

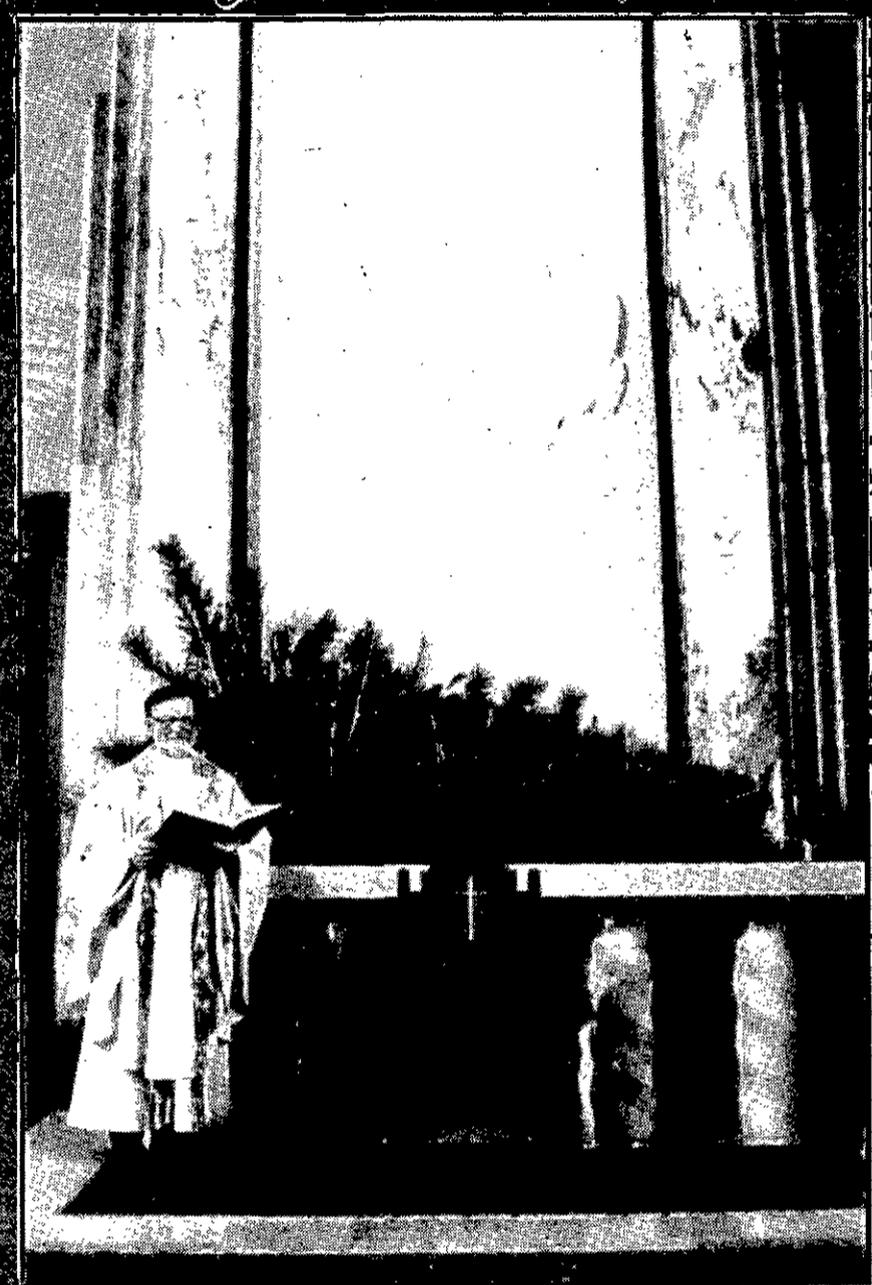
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Bye bye boredom!
 Cabin fever cures for kids
 See Family Section Page 23

Joy to the world



The Rev. James Daley, pastor of Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar will welcome members of the congregation to Christmas services.
Elaine McLain

Residents to LUMAC: Not in my backyard

Many oppose size of Southgate plan

Slingerlands folk like status quo

By Mel Hyman

By Mel Hyman

With one exception, the town's proposed master plan received mostly rave reviews last week from the residents of Glenmont.

A large group of Slingerlands residents last week sent members of the Bethlehem Land Use Management Advisory Committee a clear message: We like things the way they are.

Speaker after speaker at the Glenmont Elementary School told members of the town's Land Use Management Advisory Committee that they did not want a regional shopping center along Route 9W.

No more commercial development along New Scotland was the sentiment voiced by most speakers at the Thursday,

After five years of work on a draft master plan, LUMAC members are holding public workshop sessions throughout the town to determine if changes should be made to the document before it is formally presented to the Bethlehem Town Board for adoption.



Martin Barr, left, Sam Messina and Jeff Lipnicky caught an earful last week on LUMAC. *Hugh Hewitt*

Dec. 16, meeting held at the Slingerlands Elementary School.

Despite LUMAC chairman Jeff Lipnicky's assertion that the proposed 420,000-square-foot Southgate Commons was a separate issue from the master plan, residents nonetheless expressed concern that their quality of life was in jeopardy.

Residents took particular umbrage at the LUMAC recommendation that a 12-acre parcel across from the Slingerlands Post Office between the planned Route 85 bypass extension and New Scotland Road be zoned commercial.

"It's an excellent study," said Bob Zick,
 GLENMONT/page 15

The parcel is now zoned "AA"
 SLINGERLANDS/page 15

At least 3 look to board seat

By Mel Hyman

Matterson last week officially announced his interest in the town board seat that will be vacated when Councilwoman Sheila Fuller assumes the supervisor's post on Jan. 1. GOP Supervisor Ken Ringler opted not run for a third, two-year term this fall.



Matterson

With the addition of Curt Matterson to the race, Bethlehem's 54 Republican committee persons will have at least three candidates to choose from to fill the town board vacancy that will occur next month.

"I've always thought a person should try and give something back to his community," Matterson said.

Other aspects of the study include traffic, noise and air quality. "Our target is mid-January to bring it all together," Sipperry said, although it may not be submitted to the planning board until early February.

"Over the past few years, there have been some positions open on the school board, but they just didn't fit my schedule. Now that my schedule has calmed down a bit and Sheila has moved up, some people mentioned that the board seat might be of interest."

"We feel that all the problems identified with the project can be overcome," Sipperry said. "The developers are committed to resolving the traffic
 SOUTHGATE/page 10

Matterson, 60, is not really a newcomer to public affairs. A 30-year resident of Bethlehem, he served as chairman of the town's
 BOARD/page 10

Southgate developer to dig at site

By Mel Hyman

If you spot some backhoes plowing up the earth on the site of the proposed Southgate Commons, don't be concerned.

& Mahoney of Albany, consulting engineers for Southgate.

"Then we'll be plowing strips every 50 feet so that we can walk the property and

They're only digging up about an inch or two of topsoil to check for historical artifacts.

It's all part of the developer's attempt to determine the environmental impacts of a proposed 425,000-square-foot mall on Route 9W, about a third of a mile north of Feura Bush Road.

I don't see any of the crime or hanging out that you may see at Crossgates or Colonie Center happening here.

Lynn Sipperry

"Right now we're clearing away the brush on the open fields so we can perform our cultural resources study," said Lynn Sipperry, project manager for Smith

check for artifacts," Sipperry said. "If people see some activity there, it's not because the town board or planning board has issued any approvals."

BC students credit to Bard, peers

By Dev Tobin

All the world's a stage
And all the men and women
merely players:

They have their exits and their
entrances;

And one man in his life plays
many parts.

As You Like It, Act II, Scene vii.

If you didn't catch *The Comedy of Errors* at Bethlehem Central High School earlier this month, you missed both a rollicking good-times show and implicit good news about young people today.

While the national media focus morbidly on the supposed grave state of public education, and locally, drinking seems to be the most newsworthy aspect of high school students' lives, the production of a 400-year-old play in a refreshing contemporary idiom by dozens of talented young people deserves another round of ap-

plause.

The play was chosen by students and transformed, with Beatles music and bright '60s sets and costumes, into a highly-entertaining farce. Every one of the Bard's words was there, but creative additions and asides, like the sensual yet silly dance scene, made the BCHS production unique.

The value of such extra-curricular activities is hard to quantify, especially since few, if any, of the actors or stage crew will have careers in the performing arts.

Yet school activities like drama are not intended to be strictly vocational. Whether it be producing a newspaper, organizing a ski trip or performing Elizabethan theater, students learn valuable lessons about diligence, hard work and cooperation that will hold them in good stead no matter what their future holds.

Such activities, when performed with enthusiasm and skill, also give adults another, more positive perspective of students.

BCHS English teacher James Yeara, impresario of the Vincent J. Crummies Acting Troupe and director of its annual Shakespeare offerings, tells a story about some fellow teachers grousing in the faculty room about their students' general lack of motivation.

Yeara urged the teachers to attend *The Comedy of Errors*, and reports that they could hardly believe that their unmotivated students were such accomplished and energetic actors.

Yeara will be taking a sabbatical in January to work with Shakespeare & Co., a Massachusetts group that works to bring the Bard into schools at every level.

He hopes to spread the inspirational success of the high school's Shakespeare program throughout the BC district, providing valuable life lessons for more students and enchanting experiences for more audiences.

Break a leg, Mr. Yeara.

And, one last time, bravo to the student cast and crew of *The Comedy of Errors* — Rachel Teumin, Dan Aycock, Jonathan Weiss, Dave Malbin, Nicholas Sattinger, Rachel Kennedy, Sarah Frank, Anna Groper, Dan Levine, Annie Tocker, Liz Karam, Nora Bunk and Jennifer Rifkin.

Also, Barbara Toms, Jim Bragle, Denise Herm, Debbi Kerness, Seth Fruiterman, Julia Donnaruma, Sara Richardson, Sarah Searle-Schrader, Adam Mondschein, Justin Cornell, Olga Boshart and Kate Nehrbauer.

Also, Erin Sellnow, Christi-Anne Postava-Davignon, Amanda Genovese, Dave Lefkovich, Sarah Burtis, Wayne Joy, Josh Therrien, Eric Edlund, James Richardson and Matt Samsonoff.

Also, Tanis Holdrey, Liz Kadish, Emily McGrath, Jamie Martin, Amy Nichols, Thalia Pollock, Christie Ray, Lisa Rooks, Sarah Rosenthal, Dana Slingerland, Josh Bergstrom, Moira Hughes and Hema Visweswarajah.

Church to host annual dinner

The First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, will host the sixth annual Community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25, from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The turkey dinner, open to the public, is sponsored by the church, the Bethlehem Ministerial Association and the town of Bethlehem Senior Services.

The dinner is free, but a good will offering will be accepted. Transportation for those over 60 will be provided by Bethlehem Senior Transportation Service.

For reservations, transportation or information, call Bethlehem Senior Services at 439-4955, extension 170.

Correction

Due to an editorial error, a brief in last week's *Spotlight* omitted the information that the Treasure Cove at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar will be closed for business on Tuesday, Dec. 28.

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Wed., Dec. 29	9 am - 12 noon 3:30 pm - 5 pm 9 pm - midnight
Thurs., Dec. 30	9 am - 5 pm
Fri. Dec. 31	9 am - 5 pm

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BC plans for more students

By Dev Tobin

Six years ago, the Bethlehem Central School District had to build additions at three elementary schools to deal with increasing enrollment. Now, that demographic bulge is headed for the middle and high schools.

How to effectively cope with more than 600 additional students at those two schools in coming years, while maintaining an exemplary educational program, will be one focus of a new long-range planning committee proposed by Superintendent Leslie Loomis at last week's school board meeting.

The other major charge for the committee is to jump-start the district's technology program, where the district is "not keeping up or catching up," according to Assistant Superintendent Judith Wooster.

The committee will also examine the district's maintenance needs for the next five years, Loomis said.

"Six years ago, it was very clear to a majority of the community that expanding the three elementary schools was necessary," Loomis recalled. "Today, it's an open question whether expansion of the middle and high school buildings is necessary. Estimates made then of the middle and high schools' capacity need to be completely recalculated."

In technology, the committee will study three areas: infrastructure (connections between buildings and to the outside world), equipment and software.

"The committee's role is to present analysis and options to

the school board for its consideration," Loomis said.

The committee will convene in January, and be asked to complete its work by the fall of 1994.

The committee will include Loomis, the middle and high school principals, two middle school teachers, two high school teachers, one teacher from the technology committee, one supervisor, one support staff person, one high school parent, one middle school parent, two elementary school parents, one parent from the technology committee, one high school student, one representative from the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, two retired district residents, and three at-large community experts in the fields of technology, facilities and/or education.

It's an open question whether expansion of the middle and high school buildings is necessary.

Leslie Loomis

Staff committee members will be selected by their bargaining units, and parents, student and community representatives will apply to and be appointed by the school board.

For information on serving on this committee, community members should contact Loomis at the district offices, 90 Adams Place, Delmar 12054 or call 439-7098.

In other business, the board

heard from several Glenmont Elementary School parents who were concerned that a plan to return a teacher coming back from medical leave to her classroom would needlessly disrupt their children's education.

The administration had proposed, and the board later approved, putting the returning teacher back in her combination third/fourth-grade class, and moving the replacement teacher to a fifth-grade class, in place of another teacher who was going on maternity leave.

The parents commended the replacement teacher, and wondered why two classes had to be disrupted.

Loomis explained that the district was "bending over backwards" to have a smooth transition for the three/four class by having the returning and the replacement teachers work together with the class for a month.

The returning teacher, with 10 years of experience at Glenmont and 14 years overall in the district, is "uniquely equipped for the three/four class," Loomis said.

Glenmont Principal Don Robillard agreed, "She has an investment in that particular class. It is the best placement for her."

Board member Bernard Harvith said that a teacher returning from medical leave should receive his/her old job back, as well as a "warm welcome" from parents.

"We don't want to make teachers afraid to go on medical leave. That could have disastrous results," he added.

a good education."

Born in Poland, Lackman's parents survived Nazi concentration camps. He attended public schools in Queens, graduated from New York University and earned a master's degree from the University at Albany.

Lackman's Albany connections might help Republican Giuliani in his battles to obtain desperately needed cash from the state Legislature. The Republican-controlled state Senate has traditionally taken a hard line on providing assistance to New York City — a longtime Democratic stronghold.

It's been 19 years since Lackman has lived in New York, and he has no illusions that things have changed. But he remains convinced that the city is workable and can manage its own fiscal affairs.

"I go into the job believing that there are tough choices to be made on all levels of government. The only difference between Delmar and New York City is a matter of scale."

New York City has an annual budget of about \$31 billion and currently faces an estimated budget shortfall of at least \$2 billion.

V'ville moves ahead with decision-sharing

By Dev Tobin

As the state-mandated deadline for submitting shared decision-making and school-based management plans to the state Education Department nears, the Voorheesville Central School District is well on the way to implementing its already-approved plan.

In fact, members of the decision-making teams have already been selected by their constituent groups, attended an orientation meeting in November and participated in a full day of training last week on group process skills, consensus decision-making and inter-team communication.

"So far, the process has gone very well," said Superintendent Alan McCartney. "I think it will work well in our district. The new teams will complement the administration and the school board in working to enhance student learning."

The Voorheesville plan calls for a nine-member team at the elementary school and a 12-member team at the junior-senior high school.

The team at each school includes one administrator selected by the Voorheesville Administrators Association, three parents selected by the PTA, three teachers selected by the Voorheesville Teachers Association and two support staff selected by the United Employees of Voorheesville.

At the junior-senior high school, three students, two from grades nine to 12 and one from grades seven and eight, will be nominated by student government to serve on the team.

The elementary school team includes Principal Edward Diegel; parents Roz Robinson, Tim Selby and Dean Sommer; teachers Peter Douglas, Kathy Fiero and Mary Jackstadt; and support staff JoAnn Donohue and Pamela Seh.

The junior-senior high school team includes Principal Terry Barlow; parents Deborah Baron, Barbara McKenna and Derris

Tidd; teachers Sherry Burgoon, Mark Diefendorf and Linda Wolkenbreit; support staff Barbara Bleyman and Linda Logan; and students Scott Basal, Christina Schachne and Jacob Van Ryn.

As defined in the plan, the Voorheesville teams can work on program issues relevant to each school (e.g., curriculum, instruction, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and staff development), as well as school policies and regulations and the overall school climate.

The teams are empowered to make final decisions on issues that affect student achievement within the school, involve several stakeholders, stay within the school's budget, and are consistent with district policy, state education laws and regulations and the overall school climate.

