallon  
Starter Kits **\$59<sup>99</sup>**

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Starter Kits **\$89<sup>99</sup>**

MANY ADDITIONAL SPECIALS THROUGHOUT THE STORE!  
Coupons & Specials expire December 25, 1993

#### VILLAGE AQUARIUM COUPON

**25% Off**  
Any Single Non-Sale Item

Excludes Tanks and Reefs • Expires Dec. 25, 1993

### THE HOLIDAYS HAVE ARRIVED AT VILLAGE FURNITURE COMPANY

MAIN SQUARE - DELMAR

UNEXPECTED TREASURES LURK IN EVERY CORNER.

AFGHANS • QUILTS • PICTURE FRAMES

ROCKERS • BASKETS • ORNAMENTS

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AND, OF COURSE, THE BEST IN COUNTRY FURNITURE.

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### MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS SOMETHING SPECIAL!

We have prepared a **FABULOUS**  
selection of fine quality  
Pianos for you....

**JUST LOOK  
AT THESE  
TREMENDOUS  
VALUES:**



YAMAHA CLAVINOVAS - from \$1295

KIMBALL CONSOLES - only \$2275

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YAMAHA DISKLAVIERS - Great Buys!

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**FREE  
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- Free Music Lesson
- Matching Bench
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- Two Free Tunings

**Circle Music**

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WEEKDAYS 10-8; SATURDAY 10-5; SUNDAY 1-5

# Construction toys challenge children to develop new skills

Give a child a construction toy with a picture of a ship on the box, and he may choose to build an airplane or an inventive machine.

You may wonder why he can't follow directions, while he instinctively realizes that the value of a quality construction toy is that he can build whatever he wants. And when he has finished building and playing with his new creation, he can make something else.

"Good construction toys are among the most versatile toys on the market. Young builders learn to make decisions, solve problems and develop new skills as they build their imaginations and confidence," said Peter Reynolds, president of BRIO Corporation, a toy company based in Milwaukee, Wis. "Most important, they have fun while they're challenging themselves."

**Unfortunately, too many adults don't realize the importance of play in a child's development.**

Peter Reynolds

With more than 150,000 toys on the market, adults are often bewildered by the choices as they wander down the toy aisles, Reynolds said. "Unfortunately, too

many adults don't realize the importance of play in a child's development and don't differentiate a good toy from a bad one."

Reynolds, who teaches workshops on play for parents and child-care givers, describes a good toy as "a plaything that is safe, durable and open-ended, responding to a child's play needs as she grows. Because it is unstructured, the good toy invites a child to play imaginatively, to stretch and grow in whichever areas are appropriate at her stage of development. It provides fun and opportunities for creative growth for years."

Construction toys, such as basic wooden unit blocks and other building sets, are perfect examples of good toys, Reynolds said.

As children build, they use their creativity to plan their projects and learn how to solve problems during

the construction process, he said. They use basic math concepts such as size, patterns, numbers, weight, length and spatial relationships. Slightly older children also can learn basic mechanical principals, such as the pulleys, and how simple machines work.

Playing with building toys enhances eye-hand coordination and

develops manual dexterity and fine motor control, Reynolds said. The young builders also feel a sense of accomplishment.

Building with others, they learn teamwork and how to divide up tasks. They even strengthen their language skills and vocabulary, he said, as they discuss their construction projects with their playmates.

As an additional benefit, construction sets teach children basic carpentry skills because the hammer, screwdriver, pliers and wrench work just like real tools, Reynolds said. The variety of fasteners, including nails, rivets, nuts and bolts, gives them choices in how to construct something and allows them to experiment with which fastener works best in a particular situation.

According to Reynolds, BRIO MEC START kits, introduced this year, allow children as young as 2 years old to start building.

Construction toys can be used in tandem with other toys, such as dolls, farm animals, cars and trucks, to create a special play setting, he said. Children can also build projects using odds and ends found around the house, such as Popsicle sticks, corks, straws, thread spools, milk jugs, metal lids from frozen juice containers, egg



Many children enjoy playing with construction-type toys.

cartons, shoe boxes, packaging "peanuts" and wood scraps.

