

The Spotlight

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PART TWO
supplement inside



Vol. XXXIX No. 50

The weekly newspaper serving the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland

December 6, 1995

50¢

NS voters to decide town hall expansion

By Dev Tobin

In what will likely be a quiet denouement to the 1995 election season, voters in New Scotland will decide Tuesday whether to borrow \$298,953 to more than double the size of town hall.

The project, about 3,000 additional square feet in a addition behind the current structure, will provide enough space to move the assessor's and building department offices from a substandard building in New Salem to the new building.

"Every single day, someone comes into town hall looking for the assessor or the building department," said Supervisor Herb Reilly, the prime mover behind the expansion.

"If we don't do this, we'll have to spend about \$75,000 to fix the building on the hill, plus about \$35,000 to bring this building up to Americans

EXPANSION/page 32

No place like a home for helpless

By Susan Graves

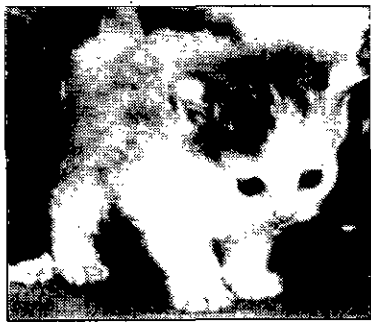
The numbers tell a sad story, but one that needn't have an unhappy ending. The 107 animals currently available for adoption at The Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society in Menands need homes.

The seven puppies at the shelter probably have the best shot at an early adoption, followed by the 21 kittens. The odds go down, however, for the 37 adult dogs and 42 cats.

For puppies and kittens to older dogs and cats, the common need is a good home, said Todd Duncan, assistant director of the not-for-profit shelter.

The shelter's annual fund drive, with a goal of \$70,000 is currently under way, and that money is needed to care for the animals during their stay in Menands. "It (the money) goes toward food and medical care as well as animal maintenance," said Duncan.

And although the adoption rate at the



The kitten in insert at left is one of 21 up for adoption at the Humane Society. Above, Mary Beth Clancy holds two of the seven puppies currently at the shelter. *Hugh Hewitt*

Humane Society is brisk — far higher than National average, the number of animals that are brought to the shelter keep it busy yearround. Duncan said animals from 22 municipalities from Albany and Rensselaer counties are brought to the shelter 365 days a year for any number of reasons.

Some are strays, some abused, some

abandoned, but all are in need of a loving home. But prospective owners should be aware that adopting a pet is serious business. "It's a lifetime commitment," said Mary Beth Clancy, the customer relations staffer at the shelter.

For those people who are considering adopting a pet as a holiday gift, Clancy

HOME/page 15

Computer plan update

\$4M would bring district up to date

By Dev Tobin

Infrastructure became a buzzword in the 1980s, as state and local governments realized that they had to start paying the

bill for decades of deferred maintenance on aging roads, bridges, and water and sewer systems

Infrastructure in a different sense is an essential part of bringing instructional technology in the Bethlehem Central School District

up to date, after years of putting off making a major investment in computers and related equipment, according to Judith Wooster, BC's assistant superintendent for instruction.

The technology part of the district's proposed \$14.8 million bond issue is just more than \$4 million, with almost exactly half of that dedicated to infrastructure such as wiring and network equipment.

On the hardware side, the bond issue would provide enough computers so that each elementary classroom would have three computers, with a large screen monitor/VCR and a printer, plus 48 more computers at the middle school and 68 more at the high school.

But Wooster said the key to the project is that the classroom computers will be linked to a local network in the building, a wide area network throughout the district

COMPUTER/page 32

Local officials in dark about nuke train

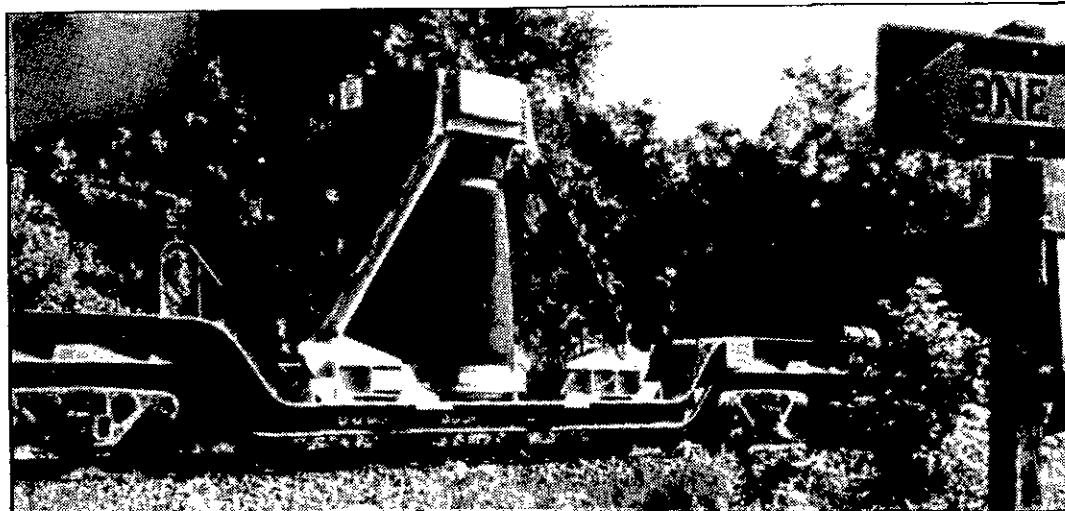
By Mel Hyman

A rail car full of highly radioactive nuclear waste traveled through the town of Bethlehem last week without the knowledge of local police or governmental agencies.

From the Albany County Office of Emergency Management on down, no one in charge of disaster preparedness was notified by Conrail or the U.S. Department of Defense of the shipment's anticipated arrival at the Selkirk railyard on Thursday, Nov. 30.

The Spotlight was notified about the shipment of spent nuclear fuel rods on Wednesday, Nov. 29, by Daniel Mackay, coordinator of the Knolls Action Project.

On the same day, Mackay, a resident of New Scotland, called Bethlehem Supervisor Sheila Fuller's office about the waste



A rail car carrying a load of radioactive nuclear waste (similar to above) traveled through town last week.

shipment's imminent arrival, although Fuller was not in at the time.

A Conrail spokesman confirmed that the reactor material had indeed made its

way through town.

"It moved through the area (on Thursday)," said Conrail spokesman Rudy

NUKE/page 20

CHP's Warren Paley Internal Medicine staff offer you a wealth of experience



These internal medicine providers practice at Warren Paley Health Center:

Back Row L-R: Ronald Hoenzsch, MD; Gary Kronick, MD; Dianne Wendling, PA; Richard Rynes, MD; Paul Lemanski, MD and David Herman, MD

Front Row L-R: Carmen Giuliano, MD; Suzanne O'Loughlin, NP; Donald Wexler, MD and Thelma Lumpkin, PA

Not pictured: H. Kip Arnold, MD; Karen Doherty, PA; Anne Lovejoy, MD; Peter Olszewski, NP; David Ray, MD; Charles Trout, MD; Amy Walsh, MD and Mark Yocono, MD

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Phone fund-raisers profit from police publications

By Mel Hyman

According to a report issued by the state Attorney General's office, the Bethlehem Police Benevolent Association garnered just 30 percent of the \$84,065 raised by a professional fund-raiser last year.

Scores of local businesses and hundreds of residents contributed after being contacted by telephone solicitors, and were recognized in ads or patron lists in the Bethlehem Defender, an annual magazine produced by Nordel Publishing Inc.

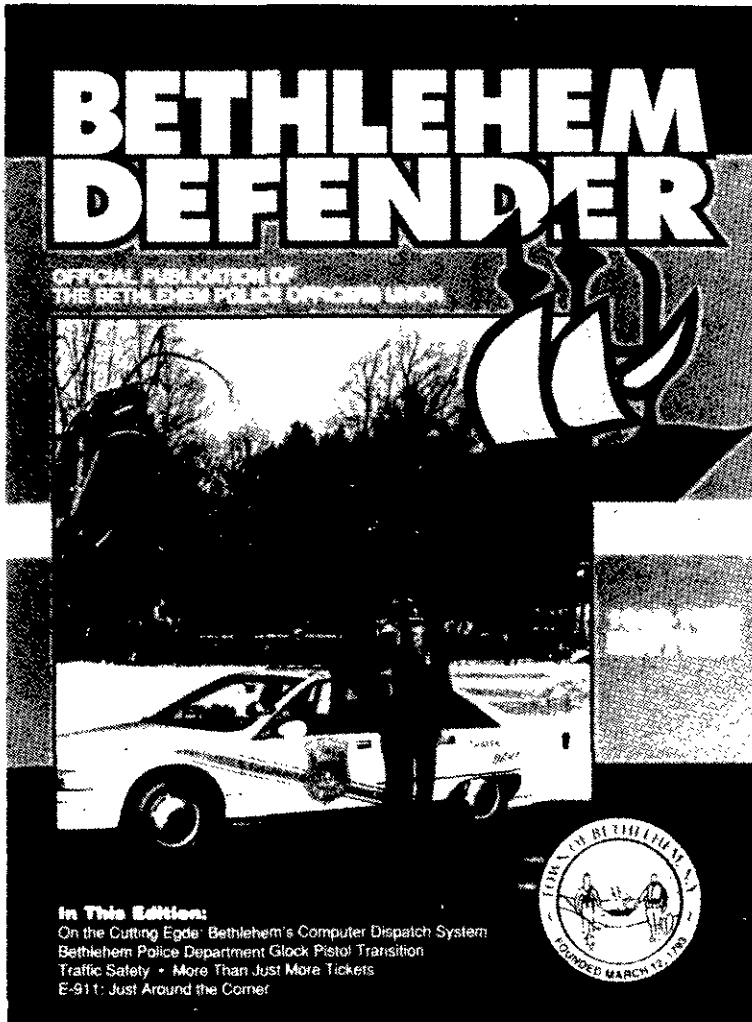
The Bethlehem PBA was slightly below average as far as what portion of the proceeds they actually received, according to the first-ever study by Attorney General Dennis Vacco.

The Colonie PBA, on the other hand, benefited to a much greater degree from the telemarketing efforts of professional fund-raisers.

Of the \$148,495 collected for the Colonie PBA, a total of \$99,491 was returned to the organization, or about 67 percent.

Both the Bethlehem and Colonie PBAs contracted with Nordel, a professional fund-raising group from Clifton Park.

The Albany County Sheriff's Department Employees Local No. 775 fared less well. A total of \$309,240 was raised on its behalf by Stage Door Music Productions, but only \$65,496 ended up going to the union — 21.18 percent of the total pot.



The Bethlehem PBA nets about a third for the funds raised locally to produce this magazine.

Of the \$159 million raised by professional telemarketing campaigns in 1994, about \$53 million

or 33 percent was returned to the charities.

Anthony Arduini, president of

the Bethlehem PBA, declined comment on the attorney general's report, or on how the PBA spends the money it gets from Nordel.

Nonprofit organizations frequently enlist the services of professional telemarketers because it relieves them of the burden of what can be a time-consuming and painstaking task.

But the net benefits for the charity are often much greater when professional fund-raisers are not used.

Registered charities in New York spend an average of "just 17 cents of all donated dollars on administrative and fund-raising costs," Vacco said in a published release.

According to Joseph Mahoney, spokesman for Vacco, people who are contacted by professional fund-raisers should, first of all, ask phone solicitors "if they work for the charity or for a professional fund-raiser."

"We also strongly urge that people ask them what percentage the charity keeps from their fund-raising efforts," Mahoney said.

Sometimes what is returned to the charity is "greatly diminished," while in other cases what the nonprofit receives can be "quite noteworthy."

Before contributing, you should also find out what the charity plans to do with your money and whether your contribution is tax-deductible, Mahoney said.

If you want to play it safe and get the most bang for your buck, Mahoney added, "Another option is writing a check out directly to the charity and not waiting for a sales pitch from someone who is not from the charity itself, but who works for a professional fund-raiser."

Some other area nonprofit groups benefited only minimally from the efforts of professional fund-raisers last year. The Kiwanis Club of Saratoga Springs received only \$2,000 of the \$46,909 raised for them by Box Office Inc. — a paltry 3.9 percent.

The Latham Knights of Columbus only received 5.5 percent of the proceeds (\$45,881) netted on their behalf by Box Office Inc.

The biggest loser in the entire state last year in the telemarketing sweepstakes was right here in Albany. Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood ended up paying out \$14,203 to Telecomp Inc. for their telemarketing campaign. Telecomp raised \$30,135, but its expenses were evidently more than \$44,000.

A total of six charities were net losers last year, according to the Attorney General's office. Four of those campaigns were carried out by Telecomp.

And five charities got nothing at all for their fund-raising, including more than \$145,000 raised by Reese Brothers Inc. for the Christian Appalachian Project, and retained by the fund-raising company.

City/Bethlehem water talks restart

By Mel Hyman

One month after the November general election, Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings has shown he is a man of his word.

Jennings is scheduled to sit down with Supervisor Sheila Fuller today (Dec. 6) to try and work out a new supplementary water contract between the city and the town of Bethlehem.

It is the first negotiating session since April, when Jennings broke off negotiations until after the November election. The town's contract with the city for a backup water supply expired Thursday, Nov. 30.

Fuller said she still doesn't understand Jennings' rationale for breaking off the talks, but she's willing to let bygones be bygones. In announcing the suspension of

talks last spring, Jennings said while he was hopeful about the eventual outcome of negotiations he wanted to remove the contract talks from the political arena.

Fuller's goal of separating out the town's new \$13.9 million water system — to be drawn from an aquifer underneath the Hudson River — hinges on her ability to strike a deal with Jennings for a backup water supply.

While the town-owned Vly Creek reservoir in New Scotland normally meets the town's drinking water needs, the supply sometimes falls short during the peak summer demand period.

Fuller said she wants to purchase water during the peak period from Albany's plentiful supply, derived in large part from the Alcove reservoir in Coeymans.

"I'm very optimistic that this will be resolved," Fuller said. "Mayor Jennings was quoted in *The Spotlight* as being willing to do whatever was needed to complete this deal."

Fuller said she still can't understand why the talks were broken off in the first place. "There was no reason for them to have been held up 'til now."

The town's contract with the city originally ran out on Aug. 30, but Jennings agreed to extend the contract until after the election. Fuller's plan to separate the water system so that the supply from the new wells is used solely for industry was prompted by public concern over the possible health consequences should it be used as a backup residential supply.

The group that spearheaded the drive to separate the systems, Clearwater for Bethlehem, continues to monitor the situation.

"We'll just have to wait and see how much water Sheila Fuller negotiates to buy," said Clearwater spokeswoman Fran Royo, "and whether it's enough to cover all of our residential needs, or whether it's just a token amount."

Fuller would like to purchase about 250,000 gallons per day from Albany during the peak demand period and was willing to pay \$1.66 per thousand gallons — the same price the city charges its own residents. That would work out to be about \$105,000 per year.

"That's where we'll start at," Fuller said. "We originally offered \$1.43 (per thousand gallons)," but city budget director Dan Klepak objected that the city could not sell to Bethlehem for less than what Albany residents pay.

The new water treatment plant on Clapper Road is complete, but the new system, which was scheduled to go on line in late October, is still in the testing phase, according to Public Works Commissioner Bruce Secor.

Jennings said he wanted to go back into negotiations with the "expectation that (a new contract) will be reasonable and fair for both sides."

"I'm not going into this with any hard and fast figures. We're not sure what their needs are. Their new plant should dictate that to some extent," Jennings said. "We're willing to accommodate their needs."

Dormitory Authority expects new tenant for Elsmere site

By Mel Hyman

Several companies have expressed strong interest in moving into the space now occupied by the state Dormitory Authority once the agency leaves Bethlehem as expected next year.

The interest has been so keen that authority officials are "very confident" the 38,000 square feet of office space at 161 Delaware Ave. "will not remain vacant more than one day," said spokeswoman Claudia Hutton.

Executive Director John Buono hopes to have a recommendation for the authority's board of directors on where the agency should relocate for the board's Jan. 3 meeting, Hutton said.

Authority officials are now analyzing the pros and cons of four or five sites in the area, none in the town of Bethlehem, according to Assemblyman John Faso, R-Kinderhook.

The Dormitory Authority, which has been in Delmar since the 1960s, is seeking new quarters because it will soon absorb two other state development finance agencies, the Medical Care Facilities Finance Agency and the Facilities Development Corp.

The space requirement for the expanded authority will be about 80,000 square feet, larger than any available space in the Bethlehem area.

The agency has not been actively seeking new tenants for 161 Delaware Ave., which the authority has owned since 1986, but some "very serious queries" have been made regarding its availability, Hutton said. "Several of these entities are interested in moving in right away."

There could be no sweeter news for Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce President Marty DeLaney.

"That's great news," she said. "We don't need any more empty commercial buildings in this town."

The interest in the Elsmere building "shows what an attractive location Bethlehem is," DeLaney said. "It tells you that people don't want to work in downtown areas any more, since there are so many advantages to working out here in the suburbs, such as ease of parking and accessibility to shopping."

Since the authority's plans are not etched in stone, Hutton declined to identify what companies were interested in taking over the Elsmere building. All the queries so far, however, would keep the facility an office building, she noted.

Any company that does move in would find a modern facility that the authority renovated just a few years ago, Hutton said.

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Decisions, decisions



Lynn Melinowski, left, and her daughter, Stephanie, get help from Sharon Fernandes on the new line of jewelry at the South Street Framers & Gallery on Delaware Avenue in Delmar. *Doug Persons*

V'ville-board seeking more info on pensions

By Dev Tobin

The concept of setting up a pension program for Voorheesville volunteer firefighters needs more study, the village board decided last week.

"More questions keep popping up, and we need a whole lot more investigation before we let the public decide on this," said Trustee Kevin Garrity.

The service award program is a classic case of good news, bad news for localities that depend on volunteers for fire protection.

The good news is that the pension program helps attract and retain more volunteers, and gives them an incentive to participate in fires, training and drills.

The bad news is that, at least in Voorheesville, the program may cause a property tax increase of up to 39 percent.

According to estimates provided by the department's financial advisers, the cost of contributing \$480 annually for 52 qualified volunteers will be \$39,129 for the first 10 years, then \$24,960 annually thereafter.

The cost is higher in the first 10 years because qualified volunteers are allowed five years of credit for their past service, and that one-time charge of \$108,480 is borrowed and repaid over 10 years.

If the entire cost of the program is funded through the village property tax, a tax rate increase of about 48 cents per thousand of assessed value would be necessary.

Trustee Harvey Huth, a long-time fire volunteer, noted that he had to wait two years before he could join the department, while today the department is "now looking for 12 or 13 people to fill the ranks."

Huth, who serves as the board's liaison to the department, said that

he and other volunteers are "uncomfortable with taking payment for volunteer services," but the alternative is a "downward slide of voluntarism" that may pose "a real concern for fire protection."

Huth added that the pension program would not just attract new members and retain current members, but would also "get the experienced, trained members to be more active."

Trustee Daniel Reh said that others who volunteer "to do something for the community," as in the school board, planning commission or service clubs, do not get a pension.

He added that trustees, although they receive a small salary, also do not get a pension from the village.

Mayor Edward Clark noted that the village has been able to lower its property tax rate in recent years only because of increased sales tax revenues, which may not last forever.

"We have to be very careful" about committing to new programs, Clark said.

The board should have "an objective, arm's-length analysis by a neutral party" before it decides to put the issue to a vote, he added.

Clark said he will try to put together a small committee of residents to analyze the pension plan over the next month or two and come up with recommendations.

In other business, the trustees:

- Approved adjusting the property tax exemption for low- to moderate-income senior citizens to reflect increased levels enacted in state law.

- Decided to issue another village directory in 1996.

- Approved spending \$4,200 for shoring equipment that is required by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Two teens jailed for felony mischief

Two local teenagers are in the Albany County jail charged with felony criminal mischief in connection with a vandalism spree in the Indian Hills subdivision in North Bethlehem last week.

Scott T. Loveday, 17, of Hillcrest Avenue, Albany, and Michael D. Itzo, 16, of Onondaga Court, Slingerlands, were arrested at their homes on Friday, Dec. 1, and charged with one count each of felony criminal mischief, police

reported.

The teen-agers are suspected of slashing tires, vandalizing vehicles, cutting down trees and knocking down mailboxes late Thursday (Nov. 30) or early Friday (Dec. 1), according to Bethlehem Police Lt. Frederick Holligan.

Holligan speculated that the vandalism might have started as an "act of retaliation against someone and escalated from there. One

person had a spruce tree cut down that was worth \$400."

The total damage is "well up into the thousands" and additional charges are pending, Holligan said.

The arresting officers were Bruce Oliver and Brian Hughes. The teen-agers were arraigned before Bethlehem Town Justice Peter Wenger.

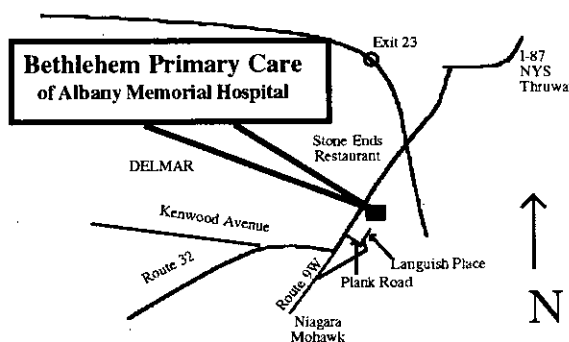
Mel Hyman

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Comptroller brings state, personal message to RCS

By Katherine McCarthy

State Comptroller H. Carl McCall gave an incisive lesson on state government recently to more than 150 students at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School.

The majority of the students were from Timothy W. Tucker's Hands On Government class. Hands on Government is Tucker's brainchild, an independent study course he created to involve students in government and the community.

McCall first stressed the importance of education, to him personally, and moved on to the workings of state government. He gave a quick breakdown of the top four state positions, governor, lieutenant governor, comptroller, and attorney general.

He then explained his responsibilities as chief fiscal officer of the state. The Comptroller e pays all the state's bills; approves all contracts for business with the state; issues the state's debt in the form of bonds, allowing the state



State Comptroller H. Carl McCall chats with RCS student Danielle Hummel.

Explaining that "Government is the way we help people achieve their goals," McCall opened the floor for questions, the first of which, appropriately, had to do with future spending on education.

"The state will probably not spend as much on education in the future as it has," McCall said. "These are difficult times. There is less money available, since there are fewer workers paying fewer taxes, and there is less money from business. There is a big fight in Washington about cutting the budget; if that happens, New York will get less federal money. But a budget sets priorities. Even if there is less money, education will still get a major portion of the state's money."

McCall's response to a question regarding the riskiness of the pension fund's investment was a primer on investing.

"Any investment is a risk, which is why you have to diversify the fund, and not put all the money into one place. We have the pension fund in stocks, bonds, real estate, New York and Asia. That way, if one area doesn't produce, another will. Last year, for instance, 45 percent of our investment was in American stocks and bonds, and doing very well. We

had some in Europe, and lost there, but the domestic market covered losses. Next year, it might be different. Diversification means there is less possibility of losing money."

McCall laughed when asked if he signs his own paycheck, answering yes, "but somebody audits that to make sure I'm honest." He confessed to the audience that a machine actually signs the 20,000 checks requiring his signature each week.

When asked how his religion affected his decisions, McCall explained that he was indeed an ordained minister, though no longer practicing. "Religion is a matter of ethics that gives standards to everything you do. It is important to be fair to people, honest, truthful, open and supportive of others," he said.

The questions turned political when a student asked how McCall thought Pataki was doing. "We are in different parties," McCall said. "Pataki is decent, hard-working and honest. He wants to change the way business is done in New York state. That hasn't happened yet; he hasn't had enough time. The governor is learning on the job, as he did this year with the budget. The budget was 68 days late, which is both expensive and an embarrassment.

The governor's intention is to change that; he's learning how difficult it is to make change. The governor will ultimately do a good job, and I support his intentions. He wants to do the right thing."

As far as his future political plans, McCall said ruefully, "As soon as you're elected to something, people want to know what you'll run for next. It's silly to say now what I'll do in '98; people would judge all my actions now on that information. I have no plans to run for governor now; I like my job; the decision to run is one my family and I will make later. The problem with politics," he said, "is that it's expensive. You have to raise money to run. I'm not a rich man; I would have to raise money from friends, corporations and businesses, and people are always suspicious about why you took that money."

He told students that it cost \$3 million to run for comptroller, and Pataki raised \$15 million to run for governor. He called the way politics are financed "troubling."