The teams' decisions will be deemed advisory if that decision has districtwide implications; requires additional resources; and involves changes in district policy or existing regulations or contracts.

Once deciding to take up an issue, the team must proceed according to a 15-point checklist included in the plan.

"I'm thrilled about how it's going," said parent Roz Robinson, who also worked on the committee that developed the plan in a "long, wonderful process."

Robinson noted that attainment of one of the parents' goals, equal representation of parents and teachers on the teams, will ensure that "both groups feel that they have an equal voice."

Second-grade teacher Kathy Fiero is also "very excited" about the new shared decision-making process.

"I got the feeling after the training session that we can work well together and accomplish a lot" in improving education at Voorheesville, said Fiero, adding that she hopes to bring "a classroom teacher's perspective to whatever decisions come before us."

Big Apple beckons local budget expert

By Mel Hyman

Slingerlands resident Abe Lackman says he has "very mixed feelings" about his decision to leave upstate New York for the raucous environs of New York City.

Lackman, 45, was recently appointed New York City budget director by Mayor-elect Rudolph Giuliani. He has served as director of fiscal studies for the Senate Finance Committee since 1984. During that time he worked closely with Mark Shaw, who is now director of the City Council's



Abe Lackman

Finance Division — a fact that may have helped him land the appointment.

On his last day on the job in Albany last week, he was a bit rueful about leaving Bethlehem.

"When the school year is out, we will be looking to relocate," he said. "I absolutely love the area. I love the fact that when I wake up in the morning I see deer in the backyard. You really have the best of both worlds up here."

"I look forward to the position I was appointed to," he continued. "I still have good memories of New York City. I grew up there and received what I consider was

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Spotlight Newspapers announce second batch of contest winners

Holiday shopping became easier for 11 lucky area residents this week, when Spotlight Newspapers handed out the second batch of gift certificates in its fourth annual Holiday Gift Certificate Giveaway.

Monica Wilkes of Latham won the first prize of \$500 in gift certificates from participating merchants.

Second-prize winner Joan Flavin of Latham won \$300 worth of gift certificates.

Janet Chassman of Albany, Adrienne Birchler of Voorheesville and Rainy Kovach of Delmar won second-place prizes worth \$200 each.

Fourth-place awards of \$100 in gift certificates went to Brian Klose of Latham, Dr. Ed Haven of Delmar, David Essex of Slingerlands, L. Nordmann of Glenmont, Madalyn Lemire of Latham and Sandra Grewell of Westerlo.

A total of \$2,000 worth of gift certificates, redeemable at participating merchants and service providers, was awarded in the drawing.

On her toes



Michelle Andriano, 12, of Delmar played young Clara in a production of the Berkshire Ballet Nutcracker Suite. She is the daughter of Fern and Michael Andriano and a pupil at Bethlehem Central Middle School.

Legal issues cloud BC ban

By Dev Tobin

If Bethlehem Central goes ahead with requiring off-campus abstinence from alcohol, tobacco and drugs for participants in extra-curricular activities, it will be going where no school district has gone before, according to a memo from school district attorney Roger Fritts.

A committee of staff, parents and students convened to study the matter asked for Fritts' advice on what can be done legally to extend a version of athletic training rules to other organized school activities.

Fritts' memo states that trying to regulate and punish off-campus substance abuse by non-athletes would be "innovative but untested. ... There appears to be no precedent for utilizing substance abuse off-campus or in a non-school-related activity as a basis for restricting participation in other extra-curricular activities unless it appears that allowing such might present a hazard to other students."

From the outset, the committee has been concerned about the limits of what schools can do to punish students for off-campus behavior.

Parent Holly Billings, one of the tri-chairpersons of the committee, said, "We recognized from the beginning we would not push ahead if there were no legal basis" for regulating off-campus alcohol, tobacco and drug use.

After receiving the memo, the committee "generally felt that it is not our charge to work on off-campus behavior," Billings added.

The committee's work is not done, though, as Fritts' memo also states that drug or alcohol use on campus or at school-related functions could be "a basis for restricting participation in any extra-curricular activity."

Fritts' memo also strongly endorsed the legality of athletic training rules, "It is clear from commissioner's as well as court decisions that schools may impose restrictions as to substance abuse on members of athletic

teams as a prerequisite to participation."

Billings said that the committee will work now on improving the athletic training pledge with "larger type and simpler wording," and look at whether sanctions for on-campus or school-related substance abuse should include suspension from participation in extra-curricular activities.

The committee, officially the Task Force on Student Responsibility and Extra-curricular Participation, is composed of 22 staff, parents and students from the middle and high schools.

It has been charged by Superintendent Leslie Loomis to come up with recommendations by May 1 on whether and how to extend training rules to other school activities.

Beginning in January, the group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month in the district offices at 90 Adams Place. Call 439-7098 for information.

Police nab seven drivers for DWI

Bethlehem police and State Police in Selkirk arrested seven people on charges of driving while intoxicated and related vehicle and traffic violations.

Sherri L. Panello, 18, of 130 Maple Ave., Selkirk, was stopped at 1:39 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, after a report of a speeding vehicle, police said. She was charged with DWI and released pending a future appearance in town court.

Joseph T. Frazier, 25, of 43A Cherry Ave., Delmar, was stopped at 11:47 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, for speeding on Orchard Street, police said.

He was charged with numerous vehicle and traffic violations including reckless driving, speeding and failure to obey a police officer, police said. He was also charged with DWI and released pending a future appearance in town court.

Joseph K. Gardiner, 36, of the

Stones End Motel in Glenmont, was stopped on Thursday, Dec. 9, for failing to dim his headlights on Route 9W, State Police said.

He was charged with felony DWI and aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. He was also wanted by police agencies in Onondaga County, Ravena and Rhinebeck.

He was remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of bail. He was additionally charged with possession of a gambling device subsequent to a search of his vehicle.

Helen M. Kileb, 34, of Troy, was apprehended on Thursday, Dec. 9, after a traffic stop on Route 9W, State Police said. She was charged with DWI and released pending a future appearance in town court.

Henry A. Relation, 35, of Route 144, Selkirk, was apprehended on Friday, Dec. 10, after a traffic stop

in the Town of Bethlehem, State Police said. He was charged with DWI and released pending a future appearance in town court.

Eric L. Willis, of 320 Second St., Albany, was stopped on Monday, Dec. 13, after a traffic stop on Route 144 in Glenmont, State Police said. He was charged with second degree criminal impersonation, aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, no insurance, no registration and no seat belt.

He was arraigned before Bethlehem Town Justice Peter Wenger and sent to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$350 bail.

Richard C. Mertz, 42, of RD 2, Ravena, was stopped on Saturday, Dec. 18, after a traffic stop on Route 9W in Glenmont, State Police said. He was charged with DWI and released pending a future appearance in town court.

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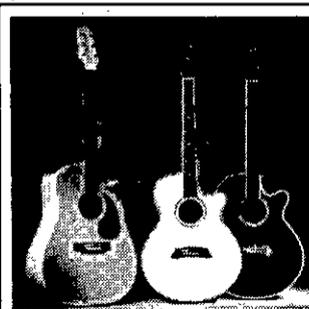
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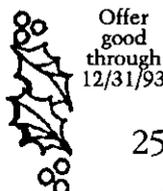
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V'ville nurse thrilled by African medical mission

By Dev Tobin

It's not most people's idea of an ideal vacation — three weeks in a dirt-poor West African country providing basic sanitation and health care.

But for Registered Nurse Diane Deeley of Voorheesville, her recent sojourn to Senegal with the Mercy Ships program was a dream come true.

"Since I was a student nurse,

I've always wanted to go to Africa on a health team. There must be a piece of the Peace Corps in me," Deeley said. "Now that our kids are grown, I finally had my chance."

A nurse at St. Peter's Addiction Recovery Center in Guilderland, Deeley, 49, worked out of the Mercy Ship Anastasis for three weeks, from mid-November to the first week in December.

"With just a cheese sandwich

for Thanksgiving, I was very homesick that day," she recalled. "But we were so busy, up at 6 a.m. and crashing into bed at 11 at night."

While many of the volunteers stayed on the ship in the port of Dakar, providing such hospital services as surgery, Deeley worked mostly in a small village about 50 miles from the capital, dispensing very basic health services.

"It was mostly emergency room care — penicillin to kill infections, oral rehydration for diarrhea, and setting broken bones" said Deeley, who ran a one-room pharmacy for the mission.

Villagers, while happy at the results of the Mercy Ships care, often didn't understand how modern medicines produced the cures.

"One woman had tapeworms, so I gave her medicine which made her vomit up the worms," Deeley recalled. "She came back convinced that the medicine had caused the worms."

Living conditions in the village were more primitive than she could have imagined.

"No electricity, no running water, almost non-existent sanitation, a whole family living in one dirt-floor room and eating rice and fish out of the same big pot — the poverty was crushing," she recalled. "But the people have such a sense of dignity and pride, despite being literally dirt-poor."

Like most Westerners in a Third World environment, the Mercy Ships team had resolved not to drink the water or eat the food. But that resolution wavered their first day when they were welcomed with a villagewide celebration.

"The chief passed around a

bucket of water, and we had to drink, because we didn't want to insult him," she said. "We spent the entire day in introductions, dancing, eating, singing. They made us feel like the most important people in the village."

While there was virtually no crime in the village, the chief took preventive measures to protect the miracle medicines Deeley dispensed.

"He was afraid that people from other villages might try to steal the white man's medicine, so he made his son sleep in the pharmacy room," she said.

In tribute to the Mercy Ships team, the chief renamed one of the dirt paths in the village Anastasis Street, she added.

Deeley's taste of medical-missionary work has left her hungry for more, she said. "I'd love to go

back and set up immunization and sanitation programs."

Deeley's trip was financed largely by a grant from Sterling Organics in Rensselaer, which also donated 70 cases of Stridex anti-bacterial soap to the Mercy Ship Anastasis.

"We were happy to be in a position to support this humanitarian effort," said Jane Melville, president of Sterling Organics. "When I heard she (Deeley) was using her own time and money to make this trip, I felt she deserved a corporate partner."

With bacterial infection such a prevalent health problem in Senegal, the Stridex donation was especially helpful, Deeley said.

Fellow parishioners from St. Matthew's Church in Voorheesville also helped defray the cost of the trip, Deeley said.

BCHS freshman dies in Route 85 accident

A Bethlehem Central High School honor student died Thursday, Dec. 16, at Albany Medical Center Hospital as a result of injuries suffered when he was struck by a pickup truck while crossing New Scotland Road in Slingerlands last Wednesday morning.

Andrew Jukins, 14, was struck

by a westbound pickup truck operated by a 26-year-old Orange, Mass., man just after 7 a.m. about 200 feet east of Font Grove Road.

No charges have been filed against the driver, Bethlehem police said.

A memorial service for Jukins was held Monday at Delmar Presbyterian Church.



Basic sanitation was a big part of Voorheesville nurse Diane Deeley's recent medical mission to Senegal.

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Matters of Opinion

Heralds of Christmas

People who yearn for the serenity and the reassurance that would be attained, if we would but pay adequate attention to the very realistically human goals described in Bishop Hubbard's Christmas message, demonstrate that spirit again and again as Christmas Day approaches.

The countless lights that glow or twinkle so earnestly from tree limbs, from gate posts, from curtained windows are touching testimony to the anticipation felt within. Christmas comes but once a year, as we have been reminded for centuries past—and the innate joy in its celebration cannot be contained. True, there is spectacle and implied merriment in those magically electrified candles, but fundamentally the countryside speaks now of faith and anticipation of its revelation.

So, too, do the displays of the season's evergreens tell of belief in renewal and of constancy in ways that no one of us is easily able to comprehend. Our wreaths seem to testify as to our oneness, a circle from which no one is excluded. Carolers bring not merely the

Those speedy couriers

The U.S. Postal Service has been going out of its way this month to be obliging to its patrons and to the communities that it also serves.

First, there was the annual effort to collect food for the pantries that are operated by numerous organizations on behalf of persons and families who might lack for an adequate diet. The letter-carriers collected many tons of foodstuffs for that cause, and both they and their co-workers in the post offices deserve general thanks and commendation.

For the past two weekends, many offices remained open extra hours on Saturdays and opened again on Sundays in order to better accommodate people who wanted to get their mailing done speedily—whether early or late. This was a genuine service that undoubtedly helped at both ends of the system—dispatch and delivery. Timely moving of the customary heavy volume of greetings,

A time for giving

Each of us is certain to be reminded in this season the biblical admonition that it is more blessed to give than to receive. As children we heard that expression many times, and we hear of it again just now. The idea of giving is inherent in caring human relationships, and surely the thought has a pertinency to the gift exchanging that has become traditional at Christmas.

There is, however, another significant aspect to the reminder. We are now only several days away from the end of 1993, a date with pointed import in the tax laws.

Specifically, Dec. 31 is the cut-off date for making contributions applicable to this tax year. Gifts to religious, educational, and social-service institutions must be made by the end of next week if they are to be claimed as

Yuletide poaching

Not a very pleasant topic, but unfortunately a not untimely one: this is the season to be jolly but also to be watchful, for the times when people tend to be unwary are likewise the times when predators are prone to strike.

Editorials

sacred words and their melody but the very air of continuity of humankind's loftiest expectations. And even the nostalgia of a "white Christmas" suggests that we share a desire for the quiet tranquility of a time that we sense once existed and that we may somehow be allowed to recapture.

After nearly two millennia of Christmases with their lights, their songs, their memories, their special stories and adornments, we stand awestruck by the majesty and the joyous solemnity of yet another.

Is there not a universality in the wistfulness of Charles Dickens's greeting:

"My best wishes for your merry Christmases and your happy New Years, your long lives, and your true prosperities."

And as he wrote in another context:

"God bless us every one!"

packages, and year-end business mail is of great interest to virtually everyone, and the USPS is serving that interest well in this special case.

And on Christmas Day—in our area, at least, if not everywhere—the Service is planning to provide very extra-special Santa Claus deliveries (for patrons who have made prior arrangements). Imagine having the red-suited, white-whiskered old gent Ho-ho-ho'ing up your stoop—rather than down the chimney—with that super-surprise for Gram or Mom or a tiny Tim or Tiffany. Our only problem with it is, are there really any postal employees corpulent enough to carry it off in style? But it's a great idea, anyway, for those who don't expect Santa to make his visit in the dark of night.

Should we have a cookie and glass of milk ready, just in case?

benevolences in tax returns that cover calendar 1993.

Not-for-profit organizations are only too aware of this deadline, of course, and many are busily reminding all those on special-gift lists of this late opportunity. And, naturally, individuals accustomed to making major donations are unlikely to be forgetful. But the law applies, as well, to all those persons who like to make their assistance count in the most timely manner. The church or temple, the school or college, the hospital or homeless shelter, the fire department or welfare agency with whose good works you have become acquainted will sincerely welcome as "blessed" a thoughtful and heartfelt gift regardless, one might say, of its weight or measure.

Homes and offices left untended, even "for just a minute," become invitations to sneak-thieves to strike quickly and disastrously. Automobiles, even when locked, if displaying what could be called attractive invitations, are especially subject to looting.

'Our sisters and brothers' who hunger for peace, shelter are remembered by Bishop

The Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany wrote this annual Christmas message for readers of *The Spotlight Newspapers*.

By The Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard

Among the gifts for which multitudes around the world still hunger are those of peace and shelter. As 1993 draws to a close, war and violence in many places continue to besiege, dislocate, or kill large numbers of people, thereby inflicting unthinkable suffering upon our sisters and brothers. Despite all this, the mysterious essence of Christmas stirs us to hope even in the midst of crises that appear unsolvable.

Over the past several months, people around the world have seen the seemingly impossible happen. The historic handshake exchanged by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO leader Yasir Arafat was a dramatic outward sign of ongoing arduous efforts toward peace in the Middle East, in the face of such continuing formidable opposition. The joint reception of this year's Nobel Peace Prize by Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, and by F.W. de Klerk, South African President, brought the two leaders together in Stockholm in a ceremony that in a worldwide way celebrates peace and peacemaking.

These happenings in 1993, despite continued war and violence, are outward signs of both the hunger for peace and the prayers for peace that beseech God for this priceless gift and that remember the sacred promise: "You shall be my people, and I will be your God" (Jer. 30:22).

That promise was fulfilled in a timeless way on the first Christmas in Bethlehem nearly two millennia ago. The Child in the manger in whom the shepherds rejoiced in the company of Mary and Joseph is the bringer of the Good News and the teacher of peace and peacemaking. The Child was the source of the community formed there in the stable and of the priceless gift of the peace they experienced and shared, despite their harsh surroundings.