"When you consider the opportunities for play, the challenges

and the rewards, it's easy to understand why construction toys are among children's favorites," Reynolds said.

## DEL LANES STOCKING STUFFERS

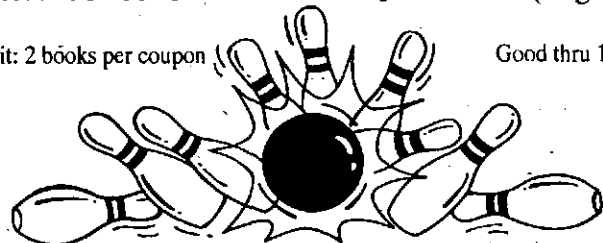
Bowling Certificates • 15 Games

Adults \$20 (Reg. \$27)

Junior & Senior Citizen \$15 (Reg. \$24)

Limit: 2 books per coupon

Good thru 12/31/93



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Delivery Available

- Party Trays • Cookie Trays
- Gift Baskets
- Holiday Goodies
- Homemade Baked Goods



Don't forget to show your appreciation to your employees, business contacts, friends and family at holiday time.

Cafe in Altamont is available for private parties. We specialize in affordable ideas and can work within your budget!

Cafe  
**MANHATTAN BAGEL SHOPPE**  
New York Style Bagels

## Create your own Holiday Gift Basket

- 30 flavors Gourmet Coffee • Chocolates
- Shortbreads & Cakes • Jams and Jellies
- Large Selection of Holiday Mugs • Much, much more

**\$1.00 off** DOZEN BAGELS

Fresh Baked Manhattan Bagels  
16 Varieties • Always a Baker's Dozen  
Offer expires 12/31/93

**Builders Square Plaza • 464-0573**

1814 Central Ave., Colonie

Mon. - Sat. 6:30 am - 7 pm, Sun. 7 am - 2 pm

# Photographers offer tips for perfect holiday pictures

Americans take more photos over the holidays than at any other time of the year.

But, when looking through family photo albums, the holiday pictures often look the same from year to year—the traditional family portrait in front of the fireplace or the kids dressed up on Christmas Eve. And too often, the pictures are dark, the lights on the tree reflect poorly, or Aunt Emma's head looks as though it's growing Christmas tree ornaments.

Professional photographers offer the following tips for holiday picture-taking:

• Use the right film. Special holiday moments are once-in-a-lifetime, so don't risk them. If you're unsure of what speed film to use, ask your local photo processor.

• Keep the camera close-by. A "moment" is just a split-second, and if you have to get up to find a camera or load the film, you'll probably miss it forever.

• Involve the kids. Holidays truly belong to children, so let them photograph it the way they

see it. A single-use camera as a gift allows them to photograph their own special moments.

• Use the light. A Christmas tree looks beautiful when it's all lit up, but it can be difficult to photograph. To capture the beauty of the tree, don't wait until dark! Use a high-speed film and photograph the tree at dusk.

• Photograph the feelings. Holiday photos don't have to have a wreath or tree in the background to make them interesting. Instead, try concentrating on people's expressions and moods during the holidays.

• Add a little humor. Candid photos are often the best — and the funniest. Ignore the instinct to have people pose; instead, photograph them as they are — even if it means the baby's feet are dirty or Uncle Al is holding his fifth glass of eggnog.

• Keep it simple. Avoid background clutter. Don't try to get all four kids opening their presents in one shot. Take group photos to remember who was there, but if

action is occurring, keep the picture population down to a bare minimum.

• Brave the weather — Don't let a little cold weather prevent you from taking great photos.

• Snap away. When it comes to picture-taking, don't skimp on the number of photos you take.

• Brave the weather. Don't let a little cold weather prevent you from taking great photos. Put on the hat and gloves, and if the snow is falling, pick up a waterproof camera and shoot a roll outside.

