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DETHLEHEM PUBLIC

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem & New Scotland

voiume ALIV Number 18 Fifty Cents

May 5, 1999



Lisa Lytle of the Artists' Studio gave a painting demonstration at Bethlehem Central Middle School during Feestelijk '99.

BC board candidates poised for campaign

Scherer

Stoker

By MAUREEN FREEMAN

Five candidates — two incumbents

and three newcomers – seats on the for Bethlehem school board will square off in a candidates debate on Monday, May 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the middle

They will be vying for three seats that will open at the end of June. One current board member. Pamela Williams, is not seeking re-election after 12 years on the board.

The candidates are:

Happy Scherer

School board president for the past two years, Scherer is seeking office the fourth time since 1992, when she joined the board.

She has also served as vice president.

A resident of Bethlehem for 18 years, Scherer has two daughters who are graduates of the high school and a third who is a junior.

She has worked for 27 years as a mental health clinician, consultant and administrator, specializing in children and

families, and is currently chief operating officer for the Hudson Alliance, a network of nonprofit health care

providers.

Schwab

Storey

Wing

A former chair woman of the WMHT television auction, Scherer has been a

Girl Scout leader in Bethlehem for 13 years, also serving on the board of the Hudson Valley Scout Council.

Scherer said she first became interested in serving on the school board when she was president of the Bethlehem Music Association.

The new Early Learning Center, improvement of labs science and technology upgrades are among the accomplishments she's proudest of.

"I've been very vocal about the concerns of atrisk kids," Scherer added. She spent time on a board subcommittee whose goal was to find alternatives to help struggling students.

She cites new Regents mandates and the district's infrastructure as being among the issues the board will face in the coming term.

New Regents requirements for graduating high school students "involve changes in the way we're doing business in Bethlehem," she said. "The challenge is to do that

and not lose the creative types of programs that work for kids. I'm very concerned about losing that innovation and looking at kids individually."

The major issue of maintaining or replacing aging buildings and facilities continues to face the school board, she said, and finding money to replace the deteriorating running track at the high school is the latest problem.



After losing a 1995 bid for a board seat to two incumbents, Schwab was successful in the 1996 election. He is seeking his second term this year.

A Bethlehem resident for 11 years, he has five children who attend the district's high school, middle school and ☐ CANDIDATES/page 32

Library chief: \$2.7M budget plan is tight

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

Bethlehem Public Library has announced a proposed 1999-2000 budget that Director Nancy Pieri describes as "tight and responsible."

The vote is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, at Bethlehem Central Middle School, the same day residents will vote on the school budget and for school and library board candidates.

Copies of the proposal were mailed to residents of the Bethlehem Central School District last week, and the board has scheduled a meeting for May 10 to discuss the budget.

"It ensures the continuation of the excellent services the public has come to expect," Pieri said of the projected \$2.7 million budget, up 4.47 percent from the current year's figure.

To support that increase, projected tax levies will rise by 5.74 percent, necessitating an increase of \$1.35 per thousand (5.91 percent) for Bethlehem residents, \$1.47 (4.13 percent) for those in New Scotland. "We've really held the line," Pieri said.

In fact, most line items for the coming year are projected at the same, or slightly lower, figures compared to the current budget. The largest exception is an increase in salaries, which make up more than half of the budget, to \$1,578,1287, a 5.59 percent increase.

Comparable payroll-related increases are seen in health insurance (proposed for \$160,000) and Social Security payments (nearly \$121,000).

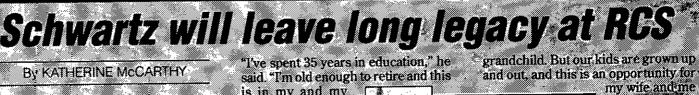
They are slightly offset by a lower projected contribution to the statemandated retirement system, set for

\$15,000 in the proposed budget, down by \$10,000. Overall, employee benefits will be up from \$304,794 to \$315,731.

The hikes in payroll costs, Pieri said, are the result of the recently-negotiated union contract for library employees, and reflect no additional hiring.

Similarly, a modest hike in bookpurchasing, from \$167,475 to \$174,500, reflects no increase in buying, but rather,

☐ LIBRARY/page 22



William Schwartz was hired by the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District as vice principal of the senior high school in 1971. Since then, he has been director of secondary education, acting superintendent of schools, high school principal, assistant superintendent of schools, and, since 1986, superintendent.

But when Schwartz retires in August, the district and community will have to make do without him. is in my and my

family's best interests.'

Schwartz is not completely retiring however, but will direct a charter school in Foxboro. Mass, in the fall.

"I'm excited about it," Schwartz said, "but some days I ask myself why I don't just retire and play with my

It's been quite a journey. The school is part of my extended family.

to travel, and I can continue my commitment to public educa-

Iamily. Still, the **Schwartz** Selkirk residents feels rooted in his community. "I've been a member.

of this community and school district

... □ SCHWARTZ/pagej20

Munnelly wins court battle over run

By Joseph A. Phillips

State Supreme Court Justice E. Michael Kavanaugh issued an Monday Bethlehem Town Justice Kenneth Munnelly his wish — a full four-the elections board that vear term on the bench, thus avoiding a re-election campaign this year. But the ruling may yet face the ballot this November. appeal by town officials.

ago to fill a seat left vacant by the death in mid-term of Justice Peter Wenger, filed suit on April 14

under Article 78 against Town Bethlehem Town Clerk Kathleen Newkirk and the county Board of granting Elections. He sought to overturn Newkirk's January certification to Munnelly's judicial post was among town offices to be listed on

Election-law attorney Thomas Munnelly, elected two years Spargo, acting on behalf of county Election Commissioner George Scaringe, filed a reply to the suit just last week, to which Bethlehem

PROMETRIC

Attorney Bernard Kaplowitz, representing Newkirk, added his assent. Spargo maintained that Munnelly's position misconstrued the constitution; that his action, coming two years after the election, was not timely, and that Bethlehem voters at the time believed they were voting for Munnelly for a two-year term only.