When called on the carpet to explain why the Citizen's Report showed spending in excess of the \$42 billion taken in, McCall had a one-word answer: deficit. "We must borrow money to make up for the deficit, which will be carried over to next year. We must either raise more money or spend less. You shouldn't have a deficit," he stated, "it's not a good way to do business."

Asked why he chose this job, McCall said that he was looking for a good way to help, and this does.

McCall also stressed the importance of education.

"I have an exciting and important job, and I enjoy it. Twenty-two hundred people work for me in seven offices state-wide. I was president of the board of education in New York City, with over one million students. Now I handle millions of dollars every day. All of this because I listened to my mother and my teachers, who told me to get a good education. They said if I worked hard, I could be anything I wanted."

The Andover and Dartmouth graduate encouraged the students to: "Pay attention now, commit yourselves. You can do anything you want."

McCall also praised RCS' Hands on Government program. "I was glad Danielle (Hummel, a student) invited me. Direct experience with government is great. I believe in government and the political process, and I'm glad to take part in a student forum. It was a lively class, with good questions, even political ones."

The Hands on Government course addresses a number of areas, besides listening to guest speakers like McCall. Other requirements include attending meetings such as town board meetings, county legislature or County Court sessions, filling out forms like the dreaded 1040 and performing 30 hours of community service.

Principal Andy DeFeo praised Tucker's work with the program: "It's ironic that people teach government; Tim has made changes so the kids are actually in the community. It's an honor to have the state Comptroller take the time to come to our school."

Breast cancer group to meet at AJCC

The next meeting of "Breast Friends," a local breast cancer support group, will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Road in Albany.

The meeting will feature guest speaker Dr. Elizabeth Clark, president of the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship.

The group was started by Delmar residents Lynda Shrager and Linda Klein as a means to promote sharing of feelings and address worries and fears of breast cancer patients.

For information, contact Shrager at 439-4349 or Klein at 439-8690.

Delmar's Rice joins college honor society

Suzanne Rice, daughter of Frank and Ruth Rice of Delmar, has been selected as a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society at Temple University in Philadelphia.

The society recognizes juniors and seniors in the top 15 percent of their class.

Pay attention now, commit yourselves. You can do anything you want.

H. Carl McCall

to borrow money should there not be enough to pay its bills; and he is chief auditor for the state, reviewing the books of the state agencies, municipalities and counties to ensure appropriate spending of the state's funds.

McCall, referred students to their copies of The Citizen's Report summarizing the state spending and revenues for 1994-1995, and immediately pointed out that education is the state's largest budget commitment.

He explained the rudimentaries of the state's pension fund, the second largest in the country, with 880,000 employees paying into the fund, and 260,000 retirees currently drawing from it. There is \$71 billion in the fund now, McCall said, and he invests 3 percent of that to ensure its continued growth.

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Matters of Opinion

High road debate

A letter in last week's *Spotlight* proved to be as valuable as the Bethlehem Central School District bond issue meetings. While critical of the proposed \$15 million bond issue due for a vote next week (Dec. 13), it raised considerable interest within the community resulting in some thorough, well-written letters, mainly in defense.

These letters printed in this issue have another redeeming feature; they are without the rancor that marked the recent general election. Here are reasoned criticisms and well-informed responses with acknowledgement on both sides that the other has valid points of view.

But, a disturbing fact is contained in one letter. The writer acknowledges an informational meeting explaining the bond issue helped him in his decision. But, he was disappointed at the poor turnout of residents at this meeting. "Where were the residents and taxpayers?" he asks. Where indeed? There's one more chance to attend a meeting before the vote and that will be Monday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Middle School.

A PC answer

Comments on both sides of the Bethlehem school bond vote acknowledge school tax rates suffer from lack of sufficient commercial and industrial base. Both sides generally agree a better balance has to be achieved by permitting more, well-planned commercial use of land in this town.

An important Bethlehem town board vote is slated for Dec. 13 on rezoning land at the junction of New Scotland Road and Cherry Avenue Extension for a new Price Chopper development.

We agree with one letter writer who said we need more money for our schools through a stronger commercial tax base while also achieving more competition in the purchase of food.

Price Chopper appears to answer both sides of the argument... more taxes for the school district and more competition for the consumer.

Give wisely

This is the season of giving. It is also the season when charities tap into people's generosity by running fundraising campaigns. Many charities are known to the public through mail and face-to-face solicitation while others rely heavily upon telemarketing, now a leading form of soliciting funds. Too often, good-hearted people have contributed to callers without fully understanding where this money is going.

While telemarketing can be a gold mine for a bogus charity, it doesn't come cheap for a legitimate one. A report issued by New York state Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco based on 1994 research says that of \$159 million collected last year in 584 campaigns in the state over the phone, the charities received \$53 million, roughly one-third.

The attorney general cautions that often the low return to the charity is balanced by the potential for educating the public about the charity, gaining volunteers and basic name recognition. In essence, the charity mounts a public relations campaign and still receives money solicited by professional fund-raisers.

We support the attorney general's advice. Donors should know the full background of the charity calling them. This can be done by contacting the local chamber of commerce or, better yet, asking for a charity's annual report which gives an official breakdown of money retained by the charity.

People are proving to be sophisticated shoppers this holiday season, looking for bargains along with value; so they should become educated donors. Know the charity to which you are willing to give a donation, even to the point of asking for an annual report. Reputable charities are willing to comply because they know a satisfied donor may well be a repeat donor.

Editorials

Computers advance local learning

By Gary Cimorelli

The writer is of this Point of View is the district school media specialist for educational communications in the North Colonie Central School District.

Remember your trip to Howe Caverns? You may have visited the tourist attraction near Cobleskill on a school field trip or as a family excursion. Now, it's only part of a memory.



To enhance the adventure for her pupils, a fifth grade teacher at Southgate School in Colonie used technology to make a visit to Howe Caverns a more meaningful field trip for her class. The teacher created a computer slide show that tested the students' knowledge and memory. Images were captured on video and then digitized.

The images then became part of an interactive slide show that the teacher created the same day as the field trip; the next day, pupils were asked to identify the images. This slide show is now shared with other teachers in the district so other pupils can make the same trip while still in the classrooms.

How was it possible for this teacher to enhance the trip for her pupils and to aid other children who didn't make the trip? Well, in May of 1994, residents of North Colonie Central School District voted to prepare their children for the future. The vote was for a bond issue that would integrate technology into the classroom and curriculum.

The bond for approximately \$800,000 gave the elementary schools the largest portion of the money. Each fourth through sixth grade classroom is now equipped with four Macintosh computers, a printer, modem and a phone line. Shaker Junior High is equipped with a second lab of IBM compatible computers for the students taking business courses. The remainder of the money is being used for the purchase of more computers in

Point of View

the libraries for research and for the automation of card catalogs.

Prior to the bond issue vote in 1994, a committee of educators, business leaders and parents met over a two-year period to discuss what skills students and workers needed beyond high school. The message was loud and clear that our students needed the skills to be self-learners, problem solvers and communicators while being able to work with others in gathering information and completing tasks. The integration of technology into the classroom would help students achieve these skills.

North Colonie students in kindergarten through 12th grade now use technology almost daily in the classroom. Pupils at the elementary level are learning keyboarding and word processing for writing, creating spreadsheets for interpreting data, communicating thoughts and ideas through computer presentations and doing research using electronic sources such as CD-ROM and the Internet. Some children are communicating with others around the world through the use of E-Mail.

Pupils at Shaker Junior High School also use data bases for information retrieval and research. They edit papers on the computer. For art pupils, the computer has become today's "paint palette" in computer graphics and animation. The technology department uses computers for drafting, design and problem solving.

At Shaker High School, English classes can be found completing writing assignments in the computer lab. In addition, computer courses are offered in mathematics, art, business and technology education.

These courses include basic and Pascal programming, microcomputers in math, computer graphics, computer aided drawing, keyboard applications, and electronic information process-

ing. The junior and senior high media centers provide students with computers for "drop-in" use.

Essential to the integration of technology in the classroom was the restructuring of support staff. Now, there is an educational communications specialist who supports the classroom teacher with the integration of technology in the curriculum and provides staff development. The district also employs two technicians who maintain hardware and software.

The success of the initial integration of technology is evident in the teachers' and students' excitement about the new technology and in their willingness to "investigate".

As our elementary pupils become more proficient in the use of computers and other technology, our school district is being challenged to consider how the secondary schools will need to adapt in order to prepare future citizens who will be competent in tomorrow's workplace.

A holiday tree mystery story

Letters

Editor, The Spotlight:

Apparently the seven members of the board of trustees for the Bethlehem Public Library have decided for the 27,552 people living in this town that the Christmas tree may no longer be seen in the library.

It was shown in the old building and continued to be shown in the present one.

But, not this year. A decision by a few for the majority, the tree with cardinals, bird houses and nests may be seen in the Albany Institute until Dec. 3.

It is the first one on your right as you enter the museum.

Connie Strong

Glenmont

THE SPOTLIGHT

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Your Opinion Matters

Committee member takes on school bond issue critic

Editor, The Spotlight:

In reference to Tom Davidson's letter in last week's *Spotlight*, I would like to draw attention to the fact that this letter was filled with gross inaccuracies, timed to defeat the bond issue on Dec. 13.

More than five years ago, a technology committee was formed to research the best possible route for this district to take regarding the purchase of more current technology. Teachers, parents and administrators worked long, hard hours with consultants and architects who specialize in school technology design.

In the end, the overall plan was greatly reduced, because we felt strongly that the committee should only recommend the essentials. It was after the technology committee recommended the creation of the technology coordinator's position, that we were fortunate enough to have the district hire Rick Gross. Without his strong work ethic and organizational guidance, we would not have the current teacher and student enthusiasm for computers.

Did Davidson venture into any of the fourth and fifth grades this fall to see how three computers have impacted the instruction occurring? These students are learning skills that will take them into the year 2000 as confident, contributing members of society.

Bethlehem has always been known as an exemplary school district. But the fact remains, we can't continue to say we're providing extraordinary education without putting our money where our mouths are. We have been turning out students who have basically no computer skills and sending them off to compete in college and the work force without the necessary knowledge and skills they need to be successful. There is a real

need for this equipment in our schools; we're not talking about playing video games.

Davidson's knowledge of the cost of the equipment (\$4,000) purchased this year from the spring technology initiative, must have been pulled out of a hat! The computer packages purchased for the elementary level cost anywhere between \$1900-\$2200 depending on the software that was bundled with them. This is a very competitive price, especially when you consider that each station came loaded with thousands of dollars worth of educational software and CDs. The \$850,000 allocated for the purchase of technology also included substantial costs for furniture, cabling, peripherals, and supplies.

It is true that half of the funding for technology in this bond is technically allocated for a computer network, but \$1 million of that cost is to upgrade the school's electrical power. Our buildings are horrendously out of date, and this cost could legitimately be lumped with maintenance. After much research, it was determined that the district would save money by opting for a wireless network. This may sound frivolous, but it will handle some of the district phone service, and will prevent us from having to rent wire space, ultimately saving the taxpayers money.

It has been my privilege the past year and a half, to work with many fine teachers, community business representatives, senior citizens and administrators on the long range planning committee. We worked diligently for 18 months, having originally committed to a 10 month project.

We visited every school in the district at least once, as well as the bus garage, and examined every request for maintenance on the original list. We

Letters

took this responsibility very seriously, as if we were spending our own money, because ultimately, we were.

The committee spent several months examining the issues of overcrowding on the secondary level. We worked closely with committees at both the high school and middle school to examine every possible inch of space to try and create more room within the existing structures. We were determined not to build, but sometimes, you have to face facts and admit

there's no other alternative. There is not enough room in these schools for the present population, and as we all know, more and more residential development continues to be approved. We're not looking at a few years of peak enrollment as the numbers point to a steady and consistent increase in student population.

We do need to consider increasing our commercial and industrial tax base, but let's do that cautiously. It would also be beneficial to see more coordination between the town government and the school district. But these issues should not be a reason to vote the bond issue down.

As a parent of a high school, a

middle school and an elementary school child, I urge you to vote yes on the bond issue. The package being presented to you is well planned, and it will make a positive impact on our schools.

I agree with Davidson on one point, when he says "one of the most important parts of the character of this town is the quality of the school system." Let's make sure we work together to maintain true excellence in our schools. Let's educate our children in a way that they acquire the technological skills necessary to compete in today's world. Vote responsibly on Dec. 13, vote yes.

Jane Keyes

Delmar

PTA urges school bond approval

Editor, The Spotlight:

We are writing this letter to urge our fellow Bethlehem School District residents to vote for passage of the proposed bond issue on Dec. 13 at the middle school.

Clearly the bond represents a commitment to maintaining quality education that we in the community should support.

We are a growing school district, and while no bond issue is ever perfect, there are a variety of solid reasons for voting "yes." The concrete results of passing this bond issue include:

- Additional classrooms at each level to meet our growing enrollment.

- Library expansion at the middle and high schools to meet our students' educational needs.

- Computers and the infrastructure to use them most efficiently, plus essential modern math and science equipment.

- Maintenance needs across the district.

There are always differences of opinion about what should be funded and how. However, the end result toward which any citizen interested in education

should be working is simply to do what will bring about the best possible education for our children. This bond issue moves us toward that goal.

Again, we urge you to support the bond and your schools.

Bethlehem Presidents' Council:
Sue Drislane, Jane R. Sanders,
Cindy Hill, Debbie Kopp, Karen Graziade, Marlene Brookins,
Deborah Cole, William Cushing,
Barbara Bartoletti, Debra C. Treadgold, Jill Rifkin, Phyllis S. Hillinger, Wendy Lefkovich,
Kevin McCarthy

Bethlehem



MOHAWK AND HUDSON RIVER HUMANE SOCIETY

Oakland Ave., Menands, NY 12204
(518) 434-8128



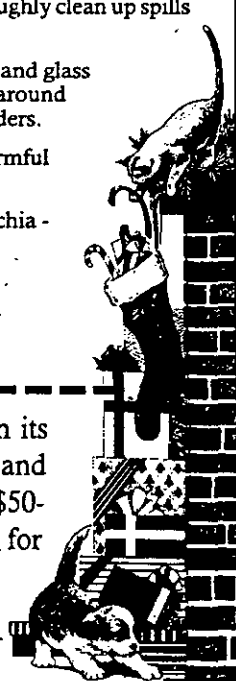
The Humane Society is concerned with the health of animals in the cold weather. Winter poses special risk to pets, give your pet a safer, healthier cold weather season by following these tips:

- Keep indoor pets in a dry, warm area free of drafts. Elevate your pet's bed off the floor.
- Provide outdoor dogs or cats with a dry insulated pet house or shelter out of the wind. Staying warm demands extra calories, so feed your pet accordingly when temperatures drop. Bring your pet inside if the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe.
- Remove ice, salt and caked mud from your pet's paws and coat at once. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect you pet has frostbite. Frostbite skin may turn reddish, white or grey, and it may be scaly or sloughing.
- Cats and kittens often nap on car engines. Knock on the hood or honk horn; then wait a few minutes before starting the car.
- Pets like the smell and taste of antifreeze, but even a small amount can kill them. Thoroughly clean up spills at once. Tightly close containers and store them where pets cannot get to them.
- Holiday paraphernalia can hurt pets. Cover or tack down electrical cords. Keep tinsel and glass ornaments out of reach. Read warnings on items like spray-on snow. Never put ribbon around a pet's neck or allow it to play with plastic or foil wrappings or six-pack beverage holders.
- Keep your pet on its regular diet. Holiday treats, such as chocolate and bones, can be harmful or toxic.
- Many plants - including Christmas rose, holly, mistletoe, philodendron and dieffenbachia - are toxic to pets. Keep them out of your pet's reach.
- Always have fresh, clean water available.

(Have a Safe and Happy Holiday This Season)

Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society is now half way through its Annual Fund Drive for 1995. Supported by donations, membership fees, and bequest. Life Membership \$100; Annual Member \$5; Sustaining Member \$50-\$100. A donation or membership will be appreciated to help us in caring for animals and continuing this service.

Name Address Amount &
To those who have already given to our Annual Fund Drive...
Our Sincere "Thank You"



VIEWS ON DENTAL HEALTH



Dr. Thomas H. Abele, D.M.D.

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

The rising costs of dental care

We are constantly being reminded by the public about the high cost of dental care. Let's face it—such care can be expensive. The question, however, is why?

Just as inflation has affected our general economy, so has it affected our practices. Escalating costs of utilities, supplies, essential services, and salaries for office personnel have had an adverse effect upon all of us. Governmental regulations and voluntary compliance with health care guidelines also have influenced professional fees.

The public is often unaware of the added cost that the dentist incurs in implementing safety procedures. OSHA standards regarding labeling of hazardous substances used in the office, providing information and training on the handling of such materials, and maintaining safety data sheets on

them are examples of requirements whose fulfillment has a price attached. There are also strict rules and regulations regarding waste disposal which are costly.

Unfortunately, as the quality of care that we provide continues to improve, so does the cost of such care. Although we do look for ways to control the increases we encounter, patients must be aware that there are logical reasons for the escalating costs of dentistry that are clearly beyond our control.

Prepared as a public service to promote better dental health. From the offices of:

Dr. Thomas H. Abele, D.M.D.
Dr. Geoffrey B. Edmunds, D.D.S.
344 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, N.Y. 12054
(518) 439-4228

Matters of Opinion

School pride requires 'yes' vote

Editor, The Spotlight:

In Bethlehem we are a community that prides itself on our school system and on the fact that we are a community that cares deeply about education. The upcoming bond proposal is a case in point. *The Spotlight* has been generous in its coverage of the process leading up to the vote on Dec. 13 and in allowing community members to voice their opinions. My consideration of this bond issue compels me to strongly recommend voting "yes" on the proposal.

There are many reasons for supporting the bond issue, and the administration and the board of education have bent over backwards trying to present these reasons to the community. I would like to address just two of these reasons here, hoping to balance the coverage on these pages and to provide another perspective.

Taxes - It is true that the very considerable state contribution to this bond issue (roughly \$8.4 million of the \$14.8 million total) comes from state tax revenues. If we don't pass the bond and direct this money into our school system, our state tax bill

will not go down, and the money will go to other communities. Count on it. We have the power here to direct our state tax dollars into our community to meet some clearly expressed needs. Let's use that power.

Computer networks - For my tax dollars, computer networking is probably the best educational bargain in the bond proposal. As parents, grandparents and community members we want at least three things from the academic programs in our schools:

- A sound education in the fundamentals.

- A love of learning and the satisfaction that comes with hard-earned success.

- A preparation for the future. With these things in mind, is networking an unnecessary luxury? The answer is a resounding no! I want my children to love learning and to be able to access information globally. Not only does this access to information excite and engage students and teachers, it provides invaluable training for the 21st century. On one hand, teachers will use this access to gather the latest information for teaching and learn-

Letters

ing. On the other, the students will be able, in one minute, to examine images of original documents in Washington, London, Egypt, or Japan, and in the next minute to look at the current weather conditions at the South Pole. Even beyond the learning that takes place with these excursions, the students are acquiring an extremely useful skill.

I am sure that each of us would have done something a little differently if we had been solely responsible for preparing the bond proposal. I also know that the long range planning committees, the board of education, and the Administration worked long and hard to come up with a proposal that does a good job of addressing the needs of the school district.

I urge each member of the community to consider the needs and the proposal, and I hope you will join me in voting "yes".

Jim Schwab

Glenmont

Bond vote opponent clarifies the record

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to express my thanks to all of the people who contacted me in support of my letter last week in *The Spotlight* ("Cadillac computers") With this kind of support for a "no" vote on the Dec. 13 Bethlehem school bond issue, the taxpayers may be saved from millions of dollars of ill-advised spending at a time when we should be focusing on only the essential items.

I would like only to expand on one item in the letter. Dr. Loomis, the Bethlehem School Superintendent, referred to my letter in his discussion with Hamagrael parents on Wednesday as having "discrepancies throughout," and stated that the tax increase was not 6.6 percent but rather 5.5 percent and that the proposed bond would not take the tax increase to 9.0 percent, as I claimed in my letter.

For the record, the actual tax increase this year, both approved and proposed, are as follows. The first three, totaling 6.6 percent, were already approved in June. The last is being voted on now: The tax increases are as follows:

The 1995-96 operating budget (6/95) is 0.88/mil or 5.5 percent of tax; the \$850K technology bond (6/95) is 0.13/mil or 0.8

percent of tax; the \$311K school bus bond (6/95) is 0.05/mil or 0.3 percent of tax; and the \$14.6M general bond (12/95) is 0.40/mil or 2.4 percent of tax.

This represents the total percentage of taxes authorized in 1995 at 9.0 percent. It is true that the voters will not have to start paying the second and third taxes until next year, and will not see the full 0.4/mil of the last until the third year. This is similar to buying a refrigerator now and not having the first payment until next April. The packaging may make the expense look more appealing, but the money is gone, no matter how you look at it.

Tom Davidson

Slingerlands

Editor's Note: In responding to the above letter, Bethlehem Central School District Assistant Superintendent Franz Zwicklbauer said the proposed bond to be voted on Dec. 15, represents at the highest, an increase of 1.4 percent in taxes instead of the 2.4 percent increase stated in Mr. Davidson's letter. This 1.4 increase will be attained in the school year 1999-2000 because, Mr. Zwicklbauer said, some old bonds will be paid off during this period while new bonds will be added to the district's debt on a gradual basis.

Voter says reclaim Delmar School

Editor, The Spotlight:

This letter is to question the proposed \$14.8 million bond issue coming up for voter approval on Dec. 13, 1995.

I wonder if enough consideration has been given to the concept of reclaiming the former Delmar School (now town hall) before proceeding with new construction at Slingerlands.

The cost of refurbishing the former Delmar School has got to be less than the cost of adding six new kindergarten classrooms to the Slingerland School.

In addition to the cost savings, this would allow the realignment of our kindergarten through sixth grade school age population as it was before when the Delmar School was part of our building inventory and permit our youngsters to attend their own schools.

Also, this would avoid the long commute of our kindergartners and the potential

problems of concentrating all kindergarten classrooms at Slingerland School.

Before incurring additional debt, let's make absolutely sure

that all options have been fully examined.

Name submitted

Delmar

Resident pleased with bond issue presentation

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 29, I attended a meeting at Hamagrael School to hear a presentation on the Bethlehem Central School District's proposed bond issue of \$15 million.

As a retiree, I have become increasingly concerned about the escalating school taxes and high salaries paid to employees of our school district. So I went to learn and to hear a discussion of the issues.

I was not disappointed. There was a very informative presentation of the district's needs for more classrooms at all grade levels, maintenance repairs, updating of computer and tech-

nical equipment and an innovative kindergarten program.

I became aware of how much time had been given to find a solution to our rapidly increasing school population, by the citizens' advisory committee as well as the elected school board members. We owe them a vote of thanks. There has been extensive discussion of alternative solutions to the overcrowding.

These include: schools which operate 12 months of the year, building a new middle school on high school property, adding rooms to each elementary school and other proposals.

The current bond issue to be voted on Dec. 13 is the result of all these deliberations. My only complaints about the meeting was the poor turnout. Board members, staff and teachers were there. But where were the residents and taxpayers? The

schools need input from all residents whether we agree or not.

Yes, I also learned the bond issue could result in a \$41 annu-

al increase in my school taxes for the next 20 years.

Wallace Lornell

Delmar

A search for BCHS 1966 classmates begins

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Bethlehem Central Class of 1966 is planning its 30-year reunion for the weekend of June 28, 29, and 30 of 1996.

The class is trying to locate the following fellow classmates: Kathryn Bohrmann, James Boone, Kitty Brewster, Michael Buchanan, John Bylsma, Malcolm Carlton, Janys Dillenback, John Frone, Charles Geel, Judy Hazeldon, Dean Hyde, Michael Jones, Pauline Katchmar, Barbara Lantz, Gabriella Lopez, Constance

Margison, Joseph Marotta, Delores Peavoy, Jan Prichard, Jill Roth, Martina Stelle, Susan Sutter, and Nancy Weisenburn.

Anyone with information on the above listed people or anyone wishing to help with planning please call Robert Laraway 439-0176, Richard or Anita Dunn 587-9476.

Or contact Jeff Gardner at 439-2212 or Ellen (Micki) Hofaker Ahl at 439-7039.

E. Micki Ahl

Feura Bush

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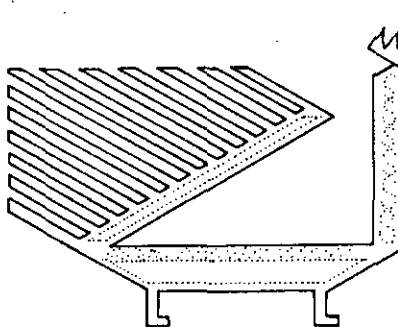
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Your Opinion Matters

Computers necessity not luxury for competitive students

Editor, The Spotlight:

I feel compelled to respond to Tom Davidson's letter printed in *The Spotlight* of Nov. 29.