Come  
In  
And  
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Gourmet Snacks, Jams & Coffee Beans  
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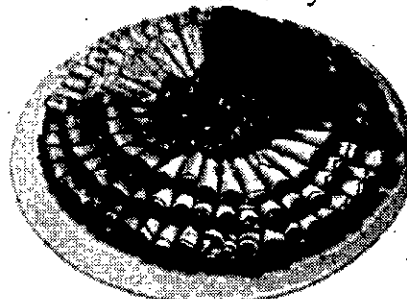
For Every  
Holiday!

"If it can be nutty — We'll make it nutty!"

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Gift  
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## Planning Your Holiday Parties?

Call *Platt's Place* and let us help  
with all your holiday needs.



# Platt's Place

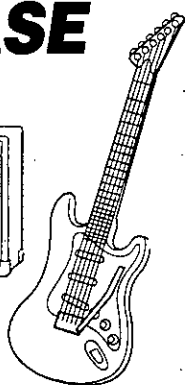
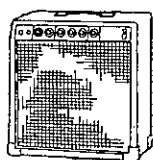
Your Full Service Caterer

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Phone: 459-7575 • Fax: 438-3460

## Memphis ELECTRIC GUITAR & CASE

**\$299<sup>00</sup>** Reg. \$425.00

Matrix MA20 AMP



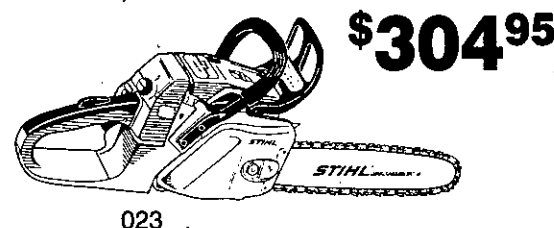
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Sale through 12/24/93  
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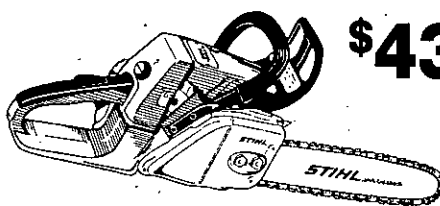
## CUT IT OUT

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**\$304<sup>95</sup>**



026

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- Finest Quality Christmas Gift Wrap & Bags
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- 6 ft. and 9 ft. Extension Cords
- Batteries, all sizes
- Christmas Earrings and Barrettes
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### ONE ITEM FREE

with any \$3.00 purchase (limit one per customer)

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39 Voorheesville Ave., Voorheesville

**Catering for Private Parties • 765-9396***Homemade Pies, Desserts Daily***FRIDAY NITE**— is Fish Nite (Fresh Seafood)**SATURDAY NITE**— Dinner Specials & Seafood Specials**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**— Breakfast Specials 7 am - 2 pm

OPEN: 7 Days A Week

Mon. thru Thurs. 6 am - 2 pm;

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**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BREAKFAST SPECIALS**

5 Star - \$4.25, Hungry Man - \$4.95, Eggs Benedict -

\$5.75, Steak &amp; Eggs - \$5.95, Specialty Omelettes - \$4.95,

French Toast - \$3.95, Chicken n' Biscuits - \$5.95

EGGBEATERS AVAILABLE

**PARTS WEATHERSTRIP SECTIONS****Give the gift that opens automatically Christmas and every other day!****Genie \$299<sup>00</sup>**

tax incl.

MADE IN

Completely Installed

- 1/2 hp motor
- Full chain drive
- 1 piece factory assembled
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- Other models available

**Professional Builders Model Garage Door Opener System****MURPHY OVERHEAD DOORS**

1148 Central Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12205

**459-3610**

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**You find it, we'll start it.****BX Series Battery**  
priced from**\$49<sup>95</sup>**w/trade in  
of old battery

With some batteries, you might have to throw in the snow shovel right now.

But Motorcraft Tested Tough Batteries are undaunted by grueling winter weather.

They're computer-designed for enhanced cold cranking power. Which means a quick start for your engine when you need it most. That's why Motorcraft Quality Batteries are original equipment in Ford-built vehicles.

This winter, give yourself some Peace of Mind™. Put a Motorcraft Tested Tough Battery under the hood of your car or light truck.