But in his ruling, dated April 24 and handed down on May 3, Kavanaugh declared those arguments "lacked merit." He agreed with Munnelly's position that the state constitution does not provide for electing town justices to complete unexpired terms, but only for full four-year terms.

"I'm pleased that the confusion concerning my term of office has been resolved, and I look forward to serving the next two-years plus as town judge," Munnelly said. "I'm glad to receive my constitutionally mandated term of office."

Kaplowitz said Tuesday he still awaited a copy of the judge's decision. "While I can't offer an opinion without seeing the ruling," he said, "I'd be inclined to appeal."

Corrections

The cover page in last week's special section on Feestelijk incorrectly ran a photo of Skip Parsons, who did not participate in this year's event.

In a letter to the editor an incorrect amount was listed for busing additional students next year. The buses and drivers needed will cost taxpayers \$125,000 for the 250 additional students who would be eligible to ride school buses next year.

Bear hug



Smokey Bear and Ranger Lt. Darryl J. Kittle, hold Anne Furman at a celebration of Arbor Day at Five Rivers Environmental Center.

Elaine McLain

WM. P. McKeough

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Library to host legal decision day

Bethlehem Public Library will host Decision Making Day 1999 on Thursday, May 6, at 10 a.m.

Delmar-based estate planning and elder law attorney Margaret Reed will discuss the legal means by which people's health care and financial decisions can be honored in the event of physical or mental incapacitation.

Coffee and tea will be served, and free handouts will be avail-

For information, call 439-9314.

Quilters to meet

Quilters United in Learning Together (QUILT) will meet on Friday, May 14, at 9:30 a.m. at Delmar United Methodist Church at 428 Kenwood Ave, Delmar.

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BCHS students are engrossed by the equipment in the C-SPAN bus.

BCHS students enjoy C-SPAN bus

By Joseph A. Phillips

A gorgeously sunny Friday morning, a school day no less, and where was the nearest group of teen-agers? In the classroom? Or at least outside, getting a little healthful fresh air, soaking up the rays? No - crammed together on a couch, their attention riveted to a TV screen.

Outside, in the sunlight, Bethlehem Central High School social studies coordinator John Piechnik could not have been more delighted. Outside, that is, the C-SPAN School Bus, which on the morning of April 30, was curbside in the parking lot of the high school. Piechnik was marshalling the next group of students waiting for a chance to board the bus.

"We consider ourselves very fortunate that they're visiting Bethlehem," said Piechnik. "TV is a tremendous source of information for our students. And (C-SPAN) not being a commercial venture, it's probably as unbiased as you can hope for."

Inside, students from a junior American history class hung on a presentation by a C-SPAN representative before a bank of TV screens — discussing the bells and whistles of the remote satellite broadcast studio packed aboard the 45-foot bus, but also the substance of the cable network's programming, and the value of unedited coverage of pub-

"When they first walk on the SPAN's Liz Jansen, accompany-

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ing the bus on its Bethlehem stop. "But I hope we also make them more aware that they do have access to their public officials. They might not turn on to it right away, but we hope eventually they will."

C-SPAN — the acronym stands for Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network — is a nonprofit programmer jointly supported by a coalition of cable service providers nationwide. They include TimeWarner Cable, whose Albany division recently began offering service in the town of Bethlehem.

C-SPAN is dedicated to coverage of public affairs events, like governmental hearings, political campaigns, policy speeches and press conferences — events normally transmitted over the airwaves condensed, as sound bites on the evening news or, at best, news segments of a few minutes' duration. On C-SPAN, they are presented in their entirety, warts and all. The viewer, in effect, becomes his or her own TV news editor.

During high-profile political events, like the recent Senate impeachment trial, C-SPAN becomes a public video record and continuous witness to the proceedings. Most of the time, however, it is the province of cable flippers, policy wonks and insomniacs. But C-SPAN's own vision of its audience is somewhat larger.

"What we do is provide the public with access to their officials, without any mediating journalist or talking head, uncut," said bus, they are pretty much inter- Jansen. "We let our viewers deested in the technology," said C- cide what is important in these news events." They also provide supplementary programming, including weekends devoted to discussion of books, occasional callin shows, and special programming from the hinterlands, by way of the C-SPAN School Bus.

Two of these mobile studios roam the country at any given moment; the other was visiting a book fair on the West Coast, Jansen said. They serve a dual function: public education. through visits to schools and civic groups, and gathering some of that remote programming.

The one visiting Bethlehem had left Nashville, Tenn., just days earlier, there in conjunction with an ongoing series of programs, "American Presidents: Life Por-

traits," devoted to the men who have served the country's highest elective office for two centuries.

Having wrapped up a visit to The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's Tennessee estate, the next stop after Bethlehem was to be a Monday date in Kinderhook, for a live telecast from Lindenwald, the home of Martin Van Buren.

When the bus is to visit a particular area served by C-SPAN affiliates like TimeWarner, the network contacts the local operators, who then reach out to community groups, public officials and schools to gauge their interest in a visit. A call a few days earlier by Albany-based TimeWarner Vice President Peter Taubkin to Supervisor Sheila Fuller's office led to the hookup with Piechnik.