Several points are raised in that letter that should concern the community. However, the issues are muddled by the presentation of incomplete information.

The desktop computers purchased have been very reasonably priced (about \$2,000) machines, not top-of-the-line luxury models. These computers were chosen for their multimedia capabilities, ease of operation and lower support costs.

The peripherals, such as printers and modems, were also chosen for their reliability and durability. Software has been carefully evaluated, and programs with the widest utility have been chosen. Any computer owner knows that software costs are not trivial, particularly on new systems.

Other expenses that contribute significantly to the per-machine cost are overlooked by most people, however. Putting computers in the classroom is pointless unless the teachers know how to use them. Thus, staff development has been factored into the cost of the machines.

It does cost money for the in-

service training, materials, substitute teachers, etc. This expense has already paid off: the teachers, many of whom had no experience with computers, have made very effective use of the computers in the short time they have been in the classrooms. These necessary training costs are not insignificant and are also included in the current bond proposal.

Where do the computers go? This is not a trivial question in classrooms that are already crowded. Each computer must be provided with a sturdy cart that can hold the computer, printer, power strip, and provide enough space for students to sit. Furniture is not as glamorous as computers, but is necessary and also costs money.

Is the district spending too much for all this? Ask a business how much it costs to provide an employee with a complete workstation, software, and training. I think you'll find that the district compares quite favorably.

Davidson suggests that these computers are "amenities" that we cannot afford. I would argue that they are necessities that we cannot afford to do without.

Computers are everywhere in today's world. There are very few jobs that have no contact at all with computers. Even a purely utilitarian view of education

Letters

would demand that we provide our children with the tools and experience they will need to compete successfully in the job market of tomorrow.

But meeting this need, in Mr. Davidson's view, must await further commercial development within the school district. As he correctly points out, enrollment has increased faster than the tax base. This is the result of development choices the town has

made. I agree that there must be coordination between town government and the school district to redress the imbalance.

Do we really want to hold our children's future hostage, awaiting a resolution of this essentially political question? Davidson also correctly notes that the character of Bethlehem largely rests on the excellent reputation of our schools.

I agree. In fact, when my family moved to New York three years ago, we chose Bethlehem because of the quality of the schools.

Unfortunately, we've already

seen the effects of belt-tightening, with class sizes increasing and programs being cut.

If our schools decline, what will happen to our property values and our sense of community? Even people without children in our schools should appreciate this point.

We are not dealing with luxuries, but essentials. I strongly urge the voters of the Bethlehem Central School District to support the bond issue and approve it on Dec. 13.

Steve Hughes

Delmar

Ex-board member all for school tax

Editor, The Spotlight:

Assemblyman, Robert Prentiss, in his Nov. 19 Point of View article, vastly oversimplifies a serious problem, the ever increasing cost of education and the resultant increases in school property taxes. His proposed "School Property Tax Limitation Act" is unrealistic and will not achieve the results he claims for it.

Prentiss states that in the Rockefeller days the state and localities split education costs about 50/50. This year state aid pays 23 percent of Bethlehem Central's costs, leaving 77 percent to the local taxpayers. And in the intervening years, the state has imposed many new mandates on local school districts.

While most of these added requirements address legitimate needs, the increase in state aid to fund them has been either negligible or nonexistent. This has occurred on top of percentage decreases in state aid generally. Both factors have resulted in significant additional local tax burdens.

Prentiss' proposed legislation, at least how he described it, makes no provision for the increased costs resulting from increases in school enrollment. It is a fact that new home construction results in bigger increases in education costs

than the resultant percentage increase in total assessments—our tax base. And Bethlehem has a constant increase in home construction.

Prentiss calls for more state support of education. With the state facing a \$5 billion budget deficit his proposals are a pipe dream.

During the 10 years I was privileged to serve on the Bethlehem Central school board (1971-81) many times people would tell me: "I voted against the school budget not because I think that you people are not doing a good job, but because it is the only place where I can vote against taxes."

Why are school budgets the only ones submitted to voter approval? Why not also town and county taxes, which also impact real estate taxes? Or, the state budget, with its income and sales taxes? Let's level the playing field, so that voters can express their concerns at the appropriate level, rather than all concerns on the school budget vote.

That does not mean that school boards and administrators should not be as conscientious as possible in controlling costs. They have a selfish interest in that regard.

As I often told people when they complained about a pro-

posed budget with a tax increase that when the board proposed such a budget they were proposing to increase their own taxes also. After all, the board consists of fellow taxpayers.

Finally, we must remember that having a quality school system helps to keep our community attractive, and thus protects the value of our homes.

And those of us, who no longer have children in our schools are helping to pay for the education of the next generation, just as we were helped when our children were in our schools.

Bertold E. Weinberg

Elsmere

Letters policy

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 and length. All letters must carry the writer's signature, address and phone numbers.

Write to Letters to the Editor, The Spotlight, 125 Adams Street, Delmar NY 12054. Letters may be faxed to 439-0609.

Fire victims express thanks for assistance

Editor, The Spotlight:

The residents, owners and managers of Feura Bush Senior Apartments would like to express their sincere appreciation to all of the wonderful individuals who helped us during the recent fire at the apartments.

We don't even know the names of many of those who gave so much to make sure the residents were safe and comfortable.

A special thanks to the members of the Onesquethaw Fire

Department and Ambulance Squad for their superb efforts, to the assistance provided by the Delmar firefighters and the Elsmere Fire Department, to Pat and Jim Shultes for their quick actions in an emergency and to Charlie and Ann Houghtaling for arranging for the temporary comfort of the residents.

This was a frightening experience that was made enduring with the help of many remarkable people.

Anne Patnode

Voorheesville

Holiday Wonderland

AT THE GARDEN SHOPPE



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Matters of Opinion

Concerned resident challenges teachers' salary burden

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Nov. 13, at a board of education meeting at the Voorheesville Junior/Senior High School, I responded to remarks by Dick Freyer in a hostile manner.

To Freyer, the board of education and to those in attendance, I wish to apologize for my improper demeanor. I assure them it will not occur again.

I do wish, however, to comment on Freyer's remarks concerning imagined penalization by lower wages because of

where one resides.

Concerning a burden teachers are being forced to shoulder because they teach here, I would remind him that most people (including many teachers) believe the salary schedule is pretty darn good. It is especially so after the last contract which provided an unheard of 28.79 percent increase over three years.

Furthermore, it would be difficult to imagine that a thing called job security could be a burden. For example, a defeated

budget does not bring with it layoffs, lost time, bumping down, give backs, furloughs or lag pay. The paycheck is still issued.

Couple this with a thing called tenure and the educational community has job security that has no peer. That kind of security is one any work force would give their eyeteeth for.

As if that's not enough, only 100 percent of health insurance cost is being demanded—apparently the 10 percent paid by the teachers is a burden.

Letters

Another faculty member flatly stated in a letter recently that this district can afford all the demands put forth.

This is nothing short of arrogance.

This district is wealthy on paper. As a result, our state aid has plummeted to approximately 30 percent, putting an increased financial burden on district residents.

There are some households that do have combined incomes in the high five and into six figures.

That's fine, and no doubt they have earned it. The greater majority of district residents, however, do not, and the decrease in state aid has become a considerable burden.

As long as the demands of the union leadership continues to place the teaching community over and above the economic mainstream that the rest of us have to deal with, the gap between the teaching community and the community at large will never narrow.

Teachers deserve a raise, but not by twice the rate of increase of the mainstream.

Boards of education across this state are starting to dig in against a union that has become powerful, overly demanding, wealthy and arrogant.

History tells us unions, because of that arrogance, reach a zenith and begin to decline due in part to that arrogance. This teachers' union is no exception.

The Voorheesville board should be acknowledged for their steadfastness to this point. I'm confident this board will stand fast and be governed by mainstream economics. To do otherwise would not be acceptable to the community at large.

Let us not repeat the mistakes of the last contract.

William L. Childs

Voorheesville

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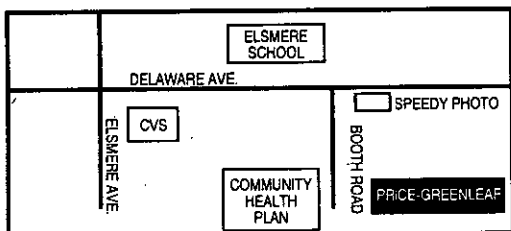
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Your Opinion Matters

Projects improve school landscape

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Climate Committee is very proud of the work that went into the landscaping of the middle school by the students, parents, faculty and the community of Bethlehem Central Middle School.

Now in its seventh year, the Climate Committee is dedicated to improving the school environment both inside and out.

The committee consists of teachers and parents and works each year to raise funds through the spring craft fair to support various projects throughout the school.

The committee began with the goal of improving the landscaping in front of the school, and over the past four years, the dream has become a reality. With the help of Jerry Jonas, owner of the Garden Shoppe, a landscape plan was created and the trees and shrubs were plant-

Letters

ed. This past spring the beds were again turned and mulched and marigolds planted which are just now fading. This fall, trees and shrubs were planted in front of two classrooms in the relocatable. Again, the funding came from craft fair proceeds.

Students participate greatly in making the craft fair a success and therefore improve the atmosphere of their learning environment. In addition to landscaping, the money raised at the craft fair is used to sponsor student generated projects within the school such as the restoration of the eighth grade hall with murals and repainting of lockers.

Planting projects have been designed and completed by students with growth monitored as

part of and ongoing math project.

Although the front landscape project is largely complete, the problem of ongoing maintenance is potentially costly and one of our main concerns. With help, the maintenance of the beds will allow our gardens to continue to bloom and our school to be an attractive and inviting place.

The Climate Committee welcomes the participation of parents and other members of the community who would like to join us in maintaining the beauty of our school. Interested individuals may contact Barbara Talmage at the middle school.

The Climate Committee

Parents: Barbara Burt,

Cindy Stambach

Teachers: Karen Eson,

Edward Gill, Barbara Talmage.
Bethlehem

N. Scotland to hear reform package

Editor, The Spotlight:

With the election in New Scotland behind us, the time is fast approaching for our newly-elected representatives to assume leadership roles and to bring us the good government that has been lacking.

To do this, they will need the support of the citizenry, untainted by political motivation. As hard as it may be for some party stalwarts to believe, there are many people in this town who are more interested in the issues than in whether one is a registered Democrat or Republican, or in the politically-motivated "deal-making" that seems to pervade many local level decisions.

With this in mind, New Scotland Citizens for Better

Government will be presenting a three-part reform package at the December town board meeting.

It will include suggestions for an improved process for selecting individuals for vacancies in town government, improvements in the preparation and distribution of the town's agenda for board meetings to facilitate decision-making, and a code of conduct governing behavior at board meetings, in an effort to restore order and respect during proceedings. This code, of course, should apply equally to members of the board and the people in the audience.

Karen B. Moreau, Co-chairperson, New Scotland Citizens for Better Government

New Scotland

'Tantrum letter' author responds

Editor, The Spotlight:

The letter in your newspaper from Judi Von Ronne, chairperson of the New Scotland Republican Committee called my letter asking for a reorganization of the Democratic and Republican parties in New Scotland a "tantrum letter."

It is obvious she has taken a defensive position regarding my comments that both the Republican and the Democratic parties in New Scotland need to reorganize and represent once again all of the enrolled votes of both parties.

She obviously is bitter over the defeat of the Republican candidate for town supervisor and feels a need to personally lash out at someone like myself who has taken the time to listen to the people of New Scotland and what matters to them, regardless of what political party affiliation they may have.

Her theory that if you don't like the message then kill the messenger, will not work any more in New Scotland.

The tone of Mrs. Von Ronne's letter indicates to me that the residents of New

Scotland are in for a long two years of meetings and more attempts to sabotage any type of progress that the sitting town board after Jan. 1 will try to achieve.

I can only hope that the recently elected town board members will see past this agenda and stand firm by the commitment that they made to the voters who elected them and which they outlined in their responses to the questionnaire that they answered for New Scotland Citizens for Better Government.

Their message was very clear. They will not tolerate any more of the circus-like town board meetings that the residents of New Scotland have been experiencing over the past

years, and they will represent all of the people.

What I proposed in my letter was very simple. Enrolled Republicans and Democrats in New Scotland need to send a very clear message to their leadership no matter who it may be.

If their leaders can't see beyond their own wounds that they are still licking and stop the bickering, they should step down from their positions and make way for someone who can.

The voters of New Scotland deserve better than what has been offered over the past few years, and they should insist on getting it.

Joseph M. Cotazino Jr.

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Singing groups to perform at church

A holiday concert, featuring two Bethlehem singing groups, is set for Friday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Slingerlands Community Methodist Church on 1499 New Scotland Road.

The Friendship Singers and the Sound System Singers will perform in a Winter Music Concert.

The Friendship Singers, established in 1981, is a group of 16 area women who sing and dance in concerts for organizations and nursing homes throughout the Capital District. Their portion of the concert will feature favorite seasonal selections.

One presentation, "A Special Night," will be performed along with sign language interpretation provided by Jane Conklin, a speech and hearing therapist and charter Friendship Singer. Directors for this concert are Sue Pierce, Elaine Bird and Marie Liddle.

The Sound System Singers of Bethlehem Central High School is a group of 20 auditioned students. Sound System specializes in jazz, madrigal and contemporary styles of music. The students are auditioned to allow those with competitive and professional aspirations in music to fine-tune their musical gifts and training in chamber choir singing.

The group which includes several All-State choir members, also



Members of the Sound System Singers from BCHS include: First row from left, Tessy Nedy and Kim Harvey; second row, Elizabeth Marvin, Kathryn Lange and Andrea Kachidurian; and third row, Nicholas Berry, Matthew Simons and John Kuta.

performs at a variety of organizational events. Director is Joseph Farrell, who has directed BCHS choral groups since 1973.

For a musical evening of song, all members of the community and

general public are cordially invited to attend. Donations of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children under 12, will benefit the Bethlehem Food Pantry and the Albany United Methodist Society.

For information, contact Dolores Johnson at the church office, 439-1766.

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Tim Barrett



Delmar post office extends holiday hours

The Delmar post office is gearing up for another busy holiday mailing season. To keep the mail flowing smoothly during this high-volume period, the post office has implemented special transportation and mail-processing programs to meet the increased holiday needs.

The office has also added special retail services to make sure customers are served in the most efficient manner.

On Saturdays, Dec. 9 and 16, window hours have been extended from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On Sundays, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17, window hours will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Bank turns down offer from Manning for deli

Albany restaurateur John Manning just has no luck when it comes to opening a business in Bethlehem.

His bid for the former Back Home Buffet & Bakery at 55 Delaware Ave. has been rejected by the property's owner—the Sanwa Bank from Japan.

Manning had planned to turn the facility into a banquet hall/catering service. The building has been vacant since 1993 when the short-lived enterprise started by the building's former, John Hodgkinson of Clifton Park, went belly up.

Manning said he was willing to sink money into renovating the structure, which has deteriorated and been vandalized over the past two years. But the Japanese bank, negotiating through a local realtor and attorney turned him down.

"I'm disappointed," Manning said. "I thought we made a reasonable offer considering the building's condition." The property is currently assessed at about \$350,000.

Manning, a resident of Glenmont, said he has no plans at this time to make another offer or to look for another site in the town. "Right now we're too busy right here (in Albany) to think of anything else."

Manning has run a successful banquet hall and catering service on South Allen Street in Albany since 1987.

His application to convert a two-story residence at the corner of Rural Place and Delaware Avenue was rejected by the town planning board earlier this year after considerable opposition was mounted by the residents of Rural Place.

The former Back Home Buffet was the latest in a long string of eateries that have operated at 55 Delaware Ave.

Mel Hyman

SPAC beginning membership drive

The Saratoga Performing Arts Center has started its 1996 membership drive with the announcement that its three resident companies—the New York City Opera, the New York City Ballet and the Philadelphia Orchestra—will be maintaining their full residencies next summer.

Membership levels begin at \$50 for individuals and \$225 for corporations. Various benefits for preferred parking, half-price classical tickets and other courtesies are available.

For information call SPAC at 584-9330.

Delmar attorney joins Albany law firm

Esther C. Stein of Delmar recently joined the Albany law firm of Burke and Casserly, where she will specialize in estate planning, elder law and financial/investment planning.

Family affair



Gail VanAlstyne, looks on, while her daughter Rachel, shows cousin Crystal one of the programs on the Bethlehem Middle School's new computers.

Doug Persons

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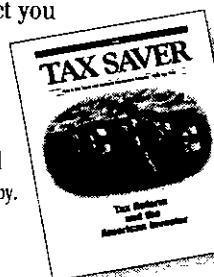
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Voorheesville school concerts begin tonight

The Voorheesville school music department has announced the schedule for this month's concerts.

Tonight, Dec. 6, is the elementary school's winter concert. The chorus and sixth-grade band will perform. The program starts at 7:30 p.m. in the large gymnasium.

The high school's wind ensemble and chorale will perform in the concourse lobby of the Empire State Plaza on Monday, Dec. 11, from noon to 1 p.m., as part of the Holiday Potpourri concert series.

The high school's winter concert is set for Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the school. The program features the chorale, wind ensemble, symphonic band and stage band.

On Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. the junior high school chorus and both the seventh and eighth grade

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville

Elizabeth
Conniff-Dineen
765-2813



bands will present their winter concert.

The community is invited to these free events. Plan to arrive early for the best seating.

Kiwanis selling trees and wreaths

The Kiwanis Club of New Scotland is selling Christmas trees and holiday wreaths next to the SuperValu market on Maple Avenue until Sunday, Dec. 10.

Trees cost \$20 and wreaths \$12. Entertainment books, Dine-A-Mate books and McDonald's gift certificates are also being sold.

All proceeds support youth activities and community programs.

For information, call Bob Stapf at 765-2451.

Special vote slated on town hall addition

On Tuesday, Dec. 12, a special election will be held to approve a bond issue for construction of an addition to the New Scotland town hall. The cost of the addition and other renovations is \$298,953.

Polling places in all eight districts will be open from noon to 9 p.m. All residents of the town of New Scotland who are registered voters are entitled to vote.

Anyone with questions can call the town hall at 439-4865.

Garden club plans craft workshop and social

The Helderview Garden Club's holiday craft workshop and Christmas social is planned for Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. Club members will make miniature boxwood trees for the holidays.

The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State recently recognized the Helderview Garden Club as an outstanding club for 1995.

New members are always welcome. Contact Ivy Brockley at 765-2108.

Fire fighters conducting annual calendar drive

Please support the Voorheesville Volunteer Fire Department's annual calendar drive. Do-

nations can be sent to PO Box 525, Voorheesville, 12186.

Anyone residing in the village of Voorheesville who would like to join the fire department should stop by the firehouse any Tuesday night at 7 p.m. or contact any current member.

Appeals board to meet

Voorheesville's zoning board of appeals meets tonight, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at the village hall on Voorheesville Avenue.

Town board announces Dec. 11 meeting

The New Scotland town board meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. at the town hall on Route 85. The next meeting of the town planning board is on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.

School board sets monthly meeting

The school board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the large group instruction room at the high school.

Club sponsoring pressure clinic

The Kiwanis Club sponsored blood pressure clinic is on Tuesday, Dec. 12, from 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville on Maple Avenue.

Delmar's Rose Gallery to host holiday mixer

The Rose Gallery, located at 318 Delaware Ave. in Delmar, will host a holiday mixer on Wednesday, Dec. 13, from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Holiday refreshments will be served.


Reservations should be made no later than Dec. 11. For information or reservations, call 439-0512.

St. James pupils to host book sale

Eighth-grade pupils at St. James School on Summit Avenue in Albany will host a book sale on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

They are currently seeking donations of used books for the sale. Proceeds from the event will be used for the purchase of instructional materials.

Donations can be left at the school office or a pick-up can be arranged by calling the school at 465-1973.



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Home

(From Page 1)

suggests giving a gift certificate from the shelter instead. A stuffed cat or dog might sweeten the gift opening for the children, who can later go to the shelter and pick out the real article.

Holidays are hectic and younger animals are especially prone to accidents. And, Clancy added most of the animals that are returned to the shelter, are those adopted as gifts. It's far better to bring an animal into a home under more normal circumstances, after the holidays are over, she said. "I know how many animals we get back after Christmas. It's hard, I'd rather have people who want to adopt come in after Christmas," she said.

And although, the cost of adopt-



One of the older dogs at the shelter who is up for adoption.

ing a pet is relatively low, \$20 for kittens, \$15 to \$20 for cats, \$42.50 for puppies and \$37.50 to \$57.50 for adult dogs, prospective owners should be aware of the fact that the buck does not stop after the animal leaves the shelter. The fees the Humane Society collects for the animals are used to defer costs of spaying and neutering that is shared by a number of local veterinarians and by the owners.

In addition, participating veterinarians will give new pet owners a discount for having the pets altered as well as a reduced price for an initial examination. While they are at the shelter, all animals are checked by a veterinarian.

But routine health checkups and booster shots are a lifelong necessity for pets.

But until a cat or dog is adopted, the Humane Society staff does its utmost to make life as "normal" as possible for the animals in its care.

The facility itself has undergone a makeover since Phil Gara assumed the directorship, and the staff is eager to continue making it even better, Duncan said.

One new amenity, thanks to an anonymous donor, is a puppy room, devoted strictly to the younger animals.

Also on the shelter agenda is computerizing information to better match owners with animals, Duncan said.

"We're here to get the animals adopted. ... it's why we exist to care for the animals," he said.

The Humane Society on Oakland Avenue, just off Broadway, is

open from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 10 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. on Thursdays and from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Saturdays. The public is always welcome and is especially invited to the annual Christmas party for the animals on Friday, Dec. 22. Up until that time a collection box for Toys for Tots, sponsored by Coldwell Banker and the Marine Corps, is at the shelter.

Shelter representatives will be at the Latham Circle Mall to earn money for its fund drive on Mondays, Dec. 11 and 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. for pet pictures with Santa.

For information or to make a contribution, call the shelter at 434-8128.

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Fire company to host annual children's party

The Selkirk Fire Co. No. 3 in South Bethlehem will host its annual children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the firehouse.

Children from the South Bethlehem area up to 10 years of age are welcome. Jay Alan Gorham will present feats of magic, and Sugar and Spice the clowns will

NEWS NOTES

Selkirk
South Bethlehem
Linda Marshall
756-3520



entertain. Four elves, Beth Ann Filkins, Kim Brown, Amanda Gager and Amber Ryan will hand out candy.

Santa will visit and bring a gift for each child.

Students tuning up for music concerts

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., fourth-graders at Becker School will present an evening of musical entertainment.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. the Middle School Music Concert will take place at the senior high school auditorium.

The public is welcome to attend.

PTO sponsors 'Holiday Shop'

The Pieter B. Coeymans PTO is sponsoring a "Holiday Shop" at the school on Friday Dec. 8, from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Come and buy some holiday goodies and benefit the school at the same time.

Honor students participate in Equinox dinner

For the fourth year in a row, students from the RCS National

Honor Society gathered at the Knickerbocker Arena to prepare Thanksgiving food for the annual Equinox dinner.

The RCS group was the largest school group who participated.

Thanks go out to: Richard Byerwaters, Sarah Collins, James Gierham, Danielle Hummel, Sarah Janssen, Steve LaFontain, Mae Lincoln, Sharon Lyons, Stacy Milburn, Lisa Pietropaoli, Tracy Turner, Robin Best, Corey Blakesley, Karen Buckley, Tony Carrk, Sara Cross, John Frangella, Matt Frese, Melissa Goodman, Shaelyn Hales, Matthew Hamilton, Kevin Mastriano, Lucas McCullough, Carrie Nettuno, Robert Nieves, Ann Marie Nuite, Michael O'Connor, Laura Pietropaoli, Beth Rienti, Shana Rock, Stacy Sebert, Meghan Smith, Jessica Stanton and Megan Wilson.

Mohammad Yadegari, honor society adviser, and RCS Principal Andy DeFeo worked with the students on helping to prepare the dinner.

Freshmen collect food at November dance

Last month the RCS freshmen class held a Thanksgiving Dance. With more than 100 students attending, the freshmen not only made a profit on the dance, but collected a large amount of food for the food drive.

La Leche League to discuss nutrition

The La Leche League of Delmar, a breast-feeding support group, will hold its next meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.

The topic of the meeting will be "Nutrition and Weaning."

For information and location, call 439-5254.