**Motorcraft**

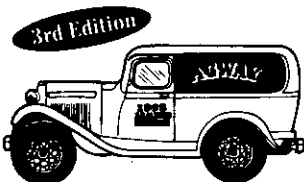
QUALITY PARTS FOR QUALITY CARS™

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**489-6878****ASK AGWAY****Agway Collectibles****Agway Buckboard Wagon**

- bright red wagon
- 1/16 scale
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**11<sup>99</sup>**

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**AGWAY. 783-0084**Save now  
through Dec. 23rd**Let us brighten your Holidays**Choose from table  
& floor lamps to  
crystal chandeliers  
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Prices to meet all budgets

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**Faddegon's**  
NURSERY, INC.Horse Drawn Wagon  
Rides, Petting Zoo  
every weekend 'til  
Christmas.**785-6726**

# Holiday

## \*\*\* WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8 \*\*\*

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

The College of Saint Rose Masterworks Chorale and Chamber Singers, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Eagle Street and Madison Avenue, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 454-5231.

## \*\*\* THURSDAY, DEC. 9 \*\*\*

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

holiday decorations, music, champagne and hors d'oeuvres, The Casino, Congress Park, Saratoga, 5 to 8 p.m. Cost, \$25. Information, 584-6920.

## \*\*\* FRIDAY, DEC. 10 \*\*\*

### MELODIES OF CHRISTMAS

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St., Schenectady, through Dec. 12. Information, 382-7581.

### TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Memory's Garden, 983 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 869-9506.

### HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING

B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 482-5283.

## A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

eba Theatre, Lark Street and Hudson Avenue, Albany, 10:30 a.m. Cost, \$4. Information, 465-9916.

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Mendelssohn Club of Albany, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, 8 p.m. Information, 395-8863.

## YE OLDE VICTORIAN GALA

Sheraton Hotel, Saratoga Springs, 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost, \$65, \$35 for under age 25. Information, 587-3656.

## \*\*\* SATURDAY, DEC. 11 \*\*\*

### THE NUTCRACKER

Albany Berkshire Ballet, Palace Theatre, 19 Clinton Ave., Albany, running to Dec. 12, Saturday, 3 p.m., Sunday, 1 and 4:30 p.m. Cost, \$12 to \$20. Information, 426-0660.

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON

Old Fort House Museum, 29 Broadway, and Wing-Northrup House, 167 Broadway, Fort Edward, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 747-9600.

### SHAKER KIDS' CRAFTS

making a woven holiday ornament, Shaker

Heritage Society, Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, 1 to 3 p.m. Cost, \$5. Information, 456-7890.

### OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

carolers, tree lighting, carriage rides and Santa, Lark Street, Albany. Information, 463-7182.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

East Berne Fire House, Main Street, East Berne, 8 a.m. to noon. Cost, \$3.50, \$2.50 children.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

YWCA of Albany, 28 Colvin Ave., Albany, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Cost, \$3.50, \$2.50 children. Information, 438-6608.

### HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

St. James School, 50 Summit Ave., Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 465-1973.

## A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

eba Theatre, Lark Street and Hudson Avenue, Albany, 2 p.m. Cost, \$4. Information, 465-9916.

## \*\*\* SUNDAY, DEC. 12 \*\*\*

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, 32 Catherine St., Albany, 1 to 5 p.m. Information, 434-0834.

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Historic Cherry Hill, 523 1/2 S. Pearl St., Albany, 1 to 5 p.m. Cost, \$2. Information, 434-4791.

### VOICE OF THE TURTLE

songs of the Sephardic Jews, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, 3 p.m. Cost, \$15, \$10 children. Information, 473-1845.

## HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Schenectady Museum and Planetarium, Nott Terrace Heights, Schenectady, 1 to 4:30 p.m. Cost, \$3, \$1.50 charge for planetarium. Information, 382-7890.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Capital Chorus, Sweet Adelines International, Uncle Sam's Chorus and the Yankee Doodle Band, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Second Street, Troy, 7 p.m. Cost, \$6. Information, 271-7319.

### DECK THE HALLS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

workshop, using natural materials to create decorations, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, Delmar, 2 p.m. Information, 475-0291.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Albany Pro Musica, St. John's Church, First Street, Troy, 3 p.m. Cost, \$12, \$10 senior citizens. Information, 356-9155.