It is difficult to put in words the mysterious essence of Christmas. An indefinable inner peace is a sign of this season. So too is a stillness of heart, in spite of the clamor and tumult of the commercialism that stridently proclaims its wares. Such peace and such stillness of heart can rekindle faith, stir hope, and mobilize love in action in response to the urgent needs of others.

Christmas evokes too an awareness of the wonders of the universe as seen in the night sky and in the companionship of the stars; or the beauty and fruitfulness of the earth. Such an awareness calls us from our neglect and abuse of our very environment to supportive care and action on its behalf.

Each year, Christmas reminds us, moreover, that Emmanuel, God-with-us, took on our humanity and the vulnerability of an infant. As we kneel at the manger, we think of the plight of multitudes of children in the world who no longer have the power to rejoice, so vast are their sorrow and sense of loss. In response, we can be a voice, a massive chorus of voices, raised on behalf of the young; we can be a hand, a company of many

□ MESSAGE/page 8

THE SPOTLIGHT

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Your Opinion Matters

Yes, Virginia, there is a Barney

Even in a time when tickets for the "Barney" spectacular at Radio City Music Hall go for \$30 (up to \$200 from a scalper), Santa Claus has not been entirely outmoded.

No. 3 Granddaughter (No. 2 Daughter's) is a very firm believer in Santa, I learn. The newest clipping on the refrigerator door at our house is a newspaper picture of Lucy (age 4) standing in a row of tots whose backs carried letters spelling out "Happy Holidays." But, as the photo caption points out, Lucy, who was "A," was peering over her shoulder to see if the audience was taking it in.

I asked my sister if I had been a Santa Claus fan, and she informed me that our mother had always discouraged that deception. Sort of cruel, wouldn't you say? Seems to me that every kid deserves a shot at really believing in something as genuine as the Santa Claus yarn. And we are preserving the myth for Lucy's sweet sake.

Beyond all the Perry Como songs about Santa being on his way, to my mind the most famous as well as the truest observation about Santa Claus—written, obviously, by a true believer, albeit a grown-up one—was composed ninety-six years ago by a man in

his late fifties. That was Francis Pharcellus Church. Mr. Church was the editor of The New York Sun, and since editors never write

Uncle Dudley

anything that they don't know to be true (and themselves sincerely believe), it is easy enough to take his word as gospel.

Just as Virginia O'Hanlon did. You will recall that Virginia had told her father some other children told her there is no Santa, and his answer had been: "Write and ask the editor of The Sun. If the Sun says anything is true, it is!"

You probably know that story by heart. But you may have forgotten a few of the words in Editor Church's reply (published not in the Christmas season but on Sept. 21 of 1897). So I am quoting them here so that you can have them in mind when the kids and grandkids are asking the same question this week that Virginia did.

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing

can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge. . . .

"Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies. . . . No Santa Claus! Thank God, he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Editor Church didn't live to see plastic rooftop sleighs or hear Perry Como on this subject. (He died in 1906). But young Miss O'Hanlon—who probably told her friends something like, "So there, smarties! There is a Santa Claus. It says so in The Sun"—lived a long life and died just a few years ago in Columbia County.

As for me, I can remember when you could buy The Sun for two cents, and I always believed it. In fact, at one time, I was a correspondent for The Sun. And I still also believe in Santa Claus, cruel mother or no.

Savoring 'A Christmas Carol'

In the December issue of "Gourmet" I came across a perfect complement to "A Christmas Carol"—whether as yuletide re-reading or as an antidote to Wilford Brimley's version. And the reading of it aloud on Christmas Eve might even be, for some, a supplement to the recital of "A Visit from St. Nicholas."

"Celebrating the Christmas Classic" is the way Michael Patrick Hearn has titled his charming piece. He is an authority on Charles Dickens: "Is it possible to celebrate Christmas today and not think of Charles Dickens and 'A Christmas Carol'?" he asks, noting that "Dickens confessed that he 'wept and laughed and wept again, and excited himself in a most extraordinary manner' over the writing of it." That was in the fall of 1843, so the story is now just 150 years old. Mr. Hearn continues:

"Christmas for Dickens meant feasting, and one of the present-day pleasures of 'A Christmas Carol' is in reading about the seasonal fare enjoyed by his characters in Victorian London. Hardly a scene in this 'Ghost Story of Christmas' goes by without a description of exactly what someone ate or drank in honor of the day. And Dickens cannot seem to pass up the many chances for gastronomic metaphor. 'A Christmas Carol' really is, as Victorian novelist Margaret Oliphant called it, 'the apotheosis of turkey and plum pudding.'"

The article includes some of

Dickens's long passages of mouth-watering descriptions of the "succulent produce, described in intoxicating detail" (such as the

Constant Reader

"bunches of grapes, made, in the shopkeepers' benevolence, to dangle from conspicuous hooks, that people's mouths might water gratis as they passed").

But this recounting hardly can do justice to the loving attention that Mr. Hearn pays to the dishes at "the workingman's dinner"—particularly the Cratchits' plum pudding (smelling "washing-day" as it did). The turkey that Scrooge had delivered to the Cratchits was called by G. K. Chesterton a "top-heavy bird, a good symbol of the top-heavy happiness" of the story.

Interesting sidelights abound:

Although Jack Horner may have pulled out a plum when he stuck his thumb in his Christmas pie, the traditional plum pudding does not contain plums at all. It is filled, rather, with raisins and currants. . . . It may at one time have included plums or prunes, but its name is believed to have come from plumb, meaning to swell.

—M.P. Hearn in 'Gourmet'

Mr. Hearn notes that in comparison with the Cratchits' modest meal, Queen Victoria's Christmas menu included turtle soup or quenelles in consommé, haddock or sole, beef or roast swan, then veal, chicken, turbot, partridge, or rabbit and pheasant or capon, brawn, boar's head, sausage, and a pie of pheasant, lark, and turkey,

Reading of the story converted some skeptics to Dickens' viewpoint

mushroom pastries, truffles, and creamed spinach. For dessert, mincemeat pie, "surprise pudding," and other sweets.

Finally, "Scrooge's change of heart inspired not a few of Dickens's contemporaries—Thackeray attested that Carlyle, who 'does not keep Christmas Day, on reading the book, sent out for turkey, and asked two friends to dine—this is a fact.'"

"If not for Dickens and a 'A Christmas Carol' we might not be celebrating the season with the same conviviality" to which we now are accustomed.

Other pleasures await in this "Gourmet"—I was most happy with a lavishly illustrated article on Christmas at Longwood, Winterthur and other spots in Wyeth country. But you might find pleasure in "An Italian Christmas Eve" and many other articles, menus, and recipes. The issue, if still available, is \$2.95.

Whalen urges county to regionalize water

The contributor of this Point of View, Mayor of Albany since 1983, retires from that office next week. He is an advocate of regionalizing certain local governmental functions.

By Thomas M. Whalen, III

Over the past several years, I have sought ways to encourage my fellow elected public officials to think of ways to regionalize various services provided by local governmental units within Albany County and extending into other areas of the Capital Region.

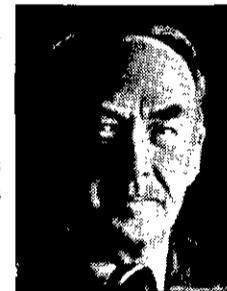
Point of View

Now, as my tenure as Mayor of Albany approaches an end, I am more than ever persuaded of the high desirability and the feasibility of joining together certain municipal functions in the interest of efficiency and economy.

One of the services most susceptible to this forward-looking concept, I have concluded, is a shared system of water-supply retention and distribution. The possibilities are entirely applicable to Albany County.

I see consolidation of the water system as what might be termed a "benign" step, with potential benefits to communities and their residents far outweighing doubts and objections that might be raised. People may be concerned about consolidation of school districts or volunteer fire companies, but they are unlikely to become exercised about their tap water—so long as it's there, with a reputation for good quality of taste and devoid of noxious odor.

Because of my belief that the diverse water-supply systems of Albany County's score of municipalities could be consolidated with increased assurance of quality, cost, and adequacy, I called a conference of representatives of all the county's cities, towns, and villages. We met on Sept. 26, 1991, and all jurisdictions were represented (except one town, whose supervisor was unavoidably detained). After three presentations (including one on the successful consolidation of water districts in Saratoga County), the open discussion disclosed substantial interest in the possibilities on the part of everyone present; there was not one negative comment.



Enlarging Alcove Reservoir's capacity by 40 percent could make supply more accessible to outlying areas, stabilize rates, improve efficiency

Our discussion focused on the desirability of a study of existing facilities in the county that could develop a needs assessment on the part of each municipality. This would be followed by an effort to formalize specific goals as well as relationships between and among all the local governments.

If a consensus were reached, this should lead to State legislation creating a county authority that would take over the entire water-retention and distribution systems within the county.

Behind this initiative and my own concept of water regionalization was the fact that the City of Albany owns substantial acreage above the Alcove Reservoir, and these two areas are connected by the Silver Creek—thus making feasible the idea of linking the two properties in a single 15-billion-gallon holding capacity (40 percent greater than at present). This is supported by a study completed several years ago showing that if a dam were built on the city-owned land the resulting enlarged watershed would place the city in the position of being able to sell this excess water.

The unanswered question was: *Would the sale of this water be sufficient to retire the debt for costs of dam construction?*

A related issue must be: What could we accomplish rate-wise if we did have a county-wide water authority, and had one rate system for the entire county? Albany, incidentally, already is

□ WATER/page 8

Matters of Opinion

Water

(from page 7)

selling water from Alcove to Bethlehem, Guilderland, and Coeymans. As this fact suggests, there is an uneven access to, and distribution of, the overall supply even though Albany County is considered a "water-rich" county. The cities of Albany and Watervliet, on the other hand, have more than an ample supply.

The supply is often far removed from the demand. The Town of New Scotland, so close to a ready source, actually has no public water supply. Even though there are sufficient water resources for all, there are insufficient interconnections between the systems to handle increased need. Bethlehem is taking on a large expense to filter water from wells drilled adjacent to the Hudson River. Colonie must rely on water from the Mohawk as its backup source in the event of a water emergency. Much of this makes no sense.

As for water quality, the age of the infrastructure, increased demand and the resulting drain on existing resources, and the increasing danger of contamination

are potential dangers to the present high quality that the county's residents expect and generally receive. As an example of one hazard, the Latham Water District is faced with source-contamination from runoff of airplane de-icer agents at the nearby airport.

A preliminary study has indicated that areas within the county have not been developed because of lack of water for homes or businesses, tracing to the maldistribution that I have mentioned. Much of the land in the Hill Towns, a portion of Guilderland, and some parts of the southern end of the county fall into this category.

If we were able to access these areas with a county-wide system of distribution, it would become an economic development tool.

This is a prospective long-term benefit; more easily discernible, naturally, are the broadened scope of supply and distribution, assurance of adequate quality and ample quantity, stabilization of rates, and maintenance of the infrastructure. Because the proposed water authority would have the power to issue its own obligations, it could finance the upkeep, replacement, and extension of distribution mains.

The effort has been moving along in the past two years, attributable in considerable degree to the pro bono efforts of James Gallagher, a retired State OGS official, who at my request has carried out research and extensive contacts seeking action rather than conversation.

A further meeting of the several municipalities' representatives should be next on the agenda. At that time, the local governments should expect to make a financial commitment to carry out a study based on the amount of water consumed (or consumption anticipated) in the various localities. On the strength of a resulting formula, each could then make a commitment to take the necessary steps toward creating the authority with rate-setting and financing powers.

Active support by the leaders of the local governments could make these relatively easy to accomplish.

As I leave office, I would be more than gratified if part of my legacy were having effectively advocated this practical movement toward regionalization—one that would show the way toward coordination in other fields of endeavor by the many governmental units of our great region.

Church is thankful for a Christmas tree

Editor, The Spotlight:

The congregation of the Normansville Community Church takes this opportunity to publicly thank Bob Shafer of Bob's Produce on Delaware Avenue for his contribution of a beautiful tree for our church.

Without the generosity of this businessman, our church would not have so special a Christmas.

Darlene M. Bell

Delmar

Message

(from page 6)

hands, reaching out in some way in support of the children.

A second gift for which multitudes around the world hunger is that of shelter. Jesus the Lord took on our humanity and in his birth in a primitive stable shared the lot of the homeless. Many people in our country and in numerous other places also share this lot. Concerned individuals and groups have responded to that need by establishing shelters for the homeless, for the victims of domestic abuse, for persons suffering from HIV/AIDS, for refugees fleeing from war-torn homelands. Support of this mission of mercy can hearten and help those who experience its hospitality.

Our spiritual journey to Bethlehem in the faith and joyous spirit of the shepherds can grace us with the compassion and the courage to respond in our individual ways to the needs of our sisters and brothers who still hunger so desperately for peace and shelter.

May Christmas 1993 bring you and your family and all our sisters and brothers around the world the unique peace and gladness of heart in which the shepherds rejoiced on that first Christmas night in the company of Jesus our Savior and of Mary and Joseph.

Fifth-graders repack boxes for pantries

Editor, The Spotlight:

Our fifth-grade Hamagrael School class took a very special field trip to the Albany Regional Food Bank Warehouse. For over two hours, we repackaged 50-pound boxes of frozen green beans to be distributed to food pantries during the holiday season.

Each 50-pound box had to be divided up into separate plastic bags of one or two pounds each. Some people held the plastic bags, some scooped up the frozen beans, and others tied and labeled each package. Everyone worked together and did a wonderful job. In addition to the students we had many special helpers: Officer Ray Linstruth, the Hamagrael D.A.R.E. instructor, accompanied us as well as five parents (Mr. Levine, Mrs. Govanlu, Ms. Cammisa, Mrs. Richman, and Mrs. Shoss). The project wouldn't have been possible without their help.

Our trip was a reminder that

not everyone is as fortunate as we are, and it was an opportunity to help our community in a small way. Norah Patterson, from the Food Bank, told us that without volunteers to help out with repackaging it would not be possible to distribute the food to those who need it. We learned a valuable lesson and everyone enjoyed it, too!

Barbara A. Cox

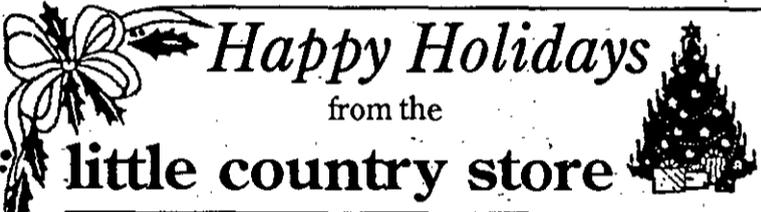
Community Orchestra concert is applauded

Editor, The Spotlight:

We have just returned from a delightful Sunday afternoon concert of holiday music played by our own Delmar Community Orchestra. What a group of talented musicians, including their gifted vocalist, Marie Franke!

To those who missed this opportunity to step away from the seasonal bustle to be soothed and lifted musically, we can only say: Don't let another concert pass you by.

Bob and Eileen Brooks



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Merry Christmas and heartfelt thanks to our many good friends.

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Your Opinion Matters

Say not so! Bethlehem is called a junkyard

Editor, The Spotlight:

"Have disabled motor vehicle, will give it to Kidney Foundation."

It is the season for gift-giving; so, with apologies to Paladin, I humbly suggest that this statement be on the gift-giving list of those who have such a vehicle. You can make a number of people happy—plus you will receive a gift in return for your generosity.

Who will be happy, you ask? Those who benefit from the programs and services of the Kidney Foundation will be happy, your neighbors will be happy, and John Flanigan will be happy.

Who is John Flanigan, you ask? He is the Building Inspector for the Town of Bethlehem. It is his responsibility to enforce the junkyard ordinance in the Bethlehem Code. The ordinance says that junkyards have to be licensed because the unrestrained accumulation of junk motor vehicles is a hazard to the health, safety, and welfare of citizens of the town and that a clean, wholesome, attractive environment is an important safeguard of the citizens' material rights against unwarrantable invasion.

The ordinance defines a junkyard as any place where there is held vehicle waste and/or vehicles no longer in condition for legal use that constitute the bulk of two vehicles. Some of the old clunkers in back yards constitute the bulk of two of today's size cars but that is not the point here. What is the point is that Bethlehem is a place and the amount of vehicle waste and junk cars held in it, without a doubt, makes the town qualify as a junkyard.

Now you know why John Flanigan will be happy when there are fewer than two junk cars in Bethlehem.