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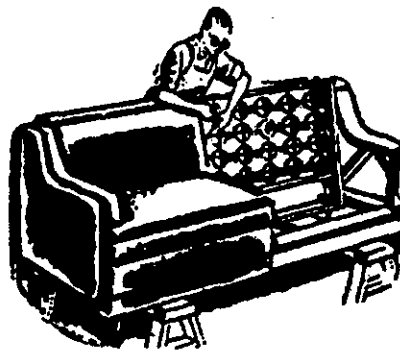
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Books to People service available to homebound

"Books to People" is a free service provided by the library for residents of the Bethlehem Central School District, who, because of a physical disability or medical condition, are unable to come to the library.

Books and other library materials are picked up and delivered every other week via the library van.

The program originated to fill

sellers at the same time as every one else," Norek said.

With that in mind, Norek has expanded the large print collection to include titles hot off the presses. This philosophy extends to the library's media department where regular acquisition of current titles on audiotape is the rule.

There is no age restriction on this service.

It can be started, stopped and restarted at any time. This is a service for permanently or temporarily disabled people only who are unable to come to the library. It is not a "foul weather" delivery service, nor can it be used to remedy lack of transportation.

As always, patrons can request that reference desk personnel look for and set aside any material that can be circulated for patron pickup at the library.

For information about Books-to-People or to request service, call the library at 439-9314.

TV-31 Bethlehem, the community's public access cable station with studios at the library, will air readings of seasonal stories on its regularly scheduled "FTV" programs this month on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 15, at 11 a.m.

Kids' films to hit the library screen

Four short children's films will be shown during a walk-in program at the Bethlehem Public Library at 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar on Friday, Dec. 1, at 10:30 a.m.

"The Princess in the Tower," "The Gingerbread Boy," "Rosie's Walk" and "King of the Cats" will be shown during the half-hour program.

For information, call the library at 439-9314.

Food pantries need help feeding hungry

Food Pantries for the Capital District, a coalition of 46 food pantries, is currently seeking help in feeding the hungry this holiday season.

For information, call 462-3459.

Grace United lists events

The Grace United Methodist Church at 16 Hillcrest Drive in Ravena has announced its schedule for the week of Dec. 7.

On Thursday, Dec. 7, the senior choir will rehearse at 7 p.m. and Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 10, Sunday school will meet at 9 a.m., followed by morning worship at 10:30 a.m. and a coffee hour at 11:30 a.m. A covered dish supper will be held at 5 p.m. The Sunday school pageant will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the Grace Ringers will rehearse at 7 p.m.

On Monday, Dec. 11, Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at 7 p.m., a Fare Share auction will take place at 7 p.m., and the Widowed Persons Support Group will meet at 7:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, Dec. 12, there will be a Worship Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, the TOPS Club will meet at 6:30 p.m., the choir will rehearse at 7 p.m., and the choir's Christmas party will begin at 8 p.m.

For information, call the church at 756-6688.

Mothers' Time Out to meet in Delmar

Mothers' Time Out, a Christian support group for mothers of preschoolers, will meet Monday, Dec. 11, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

"Faith for Children Under the Age of 5" will be the topic of the program.

Child care will be provided.

For information, contact the church at 439-9929.

Letter-writing tips on tap for youngsters

"Letter writing, Stamps and Mailboxes" will be the topic of a program for children in kindergarten through third grade on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 4 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

Space is limited. For information, contact the children's department at the library at 439-9314.

Special reception set to honor volunteers

A gala Holiday Open House is set for Sunday, Dec. 10, from 2 to 4 p.m., with a reception to honor volunteers.

If you haven't visited the "new" library building, mark this date on your calendar and stop by to see what a wonderful place your library has become.



Refreshments will be served, and members of the library board and staff along with Friends of the Library will be there to greet you.

Music for the occasion will be provided by guitarist Randy Maugher, who is as comfortable with roadhouse rhythm and blues as he is with heartfelt folk ballads.

Maugher is a trucker by day, a musician as often as possible and a real people-pleaser always. He has performed up and down the Eastern seaboard.

Every year, many people contribute to the growth and success of the library by presenting free public programming, supplying refreshments, offering expertise and consulting services, donating books and other items and volunteering their valuable time and labor. These donations benefit all of us, and we would like everyone to attend this celebration in honor of the volunteers.

At 3 p.m., the local winner of the Legacies short story contest will be announced. The winning entry will be forwarded to a national competition and be eligible for cash prizes.

All library lovers, regular patrons and just the curious are encouraged to bring friends and come on over.

On Monday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m., philatelists should flock to a program that local expert Pat Arthur will host. Bring your collection or unusual stamps to show. Arthur will discuss stamp identification, organization, and methods of collecting.

He will be happy to answer all your questions.

We are proud to say the the library was one of the most successful toy drops in last year's annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by Coldwell Banker and the Marine Corps Reserve.

Help keep this praiseworthy tradition by bringing a new unwrapped toy for the drop box, located near the circulation desk.

Your gift will brighten a child's holiday season.

Barbara Vink

Discussion to focus on Chinese art form

A discussion on the Chinese art of placement known as Feng Shui will take place on Thursday, Dec. 21, at the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

The talk, led by Jim Sande, will cover Feng Shui principles of design for both inside and outside the house. Topics will include furniture placement and the proper techniques to enliven any area of the home.

The program will start at 7:30 p.m. There is a limit of 40 attendees.

For information, call 439-9314.

AIDS council needs gift-wrapping helpers

Volunteers are currently needed to wrap books in book stores during the holiday season.

Donations will benefit the AIDS Council of Northeastern New York.

For information, contact the AIDS council at 434-4686.

Toastmasters to meet

The third meeting of the Bethlehem Toastmasters will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13, in fellowship hall at the United Methodist Church at 428 Kenwood Ave. in Delmar.

For information, contact Ray Bell at 439-0871.

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- Those who will be entering **Grades 7 and 8** are invited to take the **CBA Entrance Exam**.
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Sports

BBC season kicks off

After a brief address by league president **Marty Rowan**, the Bethlehem Basketball Club Sunday started its seventh season of providing basketball competition for fifth through eighth graders in Bethlehem. Accommodating 340 children, the league is split into four divisions, with parents volunteering as coaches, and high school students as referees.

In the NBA Division, the **Nuggets**, behind **Brian Rowan's** 12 points and **Hillary Cooley's** nine, edged the **Rockets**, 52-40. **Brendan Dalton's** 16, mostly from within the paint, led the **Magic** over the **Suns**, 29-19. **Ryan Sweeney** had four for the **losers**. **Ellen Lowery** bottled up the **Bulls** offensive effort in the **Spurs'** 41-24 victory. **Mike Mooney** threw in 15 on a variety of spinning shots for the **Bulls**. And the **Knicks** blasted the **Sonics** 48-25, with **Gordon Schmidt** and **Kevin Collen** leading the defense. **Chuck Abba** had 11 for the **Sonics**.

Carley St. Lucia netted 13, including the tying bucket with 21 seconds left in the game to help **Florida State** tie **Georgia Tech**, 35-35. **Bryan Phelps** chipped in with six in the **Seminoles'** effort, and **Matt Perazelli** had nine for the **Rambling Wreck**.

A 10-point outburst by **Mark Melcher** inspired **Clemson**, but they were defeated by **Duke**, 28-26. **Scott Tulloch** and **Chris Kasarjian** combined for 13 for the victors.

Virginia beat **Maryland**, 33-29, with **Jed Rosenkrantz** and **Sarah Warsh** causing several turnovers with tenacious defense and great floor leadership. **Colin Dwyer** had four points and a multitude of assists for the **Terps**.

North Carolina beat **Wake Forest**, 37-24. **Dan Israel** and **Josh Burnett** scored 21 for the **Tarheels**, while **Tony Berghela** had 17 in the loss.

In **Big Ten** competition, **Justin Lavelle** had 14 to lead **Northwestern** over **Wisconsin**, 37-20. **Ryan Livingston** threw in 11 in defeat. **Matt Melnikoff** had a great game rebounding, and **Matt Patry** had six in **Penn State's** 19-18 squeaker over **Minnesota**. **Chris Deitz** scored six for the **Gophers**.

Stealing the ball with less than a minute to go, **Peter Cooley** clinched a narrow 36-33 win for **Michigan** over **Ohio State**. **Noah Bacon's** penetrating drives to the basket resulted in a game-high six for the **losers**. **Pat Heenan's** 14 led **lowa** over **Michigan State**, 36-13. **Zach Gray** had five in defeat. And **Purdue** blasted **Indiana**, 42-21, with **Mark Bulger's** 17 leading the way.

A so-so start for the Eagles

By Scott Isaacs

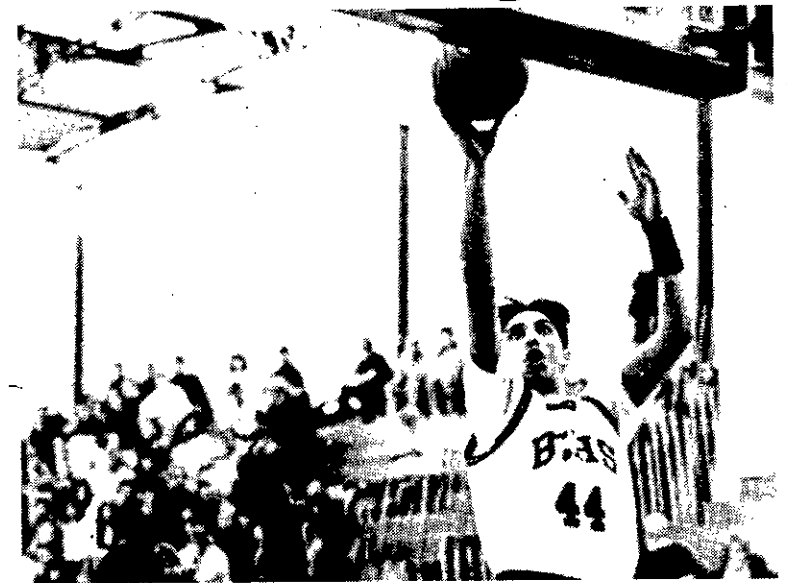
The Bethlehem varsity boys basketball team got off to a rickety start this year at the annual **Colo-nie Raider Tip-Off Tournament**.

In the opening game vs. **Gloversville**, the **Eagles** shot themselves in the foot for much of the game, going 1-9 from the line and shooting a poor 37 percent for the game.

However, the **Eagles'** defense remained solid, and they trailed by only six after three quarters.

BC could not come up with the key hoops, however, and dropped a 50-40 decision. **Scott DeFeo** was the only **Eagle** in double digits with 12 points.

In the consolation game, the **Eagles** took out their frustrations out on a hapless **Ichabod Crane** squad. **BC** dominated the game defensively, and got some additional offensive punch from **Sean Berry**, who played a solid game, netting 13 points and snatching 13



Scott DeFeo was the Eagles' top scorer against Gloversville. Doug Persons

rebounds in the 42-27 **Eagle** victory.

DeFeo excelled again this time with 19 points, six rebounds and four blocks — a performance that

garnered him **All-Tournament** honors.

Bethlehem opens its regular league season at **Mohonasen** on Friday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m.

V'ville girls resume winning ways

By Matt McKenna

The **Voorheesville** girls varsity basketball team began its regular season Friday, as the **Blackbirds** pummeled **Ravena**, 52-31.

The girls are coming off a season in which they won the **Colonial Council Section II, Class C** championship.

The **Ladybirds** are led by a core of underclassmen. Returning center **Jyll Klefbeck** is the only senior on the team.

Other returning starters include juniors **Kristin Person** and **Becky Dawson**, and sophomore

Jane Meade. With this experience, the **Blackbirds** hope to contend for the **Colonial Council** title.

Also on the team are juniors **Jen Adams**, **Erika Jackstadt**, **Natalie Portanova**, **Eva Sbardella** and sophomore **Regan Burns**.

"With the number of returning players, we look to be in good shape to contend for the league," said coach **Jack Adams**. "We have been playing well and will improve at the same pace as long as the work ethic continues stays as is."

On Friday, the team opened up a 17-5 advantage after the first quarter, and led 29-12 at the half. **Meade** and **Person** combined for 11 points in the first period. **Meade** finished with 16 points, **Dawson** with seven and **Person** with 14, including two, three-pointers, as the **Blackbirds** rolled to victory.

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RCS boys top V'ville, 75-60

By Danielle Hummel

The **Ravena-Coeysman-Selkirk** boys basketball team started off on the right foot Friday, beating **Voorheesville**, 75-60.

Ryan Manning led the scoring with 23 points.

The **Indians'** defense proved to be the key, however, as they built up a 20-1 advantage over the **Blackbirds** by the end of the first quarter.

This year's team consists of seven veterans from last year's 17-6 squad.

Coach **Bruce Stott** said his main concern this year is "making up for the offensive output of last years seniors, **Jim Dolan** and **Mike Nieves**." With this year's size, the **Indians** should be able to control the boards, and they will be strong defensively.

Manning, who was a first-team, all star last year, will be counted on to carry much of the offensive load this year.

Other key players are expected to be seniors **Adam McMullen**, **Brandt Sebring**, **Mike Sack** and junior guard **Rob Nieves**.

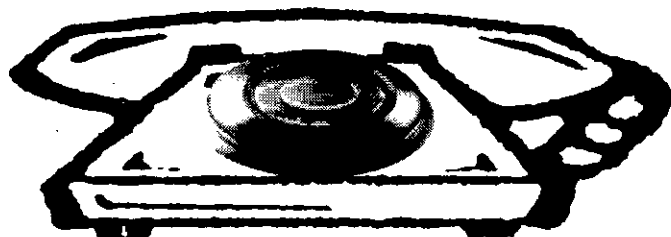
"The league is exceptionally tough this year," **Stott** said. "There are no easy games in which you can take a night off. Once you do this, you're out of contention."

The **Indians** face a tough opening schedule with trips to **Averill Park**, **Albany Academy** and **Mechanicville**, while hosting **Schalmont**.

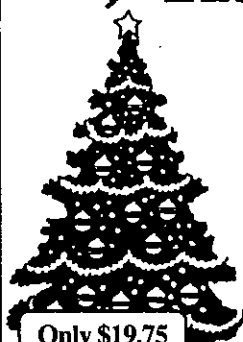
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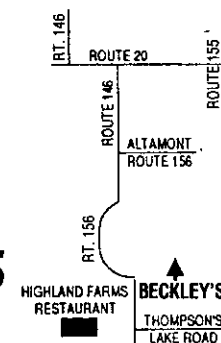
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Cosmos 2nd in Turkey tourney

The Bethlehem Cosmos Under-10 boys soccer team finished second in the Clifton Park Soccer Club's Thanksgiving Weekend Indoor Soccer Classic held at the Charbonneau Recreation Center in Round Lake.

The tournament was comprised of eight teams divided into two divisions. The Cosmos lost their first two games of regular play to teams from Clifton Park and Amsterdam.

"The game against the (Clifton Park) Bullets was close," said coach **Jeff Gonzalez**. "They pulled ahead in the last few minutes of the game."

In their third tournament game, the Cosmos tied the Valley Blazers 3-3. The Cosmos had the lead with two minutes remaining when the Blazers tied the game. The Cosmos finished fourth in their division and were forced to play the winner of the second division, the Clifton Park Aces, who were undefeated in their division.

The Cosmos shocked the Aces, defeating them 2-0. "We needed to play more of a man-to-man de-

Soccer

fense and be more aggressive offensively" said Gonzalez, "and that's exactly what the kids did, preventing the Aces from any scoring opportunities."

Outstanding defensive efforts were put forth by **Luke Sullivan** and **Jamie Collins**, while **Matt Kidd** earned the shutout for the Cosmos in goal.

In the semifinals, the Cosmos were to again face the Valley Blazers. Two minutes into overtime against the Blazers, the Cosmos' **Matt Narode** stole the ball and scored the winning goal.

Immediately following the semifinal game, the Cosmos faced Amsterdam in the finals. Amsterdam defeated the Cosmos 5-1.

"All and all, we played well, better than I had anticipated," Gonzalez said.

There were six new players added to his team this year and only seven returning. "This was the first time they all played or-

ganized together," said Gonzalez. "The lack of indoor practice showed, especially in the first round of play and in the last game when the kids had to play back-to-back games without much of a break. Overall, I feel second place isn't a bad way to begin our indoor season."

Narode was the Cosmos' scoring leader for the tournament with nine goals. Also contributing on offense were Kidd, Collins and **Stephen Strait**.

Assists came from Sullivan, **Kyle Batchelor**, **Philip Kovac**, **Chris McGann** and **David Brewster**. Both Brewster and Kidd made several saves in goal for the Cosmos.

Road Runners slate winter series of races

The Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club will kick off its Winter Series road races on Sunday, Dec. 10, with runs of five and 15 kilometers.

The race entry fee is \$2 for HMRRC members and \$3 for non-members.

Delmar players 3rd in the nation

Three Delmar residents, **Mike Hampton**, **John Nyilis** and **Walt Gould**, were members of the men's 4.0 team from Schenectady that placed third in the United States Tennis Association National Championships recently staged in Tuscon, Ariz.

Others on the team include **Lynn McConchie** of Ballston Spa, **Chris Carpenter** of Castleton, **George Werle** of Gloversville, **Tom Czaplicki** of Clifton Park, **Pete Howard** of Albany, **Tom Savchik** of Troy, **Chuck Snow** of Rensselaer, **Todd Schwende-**

man of Berne and **Dennis Buckley** of Albany.

Nyilis, who has been cross-country coach at Bethlehem Central High School for the past 34 years, said "For the three of us from Delmar, this was the highlight of our tennis careers. There were literally hundreds of thousands of players involved in this from the beginning."

Called the Hamptons, after team captain Hampton, the men began their journey to the Nationals by defeating Utica's 4.0 team to represent the Northern section of New York. The team then progressed to the USTA State Championships in Syracuse, where they

won the state championship and qualified for the Nationals with wins over teams from the Buffalo area, the Westchester County area, Long Island and New York City sections.

In the opening round of the Nationals, the Schenectady-based men's team scored a Cinderella victory over Hawaii.

Finishing with a 2-1 round robin record, the team advanced to the semifinals on the third and final day, losing 3-2 to the eventual national champions, Utah.

In their final match, the Hamptons defeated Northern California (San Francisco), 3-2, to finish third in the nation.

Soccer club signups

The New Scotland Soccer Club will hold registration for its spring travel season at Voorheesville High School on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to noon.

A copy of the player's birth certificate and a photo that can be mounted on an ID card are needed along with a registration fee. For information, call 765-2518.

Pop Warner to meet

Bethlehem Pop Warner will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the Bethlehem Town Hall at 7 p.m.

For information call Michael Frangella at 455-7655.

La Salle to raffle off Corvette convertible

The Parents' Club of La Salle Institute will raffle off a 1974 red Corvette convertible during the school's upcoming classic car raffle.

The drawing for the car will be held Jan. 19 during the La Salle vs. Christian Brothers Academy basketball game at La Salle.

The vehicle is in excellent condition. Tickets are \$5 apiece or five for \$20. Tickets are available at La Salle Institute, 174 Williams Road in Troy; Jack's Drive-Inn on Main Avenue in Wynantskill; and at all Ted's Fish Fry locations.

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Dolphins visit Shaker

A group of 25 Delmar Dolphins swimmers made their way to Shaker High School recently to take part in the 11th annual Pilgrim's Pride Swim Meet.

In the opening event, **Beth Malinowski** swam to a second place finish in the senior girls 500 freestyle. She also had a third place finish in the 100 free style. Eleven-year-old **Sarah Roman** swam in the senior girls 500 freestyle, 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle and achieved personal best times.

Andrea Myers had a 10th-place finish in the 100 backstroke and 11th place in the 100 butterfly. **Jessica Parker** was seventh in the 100 freestyle. **Sarah Gold** had personal bests in the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly. The senior girls relay made up of Malinowski, Myers, Parker and Gold had a second-place finish in the 400 freestyle.

In the senior boys category, **Reid Putnam** was third in the 500 freestyle with a new meet record. He also finished fifth in the 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle events. **Brian Stricker** finished ninth in the 500 freestyle.

Thirteen-year-old **Tom Roman** swam in the 500 senior freestyle and 200 IM with seventh place finishes. He was also ninth in the 100 freestyle. **Andrew Wilsey** was 13th in the 100 breaststroke, and had a personal best time in the 100 freestyle.

In the eight-and-under girls, **Emily Malinowski** won the 100 IM and finished fourth in the 25 backstroke and fifth in the 25 butterfly. In the boys eight-and-under, **Michael Roman** came in fifth in the 25 breaststroke. **Gregory Blendell** had personal bests in the 25 freestyle and 25 breaststroke. His brother **Steven** had a personal best in the 25 freestyle.

In the 9 and 10-year-old boys, **Ricky Grant** had a personal best in the 100 IM with a fourth-place finish. He also was second in the 50 backstroke, fourth in the 50 freestyle and fifth in the 50 butterfly. **James Traylor** had three personal bests in the 50 backstroke, 50 freestyle and 50 breaststroke. He was also 10th in the 100 IM.

Scott Solomon had a personal best in the 50 breaststroke and **Michael Blendell** had personal bests in the 100 IM and 50 freestyle.

In the girls nine and 10-year-old division, **Hannah Gold** achieved a personal best, while **Kathleen Hart** was seventh in the 50 backstroke and 11th in the 50 butterfly with a personal best in the 50 breaststroke.

In the 11 and 12-year-old boys division, **Bobby Crow** finished second in the 50 breaststroke and fourth in the 100 IM and 100 freestyle.

For the girls in the same age division, **Melanie Hill** was third in the 50 backstroke. **Becky Corson** finished ninth in the 50 breaststroke. **Katie Wilsey** had personal bests in the 100 IM and 50 breaststroke. **Katie Richardson** had personal bests in the 50 backstroke and 50 breaststroke.

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Nuke

(From Page 1)

Husband. "It's not on Conrail property anymore."

Husband declined to comment further.

Mackay said he spotted the rail car from a distance on Thursday afternoon — it reportedly arrived at the rail yards at about 4 a.m. on that day — and watched as the car was switched from a Conrail line to a Delaware & Hudson train.

It was not hard to spot the shipment, he said. "It's one of the most distinctive rail cars you'll see. It's a low bed flat car with a Department of Defense plate on the side. It's about 60 feet long and there is a stainless steel and lead cask on top that is about 15 feet high."

Mackay said no one in Bethlehem or Albany County would have been ready to respond in the event of an accident, and a possible disaster would have been much harder to control.

"Our office did not receive a call from Conrail," said Terry Ryan, director of the county Office of Emergency Management. "It would have been nice to know so that we could have been aware of it."

At the same time, Ryan continued, "If (the waste) was being shipped according to federal standards, then the danger would have been as minimal as humanly possible."

John Brennan, emergency management coordinator for the town of Bethlehem, which has a disaster preparedness plan in place in case of spills or accidents, also said he was not apprised of the shipment.

Bethlehem Police Chief Richard LaChappelle said he understood it was not that unusual for a shipment of this type to be shipped through the town since the Selkirk rail yards are a major east-west travel route. Unless there was an incident or problem connected with the shipment then the local police would probably not be apprised.

According to Mackay, the nuclear waste shipment originated from the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory site in Windsor, Conn., on Wednesday, Nov. 29, and was headed to a spent nuclear fuel storage facility run by the U.S. Department of Defense in Idaho.

The radioactive fuel rods came from a prototype reactor owned by the Navy similar to the nuclear reactors used to power U.S. submarines.

The D&H train that took on the nuclear waste-filled rail car on Thursday traveled north through Glenmont to the Port of Albany whence it apparently resumed its

trip westward early Friday morning, Mackay said.

Gary Sheffer, spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Conservation, said that oversight of "high-level radioactive waste" is carried out by the federal government.

"Anything involving Knolls would be overseen by the U.S. Department of Energy," he said.

Fuller was not happy about hearing about the shipment after the fact.

"We can't keep (nuclear shipments) from coming through here, although the regulatory agencies should have kept us informed. I'm concerned about the fact we were not notified. As far as I'm concerned, this will not happen again," Fuller said.

In February of this year, Mackay apprised the media of the possibility of commercial nuclear waste from New England power plants traveling through town in case the federal government proceeds with plans to build a permanent nuclear waste repository in Nevada.

That proposal is still being actively considered by Congress, Mackay said. The only agency currently shipping nuclear waste across the country, he noted, is the U.S. Navy, because it is the only entity with a permanent storage facility.

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Planetarium hosting winter star shows

The Henry Hudson Planetarium, located in the Albany Urban Cultural Park Visitors Center at 25 Quackenbush Square in Albany, will present two holiday star shows on Saturdays during the month of December.