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# Happenings

## ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 2 to 4 p.m. Cost, \$4 per family for non-museum members, free for museum members. Information, 463-4478.

## HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Mendelssohn Club of Albany, Memorial Chapel, Union College, Schenectady, 3 p.m. Information, 395-8863.

## FOR US A CHILD IS BORN

by J.S. Bach, performed by the choir at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 262 State St., Albany, 10:15 a.m. Information, 436-8544.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS AS ART AND EVIDENCE

lecture, New York State Museum, Albany, 2 p.m. Cost, \$2. Information, 474-5877.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Hall of Springs, Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga, 2 to 5 p.m. Cost, \$15, \$10 children. Information, 584-9330.

## HOLIDAY CONCERT

Delmar Community Orchestra, Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 2 to 3 p.m.

**\*\* TUESDAY, DEC. 14 \*\***

## A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

eba Dance Theatre, Empire Center at the Egg, Albany, 10 a.m. Cost, \$5. Information, 473-1845.

**\*\* WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15 \*\***

## HOLIDAY SHOP

featuring crafts made by persons 60 and older, South Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany, open until Dec. 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information, 473-0559.

## OPEN HOUSES

Christmas trees in historic settings, Old Fort House Museum, 29 Broadway, Wing-Northrup House, 167 Broadway, Fort Edward, 7 to 9 p.m. Information, 747-9600.

**\*\* FRIDAY, DEC. 17 \*\***

## THE SNOW QUEEN

Home Made Theater, Spa Little Theater, Saratoga Springs, through Dec. 22. Cost, \$8, \$6 children. Information, 587-4427.

## MOUNTAIN SNOW AND MISTLETOE

celebration in song and story by Christopher Shaw and Bridget Ball, Caffé Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Cost, \$9. Information, 583-0022.

## Sephardic songs



*The Voice of the Turtle, a Sephardic singing group, will perform a Hannukah concert on Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Empire Center at the Egg. Crafts and refreshments will be sold in the lobby beginning at 1 p.m., and the concert will begin at 3. The quartet, whose name is taken from the Song of Songs, performs music preserved by oral tradition from the Jews who once lived in the Ottoman Empire and North Africa.*

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Menands Firehouse, 250 Broadway, Menands, 7 to 9 p.m.

**\*\* SATURDAY, DEC. 18 \*\***

## THE NUTCRACKER

Northeast Ballet Company, Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St., Schenectady, through Dec. 19, Saturday, 7 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. Cost, \$18.50, \$10.50 children. Information, 346-6204.

## SHAKER KIDS' CRAFTS

basket-making, broom-making, ornament decorating, Shaker Heritage Society, Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, 1 to 3 p.m. Cost, \$5. Information, 456-7890.

## HOLIDAY PARTY

for children in kindergarten through eighth-grade, Pruyn House, 207 Old Niskayuna Road, Newtonville, 2:30 to 4 p.m. Information, 783-1435.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Albany Pro Musica, St. James Church, Delaware Avenue, Albany, 8 p.m. Cost, \$12, \$10 senior citizens. Information, 356-9155.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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

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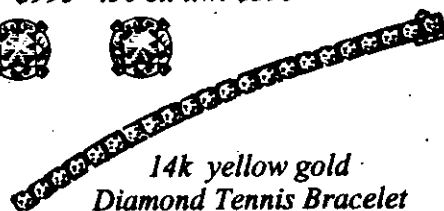
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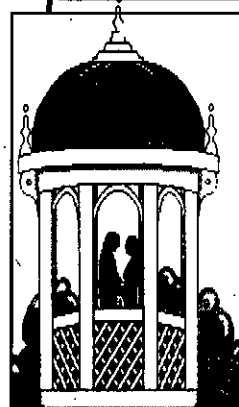
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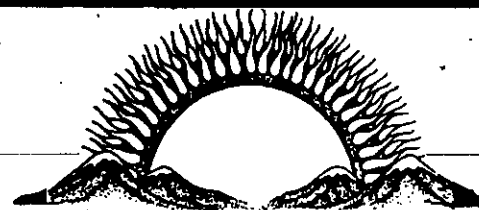
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# Holiday Happenings

\*\*\* SUNDAY, DEC. 19 \*\*\*

## CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

First United Methodist Church, 68 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, 7 p.m. Information, 765-4442.