There are those who say that we Americans love our motor vehicles and that permitting them to be crushed or rendered asunder is a sacrilege. Others say that being a pack rat is being an American. And then there are those who say that they have a right to do what they want on their property.

Perhaps there is some truth in all these excuses, but those who believe them should weigh this against the good they would do if they would allow the Kidney Foundation to tow or drive away the old vehicle, free of charge.

So hear this you ole excuse-makers: Call 458-9697 and open your gift from the Kidney Foundation. Those of you who are on a cruise when you read this can call 1-800-999-9697.

Ho Ho Ho Ho!

William. B. Strong

Glenmont

Insights are offered on basement flooding

Editor, The Spotlight:

It appears that people often need to be reminded of the facts regarding preparation of final plans for subdivisions in Bethlehem. The Spotlight recently published a letter from John H. Cunningham, who resides at 14 Woodridge Road. As a newcomer, he has misstated the facts concerning the approval of the Colonial Woodlands subdivision.

The subdivision was originally approved by the Planning Board in the early 1950s and later revised at the request of adjoining owners when the final plan was submitted for approval in 1992. Final approval was granted on the basis of a delineated Federal wetland which approved by the Corps of Engineers, not the Planning Board or the developer.

The Planning Board has exercised every precaution within their jurisdiction in granting final approval. Mr. Cunningham requests further review. The public, through the approval process, was in attendance at many open meetings as well as a public hearing relative to the project. No further input is necessary.

All subdivisions constructed since the late 1950s have a positive point to which cellar water may be directed. Cellar drains connect to a storm sewer by either gravity or a sump pump in the basement of each house. Since

New Scotland calendar is a popular sell-out

Editor, The Spotlight:

On behalf of the board and members of the Town of New Scotland Historical Association, thank you for your excellent coverage of our 1994 calendar. As a result, we had a lot of interest from people in Bethlehem as well as New Scotland and now have sold out. We very much appreciate your interest and support.

We also had a good turnout for our Dec. 7 meeting at which Ms. Peter Rose spoke about Dutch holidays and accompanying foods. As you know, the local papers can make or break an event of this nature.

Ann A. Eberle
President

Vox Pop

the beginning of this procedure, there have been dry cellars in all new subdivisions.

Mr. Cunningham resides in the vicinity of "Colonial Woodlands." A storm sewer exists in Woodridge Road and one wonders why he has the trouble with cellar water that he describes. All other houses on Woodridge Road and Greenleaf Drive, east of the City of Albany water main, have dry basements. These cellar drains were properly connected to the storm sewer.

Rather than complaining about his water problems that will not be duplicated when new houses are constructed in "Colonial Woodlands," he should be in touch with a contractor.

Lindsay M. Boutelle

Delmar

The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local interest. Letters are subject to editing in keeping with our rules of fairness, accuracy, style, length. All letters must carry the writer's signature, address and telephone numbers. Send them to Letters, to the Editor, Spotlight, 125 Adams Street, Delmar NY 12054. Letters may be faxed to 439-0609.

Drivers need to use 'sanity' on Route 85

Editor, The Spotlight:

Last week some of us who live along Route 85 experienced a terrible tragedy. A young high school student was fatally injured when hit by a vehicle. It is not right to use personal and painful events to make public comments. However, I wish that those who want to add to the volume of traffic in this section of Route 85 would consider the human in their financial calculations.

The holiday season is strained for several families because of this tragedy. Can we try to add sanity to our use of roads and vehicles?

Another note to our police: Sometime ago the Governor noted

Article helps recruit three drivers for ACS

Editor, The Spotlight:

On behalf of the American Cancer Society's Albany County Unit, I want to thank *The Spotlight* for the fine article on our "Road to Recovery" program.

Because of *The Spotlight's* help, we have recruited three new drivers from the Delmar area. All learned of the program through your article.

Your concern and support is greatly appreciated.

Ricky Talmage
Elsmere

the Capital District driving habit of at least two cars crossing an intersection after the light has turned red. This section of Route 85 near Kenwood Avenue has three lanes of traffic, two of which seem always to have several cars crossing against a light.

George W. Bragle

Slingerlands

Thanks to those who served town

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Dec. 22 Mr. Ringler, Ms. alvin, and Mr. Gunner will be attending their last Town Board meeting. Our community owes them a vote of thanks for their dedication and efforts these past our years. We may not always have agreed with them, but they have served us well.

It is unfortunately common among many people to be distrustful of all politicians and office holders. I encourage such people to run for and serve in public office themselves. They will find many successes and disappointments, much satisfaction, and also frustrations, and significant demands on their personal and family times. But it is a truly rewarding experience.

Bertold E. Weinberg

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Board

(From Page 1)

recreation committee from 1968 to 1973. During that time, the committee helped procure the land for what is now the Elm Avenue Park.

From 1967 to 1975, he chaired the committee that led to the formation of the Bethlehem Coffeehouse — a teen entertainment center in Delmar that filled a crucial need for a drug-free environment during rather tumultuous times.

"It was geared to juniors and seniors in high school," he recalled. "It featured folk music. We even had Don McLean there one time."

A former school teacher, Matterson now runs his own consulting business, providing expertise on organizational development, convention planning and governmental relations.

The new town board should not ignore the problem of solid waste, Matterson said. "It's something that needs to be addressed on a regional basis, and I think we should keep all our options open, including incineration, if future technology guarantees it to be safe."

The proposed town master plan will also take center stage, he noted. "As the town has grown, it's evident that we have not had a

good transportation plan in place. LUMAC is trying to address that."

Matterson acknowledged that he is "scared to death" of the prospect of knocking on 7,000 or 8,000 doors next year when the November special election is held for this board seat.

But there may be other ways of doing it, he said, such as meeting with people in small groups and attending community functions.

Nevertheless he is committed to the race and plans on doing whatever is necessary to protect the seat should he receive the appointment.

The other announced candidates for Fuller's board seat are planning board member Doris Davis and former town comptroller Phil Mahar.

Southgate

(From Page 1)

problems to the best of their abilities."

The chief concern of Glenmont residents up to this point has been the effect of the additional traffic from Southgate, which could spill out onto Bender Lane and Feura Bush Road, as well as the main thoroughfare, Route 9W.

Twenty-seven hundred parking spaces are proposed for the new mall, which is expected to include a combination Kmart/supermarket complex called Super K.

Sipperly declined to say how the developers would react if they were forced to reduce the mall's size. A neighborhood group called

Citizens Monitoring Southgate is pushing for a smaller complex, more along the lines of Delaware Plaza.

The project has already been downsized about 70,000 square feet, Sipperly noted, with the elimination of a multi-screen cineplex.

"One thing I think people forget about is that this will not be an enclosed mall," he added. "I don't see any of the crime or hanging out that you may see at Crossgates or Colonie Center happening here."

Center sets program on plants and animals

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on Game Farm Road in Delmar has slated a family program, "Plants and Animals," on Monday, Dec. 27, at 2 p.m.

Participants will walk along forest trails looking for animal tracks, evergreen trees, ferns and other plants.

For information, call Five Rivers at 475-0291.

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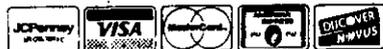
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Sat. Closed (Christmas Day)
Crossgates Mall
Tues.-Thur. 8am-11pm
Fri. 8am-5pm (Christmas Eve)
Sat. Closed (Christmas Day)

JCPenney

DOING IT RIGHT

Hafensteiner to lead RCS board

Sarah Hafensteiner was elected president of the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk school board Monday night.

Previously board vice president, Hafensteiner succeeds Maurice Satin, who remains a board member.

The board also officially accepted the resignation of board member Barry Jones, and decided to solicit letters of intent from interested community members.

Whoever is appointed to replace Jones will have to run in the 1994 school board election for the remainder of Jones' term.

Letters of intent should be sent to Hafensteiner at the board of education office, 26 Thatcher St., Selkirk, before the board's next meeting on Monday, Jan. 3.

Ravena Library has last-minute gifts

Just in time for holiday gifts, the Ravena Free Library, 106 Main St., has a large selection of paperbacks for 25 cents each.

Also at the library, children's vacation activities are scheduled on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at 1:30 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 30, at 10:30 a.m. These programs are

NEWS NOTES

Selkirk
South Bethlehem
Michele Bintz
439-3167



free and open to the public.

The library will be closed for the holidays Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25 and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

For information, call 756-2053.

Letter carriers collect food for pantry

Selkirk postal carriers collected more than 1,700 food items for the Venture Food Pantry at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem in Selkirk.

Postmaster Dale Finch said his staff would like to thank those along the 125-mile daily route who contributed.

The carriers collected the items the week of Dec. 4 to 11.

Church to sponsor old-fashioned ride

The South Bethlehem United Methodist Church is sponsoring an old-fashioned horse-drawn

sleigh-ride and dinner on Saturday, Jan. 29, in Wilmington, Vt.

The bus will leave the church at 8 a.m. for the Old Red Mill, where coffee and doughnuts will be served by the fire.

The day will also include a visit to Hogback Mountain, shopping in Wilmington, a chicken dinner at the Old Red Mill and a tour of Mount Snow.

The cost is of the trip is \$36 per person.

For information, call 767-9953 or 767-2281.

Holiday break set

Winter vacation in the RCS school district will run from Friday, Dec. 24, through Friday, Dec. 31.

Classes will resume Monday, Jan. 3.

V'ville church sets multi-media program

Gospel singers Herb and Edi Hutchinson will present a multi-media Christmas program at the Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, Voorheesville, on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

The singers will combine music with video projection.

Kiwanis selling coupons to boost youth activities

The New Scotland Kiwanis Club is selling McDonald's "Care Coupons" for \$1.

The coupons can be redeemed at McDonald's at 1602 Western Ave. and 74 State St., Albany, and on Delaware Avenue in Elmsere.

The group is also selling "Dine-A-Mate" books for \$25.

These coupon books can be used for a free dinner with the purchase of a regularly priced meal.

Proceeds of the sales will help support youth activity in the town of New Scotland.

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

The group will also be distributing 26 baskets of food to needy families in the New Scotland area on Thursday, Dec. 23.

The baskets will contain food collected by club members and the Section II Class C girls soccer team champions at their end-of-season banquet.

The club will also deliver holi-

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville
Susan Casler
765-2144



day packages of toys, money and clothes to area families.

V'ville PTA sells books, bumper stickers

The Voorheesville PTA is selling "Entertainment" books, "Dine-a-Mate" books, Voorheesville T-shirts, pennants and bumper stickers.

The 2-for-1 coupon books can save money on dining, car washes, clothes, dry cleaning and more.

For information, contact Linda Pasquali at 765-4990 or Betsy Glath at 765-4415.

Soccer club elects new slate of officers

The New Scotland Soccer Club met recently at Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School. A review of the 1993 season as well as plans for the upcoming 1994 year were discussed.

Also at the meeting, the following new officers were elected: Vince Dutkiewicz, president; Ken Bingham, vice president; Deborah Rickert, secretary; Val Rymanoski, treasurer; and Bob Reed, registrar.

Schools to close for winter vacation

The Voorheesville Central School District will dismiss students for winter vacation on Wednesday, Dec. 22, at the close of school.

Classes will resume on Monday, Jan. 3.



FAMOUS LAST WORDS:
"Don't Worry, I'm a good driver!"

The trouble was, this good driver had a few drinks before he got behind the wheel. Good driving requires more than keeping alert and driving defensively. What you do before you get into that car is even more important. If you drink alcohol and then get behind the wheel... no matter how good a driver you are... you become a danger to yourself, your passengers, pedestrians and other motorists.

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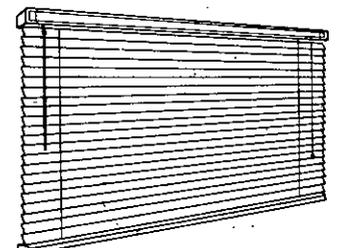
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Library accepts gifts from Bethlehem artists

The Bethlehem Art Association has given the library three framed art prints and 11 high-quality art books and videos.

The presentations were made to Barbara Mladinov, library director, by art association president Jean Eaton and past-president Colleen Skiff Kriss.



The gifts were made possible by an art exhibit and fund-raiser at the library in June as part of the town's bicentennial celebration. The exhibit featured artists' portrayals of town life. Proceeds from the auction exceeding the artists' minimum bids were used for the prints, books and videos.

The prints, "Paddock Store 1918" by Constance Elliott, "Charlie Saunder's Place" by Charles Schade, and "Antique Shop" by Barbara Wooster, are all scenes depicting the history of Bethlehem.

The books include *The Watercolor Fix-it Book* by Tony Van Hassett and Judi Wagner, *Oil Painting: A Direct Approach* by Joyce Pike, *Oil Painting: Develop Your Natural Ability* by Charles Sovek, *Being an Artist* by Lewis Lehrman, *Painting More Than the Eye Can See* by Robert Wade, and *Painting People in Watercolor* by Alex Powers.

The videos demonstrate basic painting techniques. They include "Old Barn" and "Quiet Cove" by Zoltan Szabo, "Portrait in Oils" by Paul Leville, "Understanding Watercolor" by Skip Lawrence and "Acrylic and Casein" by Stephen Quiller.

Once they are added to the

framed art collection, the prints can be borrowed for four-week periods. The art videos will be added to the media-center's cataloged non-fiction tape collection and can be borrowed for three days without any charge.

The art association meets at the library on the third Thursday of the month and conducts two member shows a year in the library foyer gallery.

For the bicentennial, there were three special exhibits with historic themes.

Eaton said the publicity generated by the bicentennial events has boosted the group's membership from 52 a year ago to 80 current members.

The library will be closed for Christmas on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 24 to 26. It will reopen Monday, Dec. 27, at 9 a.m.

Anna Jane Abaray

Lutheran church sets final Advent service

The Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar, will host its final Advent service on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The focus of this year's Advent message is "What Should Christmas Mean to Us?" Holy Communion will be celebrated during the service.

V'ville church sets services

The First United Methodist Church, 68 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, is planning two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on Friday, Dec. 24, at 7 and 11 p.m.

The early service includes a Christmas play, "Christmas Around the World," by Karyl Garner, to be presented by mem-

bers of the youth group and the church school. The senior choir will sing in the late service.

Also, the Rev. George H. Klohck will deliver a Christmas message on "Come to Bethlehem and See."

For information, call Klohck at 765-2895 or 765-2743.

Town library to close Christmas weekend

The Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, will be closed for Christmas on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 24, 25 and 26. The library will reopen on Monday, Dec. 27, at 9 a.m.

For information, call the library at 439-9314.

Good will at work



Construction workers at Selkirk Cogen, from left, Fred Cesta, Vern Nap, Ron Liuzzi and Rich Quell helped to collect 400 pounds of food and \$1,720 to be matched by Cogen in the working community holiday food drive at the plant. Elaine McLain

Merry Christmas

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Puppets to perform Dec. 28

A giant bee from outer space will visit the library on Tuesday, Dec. 28, when storyteller Debra Picker will bring her lively PuppeTales in for an 11 a.m. performance.

"Interstellar Bee" will be joined by characters from Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* and a glittering child made of



Debra Picker and a giant bee from PuppeTales.

snow in the vacation program for schoolchildren.

Picker, a longtime storyteller, has performed with PuppeTales for the last five years. Before that, she was director of the Kids Project, a puppet company sponsored by the state Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

Her work, which draws from sources as diverse as The Jetsons to rock 'n roll, grew out of telling stories to her own children.

On Friday, Dec. 29, a concert for the whole family featuring musician Skip West will be presented at 7 p.m.

Lots of audience participation is planned, with nearly every song having an important part in which families can join in.

One of the highlights is "All Around the World," where children help Skip out by playing his collection of ethnic percussion instruments.

Both programs are free and open to the public.

The library will hold the final 1993 meeting of the Writers' Group on Thursday, Dec. 23, at 7 p.m.

The group gathers on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month and is a wonderful source of support for poets and writers.

The library will be closed on Dec. 24, 25 and 26, and will reopen on Monday, Dec. 27.

Winter story hours will begin on Monday, Jan. 17.

Christine Shields

New Salem church sets evening service

The New Salem Reformed Church on New Scotland Road in New Salem will host a Christmas Eve candlelight service on Friday, Dec. 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Ravena church lists services

The Grace United Methodist Church, 16 Hillcrest Drive, Ravena, has announced its schedule for the week of Thursday, Dec. 23.

Chancel choir will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 23, and Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24.

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, Dec. 26, at 9 a.m. Morning worship starts at 10:30 a.m. followed by coffee and fellowship at 11:30 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 27.

The TOPS Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 29. Al Anon will meet at 7 p.m. and Bible study at 7:30 p.m.