At 11:30 a.m., "Planet Patrol — Solar System Stake-out" will take the audience through the solar system searching for clues relating to unusual interstellar transmissions.

At 12:30 p.m., "Galaxies" will explore the vastness of the universe and its beginnings.

Admission cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. For information, call the visitors center at 434-5132.

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Stephanie Légaré and Christopher Burns

Légaré, Burns marry

Stephanie Légaré, daughter of Paul and Ghislaine Légaré of Laval, Quebec, and Christopher Burns, son of Paul Burns of Guilderland and Pamela Burns of Slingerlands, were married Nov. 18 in Birks Chapel of McGill University in Montreal.

The reception followed in Le Westin Hotel in Montreal.

The best man was Justin Burns, the groom's brother, and the usher was Vincent Légaré, the bride's brother.

The bride, a graduate of McGill University, is completing doctoral studies in molecular biology at the University of Rochester.

The groom is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and McGill University. He is completing doctoral studies in biochemistry at Indiana University.

After a wedding trip to Scandinavia, the couple will pursue post-doctoral studies at Oxford University in England in 1996.

Births

St. Peter's Hospital

Girl, Monica Renee Sandoval, to Rebecca and Mario Sandoval, Glenmont, Sept. 17.

Girl, Alison Whitney Owen, to Monica and Keith Owen, Delmar, Oct. 5.

Girl, Mikaela Lauren Russell, to Alison and David Russell, Slingerlands, Oct. 11.

Out of town

Boy, Andrew Hamilton Fisch, to Melissa and Peter Fisch of Winston-Salem, N.C., Oct. 21. Paternal grandparents are former Voorheesville residents James and Janet Fisch of Guilderland.

Aylward tackling sports internship

Michael Aylward of Delmar is taking part in an internship this fall through SUNY-Oswego's Experienced-based Education Program.

Aylward, a senior studying public relations, is interning in the sports information department at SUNY-Oswego.

He is the son of Harold and Geraldine Morgan of Montrose Drive in Delmar.

Delmar artist showing work at Albany cafe

Carolina Westergren of Delmar is exhibiting new paintings at the Mother Earth Cafe, 217 Western Ave. in Albany, throughout the month of December.

An opening for the exhibit is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 8, from 8 to 11 p.m.

Westergren has previously shown her work at Union College in Schenectady and in shows on Martha's Vineyard and in Baltimore.

Local church honors longtime members

The New Scotland Presbyterian Church recently honored the following parishioners for being members of the church for 50 years or more: Isabella Heilmann (61 years), Jane Blessing (63 years), Lois Herrick (74 years), Harriet Cook (77 years), Edna Streets (52 years), Sam Youmans (57 years), Kathryn Youmans (52 years), Mildred Salisbury (52 years), Grace Brandow (52 years), Francis Person Jr. (57 years), and Joseph Gage (57 years).



Aileen and Brendan Monahan

Burke, Monahan marry

Aileen Mary Burke, daughter of Thomas and Patricia Burke of Delmar, and Brendan Victor Monahan, son of Dr. Paul and Maureen Monahan of Zillah, Wash., were married Sept. 23.

The Rev. Richard Vosko performed the ceremony in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Assumption, with the reception following at the Hiland Golf Club, both in Queensbury, Warren County.

The maid of honor was Christine Burke, the bride's sister, and the bridesmaid was Emily Weber.

The best man was Peter

Monahan, the groom's brother, and ushers were Thomas Burke, the bride's brother, Clay Martin and Ben Dolan.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Simmons College. She is employed as a graphics designer in Yakima, Wash.

The groom, a graduate of St. Mary's College of California and Boston College law School, is employed as an attorney by the Yakima firm of Velikanje, Moore & Shore.

After a wedding trip to Lake Placid and Quebec, the couple lives in Yakima.

The Spotlight remembers

This week in 1985, these stories were making headlines in *The Spotlight*.

- The Bethlehem Central School District and the Bethlehem Central Teachers Association agreed on a three-year contract that provided salary increases of 7 percent for the first two years and 7.25 percent for the final year.

- Editor Tom McPheeters noted in a Media Rare column that a revision of the state's Open Meetings Law to keep party caucuses secret should be called the "Fred Dicker Bill" in honor of the *New York Post* reporter, "the most feared and disliked reporter in the Capitol," who had sued to open up the caucuses.

- Community Health Plan formally dedicated its new Delmar Health Center in the former A&P at 250 Delaware Ave. In attendance were three Delmar residents who were founding board members of CHP — Theodore Wenzl, Richard Mattox and Joseph Lamprecht.

- Starters on the Bethlehem Central High School varsity basketball team for new coach Jack Mosher were Mike Gibbons, Paul Stracke, Greg Dobbert, Steve Chung and Karim Jahkra.

- For the fourth consecutive year, Dale Keenan of South Bethlehem was named runner of the year by the Hudson-Mohawk Road Runners' Club.

Mail weddings, engagements

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

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

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



V'ville library hosts holiday event

The Voorheesville Public Library on School Road in Voorheesville will host a holiday open house on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m.

The library board and director will be on hand to greet all patrons and newcomers.

Music will be provided by Randy Maugher, and refreshments will be served. The winner of the Legacies contest will be announced at 3 p.m.

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Obituaries

Robert J. Sherwood

Robert J. "Perk" Sherwood, 72, of Standish Drive in Glenmont, died Tuesday, Nov. 28, at home.

Born in Rensselaer, he had lived in Albany and Menands for many years. He also had a residence in Delray Beach, Fla.

Mr. Sherwood was a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy in Albany, Siena College and Albany Law School.

For most of his career, he was an attorney with the firm of Hesson, Ford, Sherwood & Whalen. More recently, he was counsel to the firm of Seeley, Segel, Goldman & Mazzotta.

Mr. Sherwood served as an assistant county attorney for Albany County; a hearing officer for Albany County Family Court and as acting village court justice for Menands for a number of years.

He was a former member of the Committee on Professional Standards of the Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department, serving on the board of governors for many years.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific theater. He was awarded the Purple Heart.

Mr. Sherwood also served in the Korean War, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He also served in the Marine Corps Reserve.

He was a former member of the American, New York state and Albany County bar associations. He was a member of Wolfert's Roost Country Club and a communicant of St. Mary's Church in Albany.

He was husband of the late Katherine Wallace Sherwood.

Survivors include his wife, Amie Griffin Sherwood; four sons, Richard J. Sherwood of Guilderland, Dr. James W. Sherwood of Pittsfield, Mass., Robert G. Sherwood of Fairport, Monroe County, and Dr. John P. Griffin of Plattsburgh, Clinton County; two daughters, Ann McMullin of Mendham, N.J., and Patricia Traub of Delmar; and 12 grandchildren.

Services were from the McVeigh Funeral Home in Albany and St. Mary's Church.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in East Greenbush.

Contributions may be made to

the Siena College Development Office, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville 12211, or to St. Mary's Church, 10 Lodge St., Albany 12207.

John Thurlow Jr.

John Wesley Thurlow, 74, of Slingerlands died Monday, Nov. 27, at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Born in Joliet, Ill., he graduated from The Citadel in South Carolina, where he was senior class president.

Mr. Thurlow was a Marine Corps veteran, and had served during the occupation of Japan. He also served in the Marine Corps Reserve before retiring as a major.

He had worked as a territory manager for military sales at Johnson & Johnson Co. for 38 years. During his tenure, he was named National Ring Salesman of the Year five times.

He was a member of the Loudonville, Delmar and New Scotland Presbyterian churches.

Mr. Thurlow was a member of the Matteson Masonic Lodge in Illinois. He was also a member of the Rotary Club and the Association of Citadel Men.

Survivors include his wife, Marjorie Southwick Thurlow; two daughters, Christine Brenner of Aledo, Texas, and Carol Snyder of Greenwich; a son, John Wesley Thurlow III of Norton, Mass.; and three grandchildren.

Services were from Delmar Presbyterian Church.

Arrangements were by the Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, the Presbyterian Church of New Scotland Memorial Fund, or the Delmar Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund.

Marco Costanzo

Marco Costanzo, 70, of Selkirk died Wednesday, Nov. 29, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in Frattamaggiore, Italy, he moved to Selkirk in 1954.

He worked for Callanan Industries in South Bethlehem for 25 years, retiring in 1983.

Mr. Costanzo was a communi-

cant of St. Patrick's Church in Ravena.

Survivors include his wife, Raphael Pellino Costanzo; a daughter, Agnese Andrews of Clifton Park; a son, Carmine Costanzo of Niskayuna; a sister, Maria Cerbone of Italy; two brothers, Dominick Costanzo and Antonio Costanzo, both of Italy; and a granddaughter.

Services were from St. Patrick's Church, and burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Coeymans.

Arrangements were by the Babcock Funeral Home in Ravena.

Contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Capital District Chapter, 50 Colvin Ave., Albany 12206-1106.

Lynn D. Pearce

Lynn D. Pearce, 36, of New Scotland died Wednesday, Nov. 29, at the Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Born in Cortland, she was a graduate of Voorheesville High School and the state university colleges at Cobleskill and Oneonta.

She was an accountant with Farm Family Insurance Co. in Glenmont.

Survivors include her parents, Ronald and Barbara Pearce of Voorheesville; two sisters, Colleen Badger of Voorheesville and Lauren Furlong of Delmar; a brother, Richard Pearce of Fredericksburg, Va.; and her paternal grandmother, Marjorie Pearce of Auburn, Cayuga County.

Services were from the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville.

Burial was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in New Scotland.

Arrangements were by the Reilly & Son Funeral Home in Voorheesville.

Contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Capital-Saratoga Chapter, 22 Corporate Woods Blvd., Albany 12211.

Justin E. Collins

Justin E. Collins, 81, of Delmar died Wednesday, Nov. 29, at his home.

Born in New York City, he had lived in Delmar for several years.

Mr. Collins was an accountant with Chemical Bank of New York before he retired.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the European Theater.

Survivors include his wife, Theresa Andrews Collins; two

daughters, Rosemary D'Arcy of Boise, Idaho, and Barbara Ann Collins of Den Lomond, Calif.; and a son, Drew J. Collins of Pleasantville, Westchester County.

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

Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery in Delmar.

Arrangements were by the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to St. Peter's Hospice Home Care, 315 South Manning Blvd., Albany 12208.

Margaret Welch

Margaret Trimble Welch, 89, of Kenwood Avenue in Delmar and formerly of Good Samaritan Home, died Tuesday, Nov. 28, at University Heights Health Care Center in Albany.

Born in Watervliet, she was a lifelong Capital District resident.

Mrs. Welch was a sales clerk at the former Flah's Department Store in Albany for more than 20 years, retiring in 1968.

She was a communicant of the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar.

She was the widow of William Welch.

Survivors include a nephew, Geoffrey W. Trimble of Loudonville.

Services were from the Frederick Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in Memory's Garden in Colonie.

Contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 85 Watervliet Ave., Albany 12206.

Stephen J. Bunk

Stephen J. Bunk, 81, of North Main Street in Voorheesville, died Monday, Nov. 27, at Albany County Nursing Home in Colonie.

Mr. Bunk was a lifelong resident of Voorheesville.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He was a mechanic for heavy duty apparatus at the Army Depot in Voorheesville.

Mr. Bunk was a communicant of St. Matthew's Church and a member of the Voorheesville American Legion.

Survivors include two sisters, Anna Bunk Relyea of Voorheesville and Helen Rawlings of Rochester; and a brother, Edward

Bunk of Edgewater, Fla.

Services were from the Reilly & Son Funeral Home in Voorheesville and St. Matthew's Church.

Burial was in St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands.

Contributions may be made to the Voorheesville Area Ambulance, PO Box 238, Voorheesville 12186.

Virginia Mousley

Virginia Gillespie Mousley, 63, of San Jose, Calif., and formerly of Voorheesville, died Friday, Dec. 1, at O'Connor Hospital in California.

Born in Albany, she had lived in Voorheesville for many years before moving to California.

She had worked at the bakery at Indian Ladder Farms for several years.

Survivors include her husband, Louis B. Mousley; two daughters, Deborah Mousley of San Jose and Karen Pell of Fulton, Ill.; and a sister, Majorie Knopp of Berne.

Services were private.

Arrangements were by the Reilly & Son Funeral Home in Voorheesville.

Burial was in Westerlo Cemetery.

Harold W. Arthur

Harold W. Arthur, 89, of Margate, Fla., and formerly of Slingerlands, died Friday, Dec. 1, at University Hospital in Florida.

Born in Slingerlands, he had lived there until 1962 when he moved to Florida. He had also lived in the Colonie area, before moving permanently to Florida.

Mr. Arthur was a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in Albany until he retired in 1962.

He was an elder and a 54-year member of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred L. Carpenter Arthur; four daughters, Barbara Bossalini and Arlene Hotaling, both of Colonie, Carol Sanchez of Catskill and Deborah Dunagan of Palm Beach Garden, Fla.; a son, Timothy Arthur of Margate, Fla.; a sister, Hestella Yable of Cornwall, Orange County; two brothers, R. Bradford Arthur and Donald Arthur, both of Slingerlands; 19 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were by the Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

Services were in Florida.

MS support group to meet at library

The Multiple Sclerosis Self-help group of Albany County will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 2 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

The group provides an opportunity for education, sharing and socialization for those with MS and their families and friends.

For information, contact the MS Society Chapter office at 427-0421.

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.

In Memoriam, and Cards of Thanks will also be printed for \$25.

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DECEMBER CLEARANCE

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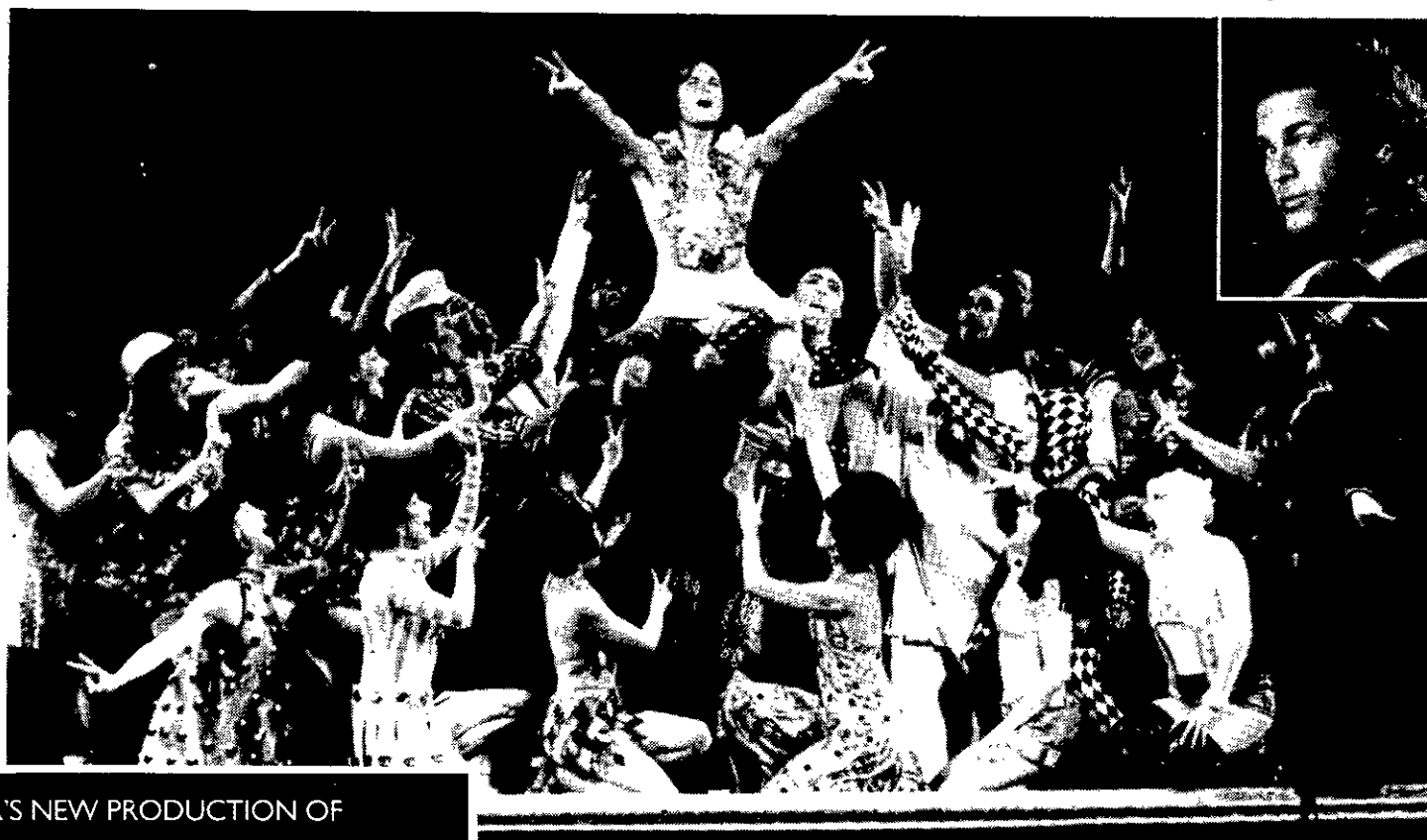
Colorful Bible tale comes to Proctor's stage

By Joshua Kagan

The critically acclaimed and extremely successful duo of Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice are joining up to take a new production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" around the country.

The musical, which tells the Biblical tale of Joseph and his 11 brothers, stops in the Capital District this month, with eight performances scheduled at Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady. It features a score by Webber and Rice, many dance numbers, a rock 'n' roll Pharaoh and two children's choirs.

"The music is unique in that he has covered the gamut of musical styles. There's country, Calypso, rock 'n' roll," Kathy Jarbis of Proctor's said. "This is definitely geared toward families. Having it here at Christmas is perfect timing."



Sam Harris' "Joseph," center, is lifted by castmates in Proctor's Theatre version of the Andrew Lloyd Webber play, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Proctor's will host eight shows running from Tuesday, Dec. 19 to Sunday, Dec. 24. Inset: Sam Harris.

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S NEW PRODUCTION OF

JOSEPH THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

SPOTLIGHT ON Family Entertainment CALENDAR • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Jarbis said the new version incorporates more music, more elaborate costumes and staging and uses the choirs more than the older version.

Sam Harris, who most recently starred in "Grease" on Broadway, leads a company of 70 actors in the title roll. After first gaining national attention on "Star

Search," he has sung at Carnegie Hall, Los Angeles' Universal Amphitheater and London's West End.

"He is absolutely fantastic," Jarbis said. "He's getting fabulous reviews in all his performances. He has a wonderful voice with wonderful range."

Two local children's choirs with

members 9 to 14 years old—the Young Actor's Guild (formerly Rensselaer Polytechnic Youth Theatre) and the Schuylerville Central School choir—will also sing in the musical. There were chosen by the producers of the show in a "choir challenge" in October.

"The two local choirs are on the stage 90 percent of the time—more than Sam Harris, in fact," said Jarbis. "The kids sing and dance on stage like everyone else. It's not like they're sitting on bleachers at the back of the stage."

The show has been very successful—from the perspective of critics and fans. It has received rave reviews from news organizations for Los Angeles KABC-TV

to the London Times and broke box office records when it opened in Los Angeles.

"Joseph" will be performed Tuesday, Dec. 19, to Sunday, Dec. 24. There will be 8 p.m. performances Tuesday through Saturday, 2 p.m. performances on Thursday and Saturday and a 1 p.m. performance on Sunday. Proctor's is at 432 State St. in Schenectady.

Tickets are \$39.50, \$34.50 and \$29.50 for adults and \$19.50, \$17.50 and \$14.50 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at Proctor's Box Office and all TicketMaster locations. For order tickets, call the box office at 346-6204. For group sales, call 382-5392.

Local director keeps busy with successive productions

Helena Binder is a busy director this fall. In October she staged David Mamet's *Life In The Theater*, a two-performer glimpse of backstage show business at the Schenectady Civic Theater. Immediately afterwards, she started rehearsing the cast of *Charlotte's Web*, a show opening December 15 at the Spa Little Theater December 15 for a run through the Saturday before Christmas.

This E. B. White play about the friendship of a child for other creatures, is the Home Made Theater's holiday presentation, the second of four shows this season. It has previously done *Diary of Anne Frank*.

For Binder, staging these plays so close to each other is nothing new because often she is also performing, either as a singer and actress. In recent years, the Guildenland resident and Schenectady native, has turned to directing.

Each spring, she has the task of turning newspeople into performers when she stages the Legislative Correspondents' show that roasts the governor, his staff and the Legislature.

As an actress, she travelled to Europe with the New York State Theater Institute in the 1980s and eventually played the title role in *Peter Pan* at Proctor's Theater when Schenectady Light Opera Company staged the show almost 10 years ago.

Binder's flying now is confined to whisking from one show to another, putting actors through their paces and picking up good reviews along the way.

Charlotte's Web plays Dec. 15, 16, 17, and then for two performances 1 and 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 23.



Martin P. Kelly

SPOTLIGHT By Martin P. Kelly

Meanwhile, the Home Made Theater held auditions this past weekend for its next show, *Write Me A Murder*, to be presented Feb. 23-Mar. 9.

Information and reservations for both shows available at 587-4427.

Play based on Irish folk tale opens at HVCC theater Friday

The Lords of the Rose and Grey Castles, an adaptation of an Irish folk tale by Stephen D. Boaden and Carol Bosselman, opens Friday (Dec. 8) at the Maureen Stapleton Theater at Hudson Valley Community College for a two weekend run.

Boaden who is also producer of the company which is now in his 10th year of producing the Masque Theater Inc. in Troy, has blended music with a story of wizards, enchantresses and children, all wrapped up with a moral for today's audiences.

The special holiday show runs Dec. 8, 9 and 10 and Dec. 15, 16 and 17.

Information and reservations available at 459-4961.

A Tale of Cinderella returns to NYS Theatre Institute

With work done on the opening and some trimming throughout the script, *A Tale of Cinderella*, a musical adaptation of the popular folk tale, is in the midst of its reprise at the NYS State Theatre Institute in Troy.

Opening last week, the musical plays through Dec. 17 and

is capitalizing on the release of the *A Tale of Cinderella* score on Atlantic Theater label.

The musical composed by playwright W. A. Frankonis with music and lyrics by Broadway and Hollywood writers, George David Weiss and Will Serverin, has been able to bring together the cast which premiered the show last spring.

The only new member of the cast is Mychelle Lee Veeder who plays a supporting role while also serving as a new teacher/artist in the company.

Information and reservations are available at 274-3256.

Albany Berkshire Ballet preparing its own version of The Nutcracker

While two of the three productions of *The Nutcracker* have now been performed in the area, another is still in rehearsal. The Albany Berkshire Ballet will bring its production to the Palace Theater days before Christmas with three performances.

Opening on Friday, Dec. 22 at 8 p.m., the company will also present two performances on Saturday, Dec. 23 at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Again this year, the company will use duplicate casts of children to appear in the three performances supporting the stars from the company. Tickets, info available at 465-4663.

Around Theaters!

A Christmas Tuna, farce two-man show with 24 characters at the Capital Repertory Theater through Dec. 17 (462-4531) ... *Chorus Line*, the hit musical at Schenectady Light Opera Company through Sunday, Dec. 10 (377-5101) ... *The Foreigner*, comedy about Englishman in backwoods Georgia, at the Schenectady Civic Theater through Dec. 10 (382-2081) ... *A Christmas Carol*, touring Nebraska Company at Proctor's Theater, Dec. 12 (346-6204)

ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

THEATER

"THE FOREIGNER"

12 South Church St.,
Schenectady, Dec. 6 through
10, 8 p.m., \$10. Information, 382-
2081.

NEW YORK STREET THEATER CARAVAN

experimental theater,
Adirondack Lakes Center for the
Arts, Blue Mountain Lake, Friday,
Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., \$5.
Information, 352-7715.

"THE DUCHESS OF MALFI"

staged by Langdon Brown, Lab
Theatre of the University at
Albany Performing Arts Center,
Albany, Dec. 6 and 9, \$9.
Information, 442-3997.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

performed by the Nebraska
Theater Caravan, Proctor's
Theatre, 432 State St.,
Schenectady, Tuesday, Dec. 12,
7 p.m., \$20.50. Information, 346-
6204.

"A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS"

presented by the eba Dance
Theater, corner of Lark and
Hudson streets, Albany, Fridays,
Dec. 8 and 15, 10:30 a.m., \$4.
Information, 465-9916.

"THE TIDINGS BOUGHT TO MARY"

drama by Paul Claudel, The
College of Saint Rose Campus
Theatre, 1000 Madison Ave.,
Albany, Friday and Saturday,
Dec. 8 and 9, 7 p.m., Sunday,
Dec. 10, 2 p.m., \$5. Information,
454-5242.