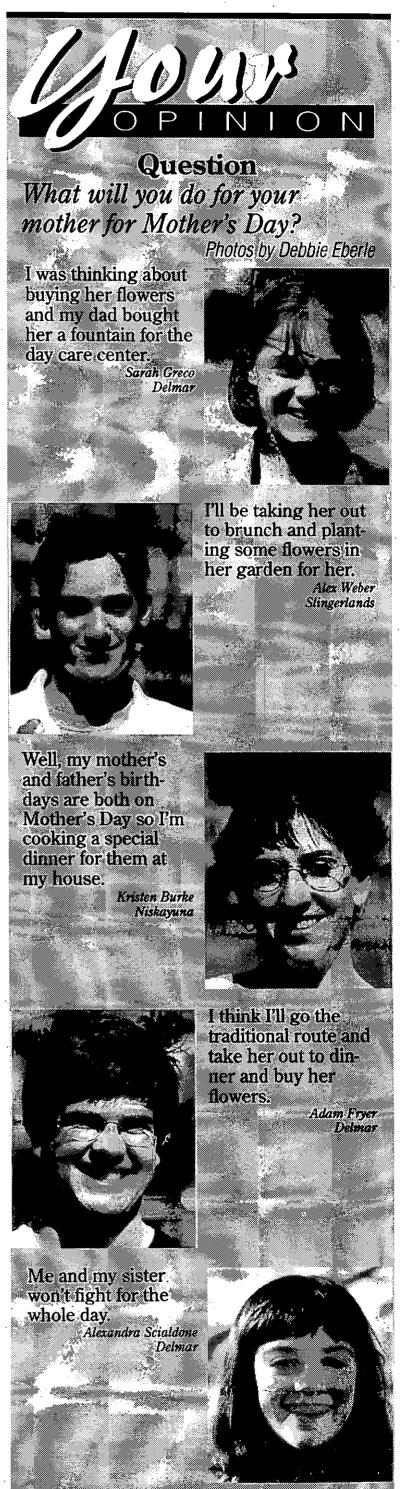
We said, hey, let's take advantage of the opportunity," Piechnik said. "Some of the best things that occur for a teacher happen quickly."

Given the short time to plan for the four-hour visit, Piechnik met with his social studies colleagues and planned for a cross-section of classes to visit the bus, particularly juniors, for whom American public affairs are the center of the social studies curriculum. "We wanted to make maximum use of it for the students in U.S. history and government courses," he said.

A tour of the bus was also arranged for a group of faculty and staff to acquaint them better with C-SPAN's educational offerings, which include C-SPAN in the Classroom programming, supported by instructional materials, that are currently in use in Bethlehem schools. "We want to let teachers know that information is out there that they can use," said Jansen.

This trip to the region was not the first by the C-SPAN School Bus: Taubkin said his company has been involved in four or five. "We have certainly found that any time we've had the bus in the area. it provides a great visual and learning experience for students, and also for the teachers," he said.

"We feel very fortunate here in Albany that we've established a great relationship with C-SPAN. Having the bus here so many times in a short period speaks to that relationship. It's always very, very well received."



Fishing expedition nets ebb and flow of life

By Katherine McCarthy

Trout streams are brown things in the early spring. Tight green buds may hover at the tips of the tree limbs, but brown bark flanks fishermen who walk through last autumn's leaves to the muddy slopes that usually end in tan rocks edging the river. Sunlight doesn't dapple but casts warmth directly onto the stream, an undulating clear thickness that magnifies the beige rocks still safe from moss under the flow of water.

Astream makes its own sounds. On an April day in Bennington, our piece of South Stream whooshed gently in one place and splashed constantly elsewhere as water curled up and jumped over a protruding rock. But always, a sound, as the water continued its timeless journey.

It was our first fishing trip of the season; the day after my grandmother turned 83. She fished there as a girl, later a mother. Grandpa must have, too, in the days when eating frogs' legs had less to do with gourmet dining than it did with necessity borne of the Depression. My mother and her brothers fished all over their

COMMENTARY: *M*om's **//**Oord



hometown.

My brother Tom was with us on this April day, moving down the stream with his fly rod, looking like Brad Pitt in "A River Runs Through It." Christopher tried to keep up with him, knowing that his greatest chance of getting a fish lay with following his outdoorsy uncle. As Tom's fishing line taunted the water with rhythmic casts, Christopher cast his wormy hook into the river and followed Tom's advice to let the water take it downstream a little.

Cormac settled on a big rock near me, aiming for the shallow pool where a boy had caught a 6inch brookie just before we arrived. Upstream, Chris worked the underside of a log. I have no fishing pole, but may trade off with Chris; our experience so far is that one adult usually needs to

dead sticks or overhead tree as we walked on the frozen lake to branches, help cut worms in half, and in a best case scenario, help unhook and toss back a fish.

I settle onto a broad boulder until needed, and am amazed when a full five minutes go by and the loudest noise remains the river, not the need for more bait. Christopher, who seems to have spent the winter growing, is quite competent today, and has followed Tom's lead of intent relaxation. Cormac does a little dance as he tosses his line into the water, pausing to grin and wave at me. Chris is silhouetted further up the river. and the sound of the stream reassures me that, at least for this moment, all is fine with the world.

I have time to daydream and ruminate, then, and think of all the other times I've sat and watched water. As children, we fished Lake Champlain, from docks and piers, or rowboats that Dad pulled for us, as we let our lines flow behind us. On clear days, we could watch the perch take the bait. Sometimes, on sunny winter days, my mother would pack picnic lunches and thermoses of hot

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catch firm-fleshed, ice-cold fish through a tiny hole.