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Views On Dental Health

Dr. Geoffrey B. Edmunds, D.D.S.

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are available and are less corrosive and will kill "bugs" quicker than the old solutions.

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□ Slingerlands

(From Page 1)
residential.

LUMAC recommendations on a proposed master plan for the town will be presented to the town board next year for possible adoption. Changes in the zoning ordinance can be expected to follow if the master plan is approved.

"We got a very large group who came out because we recommended that land near LaGrange Road be zoned commercial once the (Slingerlands) bypass is extended to connect with Cherry Avenue," said Planning Board chairman Martin Barr.

"They wanted no part of it. The members of LUMAC understood that this would be controversial, so we analyzed it very carefully."

There was also considerable discussion about traffic congestion along New Scotland Road, Orchard Street and Fisher Boulevard. According to the traffic study conducted for LUMAC by the Capital District Transportation Committee, traffic problems in Bethlehem can be expected to worsen over the next 20 years with no easy solutions in sight.

"People are already grouching about not being able to get out onto New Scotland Road and pass

through the intersections in a timely fashion," said Slingerlands resident Stafford Davis.

Increased commercial development along New Scotland Road, combined with the continuing residential growth in New Scotland and the hill towns, will just "exacerbate the situation."

Some people have the attitude that traffic congestion in Slingerlands is "a way of life," she said. "That it is inevitable and a sign of progress. I don't know if I can accept that. We should look at all ways of alleviating the traffic."

LUMAC members were further advised that Slingerlands residents consider their community a unique place.

To a large extent that's true, Barr said, especially along New Scotland Road, which has the look of a "19th century village." The rest of the Slingerlands may not be quite as unique, he added, since a "lot of the housing has been built since World War II and is not anything different."

About five or six years ago, Price Chopper wanted to build a major supermarket on the same site that LUMAC is now recommending for office/retail development.

The Price Chopper proposal never got to the hearing stage because it was "way too big," Barr recalled.

The LUMAC recommendation regarding this site is not etched in stone. "That's the purpose of these hearings," Barr said. "We're seeking input from the public, and in this particular case, we'll have to give it some further consideration."

Voorheesville church sets evening services

The First United Methodist Church, 68 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, is planning two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on Friday, Dec. 24, at 7 and 11 p.m.

The early service includes a Christmas play, "Christmas Around the World," by Karyl Garner, to be presented by members of the youth group and the church school. The senior choir will sing in the late service.

Also, the Rev. George H. Klohck will deliver a Christmas message on "Come to Bethlehem and See."

For information, call Klohck at 765-2895 or 765-2743.

□ Glenmont

(From Page 1)

a 30-year resident of Glenmont, "but I have an awful lot of concern about 9W. Once they built Colone Center, the (Wolf) road grew to a four-lane highway and now they have Crossgates, Latham Farms — there are shopping centers going up everywhere."

A bad situation on Glenmont could only get worse with the addition of a regional shopping center like Southgate, Zick maintained. "You had a beautiful piece of farmland that was developed (Town Squire Plaza) and it looks like hell, in my opinion."

"The Glenmont Plaza is half empty, and now we have this monstrous thing going up here. You have to forgive me, but my level of trust is not that high. I'm scared to death. I see the town allowing this area (9W) to turn into another Wolf Road."

The master plan would actually discourage "power" shopping plazas like Southgate by recommending that only community-size shopping centers, similar to Delaware Plaza, be permitted.

But the Southgate proposal is expected to come before the town board for adoption well in advance of the master plan. Moreover, the master plan will not carry the

weight of law until portions of it are incorporated into the town zoning ordinance.

"It's a terrific product," said Jim Dombrowski of Wemple Road, but Southgate, unless it is down-sized, could spoil the semi-rural atmosphere of Glenmont.

"The project is too large for our community. I don't think that people who moved here want to compromise their quality of life for low-paying jobs and traffic."

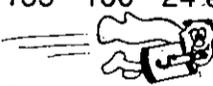
Even if Southgate were down-sized, "Is there anything that could be done to prevent a large-scale expansion three years down the road?" he asked.

Lipnicky said that most of the residential growth projected for Glenmont from now to the year 2010 would occur in the Feura Bush Road area and the Dowerskill Village vicinity. Low to moderate density development is suggested for the area between Route 144 and the Thruway.

The draft master plan also recommends that the town look to acquire land for a neighborhood park-type facility for the Glenmont area.

The remaining public input sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 5, at Selkirk Firehouse No. 1 on Maple Avenue, and at the town hall on Thursday, Jan. 6.

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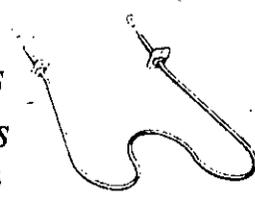


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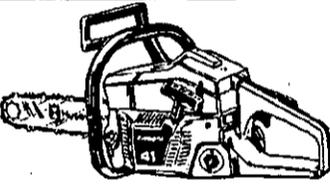
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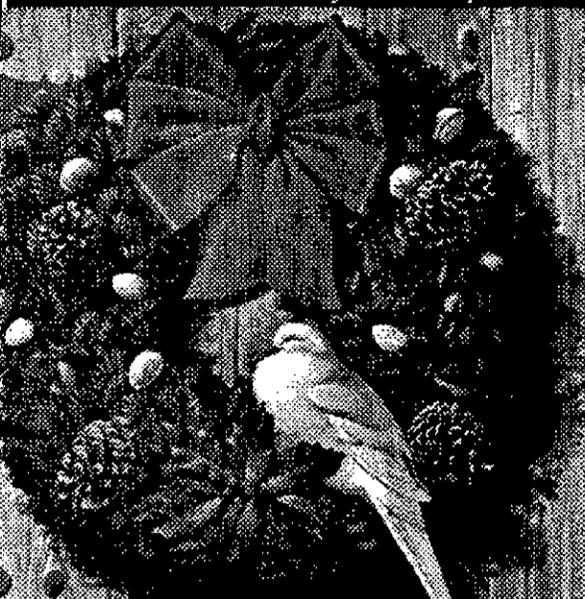
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SPOTLIGHT ON

SPORTS

Half court shot does it for 'Hall'

With just seconds remaining in the game, Seton Hall's Mike Campbell launched a half court shot that caught nothing but net to steal a 33-32 victory from Villanova in Sunday's Bethlehem Basketball Club (BBC) action.

Greg Ciprioni of Seton Hall paced all scorers with 14 points while Robert Shaye lead Villanova with eight points.

In other College Division games, Providence used a fast breaking offense to dump St. John's 50-25. Russ Pryba and Joe Donnelly provided the scoring punch for Providence while St. John's was sparked by Liam Gallagher.

In spite of Bridget Murray's eight points and five rebounds, Miami was upended by a spirited Georgetown squad 34-26. Dan and Jon Santola inspired Georgetown with feisty defensive efforts.

Syracuse got past Pitt 33-21 as Matt Via and Brendan Hoole combined for eight points for the winners. Allison Kuta paced Pitt with six points.

BBC action

The Mavs stayed unbeaten in the All-Star Division as they rolled to a 56-33 victory over the Heat. Kane Snyder ripped the nets for 20 points to inspire the winners while the Heat was paced by Justin Pinchback.

The Hawks also stayed unbeaten with a 52-29 win over the Bucks. For the winners, Chris Durant and Darin Hugins combined for 10 points and 12 rebounds. Megan Sellnow's strong inside game contributed eight points and eight rebounds for the Bucks.

The Spurs and Rockets battled to a 32-32 tie. Will Reagan paced the Rockets with eight rebounds and solid defense, while Tim Moshier controlled the boards for the Spurs.

In spite of an exciting second half comeback, the Sixers fell victims to a spirited Magic team

46-43. Brian Nussbaum paced the Magic while the Sixers where lead by Brad Colicino.

In the Pro Division, the Hornets broke into the win column with a determined 56-37 victory over the Knicks. Kevin Valentine led the Hornets with 27 points while Jacob Erlich contribute solid defense for the Knicks.

In an exciting contest that saw many lead changes, the Nets and Bulls battled to a 32-32 tie. Dan Herd and Leslie Mackrell played solid defense for the Nets and Travis Davey contributed four points for the Bulls

Amanda Kelly's clutch baskets down the stretch helped the Lakers to stay unbeaten with a 51-35 victory over the Pistons. Connor Berry scored seven points and grabbed six rebounds for the Pistons.

Finally, behind the 10-point scoring effort of Brian Hahn, the Nuggets outlasted the Celtics 46-40. The Celtics were inspired by the rugged defense of Omar Feliciano.



Eagles' center Karena Zornow soars over a Colonie player during Friday's romp at BCHS. Seth Hillinger

BC girls get tough on defensive end

By Laura Del Vecchio

BC girls basketball coach Kim Zornow likes what she sees. There is a lot of individual talent on this team, but now the girls are performing like a unit.

"They're beginning to pick up on my system," she said of her undefeated Eagles. "They are also starting to play together as a team."

The girls team last week improved its record to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the league by winning two more games.

On Wednesday, Dec. 15, they crushed Niskayuna 42-16, only allowing five points in the second half. Senior guard Sheila McCauglin led the offense with 16 points. Sophomore Kiley Shortell added 11.

On Friday, Dec. 17, BC defeated Colonie 66-42. McCauglin once again led the way with 16 points, including two, three-pointers. Center Karena Zornow added 15 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore guard Katie Sherwin had 10 assists and six points.

The team's defense has also been effective thus far, Zornow noted, especially when using a press. "As we get into tougher games after vacation, our defense will have to improve even more for us to keep winning games."

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Colonie Spotlight

BC hoop squad in a rut

By Joshua Kagan

The Bethlehem boys' basketball team (0-3, 1-4) faces an uphill battle in the Suburban Council Gold Division after remaining winless in league play.

The undefeated Colonie Raiders defeated the Eagles 69-48 on Friday, Dec. 17, at Colonie. Bethlehem stayed with the Raiders during the first half, only trailing by four points, 26-22, at the intermission and leading Colonie at several points early in the game.

Things turned sour for Bethlehem after the break. Colonie scored the first nine points of the third quarter, taking a 13-point lead. The Eagles never recovered.

"In the second half, we got outrebounded badly and I think that cost us," BC coach Jack Moser said. "The team that wins the glass usually wins the game." In fact, Bethlehem only grabbed six rebounds the entire second half.

Two Eagles, sophomore Sean Berry and junior Jason Gutman, making their first varsity starts, led BC. Berry scored 16 points and Gutman 13. Senior co-captain Matt Follis scored nine points, seven in the first half.

"We needed some scoring," Moser said. "We had one double figure scorer in Matt, but we weren't getting any other scoring, so we went with more fire-power offensively at the risk of giving up a little defensively. It worked out pretty well, I thought."

Despite the Raiders' wide

Basketball

margin of victory, Moser was not disappointed with his team's performance. "I have no complaints on our effort at all. I would gather to say nobody in the area thought we'd be close at the half. The score wasn't indicative of the game."

The Eagles lost their home opener to Niskayuna 68-61 on Tuesday, Dec. 14. After coming back from a five-point halftime deficit to lead going into the final quarter, Niskayuna outscored the Eagles by 12 points in the final eight minutes.

Follis led Bethlehem with 20 points before being turning an ankle with just over a minute left in the game. Point guard Rob Kind scored 11 points, Gutman and center Erik Gill each scored eight.

Bethlehem lost a third-quarter lead in a 69-58 loss at Mohonasen on Friday, Dec. 10. The Eagles lost several late-game leads last season as well.

"That's been our nemesis—third quarter leads. We're kind of at a loss why," said Moser. "We shot 12 for 32 on layups. You're not going to win a game missing 20 layups."

"We just lose concentration going into the fourth quarter and our defense falls apart," Gill said.

The Eagles will not play until after Christmas, on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 28 and 29, in the Guilderland Tournament.

Blackbirds looking to break the ice

By Kelly Griffin

Although the Voorheesville boys' basketball team is still winless this season, it is beginning to show definite signs of improvement

"Lately I've been seeing some real progress," says coach Skip Carrk. "I think we're starting to turn the corner. We are on our way to a win."

On Friday, Dec. 17, the Blackbirds faced undefeated Colonial Council powerhouse Schalmont. Even though Vville was beaten 51-35, the team excelled on defense.

"We tried some different things on the defensive end," said Carrk. The 'Birds employed several new defenses throughout the course of the game in an effort to hinder Schalmont's offensive punch.

As a result, two of Schalmont's guards who generally score around 20 points a game were held to only eight and 11 points.

"I was very proud of them," Carrk continued. "They did a great job on defense. We really played them tough. I saw a lot of positive signs in this game."

The 'Birds' offense, on the other hand, was a bit behind. "I think that a good part of our offensive problems have to do with the confidence factor," Carrk expressed. "We're still young."

Junior Dave Burch and sophomore Mike Beadnell led the Voorheesville scoring with eight points apiece. The Blackbirds had their best night to date from the foul line, where they were five for seven.

In contrast, the previous Tuesday versus Waterford, Vville was only six for fifteen from the line. "We were not shooting the ball well at all," said Carrk. Yet the game remained close through three quarters.

In the final period, the Fordians pulled ahead and held on for

the win, 47-42.

Burch was the only player in double digits for Vville with 10 points. Juniors Jacob Van Ryn and Josh White followed with nine and eight points respectively.

Ravena tournament on tap for next week

The 23rd annual Ravena Gold Medal Basketball Tournament will take place Tuesday, Dec. 28, and Wednesday, Dec. 29, at the high school.

The tournament is the oldest continuously held tournament in the Capital District, and it is also the only combination boys and girls tournament in the region.

The Ravena girls team is scheduled to play Coxsackie-Athens at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, with the boys going up against Chatham at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

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Mile relay teams lead BC in Christmas meet

By Jessica Romano

BC track athletes traveled to Hudson Valley Community College on Saturday, Dec. 18, to compete in the 12th annual Christmas Rush track meet.

One of BC's strongest events is the mile relay. The varsity girls team of Karen Gisotti, Molly Conway, Jessica Romano and Kristen Ruso finished first with a time of 4:29.3.

The boys mile relay team also performed credibly. The combined efforts of Matt Fiato, Scott Rivard, Tom Robbins and Mike Fritts earned the team second place.

"I was impressed with the relay hand offs," said head coach Dave Banas.

The B-team athletes also had a good day. Matt Zalen, Dana Reid-Vanas, Josh Drew and Josh Lobel, who made up the novice mile relay team, came in second.

The girls novice team, consisting of Amy Dowse, Liz Macarilla, Meg Stevens and Sarah Rosenthal, placed fourth.

Fiato turned in a time of 6.5 seconds in the final heat of the 55-

Track

meter dash, which was enough to capture third place. "He (Fiato) did good," Banas said. "It was a fast field of guys."

Jen Christian also ran well into the semifinal round of the 55-meters, producing a time of 7.83.

Three BC runners were entered in the 600 meter run including Fritts who placed fourth, Tom Robbins, who placed sixth, and Romano who finished fourth.

BC captured a third place finish in the 1,000-meter run thanks to Kristen Ruso's effort.

Brian Garver finished fifth in the mile run while Cara Cameron came in seventh in the girls competition.

BC shot-putter Dave Lussier threw just over 37 feet and Chriss Pearson just over 30 feet.

Fields team coach Robert Hill credited his team with excellent efforts all around.

"This was a good warm-up meet," he said.

BC steamroller stops in Tappan Zee

Scott Isaacs

The Bethlehem boys swim team learned what it was like to go up against the big guys on Saturday as they dropped a 97-71 non-league decision to Section I powerhouse Tappan Zee High School.

"We went there for the challenge," said coach Ken Neff.

BC was expected to thrash early opponents Niskayuna and Guilderville. And thrash them they did, wiping out Niskayuna 80-42 and Guilderville 60-26.

Versus Niskayuna, Tom Leyden won the 200m freestyle, Marc

Swimming

Kanuk won the 50m freestyle, Matt St. Lucia placed first in diving, and Jon Church won the 500m freestyle, beating the closest competitor by seven seconds.

Bethlehem swimmers defeated Guilderville (a combined team of Guilderland and Voorheesville) just as easily.

The 200m medley, 200m freestyle, and 400m freestyle relay teams all placed first. John Church finished first in the 200m frees-

tyle and the 500m freestyle. Reid Putnam won the 100m freestyle, Patrick Gallagher won the 200m individual medley, and Colin Izard won the 100m breaststroke.

Such early successes did not help soothe the Neff's worries about the meet against one of the best teams in the state, Tappan Zee.