CAPITOL CHAMBER ARTISTS

Voorheesville Public Library, 51
School Road, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2
p.m. Information, 765-2791.

UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

directed by Richard Albagli,
University at Albany Performing
Arts Center, Main Theater, 1400
Washington Ave., Albany,
Monday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m.
Information, 442-3995.

WINTERGREEN

traditional and contemporary
folk music from the British Isles,
Troy Savings Bank Music Hall,
Troy, Tuesday, Dec. 12, noon.
Information, 273-0038.

FREE CONCERT

presented by the University
Percussion Ensemble and The
University-Community
Symphonic Band, University at
Albany Performing Arts Center,
Albany, Monday, Dec. 11, 8
p.m. Information, 442-3997.

CD BLUES

with the Teresa Burns Band, The
Calumet Grill, 54 Philip St.,
Albany, Monday, Dec. 11, 7 to
10 p.m.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

POETRY CONTEST

\$500 grand prize, deadline Jan.
31, 20 lines or less, any style.
Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum, Inc.,
Dept. N, 203 Diamond St.,
Sistersville, W. Va. 26175.
Information, 304-652-149.

POETRY CONTEST

no more than 20 lines, send to
The National Library of Poetry,
11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box
704-1986, Owings Mills, Md 21117,
deadline Dec. 31. Information,
410-356-2000.

CLASSES

DANCE CLASSES

ongoing, all levels, ballet, jazz
and modern, New School of
Ballet, 1098 Parkwood Blvd.,
Schenectady, Monday to
Thursday and Saturday.
Information, 346-1096.

ART CLASSES

watercolor and oil, beginner
and advanced, 44 Hoffman
Drive, Latham. Information, 783-
1828.

MUSEUM ART CLASSES

on going, Albany Institute of
History & Art, 125 Washington
Ave., Albany, \$25. Information,
463-4478.

VISUAL ARTS

"THE LATHROPS"

works by Ida, Gertrude and
Dorothy Lathrop, Albany
Institute of History & Art, 125
Washington Ave., through Dec.
31. Information, 463-4478.

"THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO"

photographs by Camilo
Vergara, State Museum, Albany,
through Dec. 8. Information,
474-5877.

BOB BLACKBURN'S

PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

featuring works by black artists,
East and West Galleries, Albany
Institute of History & Art, 125
Washington Ave., through Dec.
31. Information, 463-4478.

"PEOPLE AND PLACE"

"People and Place: Changing
Land Use and Landscape in
Rensselaer County,"
chronological look at land use in
the county, Rensselaer County
Historical Society, 59 Second St.,
Troy, through June. Information,
272-7232.

"SHARKS! FACT AND FANTASY"

New York State Museum,
Albany, through Dec. 31.
Information, 474-5877.

HOLIDAY EXHIBIT

small scale paintings and
sculptures, Greene County
Council On the Arts, 398 Main
St., Catskill, through Jan. 8.
Information, 943-3400.

SUE REES

exhibition of sculptures, Albany
Center Galleries, 23 Monroe St.,
Albany, through Dec. 29.
Information, 462-4775.

AIDS EXHIBITION

photography exhibit, Lulu's
Cafe, 288 Lark St., Albany,
through Dec. 15. Information,
434-4686.

JAMES CONZO

photography exhibit,
Spencertown Academy Art
Gallery, Spencertown, through
Dec. 30. Information, 392-3693.

"ICON INFLUENCES"

Visions Gallery, 40 North Main
Ave., Albany, through Feb. 20.
Information, 453-6645.

"WINTER/HOLIDAY ART EXHIBITION"

Canterbury Gallery, Child's
Nursing Home, 25 Hackett Blvd.,
Albany, through Dec. 31.
Information, 439-2955.

"HEARTSIDE COLLECTIONS"

Urban Cultural Park Visitor
Center, 297 Broadway,
Saratoga Springs, through Dec.
22. Information, 584-4132.

To list an item of
community interest in the
The Spotlight, send all
pertinent information to

**The Spotlight
Calendar**

P.O. Box 5349
Albany, NY 12205

ALBANY BERKSHIRE BALLET

Madeline Cantarella Culpso, Artistic Director presents

The Nutcracker

PALACE THEATRE
Albany, NY

December 22, 1995 - 7:00 p.m.

December 23, 1995 - 1:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$23.50 \$19.50 \$16.50

Discounts: Seniors (60+) \$2.00 off

Children (12 & under) \$5.00 off

Tickets available at

Palace Theatre Box Office (518) 465-4663

TicketMaster (518) 476-1000

Albany Berkshire Ballet (518) 426-0660

For group discounts call the Albany Berkshire Ballet
at (413) 445-5382

MUSIC

ALLAN ALEXANDER

guitar and lute player, Cafe
Allegro, 33 Second St., Troy,
Dec. 9 and 16, 7 to 11 p.m.
Information, 271-1942.

ALBANY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

conducted by David Allan
Miller, Troy Savings Bank Music
Hall, Troy, Friday and Saturday,
Dec. 8 and 9, 8 p.m.
Information, 465-4663.

HOLIDAY FROST

voice, violin and piano music
inspired by the poetry of Robert
Frost, First Unitarian Universalist
Society of Albany, 405
Washington Ave., Albany,
Friday, Dec. 8, 8 p.m., \$13.
Information, 436-5321.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

annual performance of
Handel's classic oratorio, Troy
Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy,
Saturday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m., \$15.
Information, 273-0038.

Weekly Crossword

"Frankly Speaking"

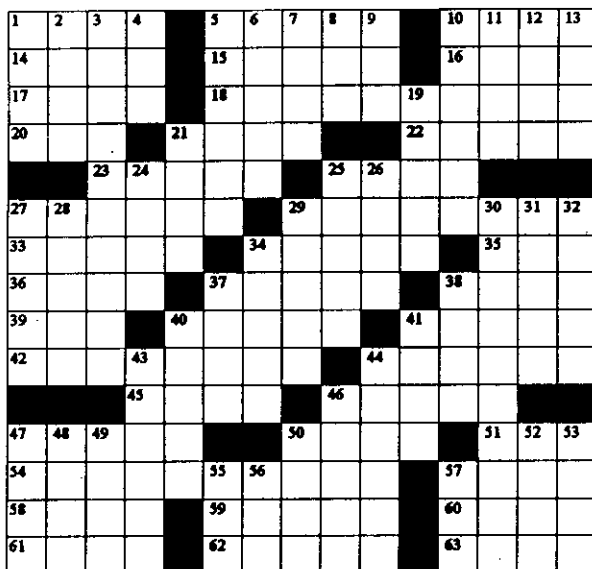
By Gerry Frey

ACROSS

- 1 Couch
- 5 Mr. Shaw
- 10 Army meal
- 14 Rent
- 15 Singer Frankie
- 16 Pertaining to the ear
- 17 German river
- 18 American poet
- 20 Quill
- 21 God of war
- 22 More anemic
- 23 Check schemer
- 25 Once more
- 27 Holy
- 29 Comedian
- 33 Amtrak's offering
- 34 Waist bands
- 35 Wall Street initials
- 36 Hersheiser's judges
- 37 Donnybrook
- 38 Berlin dwelling
- 39 Pro
- 40 Files alone
- 41 Director Carlo
- 42 Constitution signer
- 44 More obscure
- 45 Helper
- 46 Word with pink or reef
- 47 Teacher's note: 2 wds
- 50 Word with day or home
- 51 NY time zone
- 54 Entertainer Frank & family
- 57 _____ land
- 58 Slope rope?
- 59 Aristocracy
- 60 Int'l House of Pancakes
- 61 DC VIPS
- 62 _____ pass go
- 63 Computer chomp

DOWN

- 1 Transmit
- 2 French river
- 3 Director
- 4 Prefix for air
- 5 Bruce Wayne's butler

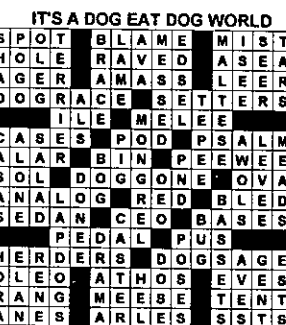


6 More uncommon

- 7 Spanish aunts
- 8 Hotel
- 9 Scream
- 10 New York river
- 11 And others: Latin
- 12 Father
- 13 Wound mark
- 19 Uncover
- 21 Bo Derek, e.g.
- 24 Eye part
- 25 French city
- 26 Basketball famer Ar-chibald
- 27 Prepare the turkey
- 28 Knight's garb
- 29 Murderer
- 30 Notre Dame coach
- 31 Geometric angle
- 32 Mr. Arafat
- 34 Misrepresent
- 37 Shape
- 38 Jewish dance
- 40 Aspen visitor

41 Peel

- 43 Baptizers
- 44 County in England
- 46 Poem division
- 47 Coll. entrance exams
- 48 German river
- 49 Israeli leader Abba
- 50 Dime
- 52 Las Vegas opening
- 53 Follows red or magnetic
- 55 Actor Danson
- 56 _____ mo
- 57 Word with ad or women's



FRI., DEC. 8, 1995

Troy Savings Bank
Music Hall
8:00 PM

BERLIOZ

Rob Roy Overture
(1831)

MACKAY

Banana Dump Truck:
Concerto for Cello
and Orchestra
Fred Sherry
Cello

A NYSCA Matching
Challenge Grant Program

The Great Eight Performance Series

DAVID ALAN MILLER
Music Director/Conductor



Albany Symphony
Everybody's Orchestra

19 Clinton Avenue, Albany NY 12207
(518) 465-4755

Tickets available at the Palace Theatre Box Office (518) 465-4663,
Troy Savings Bank Music Hall Box Office (518) 273-0038 and
all Ticketmaster locations (518) 476-1000.

SAT., DEC. 9, 1995

Palace Theatre,
Albany
8:00 PM

SIBELIUS

Symphony No. 2
in D, Op. 43
(1901)

This concert is brought
to our community by

VANGUARD
ALBANY SYMPHONY, INC.

AROUND THE AREA

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 6**
ALBANY COUNTY
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SELF-HELP GROUP

for those that have been diagnosed in the past 2 to 3 years. Women's Health Care Plus, Computer Drive East, Albany, 7 p.m. Information, 783-9325.

"HOW AND WHEN TO APOLOGIZE—AND WHY YOU MUST"

led by Rev. John Malecki, Ph.D., C.A.C., Consultation Center, 790 Lancaster St., Albany, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost, \$12. Information, 489-4431.

FARMERS' MARKET

Holy Cross Church, Western Avenue and Brevator Street, 2 to 6 p.m. information, 272-2972.

SENIORS LUNCHES

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

APPLE COMPUTERS USERS CLUB
Farnsworth Middle School, State Farm Road, Guilderland, 7 p.m. Information, 482-2609.

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
WRITING WORKSHOP

for advanced fiction writers, room 210, Proctor's Arcade, Schenectady, 7 p.m. Information, 381-8927.

RIVER VALLEY CHORUS MEETING

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

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 7**
ALBANY COUNTY
ALBANY ACADEMY PARENT VISITING DAY

parents of pre-kindergarten and kindergarten age are invited to visit The Academy, 135 Academy Road, Albany, 9 a.m. Information, 465-1461.

THE QUEST

a contemporary, systematic study of spiritual principles. Unity Church, 725 Madison Ave., Albany, 7 to 9 p.m. Information, 475-9715.

FARMERS' MARKET

corner of Pine Street and Broadway, Albany, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Information, 272-2972.

SENIOR CHORALE

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

SENIORS LUNCHES

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

CONCERNED FRIENDS OF HOPE HOUSE

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

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 8**
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 LUNCHES

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

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 9**
ALBANY COUNTY
HANDCRAFTED FOR THE HOLIDAYS FESTIVAL

holiday crafts, face painting, clowns, music, food. Center for the Disabled, 314 South Manning Blvd., Albany, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 437-5608.

CRAFT FAIR

proceeds to be used for instructional materials. St. James Institute, 50 Summit Ave., Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information, 465-1973.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

featuring fireworks, the lighting of the New York State Holiday Tree, family entertainment, games, food, gifts. North End, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 2 p.m. Information, 383-6183.

ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER

bring bag lunch, beverage provided, Abba House of Prayer, 647 Western Ave., Albany, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information, 438-8320.

MASONIC CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 107 State St., Albany, 4 p.m.

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 10**
ALBANY COUNTY
TOUR OF ALBANY INSTITUTE

an "Overview Tour" of the museum for the whole family. Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 1:30 p.m. Cost, \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and students, free for members and children under 12. Information, 463-4478.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

featuring traditional and secular holiday music by the Suburban Sounds, Altamont Reformed Church, Lincoln Avenue, Altamont, 7 p.m. Information, 457-9875.

DANCE PROGRAM

"Polka Guys and Dolls," for children 3 and older, Cohoes Polish National Alliance, Cohoes, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Information, 237-8595.

"PRINT IT"

family program exploring large-scale prints from around the world. Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 2 p.m. Cost, \$10 per family for members, \$15 per family for non-members. Information, 463-4478.

PROGRAM ON LOCAL ART

examination and discussion of art produced in the area. Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, 2 p.m. Cost, \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and students, free for members. Information, 463-4478.

PFLAG MEETING

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays, support group, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 85 Chestnut St., Albany, 2 to 4:30 p.m. Information, 462-6138.

SCOTTISH DANCING

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

GUILDERLAND PTSA MEETING

proposed renovations and projects at the High School are to be discussed. Guilderland Central High School, Depot Road, Guilderland, 7 to 9 p.m. Information, 452-6700.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 12**
ALBANY COUNTY
TRUE FRIENDS

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

BINGO

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

INFORMATION SESSION

for persons interested graduate program and independent study master's programs at Empire State College, Room 114, 7 Empire State Plaza, Albany, 12:30 p.m. Information, 587-2100, extension 267.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Teresian House, Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, 4 p.m. Information, 438-2217.

SENIORS LUNCHES

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

CAPITAL TOASTMASTERS CLUB

for people who wish to develop speaking skills, Anthony's Park Plaza Restaurant, 27 Elk St., Albany, 5:45 p.m. Information, 489-0936.

**MONDAY
DECEMBER 11**
ALBANY COUNTY
SENIORS LUNCHES

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

"USING HUMOR TO COPE WITH CHANGE"

talk by local humorous speaker Anne Bryan on humor and the workplace, Best Western Albany Airport Inn, 200 Wolf Road, Albany, 7:30 a.m. breakfast, 8 to 9 a.m. program. Information, 372-0785.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
"THE JERUSALEM EXPERIENCE"

and Dec. 12, presentation of 3,000 years of Jewish history, Congregation Beth Israel, 2195 Eastern Parkway, Schenectady, Dec. 11, 3 to 10 p.m., Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Dec. 13 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Cost, \$4 per adult, \$1 per child, \$2 per seniors and students, \$10 per family. Information, 377-3700.

SCOTTISH DANCING

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

Spotlight on Dining

For the best
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Holiday Celebration
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Dinner for Two

Includes:
Appetizer, Salad
Veal Parmigiana
Lasagne, Sausage
Vegetables
& Garlic Bread
Regular Menu Available

\$19.95

**Early Bird
SPECIAL**

Includes:
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Potato, Vegetable, or Pasta
Dessert

\$8.95

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Tuesday thru Friday 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm
Not to be combined with any other promotion.

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RISTORANTE**
Italian American Community Center
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Potato and Vegetable \$11.95
with this coupon

Reserve Now for Holiday Parties & New Years.
NOW SERVING SUNDAY BRUNCH

The Spotlight CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER**
6
BETHLEHEM
BC SCHOOL BOARD

district offices, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, 8 p.m. Information, 439-7098.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
town hall, 445 Delaware Ave.
Information, 439-4955.

BINGO

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

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58

Elsmere Elementary School, 247
Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Information, 439-4205.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office,
Elm Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-0503.

WELCOME WAGON

newcomers, engaged women
and new mothers, call for a
Welcome Wagon visit, Monday
to Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Information, 785-9640.

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB

Days Inn, Route 9W, Glenmont,
7 p.m. Information, 439-4857.

BETHLEHEM ELKS LODGE 2233
Route 144, Cedar Hill, 8 p.m.
Information, 767-2886.

**ONESQUETHAU CHAPTER,
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**
Masonic Temple, 421 Kenwood
Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-
2181.

**BETHLEHEM BUSINESS
WOMEN'S CLUB**

Swiss Fondue restaurant, 1903
New Scotland Road, 6 p.m.
Information, 439-3916.

TESTIMONY MEETING

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

ADVENT SERVICE

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

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

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

NEW SCOTLAND
**VOORHEESVILLE ZONING
BOARD OF APPEALS**

village hall, 29 Voorheesville
Ave., 7 p.m. Information, 765-
2692.

**NEW SCOTLAND SENIOR
CITIZENS**

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

DRUM CIRCLE

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

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, Route 155, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 765-3390.

FAITH TEMPLE

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

WINTER CONCERT

music played by Voorheesville
elementary choirs, Voorheesville
Elementary School Gym, 7:30
p.m. Information, 765-3314.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER**
7
BETHLEHEM
RECOVERY, INC.

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

DELMAR PROGRESS CLUB

Marian Davis and Lynn Mather,
will talk about England,
Bethlehem Public Library, 451
Delaware Ave., 1:30 p.m.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office,
Elm Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-0503.

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

AA MEETINGS

Slingerlands Community Church,
1499 New Scotland Road, noon,
and Delmar Reformed Church,
386 Delaware Ave., 8:30 p.m.
Information, 489-6779.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
children's choir, 6:30 p.m., senior
choir, 7:30 p.m., 85 Elm Ave.
Information, 439-4328.

**BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

women's Bible study, 9:30 to
11:15 a.m. or 7:30 to 9:15 p.m.,
child care available for morning
session, 201 Elm Ave.
Information, 439-3135.

CLASS IN JEWISH MYSTICISM

Delmar Chabad Center, 109
Elsmere Ave., 8 p.m. Information,
439-8280.

NEW SCOTLAND
FEURA BUSH FUNSTERS

4-H group for ages 8 to 19,
Jerusalem Church, Feura Bush, 7
to 8 p.m.

HELDVIEW GARDEN CLUB

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

FAITH TEMPLE

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

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER**
8
BETHLEHEM
HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Christmas music, proceeds go to
food pantry, Slingerlands
Community Methodist Church,
1499 New Scotland Ave., 7:30
p.m., \$7, children under 12 \$4.

**QUILTERS UNITED IN LEARNING
TOGETHER**

United Methodist Church, 428
Kenwood Ave., 9:30 a.m.

EVENING WALK

participants should bring a
flashlight and dress for an
evening outdoors, Five Rivers
Environmental Education
Center, Game Farm Road, 7
p.m. Information, 475-0291.

AA MEETING

First Reformed Church of
Bethlehem, Route 9W, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 489-6779.

CHABAD CENTER

Friday services, discussion and
kiddush at sunset, 109 Elsmere
Ave. Information, 439-8280.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

featuring "Sound Systems" and
"Friendship Singers," Slingerlands
Community Methodist Church,
1499 New Scotland,
Slingerlands, 7:30 p.m., \$7.

NEW SCOTLAND
YOUTH GROUP

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

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER**
9
BETHLEHEM
BUS TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY

transportation only, children
under 18 must be accompanied
by an adult, reservations
required, leaves Bethlehem
Central High School at 7 a.m.
and returns at 10 p.m., \$26 per
seat. Information, 439-0780.

AA MEETING

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

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER**
10
BETHLEHEM
CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

for people caring for frail or
elderly relatives, Delmar
Reformed Church, 386
Delaware Ave., 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-9929.

**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, 9:15 a.m.,
worship service, 10:30 a.m.,
nursery provided, 201 Elm Ave.
Information, 439-3135.

**NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.,
worship service, 10:30 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, 9:30 a.m.,
Watchtower Bible study, 10:25
a.m., 359 Elm Ave. Information,
439-0358.

**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.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Latin Mass, 10 a.m., Route 9W,
Glenmont.

**SOUTH BETHLEHEM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.,
worship service, 11 a.m.,
followed by coffee hour,
Willowbrook Avenue.
Information, 767-9953.

**DELMAR PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

worship service, church school,
nursery care, 10 a.m., fellowship
and coffee, 11 a.m., adult
education, 11:15 a.m., family
communion service, first Sunday,
585 Delaware Ave. Information,
439-9252.

DELMAR FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

Sunday services, 8:30 and 10:30
a.m., 292 Elsmere Ave.
Information, 439-4407.

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**

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.,
worship service, 11 a.m., child
care provided, youth group,
6:30 p.m., Route 9W, Selkirk.
Information, 767-2243.

**GLENMONT COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Sunday school and worship
service, 10:30 a.m., child care
available, 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.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

worship service, 11 a.m., 1
Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-
4314.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

church school, 9:45 a.m.,
worship service, 9:30 a.m., 428
Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-
9976.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

worship services, 8 and 10:30
a.m., Sunday school and Bible
classes, 9:15 a.m., nursery care
available, coffee/fellowship
following services, youth groups,
6:30 p.m., 85 Elm Ave.
Information, 439-4328.

MOUNT MORIAH MINISTRIES

Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.,
morning worship, 11 a.m., youth
group, 6 p.m., evening service, 7
p.m., Route 9W, Glenmont.
Information, 426-4510.

NEW SCOTLAND
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Voorheesville Public Library, 51
School Road, Voorheesville, 2
p.m. Information, 765-2791.

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 and 10:30
a.m., Mountainview Street,
Voorheesville. Information, 765-
2805.

**JERUSALEM REFORMED
CHURCH**

worship service, 9:30 a.m.,
followed by coffee hour, Route
32, Feura Bush. Information, 439-
0548.

**NEW SALEM REFORMED
CHURCH**

adult Bible study, 9 a.m., junior
choir or chime choir practice, 9
a.m., worship service, 10 a.m.,
recorder group practice, 11
a.m., nursery care provided,
Route 85. Information, 439-6179.

**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 services, 9:30 p.m.,
church school and nursery care,
10 a.m., children's choir, 11:15
a.m., youth group, 4 p.m., 68
Maple Ave. Information, 765-
2895.

**MOUNTAINVIEW EVANGELICAL
FREE CHURCH**

Bible hour, 9:15 a.m., worship
service, 10:30 a.m., evening
service, 6:30 p.m., nursery care
provided, Route 155.
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.

**MONDAY
DECEMBER**
11
BETHLEHEM
INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING

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

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.

SUNSHINE SENIORS

covered dish luncheon, noon,
business meeting, 1 p.m., First
Reformed Church of Bethlehem,
Route 9W. Information, 439-7179.

**DELMAR COMMUNITY
ORCHESTRA**

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

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.

NEW SCOTLAND
TOWN BOARD

town hall, Route 85, 7 p.m.
Information, 439-4889.

**VOORHEESVILLE SCHOOL
BOARD**

large group instruction room,
Clayton A. Bouton High School,
Route 85A. Information, 765-
3313.

STORY HOUR

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

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER**
12
BETHLEHEM
INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING

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



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TREASURE COVE THRIFT SHOP
First United Methodist Church,
428 Kenwood Ave., 11 a.m. to 6
p.m.

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

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office,
Elm Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-0503.

ELSMERE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
firehouse, Poplar Drive, 7:15 p.m.
Information, 439-9144.

DELMAR ROTARY
Days Inn, Route 9W. Information,
439-0018.

A. W. BECKER PTA
Becker Elementary School,
Route 9W, 7:30 p.m. Information,
767-2511.

SLINGERLANDS FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
firehouse, 8 p.m. Information,
439-4734.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE
Nathaniel Blanchard American
Legion Hall, Poplar Drive,
Delmar, continuing session on
Thursday, Dec. 14. Information,
767-2474.

NEW SCOTLAND

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

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

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

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 13**

BETHLEHEM

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

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

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58
Elsmere Elementary School, 247
Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Information, 439-4205.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office,
Elm Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-0503.

WELCOME WAGON
newcomers, engaged women
and new mothers, call for a
Welcome Wagon visit, Monday
to Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Information, 785-9640.

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

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

DELMAR FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
firehouse, Adams Place, 7:30
p.m. Information, 439-3851.

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

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

BETHLEHEM TOASTMASTERS
Fellowship Hall, United Methodist
Church, 428 Kenwood Ave.,
Delmar. Information, 439-0871.

HOLIDAY MIXER
The Rose Gallery, 318 Delaware
Ave., Delmar, 4:30 to 7 p.m.
Information, 439-0512.

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

OPEN HOUSE
Good Samaritan Lutheran
Health Care Center, 125
Rockefeller Road, Delmar, 7 to 9
p.m.