When I met Chris, we spent summer weekends on the tip of Long Island, where the Atlantic roared in our ears under crystalline blue skies. In Ireland, we've seen the same ocean as a vast expanse stretching all the way

But on a cool April day, water was a small, fast-moving stream carrying away thoughts and troubles, a living metaphor for the movement of life. Dad and Timmy aren't with us this spring, but here on this river, I know they will always remain a part of us. My boys have grown big and competent, but for just this minute, we are all together and content.

My mother and grandmother are at the house they both grew up in, making sandwiches for us to eat when we pull ourselves away from the stream. Mother's Day approaches, the time to honor them for bringing us into this world and guiding us out to the rivers of our own lives. The stream refuses to let me think about what material gift to give them, but has created a less temporal time and place to realize what a gift it is just to be alive, and surrounded by the people I love.

Our family's story has flowed as unceasingly as this stream. My grandmother is the oldest living end of our story now; my children are its youngest manifestation. Chris, my brother and I and my mother are at differing points

help bait hooks, untangle line from chocolate, and pull them on a sled along the way. Put all together, we are like the volume of water that courses over the rocks, splitting off at different points, some of us rushing, some gathering in small pools, but all of us remaining part. of the same whole.

> For Mother's Day, I wish all mothers that rarest of things: a few peaceful moments near some stream of their own. I hope that water reflects back to them all the love they've given us, and they hear all their children's voices.

Thank you, Mom, and happy Mother's Day.

May is volunteer recruiting month

The town of Bethlehem has proclaimed May as "Volunteer Firefighter and EMS Recruitment. Month" in conjunction with a county-wide effort to boost the ranks of volunteer emergency service personnel.

In a proclamation, Supervisor Sheila Fuller noted that "The numbers of individuals willing to volunteer for these vital community tasks has been dwindling," and declared the town's support forthe effort organized by volunteer fire chiefs throughout the county.

"Each and every resident of the Town of Bethlehem owes a debt of gratitude to the selfless people who so generously give of their time and talent to ensure the safety and well-being of their friends and neighbors," the proclamation stated, urging "all able residents to consider becoming a part of this noble and worthwhile program."

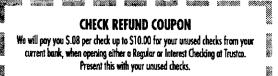


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Center focus is on total health

By Katherine McCarthy

Delmar Wellness Center at 323 Delaware Ave. last September, bringing to fruition an idea he first had in 1986 for a multi-discipline health center.

Olejak, whose name was Barile until he recently married Swissborn Florence Olejak, grew up and still lives in Chatham. He has practiced in Delmar since 1989. when he took over his father's practice at 163 Delaware Ave. Both he and his father received doctorates from Palmer School of Chiropractic in Iowa.

In addition to Olejak, licensed massage therapist Dawn Turner and licensed acupuncturist Edward Kuntz also work at the cen-

Olejak is a strong proponent of contextual healing. "When people are ill," he said, "they're often focused on the symptom. But context is important, too. That's something that goes back to the time of Pasteur; 'it's not the bug, it's the terrain,' as he said. So we take a look at stress, nutrition and the nervous system. As people learn more, they become more independent."

He pays particular attention to the structure/function relationship in his patients. "If you have a weak body part," Olejak said, "I want to look at improving the function of it. To do that, I'll look at the structure." From there, he looks to applied kinesiology, and relates principles of movement to the structure/function relationship.

"I'll do some muscle testing," said Olejak. "That's the main way we can assess the function. I'll look at people's postures, their range of motion, and ask about' hour massage, \$50 for an hour, nutrition.

Joseph Olejak opened The function relationship is subluxation," he said, naming the clinical entity that interferes with the normal flow of nervous system information.

> Olejak cited a recent article in The Journal of the American Medical Association concerning the increase in the number of patients seeking treatments such as chiropractic, massage and acupuncture, making once alternative methods part of the mainstream. Like so many other societal changes, he attributed the trend to baby boomers.

"Baby boomers are looking at aging," he said. "As people are living longer, they want to be healthier, and prevention is an important aspect of that.'

Most of his patients come from direct doctor referrals, Olejak said, and he takes time to listen and take lengthy case histories. "In the last 10 years, it turns out the available at Delmar Wellness Cenmost important clinical tool is a ter. good case history," he said. "If a person is new to alternative healing, we take the time to talk to them about it," he added.

Payment for treatments such as chiropractic, massage and acupuncture are often not covered by insurance, but The Delmar Wellness Center tries to keep fees manageable. "We have to provide low-tech, high-touch care without breaking the bank," Olejak said. "This office chose not to be involved in an HMO because we didn't want third-party gatekeepers to affect our care.'

Olejak charges \$15 for an adjustment, and \$20 for an exam. Turner, who also has a nursing degree, charges \$30 for a half-

"The nutshell of structure/ and \$75 for an hour and a half. Kuntz charges \$65 for an initial two-hour consultation, and \$55 for an hour-long acupuncture treatment.

> The center offers an ongoing schedule of healthy living seminars that cover a number of topics, from Healing Through Storytelling, taught by local storyteller Dee Ellen Lee; alternative childbirthing classes with certified midwife Kelly McDermott, and Olejak's program on preventing osteoporosis.

> Along with Letitia Splain Dayer, Olejak has also produced an audio cassette and booklet entitled "15 Minutes to Relaxation: the One Percent Solution to Stress."

"One percent of a 24-hour day is 15 minutes," he said. "Every-body can find 15 minutes a day to focus and center themselves, which is what this tape and booklet help you do." The booklet is

Letter carriers to collect food in Saturday drive

ern New York Branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers, representing workers at all area post offices, will participate in a National Food Drive to collect food items for the less fortunate on Saturday, May 8.

Carriers will collect nonperishable donated food items during their regular delivery rounds that

Customers are asked to leave those items in or near their mailboxes to be picked up. Food items

Members of the Northeast- should not be in glass containers.