"Our first opponents basically rolled over, mainly because they didn't have the depth to compete with us," Neff said. "Tappan Zee didn't have the numbers, but each one of their swimmers is great at each event."

Lee Aiezza bowls a perfect game

Bowling honors for the week of Dec. 12 at Del Lanes—

Sr. Cit. Men: Bob Farrell and John Deflumer 224; and Jim Dunn 532 triple.

Sr. Cit. Women: Phyllis Smith 206; and 513 triple; and Cora Kubisch 190 and 504 triple.

Men: Lee Aiezza 300 and 997 four games; Frank Scheu 289; and Don Ballard 761 triple.

Women: Marge Compson 226; Linda Portanova 600 triple; and

Hellen Bellanger 766 four games.

Adult-Junior Men: Jason Dietz 254 and 626 triple.

Adult Jr. Women: Christina Rossman 199 and 572 triple.

Boys: Michael Brady 160 and 361 triple.

Girls: Brianna Bubeck 127 and 275 triple.

Junior Classic: Mike Stone 237 and 876 four games; Mike Patounas 226 and 809 four games; Beth Matthews 279 and 866 four

games; and Andrea Kackidurian 197 and 756 four games.

Majors: Don Westphal 175 and 497 triple; and Peter Lennon 183 and 488 triple.

Juniors: Nick Martin 222 and 588 triple; Amanda Clapper 187; and Nicole Stagg 171 and 484 triple.

Preps: Ricky Rabideau 180; Brian Northrup 145 and 391 triple; and Jennifer Siniski 207 and 490 triple.

Library slates films for winter vacation

During winter vacation, the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, will show free "School's Out" films.

Kids in grades three and up are invited to see "The Hoboken Chicken Emergency" and "Jacob Have I Loved" on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 10 a.m. 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.

For information, call the library at 439-9314.

BC soccer stars honored

Three BCHS varsity soccer players were honored at the All Girls Section II awards dinner at the Glen Sanders Mansion on Dec. 12.

Senior striker Casey Canastraci was selected for second team all-suburban. Casey is a third year varsity player and played on the 1993 Empire team.

Junior striker Jessica Romano was also selected for second team all-suburban. Jessica is a second year varsity player and played on

the 1993 CDYSL 16 select team.

Junior midfielder Karen Gisotti was selected first team all-suburban as well as class A section II all star team. Karen is a second year varsity player and also plays on the Capital United U-18 premier team.

All three girls started playing soccer in the Bethlehem soccer club travel program.

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A Great Holiday Is In Sight ...



We'd like to thank you for trusting us, and wish you all the very best.

- Tom, Michele and Tommy

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Begins at the manger with the Infant Jesus. We invite you to celebrate His birth with us at Delmar's First United Methodist Church

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve: Fri., Dec. 24
5:30 pm Chapel Service
7:30 pm The Children's Service
11:00 pm Candlelight Service

Sun., Dec. 26
9:30 & A Service of Candles & Carols
11:00 am

Sun., Jan. 2
9:30 & Epiphany Service
11:00 am

First United Methodist Church
428 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar

Special on WMMT CHANNEL 17

American Playhouse: Hallelujah
Wednesday, 8 p.m.

A Broadway Christmas
Thursday, 10 p.m.

The Nutcracker with Mikhail Baryshnikov
Friday, 9 p.m.

Great Performances: Dance in America — Balanchine Celebration
Saturday, 8 p.m.

Katharine Hepburn: All About Me
Sunday, 8:45 p.m.

The Metropolitan Opera Presents: Stiffelio
Monday, 8 p.m.

NOVA: Stranger in the Mirror
Tuesday, 9 p.m.

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Heather and Bill Tsapalas

Church, Tsapalas wed

Heather Ann Church, daughter of Paul and Midge Church of Delmar, and Bill Stephanos Tsapalas, son of Harry and Helen Harris of Philadelphia, were married Oct. 16.

Justice Ken Connolly performed the ceremony at the Altamont Manor, where a reception followed.

The maid of honor was Susan Church, the bride's sister. Bridesmaids were Roella McCarthy, the groom's sister, and Susan Church and Donna Church, also sisters of the bride.

The best man was Ted Tsapalas, the groom's brother.

Ushers were Paul Tsapalas, also a brother of the groom, Paul Church, brother of the bride, and Brian McCarthy, brother-in-law of the groom.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and SUNY Oswego. She is an art buyer for LINTAS Advertising in New York City.

The groom is a graduate of the University of Delaware. He is a freelance art director and graphic designer in New York City.

After a wedding trip to Anguilla, the couple lives in New York City.

Births

St. Peter's Hospital

Boy, Jonathan Richard Malsan, to Kristi and Stephen Malsan, Slingerlands, Oct. 29.

Girl, Rachel Lynn Kunker, to Judy and Karl Kunker, Slingerlands, Nov. 7.

Girl, Victoria Jane McGrath, to Maria and James McGrath Jr., Delmar, Nov. 29.

Girl, Jamie Christine Cerone, to Christine and James Cerone, Selkirk, Nov. 30.

Boy, Brett Goldsborough Kaplan, to Andrea and Arthur Kaplan, Glenmont, Dec. 1.

Bellevue Hospital

Boy, James William Clyne III, to Shawneen and James Clyne, Delmar, Nov. 22.

Steadman is inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

Jacquelyn Dawn Steadman, daughter of Henry and Carlyn Steadman of Delmar, was recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest academic honorary society.

Steadman attends the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is a psychology and political science major.

Rodat made member of college society

Erin Elizabeth Rodat of Delmar was recently inducted as a lifetime member into the Binghamton University Chapter of the Golden Key National Honor Society.

Rodat was one of 296 juniors and seniors to be honored for academic excellence at the university.

Bicentennial items sell for 50 percent off

Bethlehem bicentennial souvenirs will be available for sale through Wednesday, Dec. 29, at the Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, and Laura Taylor Ltd. in the Delaware Plaza on Delaware Avenue.

All souvenirs are 50 percent off. T-shirts are \$4, tall mugs, \$3, and hats, \$3.50. A free souvenir booklet will be given with each purchase.



Eileen and Gregory Christenson

Christenson, Harkins wed

Gregory Stephen Christenson, son of Stephen and Angel Christenson of Voorheesville, and Eileen Harkins, daughter of William and Mary Ellen Harkins of Valparaiso, Ind., were married Aug. 21.

Father Geoffrey Burke performed the ceremony in St. Catherine of Siena Church, with a reception following at the Stone House Club, both in Little Compton, R.I.

The maid of honor was Melissa Lolli, and bridesmaids were Molly Norko, Alison Shanahan, Kristin Healy and Kira Christenson, the sister of the groom.

The best man was Stephen Christenson, the groom's father. Ushers were Patrick Gallagher, Sean Daly and William Harkins and Brian Harkins, brothers of the bride.

The groom is a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy and Providence College. He is an auditor with KMPG Peat Marwick in Albany.

The bride is also a graduate of Providence College. She is an auditor with Bollam, Sheedy, Torani & Co. in Albany.

After a wedding trip to Hilton Head, S.C., the couple lives in Delmar.

St. Thomas pupils earn essay honors

Seven pupils from St. Thomas the Apostle School in Delmar were recently named winners in the Albany YWCA African American Essay Contest.

From more than 700 entries, officials chose 28 winners — one for each day in February (Black History Month). The winning students will attend an awards ceremony in January and will appear on local television channels during February.

St. Thomas fourth-grader Michele Fido was recognized for her essay on Harriet Tubman. Four sixth-graders at the school were also named winners: Rebecca Hoghe, Jaime Hoose, Elizabeth Malinowski and Owen Smith.

Seventh-grader Bridget Heilsberg and eighth-grader Melissa Thomas were also honored.

Baker to spend winter in Greece

Delmar resident Elizabeth Baker, an English major at Union College in Schenectady, will participate in the "Winter Term Abroad" program in Greece.

Baker is a 1991 graduate of Bethlehem Central High School.

Here's to a Wonderful Wedding!



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Receptions
Normanside Country Club, 439-2117. Wedding and Engagement Parties.
Oceans Eleven Restaurant and Banquet House. 869-3408. Wedding and Banquets for 20 to 250 people with a large dance floor.

Invitations
Johnson's Stationery 439-8166. Wedding Invitations, Announcements, personalized Accessories.
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Church hosts annual dinner

The First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, will host the sixth annual Community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25, from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The turkey dinner, open to the public, is sponsored by the church, the Bethlehem Ministerial Association and Bethlehem Senior Services.

The dinner is free, but a good will offering will be accepted.

For reservations, transportation or information, call Bethlehem Senior Services at 439-4955.

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Obituaries

Andrew Jukins

Andrew D. Jukins 14, of New Scotland Road in Slingerlands died Thursday at Albany Medical Center as a result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident Wednesday.

Born in Albany, he was lifelong resident of Delmar and Slingerlands.

He was a ninth-grade honor student at Bethlehem Central High School, where he was a member of the school band, the freshman soccer team, Students for Peace and Survival and the Model UN. He was also a member of the Bethlehem Soccer Club.

Survivors include his parents, David and Pat Jukins of Slingerlands; a sister, Beth Jukins of Slingerlands; a brother, Greg Jukins of Slingerlands; his maternal grandmother, Marion Hackett of Milwaukee. He is also survived by loving members of his Friday night faith community.

A Service of Resurrection was held Monday at Delmar Presbyterian Church.

Arrangements were by the Applebee Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Scholarship Fund of Blossoms Montessori Learning Program, P.O. Box 223, Delmar 12054.

Margaret DeMidio

Margaret S. Fitzpatrick DeMidio, 37, of Delaware Terrace in Albany, died Sunday, Dec. 12, of injuries she sustained in an automobile accident in Kinderhook.

Born in Albany, she was a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School. She was employed as an office clerk for the past 17 years at C.T. Inc. in Albany.

She was a member of the Kenwood Bowling League.

Survivors include her husband, David DeMidio; her father, Neil J. Fitzgerald Sr. of Lake George; and a sister, Kathleen Lyman of Guilderland.

Services were from the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Delmar. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Watervliet.

Arrangements were by the Tebbutt Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Damien Center or the Alzheimer's Disease Association, both in Albany.

Winston Bailey

Winston E. Orcutt Bailey, 90, of Lyons Avenue in Delmar, died Sunday, Dec. 12, at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

He was born in Salem, Washington County.

Before he retired in 1970, Mr. Bailey was a track engineer for the Delaware & Hudson Railway and a consulting engineer for Fraser Engineer Association. He also supervised the building of the town sewage treatment plant at Cedar Hill in Selkirk.

He was an elder of Delmar Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include his wife, Freda Vail Bailey; three sons, Winston Bailey of South Glastonbury, Conn., Lee Bailey of Seattle and Robert Bailey of Coral Springs, Fla.; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were by the Meyers Funeral Home, Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the building fund of the Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., Delmar 12054.

Herman Goldstein

Herman Goldstein, 67, formerly of Delmar, died Sunday, Dec. 20, at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Born in New York City, he moved to Delmar in 1980, before recently moving to Kinderhook. Mr. Goldstein participated in Sheltered Workshops and more recently in Evergreen Hall in Valatie.

Survivors include a sister, Natalie Zaconik of Schenectady.

Services were from the Levine Memorial Chapel, Albany. Burial was in Beth El Cemetery in Oradell, N.J.

Contributions may be made to the Columbia County Association of Retarded Citizens, P.O. Box 2, Route 217, Mellenville 12544; the Valatie Rescue Squad, Valatie 12104; or to Congregation Anshe-Emeth, Joelson Boulevard, Hudson 12534.

Lloyd Greene

Lloyd G. "Barney" Greene, a former resident of Delmar, died on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at his home in Bensalem, Pa.

Anative of North Kingston, R.I., Mr. Greene was a World War II veteran. He worked the wholesale sporting goods industry for more than 40 years until his retirement.

While in Delmar, he was a member of the American Legion Post and coached Babe Ruth and Little League baseball.

Survivors include his wife, Rita Greene of Bensalem; three daughters, Barbara Greene-Madden of Newington, Conn., Carol Byers of Reno, Nev. and Anita Lento-Martin of New York City; a son, James Greene of Reno, Nev.; a sister, Joan Hall of Topsham, Maine; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services were from the Cusick Funeral Home in Somerville, N.J. Interment was in Somerset Hills Memorial Park, Basking Ridge, N.J.

Vaughn Gilmore

Vaughn Miles Gilmore, 74, of Kenneth City, Fla., formerly of Glenmont, died Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Edward White Hospital in St. Petersburg.

Born in Knox, Pa., he had lived in Glenmont for about 15 years before moving to Florida 25 years ago.

Mr. Gilmore worked as a truck driver for Lehman Transportation in Albany. In Florida, he worked at a Publix store. He was a Mason and an Army veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Edith A. Gilmore; his former wife, Betty Jane Gilmore of St. Petersburg, Fla.; a son, Dennis Gilmore of Albany; four daughters, Sandra McLaughlin, Mary Ann Arehart, Linda Herglun, and Pamela Gilmore, all of St. Petersburg; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were by R. Lee Williams & Son Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

Alan Pohl

F. Alan Pohl, 85, a summer resident of New Scotland, died Friday, Dec. 10, in the Hospice of Martin in Stuart, Fla., after a long illness.

Born in Albany, Mr. Pohl was

an insurance agent for Metropolitan Life Insurance for 37 years, retiring in 1969.

Mr. Pohl was husband of the late Muriel Pohl.

Survivors include two sons, Raymond Pohl of Prescott, Ariz., and Robert Pohl of Albany; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services and burial were in Memory's Garden, Colonie. Arrangements are by the Tebbutt Funeral Home, Albany.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Garett Dillenback

Garett V. Dillenback, 91, of Route 2 in Selkirk, who held patents for inventing the Faxcimile process, died Sunday, Dec. 19, at St. Peter's Hospice in Albany.

Born in Albany, he lived most of his life in his family's homes in Albany and North Creek and Slingerlands before moving to Selkirk in 1964.

He was a radio technician and inventor, who owned and operated Dillenback Laboratories in Slingerlands for 45 years before retiring to his cattle farm in Cedar Grove near Selkirk in 1964.

He received an Air Force Commendation Medal for maintaining radio communications between Air Force personnel in Thule, Greenland, and their families during the Cold War.

He held patents for inventing Faxcimile processes, one of which is the tuning fork process that eventually became part of the quartz watch development. In the early days of television, he held patents for various components.

After his retirement, Mr. Dillenback continued his involvement with the American Amateur Radio League.

A portion of the film "Ironweed" was filmed at his Slingerlands home.

He was husband of the late Marion L. Gallagher.

Services were from Rockefeller Funeral Home in Rensselaer. Burial was in Albany Rural Cemetery in Menands.

Winifred Benedict

Winifred Lansing Benedict, 82, of Delmar died Monday, Dec. 20, at Ellis Hospital, Schenectady.

Mrs. Benedict was born in Albany. She received her bache-

lor of science degree from American College, Atlanta, and her master's degree in botany and invertebrate zoology from Cornell University.

Mrs. Benedict was employed as a lab technician at Albany Medical Center, retiring several years ago.

She was the widow of Walter C. Benedict, Jr.

Survivors include a son, Edward Benedict Jr. of Williamstown, N.J.; a daughter, Nancy Benedict of Delmar; and three grandchildren.

Services were from the Meyers Funeral Home, Delmar.

Burial was in Memory's Garden in Colonie.

Marguerite Van Buren

Marguerite Van Buren, 88, of Merrillville, Ind., formerly of Delmar, died Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Southlake Care Center in Merrillville.

Born in Albany, she had lived in Delmar for many years.

Mrs. Van Buren was retired from New York Telephone Co.

Survivors include a granddaughter and a great-granddaughter.

Services were scheduled at 10 a.m. today, Dec. 22, from the Tebbutt Funeral Home, Delmar.

Burial was in the Albany Rural Cemetery, Menands.

Glenmont church sets Christmas programs

The Glenmont Community Church on Chapel Lane in Glenmont has slated several Christmas programs.

An Advent supper, scheduled at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22, will be followed by a Christmas pageant presented by children of the church.

The church's Christmas Eve service will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24.

For information, call the church at 436-7710.

Doane Stuart names pupils to honor roll

Two local residents have been named to the Doane Stuart School honor roll for the first quarter of the 1993-94 school year: seventh-grader Andrea Ogden of Ravena and eighth-grader Scott Hill of Delmar.

Office to close for Christmas

The Spotlight Newspaper's office at 125 Adams St., Delmar, will be closed for the holidays on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25.

The office will reopen on Monday morning, Dec. 27, at 8:30 a.m.