NEW SCOTLAND

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, Route 155, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 765-3390.

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

WINTER CONCERT
music played by Voorheesville
High School Bands,
Voorheesville High School
auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Information, 765-3314.

EVENING STORY HOUR
Voorheesville Public Library, 51
School Road, Voorheesville, 7
p.m. information, 765-2791.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 14**

BETHLEHEM

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

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

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office,
Elm Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Information, 439-0503.

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

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

DELMAR FIRE DEPARTMENT LADIES AUXILIARY
firehouse, Adams Place, 8 p.m.

BETHLEHEM MEMORIAL VFW POST 3185
404 Delaware Ave., 8 p.m.
Information, 439-9836.

AA MEETINGS
Slingerlands Community Church,
1499 New Scotland Road, noon,
and Delmar Reformed Church,
386 Delaware Ave., 8:30 p.m.
Information, 489-6779.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
children's choir, 6:30 p.m., senior
choir, 7:30 p.m., 85 Elm Ave.
Information, 439-4328.

CLASSIFIEDS

Individual rate minimum \$8.00 for 10 words, 30 cents for each additional word, payable in advance. Commercial rate minimum \$10.50 for 10 words, 30 cents for each additional word, payable in advance. Ad deadline 4 p.m. Friday for publication in Wednesday's newspaper. Box Reply \$3.00. Submit in person or by mail with check or money order to Spotlight Newspapers, 125 Adams Street, Delmar, New York 12054. Phone in and charge to your Mastercard or Visa.

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1994 HONDA CIVIC, navy, 31,000 miles, warranty. \$11,500. 966-4207.

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LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
JTC ASSOCIATES, LLC**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the above named Limited Liability Company has been formed for the transaction of business in the State of New York and elsewhere.

1. The name of the Limited Liability Company is JTC Associates, LLC.
2. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State for the State of New York on October 23, 1995.

3. The county within the State of New York in which the office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located in Albany.

4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is designated as the agent for the Limited Liability Company upon whom process in any action or proceeding against it may be served and the address within the State to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of the process in any action or proceeding against the Limited Liability Company which may be served upon him is c/o Gerald F. Stack, Esq., Hancock & Estabrook, LLP, 1500 Mony Tower I, P.O. Box 4976, Syracuse, New York 13221. The Limited Liability Company does not have a registered agent within the State of New York.

5. The character of the business to be transacted by the Limited Liability Company is the ownership and management of investment assets.
(December 4, 1995)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that on October 30, 1995, Capitaland Funding Group, LLC, filed its Articles of Organization with the New York State Secretary of State. The principal office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom

LEGAL NOTICE

process against Capitaland Funding Group, LLC, may be served and the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any such process to: Capitaland Funding Group, LLC 469 Albany-Shaker Road Loudonville, New York 12211
The purpose of Capitaland Funding Group, LLC, is to engage in any lawful business for which a limited liability company can be formed pursuant to Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law. (December 4, 1995)

NOTICE OF

698 SHAKER ROAD LLC
698 SHAKER ROAD LLC has been formed as a limited liability company in New York. The Articles of Organization were filed on October 26, 1995, with the Secretary of State. The office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process served upon him/her to 600 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207. The purpose of the business of 698 Shaker Road LLC is to engage in all lawful business for which a limited liability company can be formed pursuant to Section 1203 of the Limited Liability Company Law. (December 4, 1995)

NOTICE

AMPERSAND ENTERPRISES L.L.C. Articles of Organization of Ampersand Enterprises L.L.C. were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (herein SSNY) on Oct. 14, 1995. The office is located in Albany County. The SSNY is designated as Agent upon whom process may be served. The SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to P.O. Box 422, Guiderland, N.Y. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful business for

LEGAL NOTICE

which a LLC can be formed pursuant to Section 201 of the LLC law. (December 4, 1995)

NOTICE OF BARCOMB FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Barcomb Family Limited Partnership has been formed as a limited partnership. The certificate was filed on 11/3/95 with the Secretary of State. The office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him/her to RD1, Box 85, Delanson, NY 12053.

The names and addresses of each general partner is available from the Secretary of State. The latest date upon which the limited partnership is to dissolve is 10/31/2020. The purpose of the business of such partnership is to engage in all lawful business for which a limited liability company can be formed pursuant to Section 121-107 of the Revised Limited Partnership Act. (December 4, 1995)

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF PUBLISHER STUDIO, L.L.C.

Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law
FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is Publisher Studio, L.L.C.

SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is located is: Albany County.

THIRD: The secretary of state is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the secretary of state shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: 4 Airline Drive, Albany,

LEGAL NOTICE

New York 12205.

FOURTH: The effective date of the Articles of Organization is the date of filing.

FIFTH: The limited liability company is to be managed by one or more members.

SIXTH: The business purpose for which the Limited Liability Company is formed will be to engage in all phases of editorial development and project management of book or other media production.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this certificate has been subscribed this 31st day of October, 1995, by the undersigned who affirm that the statements made herein are true under the penalties of perjury.

(s) Bruce Sherwin, Member
(s) Lee Ann Chearney, Member
(s) Linda Ayres-DeMasi, Member
(December 4, 1995)

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF 749 LOUDON ASSOCIATES, LLC

UNDER SECTION 203 OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is 749 Loudon Associates, LLC.

SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is: Albany.

THIRD: The latest date on which the limited liability company is to dissolve is: October 10, 2025.

FOURTH: the Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the secretary of state shall mail of copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: PO Box 1098, Latham, NY 12110.

FIFTH: The future effective date of the Articles of Organization, if not effective upon filing is: October

LEGAL NOTICE

10, 2025.

SIXTH: The limited liability company is to be managed by one or more of its members.

IT WITNESS THEREOF, this certificate has been subscribed on 10/10/95 by the undersigned who affirms that the statements made herein are true under the penalties of perjury.

BY: David S. Shamlian - Member
749 Rt. 9 - PO BOX 1098
Latham, NY 12110
(December 4, 1995)

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF PARACESS, LLD

UNDER SECTION 203 OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY LAW

FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is:

PARACESS, LLC

SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is Albany.

THIRD: The secretary of state is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the secretary of state shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: Paracess, LLC, P.O. Box 727, 50 Century Hill Drive, Latham, New York 12110.

FOURTH: The limited liability company is to be managed by one or more of its members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this certificate has been subscribed this 17th day of October, 1995, by the undersigned who affirms that the statements made herein are true under the penalties of perjury.

(s) Martin J. Ricciardi, Organizer
Whiteman Osterman & Hanna
P.O. Box 22016
Albany, New York 12201
(December 4, 1995)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of Renaissance Floral Design, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on November 3, 1995. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC c/o 467 Albany-Shaker Road, Loudonville, New York 12211. Purpose: flower and gift preparation and sales.
(December 4, 1995)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem hereby invites sealed bids for the furnishing of one diesel powered backhoe loader for use of the Highway department.

Bids will be received up to 2:00 p.m. on the 14th day of December, 1995 at which time such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York. Bids shall be in a sealed envelope which shall bear on the face thereof, the name and address of the bidder and the subject of the bid. ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY of each bid shall be submitted. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, Delmar, New York.

The Town Board reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any or all bids.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Kathleen A. Newkirk, CMC
TOWN CLERK
DATED: November 21, 1995
(December 4, 1995)

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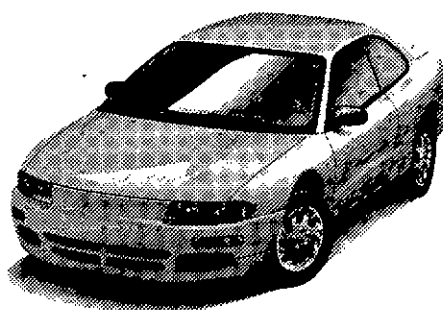
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New 1995 GMC Sierra

K-1500 4x4 sportside Z71 pkg., oil cooler, trans. cooler, 5.7 liter, 4 spd. auto., cast aluminum wheels, L265 tires, trailer tow, "SLE" pkg., air cond., stereo cass. Was \$24,007

Now \$20,307*

New 1996 GMC Sonoma

6 1/2' box sport pickup, sliding rear window, 60/40 split seat, air cond., AM/FM stereo cass., "SLS" sport model, 2.2 liter, 5 speed, cast aluminum wheels.

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New 1995 GMC Yukon

K-1500 2 door, sport running boards, "SLT" model, leather bucket seats, wheel flares, h.d. trailer tow, sport alum. wheels, trans. cooler, Z71 package.

Was \$31,591

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New 1995 GMC K1500

Sierra 4x4 pickup, 8' box, 5.0 liter V8, 4 speed auto., "SLS" package, bucket seats, AM/FM stereo cass., "SLS" sport model, 2.2 liter, 5 speed, cast aluminum wheels.

Was \$21,239

Now \$17,944*

New 1996 GMC Sonoma

4x4 club coupe, Vortec 4300-V6, 4 speed auto., alum. wheels, stereo cass., special two-tone paint, "SLS" sport decor., electronic shift, air cond.

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Now \$21,263*

New 1996 GMC K2500

Sierra 4x4 pickup, #8600 GVW, new 5700 Vortec power, H.D. auto. trans. snowplow prep package, cab lights, appearance package, H.D. trailer tow.

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MARSHALL'S

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Computer

(From Page 1)

and to the Internet and World-wide Web beyond the district.

"Stand-alone computers don't begin to tap the power" of current instructional technology, Wooster said. Without the network infrastructure, "We would miss the opportunity to connect to resources in the community and throughout the world."

Another aspect of the infrastructure spending is upgrading electrical circuits to handle the increased demand by computers, noted Richard Gross, BC's technology director.

He said that in some classrooms, if a teacher plugs in two devices, it will trip a circuit breaker.

The electrical upgrade plan includes four new connection points (outlets) per classroom, at an estimated cost of about \$800,000 districtwide.

The cabling for the local network, and the equipment to run the networks at each school, will cost about \$1 million.

"Retrofitting older schools is costly," Gross said.

The infrastructure costs are the architect's best estimates. If approved, the project would go out to bid, Wooster said.

She emphasized that, by including the technology purchase as

part of a larger building program, the district will receive 57 percent state aid for computers.

Buying computers without a related building project would not be eligible for any state aid, she added.

"We worked very hard to structure this to maximize state aid," Wooster said.

If the bond issue is approved in the Dec. 13 vote, the district has no plans for any major instructional technology purchases for the next five years, Wooster said.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the middle school on Kenwood Avenue.

Sage Colleges aiding 'Toys for Tots' project

The alumni association of The Sage Colleges will sponsor this year's U.S. Marine Forces Reserve "Toys for Tots" program.

This community service event will run through Dec. 19.

Toys should be new and unwrapped so that they can be sorted according to age and gender by the Marines. Deliveries will be accepted at the Sage Albany Campus Center, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany.

For information, contact Cathleen Fitzgerald at 445-1725.

Expansion

(From Page 1)

with Disabilities Act standards," said Reilly, whose own office is a tiny warren with files piled everywhere.

As the town continues to grow over the next 10 years, Reilly said that employees working at town hall may increase from 10 to 14, making the added space absolutely essential.

Town Clerk Corinne Cossac noted that her office is currently strapped for storage space.

"I don't have adequate space now for records retention," Cossac said. "I've got boxes stored under my desk, and there's no room in the safe."

Cossac added that having all town offices under one roof will produce some efficiencies, such as having one new heating system rather than two old ones.

"We could probably make do with what we have, but it won't be in the best interests of the public," Cossac said. "Delay will only cost us more down the road."

Reilly has included in the town's 1996 budget \$39,121 for the first payment on a 10-year bond to fund the project. Reilly said that the town has paid off all of its other long-term debt, and that the town's 1996 estimated tax rate will decrease 6.3 percent for Voorheesville village residents

and 11.2 percent for town residents outside the village.

The town hall expansion issue was one symbol of the divisions within the New Scotland Democratic Party, which suffered its worst electoral showing in more than 20 years in November.

Democratic town board candidate Patrick Brown, with the support of Councilwomen Clare Decker and Victoria Ramundo, led the petition campaign to put the town hall expansion issue to a vote.

Democrats Reilly and Councilmen Scott Houghtaling and Edward Donohue supported the expansion. Reilly won re-election in November as an independent after the town Democratic committee threw its support to Decker.

Ramundo remains opposed to the expansion.

"I don't believe the town hall expansion issue has been explored to the degree necessary to justify the expenditure" of almost \$300,000, she said.

Ramundo questioned Reilly's estimate of how much it would cost to make necessary modifications to the building on the hill and tow town hall in lieu of the expansion.

Ramundo also objected to the draft of a flier explaining the expansion, which she said was "more a document selling the town hall

expansion that a document presenting the facts."

Voting, for which all registered voters are eligible, will be from noon to 9 p.m. at all eight regular polling places in town. For information, call 439-4865.

Bethlehem Lutheran holds Advent services

The Bethlehem Lutheran Church, located at 85 Elm Ave. in Delmar, will hold three Advent services in December.

The first will take place tonight, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. The other two will be held Wednesdays, Dec. 13 and 20, also at 7:30 p.m.

The theme for the series of services is "Preparing for Christ's Coming Through the Eyes of Witnesses at the Various Events Surrounding His Birth."

For information, contact the church office at 439-4328.

Good Samaritan to hold open house

The Good Samaritan Lutheran Health Care Center, located at 125 Rockefeller Road in Delmar, will celebrate the Christmas season with its annual open house on Wednesday, Dec. 13.

The event will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the center.

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P.S. Keep your tree stand full of water daily. If you store your tree now and put it up later, keep it out of the wind and sun. Store in a cold place and recut the trunk at least 1 inch before you put it up. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. — Carl and Peggy Barkman

HOLIDAY

Gift



GUIDE

PART TWO

A Special Section of THE SPOTLIGHT

December 6, 1995

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Robin's Nest harbors local artisans' holiday work

By Susan Graves

About 70 of your neighbors have a good thing going.

And they've found the perfect spot to display their wares on New Scotland Road at the Robin's Nest gift shop in New Scotland. The shop is a little like going through your grandmother's attic, a first rate museum shop, an old-fashioned country store, an art gallery, a specialty florist and an antiques barn all in the same day.

Owner Robin Olsen and Debra MacFarland, store manager, said all their consigner artisans have gone all out for the holidays, with gifts for every taste and purse string. Local

artisans and crafters were recruited when the store opened in September, and the response was wonderful, MacFarland said.

"We even have honey that was 'buzzed' in Clarksville, and a man in Delmar who packages it," she said.

And, although there are many gifts for children, there are also some "toys" suitable for adults, including teddy bears made from real fur from old coats. Artist Barbara Pentak creates the unique bears from truly "vintage coats," MacFarland said.

Another local artist, Sandy Carl raises her own sheep and



Robin Olsen, left, holds a teddy bear made from a 'vintage' fur coat by Barbara Pentak, and Debra MacFarland shows off a hand-made Santa made by Midge Marshall.

Susan Graves

DIAMONDS for Christmas?

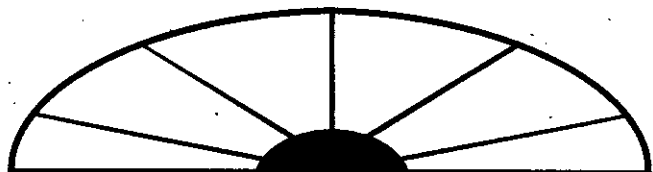
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

makes her own yarn for scarves that come in a full rainbow of

We even have honey that was "buzzed" in Clarksville, and a man in Delmar who packages it.

Debra MacFarland

colors for knitters, MacFarland added.

Olsen said the store looks for "unique things, different things, that we didn't see anywhere else," and those items include

hand-hooked rugs and quilts.

Both Olsen and MacFarland that many of the hand-made items will become tomorrow's heirlooms, including memory and brides' boxes.

Some of the store's offerings have already achieved heirloom status. Refinished wooden pieces by Ward Hotaling "go flying out of here," MacFarland said. Furniture pieces are from the 18th century all the way up to the art-deco period.

Complementing the one of a kind type of gifts is Robin's Nest's ambiance. The store is comfy and browsing is encour-

aged. "I'd say it's really relaxing in here and just a little light-hearted," she said. And, MacFarland, who admits she "never shuts up" is happy to explain all she knows about the pieces and the artists who make them.

MacFarland invites patrons to sample some of the store's "latest and greatest cafe lattes" in a relaxed shopping atmosphere. And there's always the "penny candy" for the kids, Olsen added. Handmade holiday pins and ornaments are also priced right for kids' budgets.

There are also special holiday gift baskets filled with things

"You just don't ever buy for yourself," MacFarland said.

For something really unusual, take a look at Midge Marshall's hand-carved Santas. Each is individually done, and "She even makes his leather boots," MacFarland said.

Robin's Nest will hold a special holiday open house on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

For the holidays, the store will be open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Wine choices

Follow these tips for choosing and serving wine at your next holiday party:

- Traditionally white wine is served with "lighter" dishes, such as chicken, fish, veal, many pastas and vegetarian dishes. White wine should be served chilled, but not ice-cold.

- Red wine is most often paired with "heavier" dishes such as beef, game, (venison, duck) lamb and pastas. Red wine should be served slightly cooler than room temperature.

- Don't use your party to experiment with a new wine. Buy a bottle to taste and get others' opinions before investing in a large quantity.

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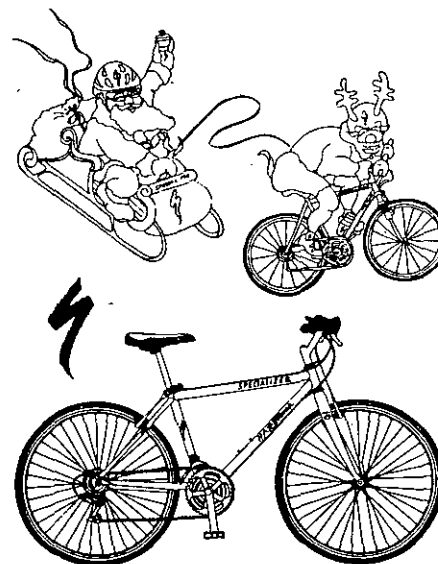
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Gourmet foods can make holidays extra special

By Tom Murnane

If the way to someone's heart is through his or her stomach, then you're in for a whole lot of lovin' this holiday season with a great selection gourmet foods and coffees from several Capital District shops.

Take Professor Java at 217 Wolf Road, just open now for two weeks, which offers a different twist on the coffee bar that's become popular in recent years, featuring a more "sophisticated Northeast feel," said co-manager Frank Figliomeni.

Customers can purchase gift baskets ranging in price from \$6.95 to \$100, he said.

"Basically, anything they want in the basket, we'll put it in," he said. Among the shop's offerings include fresh roasted beans, jellies, assorted candies, hot chocolate, coffee mugs and packaged biscotti ("Pronounced 'biscot,' not the Americanized

'biscotti,') Figliomeni said.

"If you really want to go off the wall, we'll even throw in a coffee grinder, we'll do anything," he said.

Meanwhile, at 333 Delaware Ave. in Delmar, the gourmet shop Mediterraneo offers a wide variety of specialty foods from Italy, the greater Mediterranean area and the Middle East, said co-owner Karen Knapke-Ruhaibi.

The store, which she owns with her husband Gary, is the place to go for Christmas baskets full of pastas, olive oil, cookbooks, coffee products and biscotti. The store even offers a small Middle Eastern grocery.

Shoppers can stop in for an espresso and listen to some Middle Eastern music while they browse through the store.

"We're really unique, and the presents people can get aren't something you'll find in the



Gary Ruhaibi and Karen Knapke-Ruhaibi show off an olive-oil-inspired gift basket at Mediterraneo in Delmar. *Doug Persons*

mall," she said.

For something a bit more mainstream, Cowan & Lobel at Stuyvesant Plaza in Gunderland is known as the area's gourmet market place, said general manager Donna Carnevale.

One of the store's most popular items is the New York State Basket, a collection of items produced in the Empire State that comes in two sizes, one for \$49.95 and the larger one for \$69.95, Carnevale said. The contents include: Shaker Country Meadow sweets (hard, herbal candies); maple syrup from the Burdick Sugarhouse in Stephentown; pancake mix, courtesy of the New Hope Mills; American vintage wine biscuits; and New York egg creams.

Cowan & Lobel throws in their own handmade chocolate truffles and for the larger basket, will also include cheddar cheese and New York's own Empire Apples.

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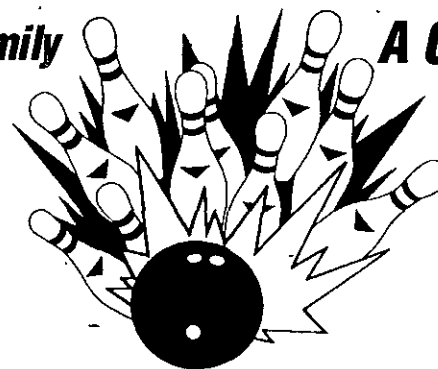
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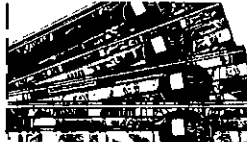
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Some toys can return a profit

The holiday season is undoubtedly the season for toys, but this year, smart gift-givers won't just settle for any old toy under the tree.

They'll be after toys that offer both play and collector value. Collectible toys — the kind that can increase in value over time and turn a profit down the road — have become big business.

"This year, collector toys have truly taken center stage," says Tom Hammel, editor of Collecting Toys magazine. "In 1995, for the first time, virtually every toy manufacturer, big and small, is offering 'special edition' or 'numbered series' toys. And, as awareness of toy collecting grows, consumer demand for these items is increasing."

This isn't news to parents who were out there hunting for Bandai's White Tiger Power Ranger last year — a toy that seemed to have a shelf life of about 15 seconds. Power Ranger toys are still a major retail sales force. However, a number of hot new toys are emerging this year, and smart shoppers will be watching for them.

Hammel offers a list of 1995 most collectible toys in the December issue of Collecting Toys.

"First, there are no Power Ranger toys on the list," Hammel said. "Instead, one of our character toy picks is McFarlane Toys' Spawn Ultra Action Figures. They're red-hot and have a lot going for them. Longevity is a key to collectibil-

ity. Spawn is a best-selling ongoing comic title, and an animated TV series and live-action feature film are in the works. Spawn is fresh, has loads of attitude and looks like it has staying power as well."

OK, but what about a toy everyone can recognize?

"Try to pick up this season's special-edition 12-inch G.I. Joe figures, ranging in price from \$9.99 to \$85. They'll be sold only at Target, KayBee Toys and FAO Schwarz stores, by the way, and each chain will have exclusive offerings," he said.

For a complete list of the toys that will top collector wish lists this year, call Collecting Toys for subscriber information at 1-800-533-6644.

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"Tis the season to be jolly" as Jim Henson Productions, an established leader in family entertainment for the past 40 years, invites you to celebrate the joys of the holiday season with the Muppets.

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In line with the Christmas theme, classic holiday videos "The Muppet Christmas Carol" and "A Muppet Family Christmas," as well as other Muppet titles, are always gift favorites.

In the new year, Jim Henson Productions continues in its tradition of presenting fun-filled family entertainment. Don't miss the Muppets' return to movie theaters in 1996, as they hit the high seas in the swashbuckling pirate adventure "Muppet Treasure Island."

The Muppets also will return to prime time with a new television series on ABC, scheduled to begin airing in early 1996.

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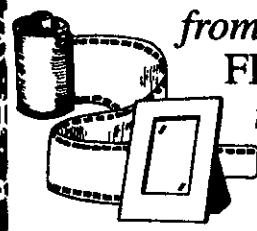
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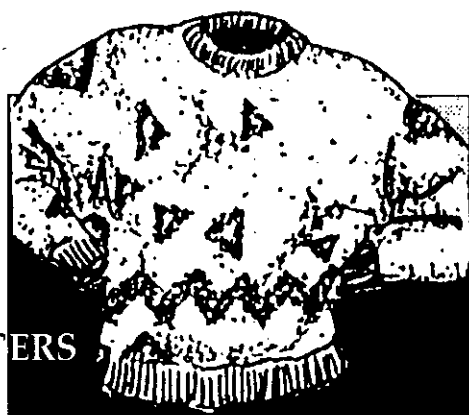
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Beatle anthology makes magical merchandise tour

By Mel Hyman

After the Beatles, what?

From the consumer demand thus far in local music stores, you'd think it was 1965 rather than 1995. But there's no substitute for success and the Fab Four (or three, to be more accurate) have the hottest discs out this holiday shopping season.