Food collected in each community will be delivered to the nearest food pantry.

4-H Teen Council to meet in V'ville

The 4-H Teen Council will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. at William Rice Jr. Extension Center, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville. For information call 765-3500.



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Matters of Upinion

Mother's Day

Sometimes it's the little intangible things that make Mother's Day special. Things like raking the yard or tilling the garden or even serving breakfast in bed mean a lot for most mothers who give so tirelessly of their time raising

Of course, flowers or mom's favorite perfume are nice touches to show appreciation for everything she does throughout the year, but some personal gift of time is truly what she'll likely treasure most.

All too often, we come to "expect" the extra special things from our mothers who already give so much. The rock-hard support in good times and bad, the generosity, even when we don't deserve it, the unconditional love, are things that can not be measured.

So on Mother's Day, show mom you really do honor her for everything she is and everything she does. Show her you care.

Candidates to debate

For the first time in several years, the Bethlehem school board contest is shaping up to be a real horse race. To make a decision residents should attend a Candidates Debate on Monday, May 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the middle school on Kenwood Avenue. As a prelude to the debate, we have profiled all five who are running for three seats.

Serving on a school board is something of a thankless task — no pay, long hours and being a target for anyone who disagrees with district decisions and policy.

All five candidates should be commended for their willingness to serve the community via the school board. If you're planning on voting, and we hope you are, get to know them better at the debate Monday night.

Typically, school board elections are neglected by the vast majority of voters.

Kudos for Feestelijk

Congratulations to Feestelijk organizers who put together a wonderful program of events last Saturday night. Standing-room-only crowds at many venues indicate that the "mini" town festival has the support of an enthusiastic community.

Irish music and dancing, Friendship singers, fife and drum music and many other entertainers made the evening

Organizers should take a bow for making everything go so smoothly. It takes months to make all the arrangements for the entertainers and venues, along with publicity and the many other details that must be attended to beforehand.

It really is a tough job, but thanks to a committee of dedicated volunteers, the event goes off without a hitch.

We're already looking forward to next year

The long walk of motherhood

Donna J. Bell

The writer is special sections editor for Spotlight Newspapers.

"Of all nature's gifts to the human race, what is sweeter to a man than his children?" That quote, from the Roman orator. Cicero, could be echoed by most any parent.

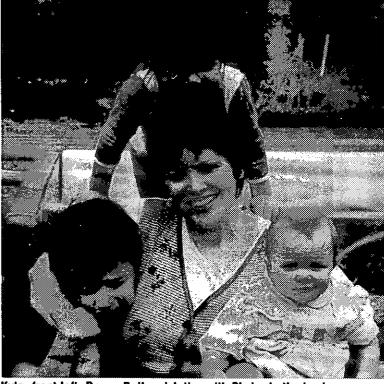
I must confess however, that until I had children of my own I didn't exactly appreciate that statement. As I was growing up "maternal" wasn't exactly the word to describe me. Little children had always perplexed me - I didn't quite understand the attraction. Babies were noisy, sticky and many times, well, just smelly.

That all changed on July 7, 1992, at 6:05 p.m. when the doctor announced "It's a boy!" and placed atiny, perfect baby in my arms. Finally, everything that my parents had ever said or done began to make sense. Having a child was like an explosion of my soul and I felt like the Grinch did when he discovered the true spirit of Christmas --- my heart grew three sizes that day.

One day I turned the page of my life and suddenly I was a member of "The Mommy Club." I could talk endlessly about every detail of every day of my entire pregnancy, and give a blow-by-blow of the birth to any listening ear. I could discuss without blinking an eye (in a supermarket line and with perfect strangers) aspects of human bodily functions that would previously have nauseated me. I have discovered more ways that fluid can come out of a child's body than I thought possible and I don't even mind cleaning it

After Kyle was born, I obsessed about the kind of parent I was going to be. How would I discipline him? How would I teach him moral values and to be kind and loving, loyal and strong? What would I say if he told me he wanted to pierce his ears? Well, perhaps I was thinking a little far ahead. But, the shaping and molding of his life would now in my hands.

There is one phrase that continually runs through every parent-to-be's mind. "When I'm a par-



Kyle, front left, Donna Bell and Jolie, with Skyler in the back.

my parents did." Funny how that thought is universal — and yes, I too did all my best parenting before I actually had children. I was sure I'd never use the TV as my child's baby-sitter, I'd never bribe them with sweets, and hot dogs and chicken nuggets would be banned from the menu. Right.

It's amazing how much smarter your own parents look after you become a parent. My mom and dad aren't rich, and they have yet to experience their 15 minutes of fame. They are ordinary people living ordinary lives, but they knew enough to teach me the really invaluable aspects of family life.

My father is what most people call a "joker." If my brother or I was upset or crying he wouldn't jump in with a hug, instead he'd get us to laugh and in minutes we were feeling better. "Mushy stuff" or "I love yous" just weren't his

When I was 12, my mom, brother and I were shopping at the B & I Circus Store — an ordinary five and dime store turned magical by an owner with a flair for marketing. In additional to the usual variety of merchandise, the store had a full-size merry-goround, a gorilla, clowns, chickens that could play tic-tac-toe and a pet store. It was the pet store that did us in. From the moment we all set eyes on one tiny brown and were in love - we named him Beau on the spot. Knowing full well that my father wasn't particularly fond of dogs, my mother gift." bought him. When my father came home from work and saw Beau, he roared in mock rage, "No dogs. That dog goes back tomorrow!"

Tomorrow came, and when dad came home he said, "Is that dog still here? He goes back tomorrow." It was a running joke for 14 years. Whenever Beau misbehaved my father would say "Is that dog still here? He goes back tomorrow."