## Ragtime band



Mr. Slim's Goodtime Ragtime Vaudeville Revival will perform at the state museum on Sunday, Dec. 26, at 1 and 3 p.m.

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

re-creation of an 18th-century English Christmas, Johnson Hall State Historic Site, Hall Avenue, Johnstown, 1 to 4 p.m. Information, 762-8712.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Albany Pro Musica, Union College Chapel, Schenectady, 3 p.m. Cost, \$12, \$10 senior citizens. Information, 356-9155.

\*\*\* TUESDAY, DEC. 21 \*\*\*

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL

by Charles Dickens, performed by Nebraska Theatre Caravan, Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St., Schenectady, 8 p.m. Cost, \$20.50, \$10.50 children. Information, 346-6204.

\*\*\* THURSDAY, DEC. 23 \*\*\*

## HOLIDAY FARMERS' MARKET

crafts, dried flower arrangements, baked goods, South Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Information, 473-0559.

\*\*\* SATURDAY, DEC. 25 \*\*\*

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

First United Methodist Church, 428 Ken-

wood Ave., Delmar, 1:30 to 4 p.m. Information, 439-4955, ext. 170.

\*\*\* SUNDAY, DEC. 26 \*\*\*

## MR. SLIM'S GOODTIME RAGTIME VAUDEVILLE REVIVAL

band of vintage instruments plays jazz, ragtime, vaudeville and comedy, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

\*\*\* MONDAY, DEC. 27 \*\*\*

## VACATION WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS

The Junior Museum, 282 Fifth Ave., Troy, through Dec. 31, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Information, 235-2120.

## THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

live musical production, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

\*\*\* TUESDAY, DEC. 28 \*\*\*

## THE RELUCTANT DRAGON

the Crabgrass Puppet Theater brings Kenneth Grahame's classic tale to life, New

York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

\*\*\* WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29 \*\*\*

## THE DINOSAUR SHOW

The Poobley Greegy Puppet Theater presents a true story about a 19th-century scientist's search for dinosaur fossils, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

\*\*\* THURSDAY, DEC. 30 \*\*\*

## THE 3-D SHOW

learn about the history and science of 3-D, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

\*\*\* FRIDAY, DEC. 31 \*\*\*

## FIRST NIGHT IN ALBANY

more than 200 performers in over 54 locations, 6 p.m. to midnight. Cost, \$8. Information, 434-2032.

## THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL

film starring Michael Caine, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

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# Make a big hit with small gift

Thinking small can reap big dividends over the holidays.

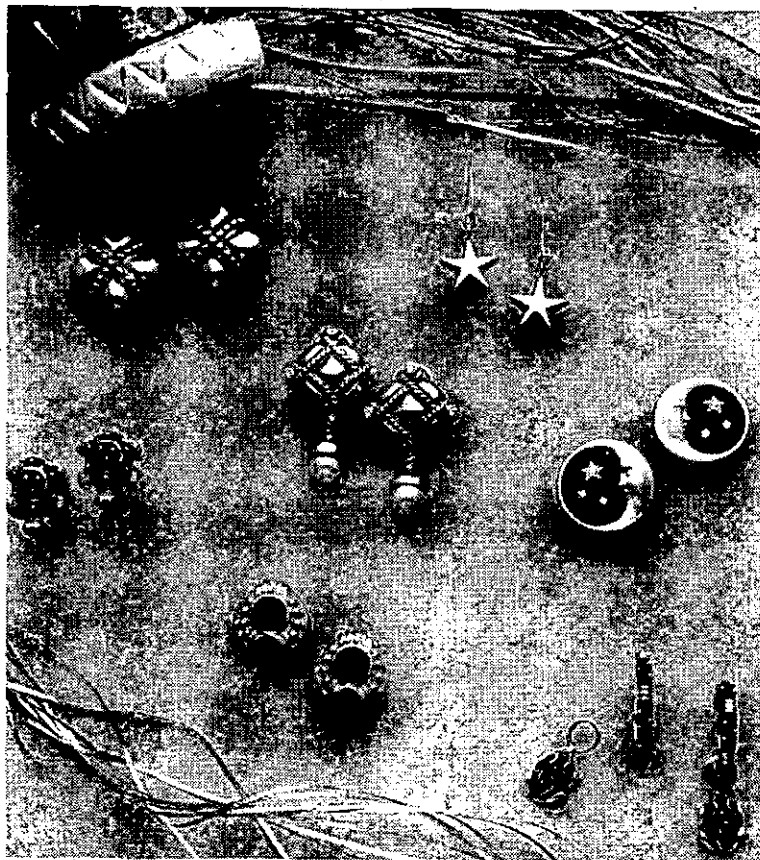
Consider buying something to accessorize an outfit that can be worn anytime for many years to come.