The Beatles Anthology (Volume I) has been "flying out of here," said Sharon Finn, manager of the Coconuts store in the Delaware Plaza.

And if you're not a Beatles fan? Well, there's plenty else to choose from — like the new release by that other icon to the '60s, the Rolling Stones, who recently came out with a new compact disc called "Stripped."

"It's moving very well," Finn said. "It's a mix of live and studio work from the last few years. We play it a lot here in the store. I

really like it."

Another big-seller in the pop realm is a new release by Mariah Carey, Finn said, called "Daydream," as well as an album of holiday music by Carey called "Merry Christmas."

Movie soundtracks have "really caught on" this Christmas and Hanukkah season, Finn said. One hot seller is the musical accompaniment to the summer release "Dangerous Minds."

"That's on the list of a lot of kids because it has a number of rap artists on it." Other hot sellers, Finn said, include the soundtrack to "Waiting to Exhale," a film scheduled to open in area theaters on Dec. 22.

CDs and tapes are an excellent holiday gift, Finn added, "especially for kids who really can't afford them, so their parents come in with a wish list."

Beatlemania seems to have



Joanna Patterson of Coconuts in Delaware Plaza shows off some of the hot CDs.

Doug Persons

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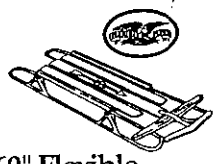
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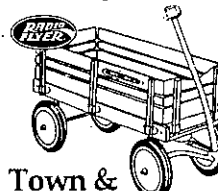
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

given new life to the music scene this holiday season, according to Rob Pociluk, manager of the Strawberries Records & Tapes store on Route 9 in Latham. All the hype attached to the new Beatles album has spurred the sales of more contemporary artists as well, such as Smashing Pumpkins, who just released a double CD called "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness."

As for music with a holiday theme, Kenny G's "Miracles," is doing "just as well if not better this year," Pociluk said.

At Borders Books and Music in Colonie, there has been a large demand for a new box set containing an anthology of blues, bluegrass and folk music put out on the Rounder label over the past 25 years, said music department manager John Gresh.

For the more classical music oriented, a new set of Bach Cello Suites performed by Rostropovich has been in high demand.

For the jazz fans on your gift list, you might want to check out the Complete Atlantic Recordings of John Coltrane, Gresh said. "As soon as we get one in, it's gone."

One thing to consider is that CDs, especially box sets and double releases, can get quite expensive. If you have a limit on how much you can spend, then you might want to try The Last Vestige, one of several used CD and tape stores that have sprouted up in the area over the past decade.

Located on Quail Street in Albany, the Last Vestige is popular among students and audiophiles with eclectic tastes

and limited incomes. You can normally find popular releases, both past and present, at a third or half of what you'd pay in the regular stores, said store manager Mike Kenney. And the condition is normally excellent.

The Last Vestige also stocks a lot of records — an ancient commodity that has recently become fashionable again.

"There is a lot of stuff that will never come out on CD that you can only get on vinyl," Kenney said. "Right now there's a big demand for old jazz records, and not just the well-known stuff like Miles Davis and Coltrane, but some of the lesser known artists as well like Jimmy Smith, who is coming to Troy in February."

Some of the '90s groups currently in demand are Alice in Chains and Green Day, Kenney said.



Jennifer Sundero and Rob Pociluk of Strawberries on Route 9 in Latham say business is brisk. *Doug Persons*

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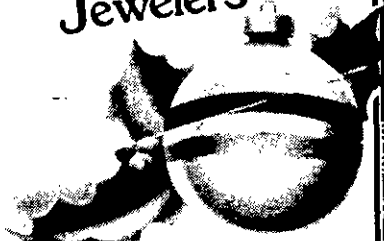
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Local garden shops spring into action for holidays

By Dev Tobin

It's not exactly gardening weather outside, but area garden shops are going full-tilt for the holiday season, providing both home decorating materials and garden-related gift ideas.

Where many garden shops used to close after there was no more outdoor gardening to be done, now the December holidays are a kind of second season, and the shops are selling more than just Christmas trees and poinsettias.

The Shaker Shed on Route 155 near the airport offers craft items, gourmet foods, tree ornaments, and floral bouquets and centerpieces, in addition to the expected poinsettias,

wreaths and trees.

Co-owner Bridget Brizzell said her shop's staff can custom-design decorations for a gift or for one's own decorating.

"We'll do anything people want, except go to their house," she said.

At Price Greenleaf in Delmar, Mike Nucci noted that while "A lot of people like to give poinsettias," the shop also offers manger sets, bird houses, tree skirts, house plants and garden tools.

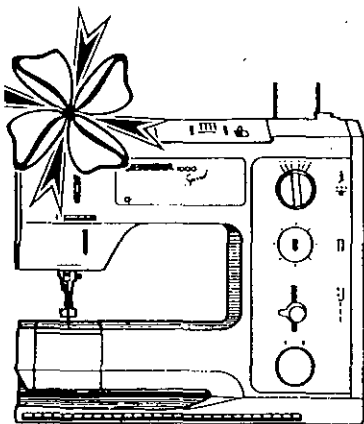
Price Greenleaf also has gift certificates, so that the gardener on your list can "get a head start in the spring," Nucci said.

Besides "all the fresh greens



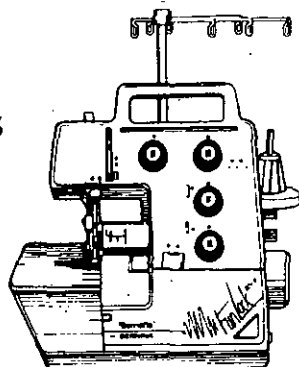
Jim Plummer, co-owner of Price Greenleaf in Delmar, puts the finishing touch on a decorated tree.

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

— wreaths, swags and roping," the Garden Shoppe at 605 Feura Bush Road in Glenmont also offers "all the hard lines — tools, books, planters, seed starters — anything a gardener would use during the year," according to Tim Nicholson.

The holidays are such a major business boost that two shops informally change their names around this time of year.

Ken Sipperly's Landscaping and Garden Shop at 206 Troy-Schenectady Road in Latham has become the Ken Sipperly Christmas Shop, featuring a wide variety of holiday items like

wreaths, trees, ornaments, light sets and village pieces.

And Heiderledge Farm on Picard Road in New Scotland becomes Helderledge for the Holidays, offering custom wreaths and arrangements.

"Someone came in this week with color chips so we could match a door wreath," said co-owner Mardell Steinkamp. "We also have a large assortment of Christmas ornaments, many of them imported."

For Jim Olsen of Olsen's Nursery and Greenhouses at 1900 New Scotland Road in Slingerlands, the gift and craft

end of his business was growing so much that he opened a separate store next door, Robin's Nest. (See story in this issue)

And just down the road at 2045 New Scotland Road, Our Family's Harvest farm stand stretches out its season by closing in November "so we can start making things" like wreaths and roping, then reopening in early December, according to co-owner Karen Moreau.



Bridget Brizzell, co-owner of the Shaker Shed in Colonie, decorates a wreath in the store's workshop.

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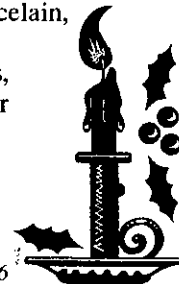
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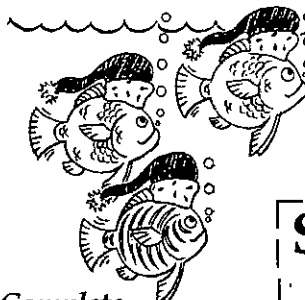
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TERESA BUCKLEY's views of life in Bethlehem can be found in *Bethlehem Diary*, on p. 222 & 256.

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Give a life-saving gift through the Red Cross

By Dr. Richard J. Davey

If you're like I am and you already feel exhausted and financially drained at the thought of fulfilling your holiday gift list, then consider giving a present that will cost you nothing, yet may be the greatest gift you will ever give — the gift of life.

Every 10 seconds, someone in America needs blood. That's some 8,000 people a day and approximately four million people each year.

To maintain an adequate national blood supply, 40,000 Americans must donate blood every day.

Unfortunately, we as a nation do not always meet that goal, at times causing blood supplies to fall to critically low levels. In fact, in the past five years, blood donations have fallen in the

United States by 10 percent. If that trend continues, America could very well be faced with a national blood supply crisis at some point in the not-so-distant future.

And paradoxically, the season of giving, the holiday months of December and January, is historically a period when blood donations are down in many communities, sometimes requiring the Red Cross to issue appeals for blood donations.

Today, fewer than one in 10 eligible Americans gives blood. And of those few who do give, many of them forget how important it is to give on a regular basis.

Blood donors are giving less frequently these days. As a nation, we give little thought to the miracle of modern medicine unless someone dear to us

needs that miracle.

And as simple as it is, a blood donation is one of those miracles that will save a life, perhaps someone you know.

Often, the people who receive blood transfusions are experiencing a life-or-death medical emergency.

Thousands of other Americans also require blood transfusions regularly to survive, such as people suffering from sickle cell anemia, cancer, leukemia, hemophilia, and heart disease, to name just a few.

Perhaps it's easy to think that our neighbors or co-workers will donate, but the truth is, the responsibility begins with each of us.

The holiday season is the perfect time to pause and take stock of what each of us has

accomplished and what we hope to achieve in the new year. We'll promise to become more involved in our community. Many of us make lists of humanitarian organizations we'll support. Consider making a promise to give blood. With this gift, you will know you are helping others. And more important, you will be giving the gift of life to someone who needs you now. Giving blood is truly a great act of kindness, and a unique gift that will be remembered for this season and forever.

The Red Cross is the largest collector, processor, tester and distributor of blood in the United States, supplying approximately 3,000 hospitals. It does so through the generous donations of some 22,000 people daily.

Anyone interested in donating blood can schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE, America's BloodLine.

Dr. Davey is the chief medical officer for the American Red Cross.

Delmar church offering discount books

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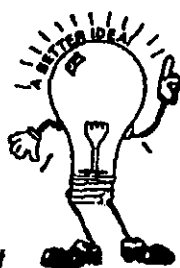
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Casual entertaining comes home for the holidays

As hosts and hostesses gear up for the year's most hectic entertaining season, they're burdened with nagging questions: Should the meal be sit-down or buffet? Do I bring out the good china or use paper plates? Will I have enough room for everyone?

While there will always be anxiety associated with hosting a holiday gathering, there's

good news for harried party planners—casual entertaining is making a comeback.

"The holidays are all about the comforts of home and the company of good friends," says Beverly Church, co-author of *The Joys of Entertaining*. "Gone are the days when fussy, formal gatherings were the standard.

Nowadays, people just want to have fun, and if the host is

having a good time, chances are the guests are, too."

To make your next holiday celebration one that your guests will remember fondly, Church offers these tips:

- Plan ahead. Whenever possible, do "busy work" ahead of time, including shopping, preparing part of the meal a day or two in advance, keeping detailed lists, cleaning the

house, and even setting the table the day before.

Always have more food and wine on hand than you think you'll need; running to the store in the middle of a party is no fun.

- Start out right. A gracious, warm greeting at the door from the host or hostess is essential to make your guests feel at home. Remember to introduce

guests to one another as soon as possible.

- Go with what you know. Simplicity is the key, so stick with the basics, the recipe that's never steered you wrong or the wine everyone seems to love.

If your strength is decorating, give it your best and leave the rest, such as cooking or cleaning, to the professionals.



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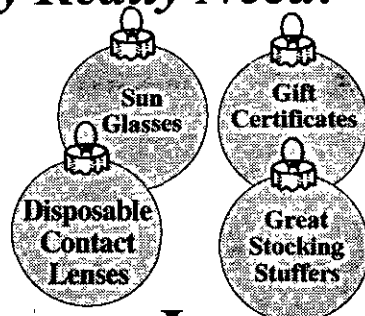
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Stumped for ideas? Here are some suggestions

The holidays are here. It's time for festivities, fun, good cheer — and stress. Choosing gifts for relatives, friends and co-workers can be very challenging, because there are always those people for whom you just can't think of a gift.

Here are some ideas that can make gift-giving easier and the season a little brighter:

- For the women on your list who love to be "in fashion," give the hottest looks of the season. From simple, silhouette-conscious dresses to menswear looks with a feminine twist, there's something for everyone. For those stylish men on your list, remember that

textured tones are changing the image of tailored clothing. So, why not get a herringbone blazer or vest?

- If you're not sure about sizes or colors, try accessories or jewelry for that fashionable woman. Everything from diamonds to gold-tone silver jewelry to pearls showed up on the runways when designers revealed their fashions for the season. The simplest accessory can turn an ordinary outfit into a chic ensemble thanks to your gift.

- Put a smile on someone's face this holiday by giving her a make-over at her favorite cosmet-

ics shop. If a friend has been feeling down lately, this could be the perfect pick-me-up to brighten her day and help her feel better about herself.

- For those high-tech lovers on your gift list, electronics are the way to go. The choices range from stereo components to a portable cassette player and everything in between. If someone you know just bought a new CD changer, give new music. If there's a true consumer electronics buff on your list, this person probably has several remote controls. Why not buy a remote caddy? That way, he or she won't have to search the living

room for the remote before changing the channel.

- Books are always a good choice for a gift. Whether it's romance, science fiction, horror, self-help, history or crossword puzzles, there is a huge variety of books available. If you're not sure about a particular author, ask the salespeople at the bookstore. They can recommend authors and titles if you don't know what to choose.

- A fun part of the holidays for children is receiving new toys — and there's quite a selection out there, from traditional favorites to the latest action heroes. When buying your gift, remember to get

a toy that's appropriate for the child's age.

- If you just can't think of anything to buy, try creating a gift. Whether it's making candy, baking cookies or stitching a craft, people will appreciate the extra time and effort you put into their gift.

- When time is running out, stores are crowded and selection is low, don't forget about gift certificates. A certificate to a person's favorite store or restaurant is a good gift; it lets him or her select something personally, and he or she knows it's special because it's coming from you.



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Come to grips with gifts for athletes

By John Thorpe

Having trouble finding an original gift for the athlete on your holiday shopping list? Maybe the experts can help.

While the same requests continue to pile in for Cowboys, Raiders and 49ers gear, along

A good holiday gift for a cyclist might be some cool-weather riding gear.

Garrick Dardani

with Nike sneakers and Notre Dame hats, Latham's Klein's All Sports manager Craig Tetrault is full of ideas for gifts.

"We have electronic dartboards, for a good winter indoor activity," he said. "And we have ski racks for cars, for people who may be getting into the sport but don't have all the equipment," he added.

In the realm of funky ski-wear, Tetrault suggests a Bula clown hat, made of fleece, an item all the rage with snowboarders these days.

One other unique idea he recommends for anyone trying to get in shape is a pedometer.

"It's great for keeping track of how far you walk, and some even keep track of how many calories you've burned," he said. "They're great for someone who walks the malls, or is a little bit older. They hook to your belt, just like a beeper."

Along those lines, Garrick Dardani at Steiner's Sports in Delmar suggests considering a heart-rate monitor for the cyclist on your list. Steiner's, which specializes in bike and ski equipment, has other unique items as well.

"A good holiday gift for a cyclist might be some cool-weather riding gear," said Dardani. "People can always use

coats, vests or tights for riding in fall or winter."

Dardani also proposes snowboards as a gift idea. "It's easier than skiing," he said, "and just about anybody can do it. It's a really fun sport, with a lot of energy involved," he added.

If you have young kids, soccer's probably high on the activities list. John Pauley, of Soccer Unlimited in Colonie, can help, perhaps starting with a stocking stuffer. "Brine key chains are selling like crazy," he said of the popular name brand. "We can't keep them in stock."

You might also consider soccer footwear. "With the indoor season just starting, everyone needs different footwear," said Pauley.

With all the youth leagues out there, perhaps you know someone about to take the plunge into coaching. Soccer Unlimited can help there too, by

offering plenty of coaching tapes, as well as highlight and blooper tapes. They also carry Alley Cat T-shirts, and Pauley is hopeful of getting more Alley Cat apparel as the season wears on.

And whether it's hockey or figure skates you're after, Lefty's Sporting Goods in Latham probably has them. Wally Lozano of Lefty's offered some other hints.

"Adults can always use a sweat suit to lounge around in, and for kids, we specialize in putting local schools' names on all types of clothing," he said.

Bob Van Aernem of Delmar Sports also noted that a gift certificate can still be a thoughtful stocking stuffer. "How about one offering free golf club re-gripping?" he asked.

With all these ideas, maybe you can avoid just giving golf balls again this year.

Take stock in funds for kids

If you are looking for gift ideas for your children, consider opening a mutual fund geared to kids.

Stein Roe, a Chicago-based investment management firm, manages the Young Investor Fund, a mutual fund designed to help provide a competitive long-term investment return and to help educate young people about investing.

The fund's portfolio invests in stocks that kids identify with, such as Disney, Nike, McDonald's and Coca Cola.

The fund's annual and semi-annual reports are written in kid-friendly language. Investors also receive "Dollar Digest," Stein Roe's Young Investor Quarterly newsletter.

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Collectible toys catching on

The holiday season is undoubtedly the season for toys, but this year, smart gift-givers won't just settle for any old toy under the tree.

They'll be after toys that offer both play and collector value. Collectible toys — the kind that can increase in value over time and turn a profit down the road — have become big business.

"This year, collector toys have truly taken center stage," says Tom Hammel, editor of Collecting Toys magazine. "In 1995, for the first time, virtually every toy manufacturer, big and small, is offering 'special edition' or 'numbered series' toys. And, as awareness of toy collecting grows, consumer demand for these items is increasing

dramatically."

This isn't news to parents who were out there hunting for Bandai's White Tiger Power Ranger last year — a toy that seemed to have a shelf life of about 15 seconds.

Power Ranger toys are still a major retail sales force. However, a number of hot new toys are emerging this year, and smart shoppers will be watching for them.

Hammel offers a list of 1995 most collectible toys in the December issue of Collecting Toys.

"First, there are no Power Ranger toys on the list," Hammel said. "Instead, one of our character toy picks is McFarlane Toys' Spawn Ultra Action

Figures. They're red-hot and have a lot going for them. Longevity is a key to collectibility. Spawn is a best-selling ongoing comic title, and an animated TV series and live-action feature film are in the works. Spawn is fresh, has loads of attitude and looks like it has staying power as well. The same goes for toys based on 'The Tick.'"

OK, but what about a toy everyone can recognize?

Hammel said that some G.I. Joe figures look like a good investment.

For a complete list of the toys that will top collector wish lists this year, call Collecting Toys for subscriber information at 1-800-533-6644.

Runners speak up

Many things have been said about running, ranging from the ridiculous to the sublime. A new book gathers the best quotes on the sport, whether inspirational, literary or downright funny.

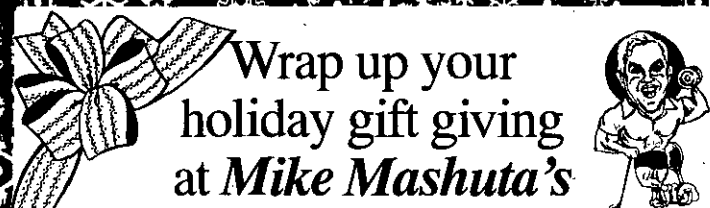
In the pages of "The Quotable Runner," Roger Bannister compares running with classical drama; Alberto Salazar compares it with bullfighting; and Gen. George Patton compares it, of course, with war.

The book has training advice: "The will to win means nothing without the will to prepare," says marathon great Juma Ikangaa.

It also includes dietary philosophy: "Without ice cream, there would be darkness and chaos," asserts Olympian Don Kardong.

Perhaps Oprah Winfrey puts it best: "Running is the greatest metaphor for life, because you get out of it what you put into it."

A great gift for any runner, "The Quotable Runner" is available in all bookstores, or call the publisher at 1-800-548-4348.



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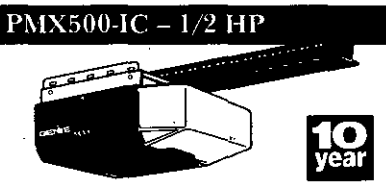
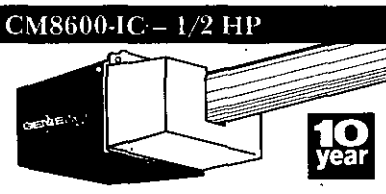
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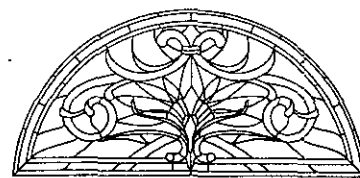


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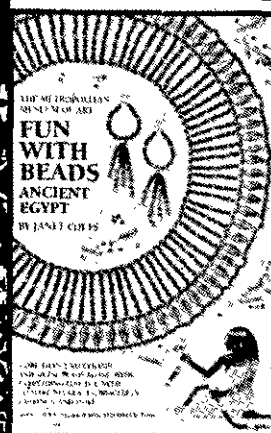
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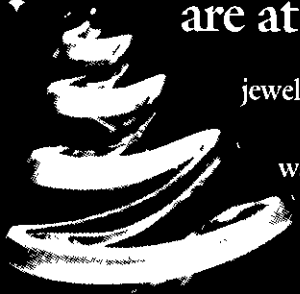
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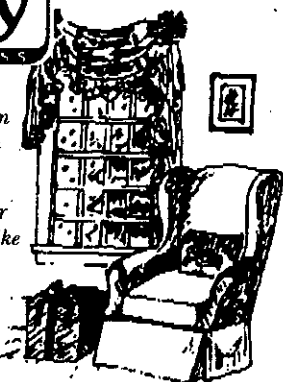
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Give holiday cheer Italian style with cappuccino

Will cappuccino and latte replace traditional eggnog this holiday season?

As cafes and coffee bars become familiar fixtures on the American scene, frothy, espresso-based drinks are more

The newest cappuccino machines make preparing cappuccino, espresso and latte easier than ever.

popular than ever and perfect for parties.

For the folks on your gift list who love entertaining and fine dining, a cappuccino maker is as authentic as a visit to a traditional coffee bar. According to home-entertaining experts, the secret to genuine restaurant-style cappuccino is in the froth.

The newest cappuccino machines make preparing delizioso cappuccino, espresso



For the folks on your holiday gift list who love entertaining and fine dining, the cappuccino maker is the perfect present. The newest cappuccino makers create a rich, creamy froth and a delicious espresso for restaurant-style cappuccino in your own home every time.

and latte easier than ever.

Just add milk to the froth dispenser. It dispenses rich, creamy froth directly into the cup for perfect cappuccino every time.

Unlike the old conventional espresso/cappuccino machines, which require very cold low-fat or skim milk, the newest machines use any kind of milk to produce foolproof froth. And, the

easy, push-button operation eliminates the need for steam valve and frothing attachments, which are often confusing to operate.

Cappuccino makers, with their reliable steam operation and variable brew-strength selector, produce truly professional specialty coffee drinks that will delight all the coffee lovers on your list.

Create a holiday coffee bar

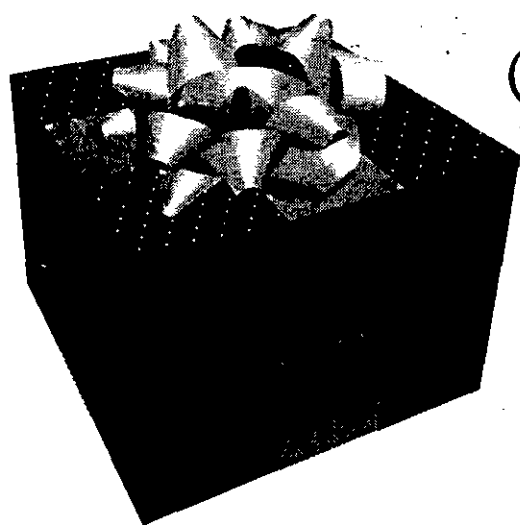
Planning your own holiday party? Why not set up a coffee bar at home with a cappuccino machine and create some of these festive espresso-based recipes from for family or guests:

- **Cappuccino Delizioso**—For perfect cappuccino, brew a cup of espresso coffee, using freshly ground espresso in the strength you prefer. Pour an equal amount of whole or low-fat milk into the milk container of your Caffe Siena machine. Hold the cup of espresso

under the dispenser and froth milk directly into the cup. Sprinkle cinnamon or cocoa over each cup.

- **Viennese Coffee**—Prepare a cup of strong espresso. Cover with a thick layer of lightly beaten cream.

- **Cafe Granita**—For each person, place a cup of very strong, chilled sweetened espresso in a shaker filled with one quarter cup of crushed ice. Shake, pour the coffee into a glass, and mix in one tablespoon of whipped cream.



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