One of the very few times I saw my father cry was the day that we had to put Beau to sleep. I was living on my own, a two-hour drive dad made the long trip down to be Day.

ent I won't (fill in the blank) like with me. As the doctor gave Beau the injection my father, stoic until that moment, suddenly teared up as he stroked Beau's fur and choked out, "I'll miss you, little buddy." On the way home my father and I reminisced about Beau, his doggy adventures, and my dad's memories of my childhood.

> It was in those shared stories that I realized my father had been saying, "I love you" all his life in every action he took, in every joke he played, in every laugh we shared. You don't teach your children kindness by telling them that they should be kind. You don't teach them loyalty by pointing out examples in history books. It's what you do every day, moment by moment — those are the lessons that stick.

> As a parent, you wish that you could spare your children the sometimes hard lessons that life offers. You'd be like the Mighty Oz and reach in a bag and pull out courage, compassion and intelligence and hand them to your children. But as my mother always says, "Nothing worth having comes easy." Raising children reminds me of an anecdote I once read about a missionary who was about to leave her post and return to the United States.

One boy, who she had grown close to, expressed his appreciation by giving her a huge seashell. "It's beautiful" the woman said. black ball of wiggling puppy we realizing that he had traveled many miles to obtain it. "But you shouldn't have gone so far for me." He replied, "Long walk part of

> That's the way I regard the raising of my children Kyle, Skyler and Jolie. My gifts to them are the thousands of small steps that my husband and I take together, each day, each week, each year. It's Sunday at church, dinner every night, and those prolonged bedtime hugs that are being woven into their memories.

At times that "long walk" isn't easy for either of us. But I'm lucky, as a mother I receive my rewards daily each time I get a smudgy little kiss, a hug that encircles my knees, or a "Thanks a lot, Mom." from my parents' home. But my For me, every day is Mother's



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Mour Opinion Matters

RCS puts safe environment 1st

Editor, The Spotlight:

As the events unfolded in Littleton, Colorado, last week, we all shared feelings of shock and sorrow. And I'm sure that we have make sure it never happens here?

Schools are among the safest places for young people, and our top priority at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk is the safety and welfare of our students and employees. I assure you we take, and will continue to take, all of the necessary steps to provide a safe environment in which learning can occur.

Parents and students are often the first to recognize some of the early warning signs of children and young adults at risk of violent and other troubling behavior: social withdrawal, excessive feelings of isolation and or rejection, feelings of being picked on, uncontrolled anger, and patterns of chronic bullying, drug and or alcohol abuse and access to firearms or other weapons.

It is important to call your school's principal, assistant principal or guidance department. There is help available for troubled students.

I'd like to remind parents about some of the security measures at our schools.

entrance, are generally kept locked, unless a class is playing outside.

- Visitors to the school are all asked ourselves, 'How can we required to sign in at the main office and wear buttons to identify themselves.
 - The district's policy on school conduct requires immediate disciplinary action if a student is found carrying a weapon, loaded or unloaded used or not used, on school
 - Any physical or verbalized threats are reported to police. Parents are notified with a followup letter should this occur.
 - Crisis Response Plan, which is practiced and updated every year. · We do many positive programs to promote acceptance of

all students, including morning

Schools have established a

 Doors, other than the main program at the elementary schools, our practice of including special education students in the regular classrooms and friendship groups at the elementary and middle schools.

> Most schools are safe. Fewer than 1 percent of all violent deaths of children occur on school grounds. But the violence that occurs in our neighborhoods and communities has sometimes found its way inside our nation's schools. School violence reflects a much broader problem, one that can only be addressed when everyone - at school, at home and in the community - works together.

> > William Schwartz RCS superintendent of

Support is greatly appreciated

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Dec. 12, a fire caused the loss of my home in New Scotland Road in Slingerlands.

I first moved into the house with my parents 38 years ago. It was the house where I grew up, as did my three children. It was a home in the truest sense, a sanctuary in a turbulent world.

What made this situation bearable was the overwhelming outpouring of kindness and support from the community. My children

and I were deeply affected by this. We attempted to write to all of those who donated money, gifts or clothing, however, there were so many that I am afraid we may have missed some. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who were so kind.

While we have lost much, we have gained much also. We have gained an awareness of the inherent goodness of others that few people ever get a chance to see. We will never forget it.

Mark Haskins

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Matters of Upinion -

Children must learn prejudicial behavior won't be tolerated

Editor, The Spotlight:

Yes, it's happened again. And we sit riveted in shock as the images of the panicked and bloody children, stunned parents, and grieving townspeople of Littleton, Colo., flicker again and again on our television screens.

We ask, "Why?" and we mouth platitudes of "What an awful thing. What a waste." Some of us pray.

Some of us believe that it can't happen in the town of Bethlehem. But that's wrong. Our schools, particularly those like Bethlehem Central High School, may well harbor kids who are powder kegs, just waiting to explode. A massacre like those in Littleton, Colo., Pearl, Miss., or Jonesboro, Ark.. may happen here for the very reasons that it happened in those towns.

All teen-agers are at a critical stage in personal development. They are changing from dependent children into independent adults. Young people have a need

they simultaneously have an equally strong need to be part of a group and to be accepted. This brings out rebellious hairstyles, overdone make-up, body piercing, different clothing styles, slang anything to shock adults.

However, they all want to "be different" together. They want to profess never to use. be accepted by some group of their peers.