National trade association jewelers, dedicated to consumer information and education about fine jewelry, recommend small-size earrings to go with the simple fashions debuting this season. And since the necklines of these "minimalistic" outfits are getting a lot of the attention, it's better to adorn her with classy, small earrings that are inspired by simple, delicate and understated designs.

Earrings come in all types — from gold, platinum and silver to very colorful earrings featuring enameling and colored gemstones. The most popular styles in small earrings today are:

- hoops, alone or with small interchangeable charms
- buttons, in geometric and nature-inspired shapes
- dangles, earrings that dangle slightly from the ear
- convertibles, earrings that can be worn either as buttons, dangles or hoops.

Women who are considering the purchase of jewelry should



**Delicate small earrings make lovely holiday gifts.**

visit a local jeweler, who has a wide variety of styles to compare and select. Jewelers can also provide information and service before and after any purchase.

For more information or for a

series of free brochures that provide tips and guidelines for buying fine jewelry, contact the Jewelers Association at 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

## Fragrant, festive gift ideas

Perfume is always a popular holiday gift item — and for good reason. It's personal, easy to shop for and often comes festively wrapped for the holidays. In fact, according to industry sources, more than one-third of scent sales are made during the holiday season. How to choose from the hundreds of scents available? Naturally, you should consider the person for whom you are shopping.

Whether it's cologne, eau de toilette, or a scented bath or body product, it's important to remember that fragrance is more than simply a substance in a bottle. It has a subtle effect on the mood, the emotions and the mind. According to Diane Ackerman, author of *A Natural History of the Senses* (Vintage Books), "When we give perfume to someone, we give them liquid memory." Others contend that certain notes have romantic potential. In *Love Potions* (Tarcher Perigee) by Cynthia Mervis Watson, M.D., rose, jasmine, and ylang-ylang, are said to be synonymous with attraction between the sexes.

There is even scientific proof that fragrance notes evoke different reactions from people. Avery Gilbert, Ph.D., vice president of sensory psychology at Givaudan-Roure, a world renowned fragrance house, has researched the association between scent and mood. He explains, "Oriental accords that are rich and powdery are more consistent with elegance or romance. Fresh, citrus notes tend to be interpreted as exhilarating and joyful — they are associated with upbeat, active moods. Delicate, soft florals are interpreted as tender and occasionally as relaxing."

Putting extra thought into a fragrance purchase and the personality of the recipient, however, doesn't mean that you have to spend a lot of money. There are several affordable and exciting fragrance gift sets available, to fit every budget. Here are a few that are worth noting — they're less than \$20 and can be found at discount department stores, drug stores and supermarkets nationwide.

• Some scents last all day, others fade much quicker. The best way to achieve fragrance longevity is by using the "layering" approach — applying a bath or body product that has the same scent before applying your fragrance.