Death Notices

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

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

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Office to close for Christmas

The Spotlight Newspaper's office at 125 Adams St., Delmar, will be closed for the holidays on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25.

The office will reopen on Monday morning, Dec. 27, at 8:30 a.m.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Family Entertainment

CALENDAR • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sure cures for kids' cabin fever this winter

By Elaine Jackson Cape

Most children view the approach of winter vacation with about the same degree of anticipation that a man serving a 20-year prison sentence waits for parole.

Unfortunately, the reality does not always live up to the expectation. For many children, once the new toys are unwrapped, played with once, and broken, the vacation gets mired down in a bog of boredom.

Fortunately, there are a variety of activities available in the area for harassed parents who are tired of listening to a perpetual chorus of "I'm bored. There's nothing to do."

For the budding artists in the family, the Junior Museum, 282 Fifth Ave., Troy, is offering three workshops for 6- to 12-year-olds during the vacation week.

The session on Monday, Dec. 27, is called "Clay Creatures," and participants will make a diorama and populate it with animals made out of clay. On Tuesday, Dec. 28, kids can take "Feathered Friends Mobile," and create a room full of flying birds. The session on Wednesday, Dec. 29, called "Animal Puppets," will teach students how to design and make hand puppets.

The workshops, which run from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., cost \$7 each, and kids can sign up for one, two or all three. Also, the museum will be open for expanded hours during the vacation, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For information on the workshops or the activities, call 235-2120.

Another place that's both fun and educational for kids is the Albany Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center and Planetarium, on the corner of Broadway and Clinton Avenue in Albany.

Special star shows are scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 27, 28 and 29, in the planetarium. "Bear Tales (And Other Grizzly Stories)" will be shown at 11:30 a.m., and "The Planet Patrol — Solar System Stakeout" will be offered at 12:30 p.m.

In addition to the star shows, magician Merdwin the Mediocre will perform at 1:30 and 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday. Susan

State Museum offers vacation shows filled with facts and fun

By Dev Tobin

Dragons, Muppets, music and more are on the vacation week menu at the New York State Museum.

"We try to select a variety of programs that are entertaining and educational," said Valerie Chevrette, public information officer for the museum on Madison Avenue in Albany.

"It can be tough when the kids are home from school. The museum is an ideal place for families to spend quality time



Cleary, spokeswoman for the center, called the performance "very participatory. He dresses up as a medieval magician, and entertains with all sorts of jokes and antics."

The show should be entertaining for "all ages, up through fifth-graders," she said.

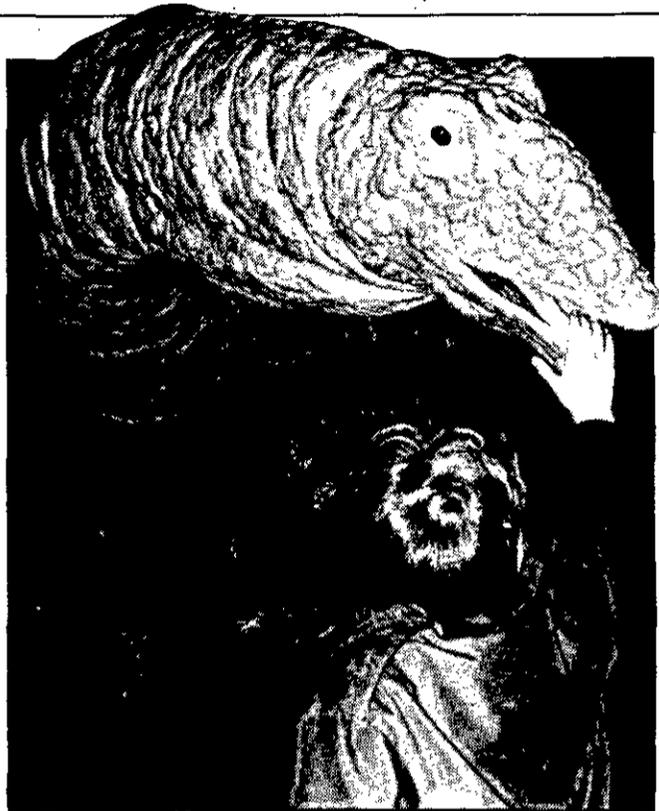
Admission to the star show costs \$4 for adults, and \$2 for children and seniors. Merdwin the Mediocre is free, but seating is limited. Tickets to both shows are available now at the visitors center, and Cleary recommends obtaining them as soon as possible.

"The shows are very popular, and we only have room for a certain number of people," she said.

Free parking is available across Clinton Avenue on Orange Street. For information, call 434-6311.

The Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., will offer vacation film programs. On Tuesday, Dec. 28, "Mowgli's Brothers" will be shown, and on Wednesday Dec. 29, "Rip Van Winkle" is scheduled.

The programs will run from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Admission is free for institute members, and \$4 per family for non-mem-



A 10-foot dragon, left, heads the cast of "The Reluctant Dragon" on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at the State Museum. The "Dinosaurs!" exhibit, above, will be roaring at the museum through Jan. 2.

bers. For information, call 463-4478.

together," she said. The vacation week program, in its 10th year, runs from Sunday, Dec. 26, through Friday, Dec. 31. Shows are at 1 and 3 p.m., and admission is \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for seniors and \$1.50 for children.

First up on Sunday is Mr. Slim's Goodtime Ragtime Vaudeville Revival, an excursion through musical Americana on more than 20 vintage instruments, with whistling, juggling and magic added for good measure, with Mr. Slim and L.J.

On Monday, a classic tale of old New York, Washington Irving's *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, comes alive in an imaginative, fast-paced production.

□ MUSEUM/page 28

First Night buttons available

First Night, Albany's annual New Year's Eve celebration, kicks off at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, with a parade.

The event, designed as a non-alcoholic alternative to traditional New Year's Eve celebrations, includes 300 performers appearing at a number of venues around the city until midnight.

For admission to First Night events, celebrants wear a large black and yellow button, which costs \$8 through Tuesday, Dec. 28, and \$10 after that.

The buttons can be purchased at any Price Chopper supermarket, at the Crossgates Mall, Albany City Hall, Albany Visitors Center, local Ben and Jerry's ice cream stores and at the Palace Theatre in Albany.

On Dec. 31, buttons can be purchased at the Evergreen Bank on the corner of State and Eagle streets, the Washington Avenue Armory and at the New York State Museum.

For information, call the mayor's office of special events, 434-2032.

bers. For information, call 463-4478.

For those who don't have the funds to travel to the Big Apple to catch a Broadway show over vacation, a live children's theater production is scheduled right here in Albany, at the Steamer No. 10 Theater. "Alice in Wonderland" will debut on Monday, Dec. 27, and run through vacation week at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The show, which uses a live actress for the part of Alice and puppets for the Wonderland characters, was directed by the theater's artistic director Ric Chesser. Although the puppeteers are visible, they are dressed in black, "and the audience very quickly accepts the fact that they are not part of the action," Chesser said.

The production is perfect for those from 3 to 13, and "adults will have a wonderful time, too," he said.

Tickets may be reserved in advance and picked up before the show. The cost

□ CURES/page 28

ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

THEATER

"HEIDI"
New York State Theatre Institute, Schacht Fine Arts Center, Russell Sage College, Troy, Wednesday, Dec. 22, 10 a.m. Cost, \$14, \$12 senior citizens and students, \$7 children. Information, 274-3256.

"THE SNOW QUEEN"
Home Made Theater, Spa Little Theater, Saratoga Springs, Wednesday, Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m. Cost, \$8, \$6 children. Information, 587-4427.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

PAID POSITIONS
actors, designers, technicians needed, Steamer No. 10 Theatre, 1123 Madison Ave., Albany. Information, 438-5503.

FILM

"JURASSIC PARK"
directed by Steven Spielberg, Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St., Schenectady, Dec. 26 through 30, 2, 4:45, and 7:30 p.m. Cost, downstairs: \$2, \$1 children; balcony, \$3, \$2 children. Information, 346-6204.

MOVIES AT THE MUSEUM
"Mowgli's Brothers" on Dec. 28 and "Rip Van Winkle" on Dec. 29, Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 10:30 to noon. Cost, \$4 per family, free for members. Information, 463-4478.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

CAPITAL LIGHTS
drive-through course decorated with holiday light displays, Altamont Fairgrounds, Route 146, Altamont, through Jan. 2, 5 to 9 p.m. Cost, \$8 per carload. Information, 1-800-258-3582.

DINOSAURS
life-sized display, New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, through Jan. 2, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost, \$4.50, \$2.50 children 12 and under. Information, 474-5877.

HENRY HUDSON PLANETARIUM
"Bear Tales," 11:30 a.m., and "The Planet Patrol," 12:30 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 27 to 29, Albany Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany. Cost, \$4, \$2, senior citizens and children. Information, 434-6311.

MERDWIN THE MEOCROE
magic show, Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1:30 and 2:15 p.m., Albany Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany. Free, with limited seating. Information, 434-5132.

"MR. SLIM'S GOODTIME RAGTIME VAUDEVILLE REVIVAL"
family program, Sunday, Dec. 26, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

"THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW"
family program, Monday, Dec. 27, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

"THE RELUCTANT DRAGON"
family program, Tuesday, Dec. 28, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

"THE DINOSAUR SHOW"
family program, Wednesday, Dec. 29, New York State Museum, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1.50 for children. Information, 474-5877.

"ALADDIN"
Academy Award-winning Disney film, New York State Museum, Albany, Saturday, Dec. 18, and Sunday, Dec. 19, 1 and 3 p.m. Cost, \$2.50, \$1.50 children. Information, 474-5877.

"PEN PALS"
music and folk stories from around the world, by the Adirondack Community College Touring Theatre, The Hyde Collection, 161 Warren St., Glens Falls, Sunday, Dec. 19, 1:30 p.m. Cost, \$2 adults; \$1 children; free for museum members. Information, 792-1761.

Head in hand



A live production of Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," is slated at the New York State Museum on Monday, Dec. 27, at 1 and 3 p.m.

Weekly Crossword

"Farewell 1993"

By Gerry Frey

- ACROSS**
- '93 Wimbledon winner Sampras
 - '93 Somali Warlord
 - Pro _____
 - '93 Tennis obit
 - '93 TV hostess
 - Greek underground
 - Search
 - '93 political issue
 - RN's forte
 - Formerly Thailand
 - Main artery
 - Western film
 - Barn locale
 - Legal practitioner
 - '93 Supreme court appointee
 - Yellow
 - Gladness
 - New prefix
 - Halloween words
 - Rants' companion
 - From a distance
 - Noun suffix
 - Shaves
 - Socked
 - '93 Secretary of Defense
 - Barton & others
 - Shucks!
 - Throw, as a frisbee
 - Rot
 - Kick
 - Rascal
 - Burt & Loni in '93
 - Wicked
 - Protected from the wind
 - Cooking stove
 - '93 Attorney General
 - Sneaker socks
 - Leg joints
 - Cut
- DOWN**
- Bygone
 - Munchen donkey
 - '93 Superbowl champs: 2 Wds
 - Screech sound
 - More painful
 - "Do you hear what _____"
 - Circle part: Abr.
 - Sick
 - Type of insecticide
 - Search again
 - Winglike
 - Sour
 - Afloat
 - Rough
 - Young and ham follower
 - Affirmative votes
 - '93 California problem
 - Picnic pests
 - Tag
 - Italian love
 - Dealt
 - '93 Best Picture
 - Lariat
 - '93 Vice President's family
 - Baseball's Roger
 - Engrossed
 - Biblical Prince
 - Church song
 - Narrow opening
 - Gets up
 - Shuts
 - Falsely imitate
 - Piece of cake
 - Soccer great
 - Indebted
 - Italian good
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VACATION WORKSHOPS
Junior Museum, 282 Fifth Ave., Troy, Dec. 27 to 31, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Information, 235-2120.

FAMILY DAYS
Iroquois Indian Museum, Caverns Road, Howes Cave, Dec. 28 to 30, 1 to 5 p.m. Cost, \$5 adults; \$4 senior citizens; \$2.50 children. Information, 296-8949.

VISUAL ARTS

"MIRRORS: REFLECTIONS OF SOCIETY AND SELF"
New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, through Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily. Information, 474-5877.

"ALBANY COUNTRY STUDENT ART EXHIBITION"
Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, through Jan. 2. Information, 463-4478.

EXHIBIT
paintings by Scott Brodie and sculptures by Susan Clarke. RCCA: The Arts Center, 189 Second St., Troy, through Dec. 23, Wednesdays through Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.

"A GATHERING OF ANGELS"
multimedia collection, Visions Gallery, Pastoral Center, Roman Catholic Diocese, 40 North Main Ave., Albany, through Jan. 28, Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information, 453-6645.

"ART OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: SELECTIONS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION"
The Hyde Collection, 161 Warren St., Glens Falls, through Feb. 20, Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information, 792-1761.

"FROM MUSIC HALLS TO MOVIE PALACES"
New York State Museum, Albany, through Jan. 5. Information, 474-5877.

"ARTISTS OF THE MOHAWK-HUDSON REGIONAL INVITATIONAL"
Leslie Urbach Gallery, Albany Center Galleries, 23 Monroe St., Albany, through Jan. 7, Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Information, 462-4775.

EXHIBIT
paintings and drawings by Andrew Boardman, Upstairs Gallery, Albany Center Galleries, 23 Monroe St., Albany, through Jan. 7, Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Information, 462-4775.

"ALBANY ARCHITECTURE"
contemporary photographs by Gary Gold and Mark McCarty and historical photographs from the McKinney Library, Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., through Jan. 2. Information, 463-4478.

DON'T MISS IT — A VICTORIAN FANFARE at the OMNI ALBANY HOTEL to benefit Albany Medical Center's Lifestar Regional Trauma System

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA
••• Friday, December 31 • 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm •••
Hors d'oeuvres 9:30 pm
Dinner, New Year's Gala and Silent Auction
Gala Tickets \$100 per person.
Call 262-3322 to reserve gala tickets with credit card.

••• Saturday, January 1 • 10:00 am - 5:00 pm •••
Quality Antique Dealers to include:
Mala's Fine Antiques, Manchester, VT; Long Meadow Farms Antiques, Schuylerville, NY; Kathleen Eberle Antiques, Amsterdam, NY; Mary's Memories, Voorheesville, NY; F&M Antiques, North Adams, MA; Willow Creek Antiques, Scotia, NY; Dusty Rose Antiques, Saratoga Springs, NY; Jenny Hall Asian Antiques, Ghent, NY; House of Rose Antiques; Stuff and Things, Warrensburg, NY; Nancy Barrett & Co., Troy, NY; Steve Kaufman, Times Past, Schenectady, NY; East Arlington Antique Center, Arlington, VT; Kirk's Antiques and Collectibles, Slingerlands, NY (Partial List)
Free admission and free validated parking.

••• Sunday, January 2 • 10:00 am •••
New Year's Brunch / Antique Auction Preview Brunch
\$13.95 per person plus tax and gratuity at the door.
No reservations required.
•• Noon - 4:00 pm ••
Joan Fontaine Antique Auction
Free admission to 10 am preview and Noon auction.
No reservations required

AROUND THE AREA

SPOTLIGHT

IN THE
By Martin P. Kelly

Lighting displays herald season throughout area

One of the more delightful experiences a family can have during the Christmas season is an automobile ride through the neighborhoods of the villages and towns of the Capital District to see the many imaginative displays of lights homeowners use to decorate their houses.

For years, my particular favorite has been the stretch of Osborne Road between Route 9 and Shaker Road in Loudonville and the streets off that road.

The Sand Creek area in Colonie is another area where stunning house displays of lights and ornaments are on view each year.

Kenwood Avenue and the streets which border that stretch of road from Glenmont to Slingerlands also offers imaginative displays of lights.

These decorations of homes at Christmas time has become an established tradition more so with the advent of better lights and the methods of displaying them. Granted there are the occasional garish and even vulgar displays, but more often than not, most homeowners show real taste in decorating the outsides of their homes.

Going one further this year is a new venture built upon the individual tradition of Christmas lighting.

Capital Lights at the Altamont Fairgrounds has captivated the thousands of people who have toured the mile-and-one-half route through the fairgrounds where a variety of lighting displays can be seen.

Imagination, innovation and ingenuity are the watchwords of this project which runs through Jan. 2 from 5 to 9 p.m. each night. The cost is \$8 per car.

The display has become a popular attraction for bus tours through the fairgrounds with many groups from outside the area gravitating to the Altamont exhibit on their way through the region.