Therein lies the rub. For gennurtured the idea that it is OK to pick on whoever is "different." Perhaps it is a primal need to "test the mutant" that helped our ancestors evolve from our primordial roots. If the "different" survived the "testing," it could help the tribe survive. I don't believe this "testing" is needed anymore. We can communicate in hundreds of more useful ways. Yet, the teasing, the exclusion, the prejudice continues.

to discover their individuality. Yet, diced!" Really. Look carefully. It creative; they were not jocks. But of the word. It has happened. hides well. Have you never thought, let alone said things like:

> "I hope the boss hires the sexy one;" "He is such a loser;" "There's one that just got off the boat;" "Look at that ugly broad!" or "Ignore him, he's a BOCES kid."Or the obvious ethnic slurs we all

Be honest. Even as an adult, can you say you've never avoided someone just because of the way erations, the human species has he looked or because she was fat happening in our schools? The or not pretty? Or never told an ethnic joke? Or never made snap judgments about someone based solely on skin color, accent, profession, sexual preference or religion?

Along with disparaging remarks and becoming social outcasts, the hurt goes on and on, too. This is what breeds frustration and hopelessness and hatred.

The two boys who murdered fellow students in Colorado had "Oh no!" you say, "I'm not prejugood academic records; they were

they were apparently socially inept, and they were, according to kids who knew them, definitely picked on by other students.

Their hopelessness led them to believe that things would never get better — so why not go out with a bang — and take some of their tormentors with them. I don't excuse them. I do understand their feelings.

How can we keep violence from answer is not in metal detectors and turning campuses into fortresses. The answer is in each parent, teacher, administrator and citizen teaching by example that abuse of any kind is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

It is not acceptable for a child to feel she must leave BCHS and transfer to Albany High to avoid abuse because her parents couldn't afford the "right" brand names for her clothes and shoes. It has happened.

It is not acceptable for a staff person at Bethlehem to use an ethnic slur toward a student, and then send him to the principal's here. office for his objecting to the use

It is not acceptable to value physical ability above academic performance.

It is not acceptable to judge someone based solely on a "group" to which he or she belongs. No one deserves a label. Teach your kids not to fear or ridicule the "different." Teach them to evaluate each person on his or her individual behavior.

It is not acceptable to pick on other people for any reason. It is never acceptable for kids to abuse other kids. It is especially unacceptable for adults to abuse kids or other adults. Ask your kid who the "jerks" or the "weirdos" or the "geeks" are in your school. Talk about why those kind of labels are not good, why mocking other kids must not be tolerated. Explain that you don't have to like everyone. You can agree to disagree. You can live and let live.

All it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing. Human beings learn best by example. Set a good one! We've had the wake-up call. It can happen

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reaching out will help

Editor, The Spotlight:

As people read through their newspapers, one questions is on everyone's mind: Why? Ministers, teachers, parents and experts have all tried to answer that question. Some say the assailants might have had a chemical imbalance. some say the kids felt left out or that they were just a product of their generation and culture. I guess we will never know. Our question "why" will probably never be answered.

But another question that's just as important is how close is this to our own lives? Should I as a student, be afraid to attend public high school, afraid that one day I'll be sitting in the library studying for a chemistry exam and a fellow classmate with a loaded assault weapon will come in and gun 11 of my classmates and me down?

In USA Today, there was an article written about the victims of this heinous crime and their dreams before it happened. From rewarding this article, I found how close this situation is to our own town. One of the students who was shot wanted to be an actress; how many aspiring actresses do we all know personally? Another victim was on the wrestling team: how many people do we know on a sports team, whether it's lacrosse, swimming, track etc. We all know teen-agers like those who were shot.

Why did it happen in Columbine and not in Bethlehem? How are the two towns so different? I bet they're not. I bet the high

school students there attend football games just like us. I bet they have hills that they ran up in front of their library as children. I bet the town is just like ours. So, are we totally defenseless against preventing tragedy's like this one from happening in our own school. How do we keep Bethlehem from becoming synonymous with a massacre, like Columbine is now?

The way to do this is to reach out to each other. Keep going. Keep trying to get everyone connected to make this world that can seem so cold, big and lonely seem warmer, smaller and less lonely. A friendly word at your local butcher, a patient cashier, a smiling stranger all do this for you. Because after all, we're not really that different from the people in Columbine. Colorado.

Letters policy

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lects of local and regional

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Alexis O'Brien BCHS senior

BCHS student believes Good grammar not in U.S. vocabulary

Editor, The Spotlight:

I strongly support the recent complaint about the failure of our school system to teach the proper mechanics of writing. A few years ago, I rejected an application to graduate school from a college student who had strong credentials in the sciences but absolutely atrocious verbal skills.

When I explained the reason for rejecting his application, the exasperated student exclaimed, Why is that relevant? I'm going into science." I explained to this poor fellow that I spend far more time writing, reading and critiquing manuscripts, publications and grant proposals than actually doing experiments. When it's time to publish the results, not only does the science need to be sound, but it also has to be written in perfect English.

Like the person who wrote the other complaint, I have had three children pass through our school system where they received a reasonably good public education. All three were in the National Honor Society and two went on to graduate from college with high honors. I was pleased that they received ample encouragement to write creatively. Although I was happy to finally hear that the split infinitive has recently been stricken from the official rules (it always cramped my style), my children learned most of the mechanics of writing at home.

To be fair, the problem goes well beyond our school system. I have had several doctoral level graduate students over the years.

Two were graduates of local school systems as highly regarded as our own. One of these won fifth place nationally in what was then called the Westinghouse National Science Talent Search. Both of these students graduated from Ivv League colleges. Both had tremendous difficulties writing proper English. The best two writing students I mentored by far were a Swiss and a Swede for whom English was a second language. They knew exactly what I meant when I said that there was a "syntax error or a "lack of subject, verb agreement" or a "dangling participle.'