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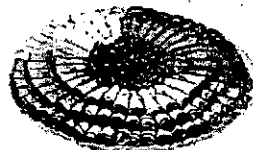
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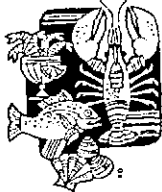
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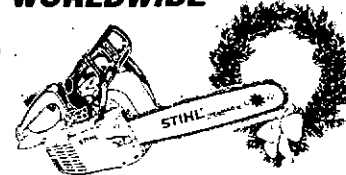
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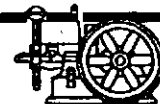


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# Malls, gift outlets lure shoppers with holiday trappings

Capital Holiday is a collection of more than 100 events in Albany and the Capital District. In the spirit of the campaign, a number of regional malls and stores are offering special seasonal promotions to add to the hustle, bustle and excitement of the season.

"Breakfast with Santa," by reservation, will be a holiday highlight at Colonie Center on Dec. 11 and 18 at 8:30 a.m. Also, a hospitality suite with lounge area, coat and package check, gift wrap and stroller or beeper rental will be open at peak times during the season. Valet parking will also be offered.

Delaware Plaza on Delaware Avenue in Delmar is planning several holiday activities in November and December. Free carriage rides with Santa Claus will be offered on three Saturdays, Nov. 27, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18, from noon to 3 p.m.

Also at Delaware Plaza, kids may have their photos taken with Santa Claus on Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 19, from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 to 3 p.m. on Sundays. Photos cost \$3.

At Crossgates Mall, local schools, college and organizations bring holiday traditions and costumes from around the world in a World of Holiday Magic. A gift-wrapping station will be offered, with proceeds benefiting The American Cancer Society.

Also at Crossgates, a holiday fashion show is scheduled for Saturdays, Dec. 11, at 2 p.m. As a holiday bonus, for every \$100 spent at Crossgates, shoppers can receive a \$5 certificate toward a 6-foot Christmas tree.

At Stuyvesant Plaza, Santa will stroll around the plaza, and carollers will sing every weekend through Dec. 18.

Free horse-drawn carriage rides will also be available.

A variety of unique gifts will be offered at the Shaker Heritage Christmas Shop at the 1848 Shaker Meeting House on Albany-Shaker Road in Colonie.

The shop is filled with crafters and artisans displaying Early American, Shaker style gifts with a holiday theme. Tours of the original Shaker settlement will also be offered at the site, located near the Albany Airport.

The Empire State Plaza is featuring merchandise created by members of local craft guilds. Goods from Tri-City Crafts will be on sale until Dec. 10 while a Hanukkah Boutique will run through Dec. 15.

Mohawk Valley Crafts will be featured Dec. 13 to 17, and Newtonville Classic Crafts will complete the season from Dec 20 to 23.

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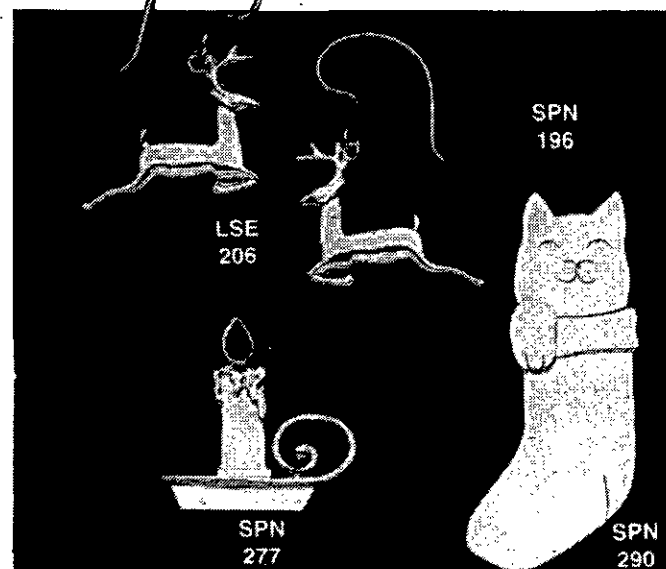
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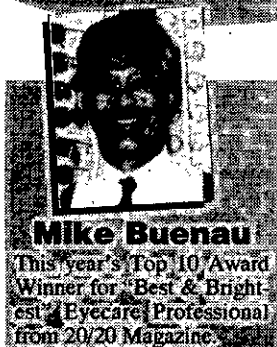
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