Family holiday festival opens December 26 at State Museum

A six-day program of family entertainment opens Sunday, Dec. 26, through Dec. 31 at the State Museum in Albany with an excursion through musical Americana.

Mr. Slim's Goodtime Ragtime Vaudeville Revival begins the festival Sunday with 1 and 3 p.m. performances. Admission is \$1.50 for children, \$2.50 for adults.

Information is available at 474-5877.

The State Museum is also featuring the national touring exhibition of *Dinosaurs* with 15 lifelike animatronic dinosaurs. There are related exhibitions dealing with the creatures' mass extinction and the environment of the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. This exhibit is not connected with Steven Spielberg's motion picture, *Jurassic Park*, but it does provide a good complement to it.

There is a fee of \$2.50 for the exhibit which will continue its museum tour throughout the country Jan. 2.

A Christmas Carol ends month-long run at the Palace on Sunday

The first production of *A Christmas Carol* which is planned as an annual event at Albany's Palace Theater, ends its run this weekend with two performances on Christmas Eve and two performances on Sunday, Dec. 26.

This production of a new adaptation of Charles Dickens 150-year old classic, was presented with all the physical attributes of a Broadway show that has been captivating audiences since it opened early this month.

Following the show's closing this weekend, the producers will assess the financial aspects of the production and start to make a determination about next season. When it was first considered for Albany, *A Christmas Carol* was proposed as an annual tradition.

While the audience attendance has been respectable, there has not been an overwhelming surge of ticket buying. It's unfortunate since the production is one that has stunning impact. Tickets available at 465-4663.

Greetings!

A happy holiday season to all!



Martin P. Kelly

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22

ALBANY COUNTY

FREE COMPUTER LITERACY TRAINING
Sponsored by Club 55 Plus Job Center on Wheels, Price Chopper, Delaware Avenue, Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 459-5622.

REACH TO RECOVERY
Breast cancer support group, Woman's HealthCare Plus, 2093 Western Ave., Albany, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Information, 345-3455.

WINTER FARMERS' MARKET
Grand Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 11 a.m. Information.

RENSSELAER COUNTY

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

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

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 23

ALBANY COUNTY

HOLIDAY FARMERS' MARKET
Empire State Plaza, South Concourse, Albany, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Information, 474-5987.

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

FRIDAY DECEMBER 24

ALBANY COUNTY

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
St. Paul's Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 463-2257.

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
B'Nai Shalom Reform Congregation, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany, 8 p.m. Information, 482-5283.

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.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 25

ALBANY COUNTY

SHABBATON
Shabbat morning service with potluck luncheon, B'Nai Shalom Reform Congregation, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany, 10:30 a.m. Information, 482-5283.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 26

ALBANY COUNTY

"ASK THE SEISMOLOGIST"
"Earthquake Country: The Earthquake Activity of New York State," Gary Nottis, state Geological Survey, New York State Museum, Albany, every hour from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 474-5877.

SCOTTISH DANCING
Unitarian Church, Washington Avenue, Albany, 7 to 10 p.m. Information, 377-8792.

MONDAY DECEMBER 27

ALBANY COUNTY

POST MEETING
Robert L. Weinger Memorial Post No. 8692, Old Karner Road, Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 869-5118.

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

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

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

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28

ALBANY COUNTY

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
for the Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Group of Albany County, Mangia, 1562 New Scotland Ave., Slingerlands, 1 p.m. Information, 427-0421.

TRUE FRIENDS
female incest survivors support group, Pineview Community Church, 251 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Information, 452-7800.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29

ALBANY COUNTY

WINTER FARMERS' MARKET
Grand Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 11 a.m. Information.

RENSSELAER COUNTY

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

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

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.

ALBANY COUNTY

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

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

元寶屋

DUMPLING HOUSE

Chinese Restaurant

Specializing in Dumplings, Lunches, Dinners, Cocktails, Mandarin, Szechuan, Hunan & Cantonese.

Eat in or Take Out. Open 7 days a week.

458-7044 or 458-8366

120 Everett Road, Albany • (Near Shaker Road)

HAGGERTY'S

RESTAURANT & PUB

The Reel Place to Be

"The Most Exciting Ever!"

"Everybody's talking about it!"

Dine & Dance the New Year In!

Featuring:

- Chateau Briande for Two
- Seafood Newburg in a Puff Pastry
- Rib & Stuffed Shrimp
- Seafood Stuffed Chicken

Dinner Menu also available

Live Music by: **Milestone**

No cover. Call for details.

Reservations now being accepted

Located at 155 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 439-2023
(Across from the Delaware Plaza)

All major credit cards accepted

Grand Opening

榮 YAN'S 華

CHINESE BUFFET

Delaware Plaza, Delmar
439-3333 or 439-3386

SPECIAL 10% DISCOUNT

until 12/31/93 (except buffet)

Serving entire menu and buffet

Dine in or take-out

Lunch Buffet:

Mon. - Sat. 11:30 am - 3 pm

18 Hot Dishes & 8 Cold Dishes

All you can eat - \$4.59

Children under 12 - \$2.99

Family Dinner Buffet:

Mon. - Sat. 4:30 - 9 pm, Sun. 12 noon - 9 pm

18 Hot Dishes & 8 Cold Dishes

All you can eat - \$6.49

Children under 12 - \$2.99, under 6 - 99¢, under 3 free

Open 7 Days a Week: Mon. - Thurs. 11 am - 10 pm,
Fri. & Sat. 11 am - 11 pm, Sun. 12 noon - 9 pm

The Spotlight CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 22**

BETHLEHEM

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

HOLIDAY CONCERT
at Glenmont Elementary
School, 328 Route 9W, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 463-1154.

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.

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

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.

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

NEW SCOTLAND

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

**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.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 23**

BETHLEHEM

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Bethlehem Community Church,
201 Elm Ave., 9:30 to 11:15 a.m.
or 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. Information,
475-9573.

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

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

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.

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

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

FAITH TEMPLE
Bible study, New Salem, 7:30
p.m. Information, 765-2870.

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 24**

BETHLEHEM

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH
GROUP**
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85
Elm Ave., 6:30 p.m. Information,
457-4427.

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

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 25**

BETHLEHEM

AA MEETING
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85
Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information,
489-6779.

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 26**

BETHLEHEM

**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
care provided, evening fellowship, 7
p.m., 201 Elm Ave. Information,
439-3135.

**NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.,
worship service, 11 a.m., 10
Rockefeller Road. Information,
439-7864.

**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.

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
worship service at 8 a.m. and
10:30 a.m., Sunday school and
bible classes at 9:15 a.m., 85
Elm Ave. Information, 439-4328.

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.

FAITH TEMPLE
Sunday school, 10 a.m., worship
service, 7 p.m., New Salem.
Information, 765-2870.

**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.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
NEW SCOTLAND**
worship service, 10 a.m., church
school, 11:15 a.m., nursery care
provided, Route 85. Information,
439-6454.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Sunday school and worship
service, 10 a.m., choir rehearsal,
5 p.m., evening service, 6:45
p.m., Route 85, New Salem.
Information, 765-4410.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF VOORHEESVILLE**
worship service, 10 a.m., church
school, 10:30 a.m., 68 Maple
Ave. Information, 765-2895.

**MOUNTAINVIEW
EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**
worship service, 9:30 a.m.,
evening service, 6:30 p.m.,
nursery care provided, Route
155, Voorheesville. Information,
765-3390.

**CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.,
worship service, 10:30 a.m.,
followed by coffee hour, nursery
care provided. Information, 768-
2916.

Bethlehem Community Christmas Dinner

for people of all ages

Come and enjoy turkey, ham
and all the trimmings.

Christmas afternoon (December 25) at 1:30 pm
at the First United Methodist Church
on Kenwood Avenue, Delmar.

Reservations may be made before December 18 by
calling the Town Hall (439-4955) during business
hours, or 439-2008 evenings or weekends.

A free will offering will be appreciated.

Sponsors: Bethlehem Area Ministers Association and
the Senior Citizens Office of the Town of Bethlehem.

Church of Saint Thomas the Apostle

35 Adams Place, Delmar, NY

We extend a warm welcome to all who wish to
join us at Christmas to worship and celebrate
together the birth of Jesus, our Savior.
We pray that this great feast will be a time of
homecoming and joy for all.

CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 PM (Friday)

Our Christmas celebration begins with this
Mass which includes the lighting of candles
throughout the church.

(A second Mass is offered at the
same hour in the school.)

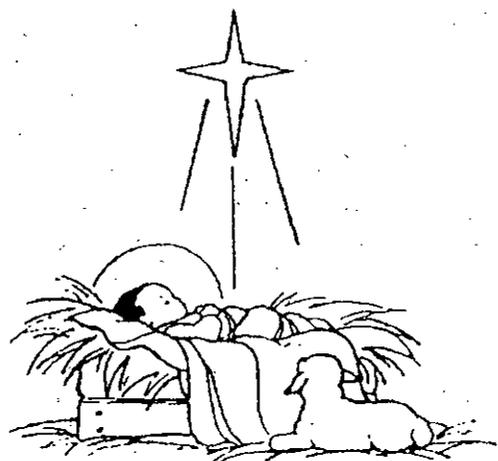
11:30 PM Readings and Carols precedes
Midnight Mass with choir
and instruments.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Masses at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30
(choir and instruments)
and 12:00 Noon

The candlelit church is open on
Christmas eve between the hours
of 6:00 PM and Midnight.

Everyone is welcome to
visit and invited to
pray during this
time.



Joy To The World

Celebrate the Birth of Our Lord, Jesus

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Dec. 24 - 7:00 & 9:15 p.m.

Christmas Day Communion Service
Dec. 25 - 10:00 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

85 Elm Avenue, Delmar
Rev. Warren Winterhoff
439-4328

- Handicapped Accessible -

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**
~ Dec. 25th at 7:30 p.m. ~

NEW SALEM REFORMED CHURCH
Route 85, New Scotland Road
New Salem, New York
Rev. Peter Krug, Pastor Everyone Welcomed

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
WITH US!**
Join Us For Our
Christmas Eve Service
with Carols and Choirs
7:00pm, Friday, December 24
Nursery 3 years and under
765-3641

MOUNTAINVIEW
EVANGELICAL · FREE · CHURCH
ROUTE 155 · VOORHEESVILLE, NY

**MONDAY
DECEMBER 27**

BETHLEHEM

INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING

Albany County Pistol Club, Winne Place, 7 to 9 p.m. Information, 439-0057.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

family program, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, 2 p.m. Information, 475-0291.

MOTHERS' TIME OUT

Christian support group for mothers of preschool children, Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., nursery care provided, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Information, 439-9929

DELMAR KIWANIS

Days Inn, Route 9W, 6:15 p.m. Information, 439-5560.

AA MEETING

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 8:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

AL-ANON GROUP

support for relatives of alcoholics, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 8:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

rehearsal, town hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4628.

BETHLEHEM ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

excavation and laboratory experience for volunteers, archaeology lab, Route 32 South. Information, 439-6391.

NEW SCOTLAND

QUARTET REHEARSAL

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

STORY HOUR

Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10:30 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 28**

BETHLEHEM

DELMAR ROTARY

Days Inn, Route 9W. Information, 482-8824.

PUPPETALES

with storyteller Debra Picker, for school-age children, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 11 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 6:30 p.m. Information, 457-4427.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 457-4427.

INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING

Albany County Pistol Club, Winne Place, 7 to 9 p.m. Information, 439-0057.

BINGO

at the Bethlehem Elks Lodge, Route 144, 7:30 p.m.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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

NEW SCOTLAND

NIMBLEFINGERS/QUILTERS

Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 1 to 3 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

town hall, Route 85, 7 p.m. Information, 765-3356.

VOORHEESVILLE VILLAGE BOARD

village hall, 29 Voorheesville Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 765-2692.

STORY HOUR

Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 29**

BETHLEHEM

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.

TESTIMONY MEETING

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

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.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

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

NEW SCOTLAND

FAMILY CONCERT

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

NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

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.

MOUNTAINVIEW

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

FAITH TEMPLE

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

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 30**

BETHLEHEM

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Bethlehem Community Church, 201 Elm Ave., 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. or 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. Information, 475-9573.

RECOVERY, INC.

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

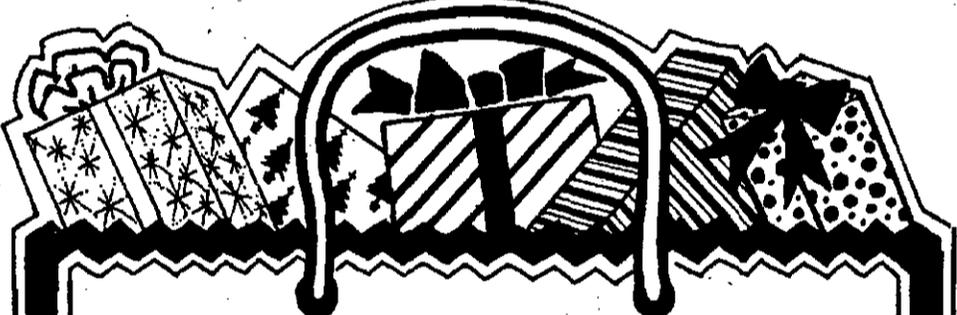
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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

Forest friends



The classic Disney animated film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" will be shown at the New York State Museum on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 1 and 2 and Feb. 19 and 20, at 1 and 3 p.m.



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Cures

(From Page 23)

is \$4 for children and seniors, and \$6 for adults.

The show will run through Jan. 17 on weekends. For information, call 438-5503.

Several scheduled vacation activities are designed to get kids away from the TV and out into the great outdoors.

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center on Game Farm Road in Delmar will offer family nature walks on Monday,

Dec. 27, and Wednesday, Dec. 29, at 2 p.m. Center naturalists will lead the group on a winter outing, looking for signs of wildlife along the trail.

The program is free, but is set aside for children accompanied by adults. For information, call Five Rivers at 475-0291.

Several nature-oriented programs are also planned at Grafton Lakes State Park on Route 2, east of Troy. On Wednesday, Dec. 29, a nature crafts workshop will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the park office. Participants should bring scissors and a lunch, and will learn how to make a pine needle basket, birch bark treasures and a

dream catcher.

On Thursday, Dec. 30, a winter ski/walk is slated from 1 to 3 p.m. Depending on the snow conditions, the group will walk or ski around the Spruce Bog Trail. Some cross country ski experience is suggested, and snow shoes may also be used.

For information on Grafton Lakes programs, call 279-1155.

Any older children who may have missed the summer blockbuster "Jurassic Park" can catch the film on the Proctor's Theatre big screen from Sunday through Thursday, Dec. 26 to 30, at 2, 4:45 and 7:30 p.m. The movie is rated PG-13,

and downstairs seats in the Schenectady theater cost only \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

When all the above-mentioned activities have been exhausted — and I do mean exhausted — there's always the old standbys such as bowling, roller-skating and ice-skating. Many of these facilities feature special expanded hours during vacation week, and may even offer reduced rates.

It's just possible, if the kids are kept busy enough, they may even be happy to go back to school — for some rest.

Museum

(From Page 23)

Tuesday's offering is *The Reluctant Dragon* by the Crabgrass Puppet Theater, a story set in medieval England about the friendship between a bookish young boy and a philosophical dragon that emphasizes how cooperation is better than confrontation.

On Wednesday, the Poobley Greegy Puppet Theater's *Dinosaur Show* re-creates the true story of the search for dinosaur fossils in the 19th-century American West. The show includes an exciting look at Tyrannosaurus Rex, Apatosaurus and Compsognathus.

Thursday, science, history and art con-



"The 3-D Show," left, will jump off the screen at the State Museum on Thursday, Dec. 30, while the Poobley Greegy Puppet Theater will present "The Dinosaur Show" on Wednesday, Dec 29.

verge in *The 3-D Show*, which tells the history of three-dimensional imaging and provides vivid examples of how it works.

The vacation week series concludes with *The Muppet Christmas Carol* movie, in which the irreverent Muppets have some fun with the Dickens classic and with Michael Caine as Scrooge.

Aside from the special vacation offerings, Chevrette noted that vacation week will be the last full week of the museum's popular "Dinosaurs!" exhibit, with 15 moving, roaring dinosaur replicas. The

exhibit comes to the end of its run Jan. 2.

Another exhibit, "Mirrors: Reflections of Society & Self," examines the historical and contemporary role of mirrors.

"It's also a wonderful time to see our regular exhibits, like the Native Peoples of New York with an authentic longhouse and dioramas," Chevrette said. "It's easy to come here with the kids and spend a whole day."

The museum is open daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Classifieds continued on p. 31



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