To my American students, these terms are met with a blank stare. They don't even know the language of language. Tragically, most cannot even identify the subject and verb in a complex sentence containing clauses or prepositional phrases, whatever they

Truthfully, I have only my generation and it's "age of relevancy" to blame. For me this was manifested in my fierce resistance to learning a foreign language. which is a whole other issue. In fact, when I was in college, I was part of a student movement that attempted to abolish the foreign language requirement. When would I ever use it? As with the mechanics of writing, foreign language study just wasn't relevant.

How was I supposed to know my first job out of graduate school was going to be in Switzerland and that I had five months to prepare for teaching gross anatomy - in French!

Frank L. Rice Professor of neuropharmacology and neuroscience Albany Medical College

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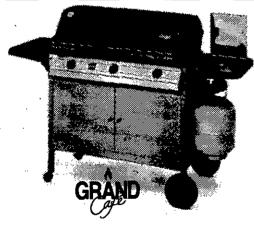
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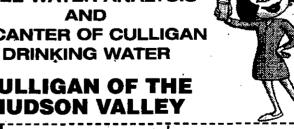
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Language choice needs clarification

Editor, The Spotlight:

In reference to the article "Fifthgraders to explore foreign language options" in the April 21 issue, I would like to comment on the selection of languages for a student. I believe that a student's selection of a language can be difficult and often made for the wrong reasons.

First, Russian is a level four language on a scale of one (easy) to five (difficult) as documented

tute. French and Spanish are level one and two languages for difficulty. When students enter the Naval Language Institute, they are tested for language-learning aptitude. If a student has high aptitude, he or she is assigned the study of higher-level languages.

Unless a student has the high aptitude for languages, the study of Russian can be a difficult five years, impacting not only the study

by the U.S. Naval Language Insti- of a language but other studies and the student's self-esteem as

> Second, the commitment to the teaching of Russian is very strong in the middle school. However, parents should be aware that, at this time, students must complete the Russian language requirement within two years at the high school. They do not have the option of a three-year course.

In addition, the teacher currently assigned to teach Russian at the high school is a part-time teacher currently assigned to teach Russian at both the high school and the middle school, thereby allowing for no afterschool assistance, limited beforeschool assistance, and no time to develop a rapport with students.

It is important to explore with vour child the selection of a language and if Russian is selected, your child must understand the additional commitment required. Otherwise, add a line item to your budget for a Russian tutor.

Mary Ann Cohen

Delmar

Voters should remember Democratic shenanigans

Editor, The Spotlight:

tempt to stretch his two year term to four years without having to go before the electorate somewhat disturbing.

Mr. Munnelly and the entire electorate knew that Mr. Munnelly was running for a twoyear term to fill out Peter Wenger's term, while Terri Egan was running for the four-year slot. If Mr. Munnelly was so concerned about this issue, why didn't he say something during the election? Was he

fearful that it might cost him the I find Kenneth Munnelly's at- election? Why then did he wait until the last possible moment to file suit, giving the town attorney only a few days to prepare his argument.

> All of these shenanigans appear to be a devious attempt to thwart the will of the electorate. I hope the residents of Bethlehem will remember this when they go to the polls in November.

Dominick DeCecco Albany County legislator Slingerlands

BC candidates deserve support

Editor, The Spotlight:

For the past three years, I have served as a parent representative on the School Improvement Team at Bethlehem Central Middle School.

During that time, I have had the opportunity to work with both Rob Wing and Warren Stoker on a number of challenging issues, including school safety, honor roll standards, the code of conduct, Regents for All and testing require-

At every meeting, I found that were consistently thoughtful, fair and sensible as we discussed some very difficult topics. They were

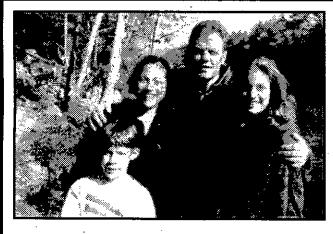
Office: 473-1845

able to carefully to weigh the viewpoints of parents, faculty, administration and the school community, while striving to determine how to best meet the needs of BCMS students.

Both individuals were thorough in their analysis of agenda items and were well-prepared and articulate as we worked as a team to reach consensus.

I feel confident that both Rob Wing and Warren Stoker would be excellent representatives on the school board and encourage both Rob Wing and Warren Stoker residents to vote for them on May

> Anne O'Brien Carelli Delmar



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Centennial commemoration slated School board candidates

The Voorheesville centennial NEWSNOTES committee will sponsor a commemoration ceremony on Saturday, May 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Evergreen Park on the corner of Maple and Voorheesville avenues.

The centennial clock will be dedicated, and there will be music by the Centennial Brass Quintet and refreshments.

AConrail locomotive will be on display that day at the railroad junction and there will be an exhibit on railroad safety and railroad history.

Girl Scouts plan bake sale May 8

The annual Girl Scout bake sale is set for Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at SuperValu on Maple Avenue.

Garden club plans plant sale

Helderview Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at SuperValu Foods on Maple Avenue.

The club will sell a variety of perennial plants, gladiolus bulbs, miniature rose bushes and Helderview Garden Club watering cans.

PTA to host staff appreciation day

The PTA will host its annual staff appreciation luncheon today, May 5, at both the elementary and high schools.

The luncheon honors teachers and support staff.

Folk singer to perform

Folk singer George Ward will perform on Thursday, May 6, at 7 p.m. at Voorheesville Public Library.

Ward is an area folk singer who will sing songs and tell stories with a railroad theme. The concert is free and open to the public.

The appearance is sponsored by the Friends of the Library in conjunction with its annual meet-

Legion to serve **Mother's Day breakfast**

American Legion Post 1493 on Voorheesville Avenue will serve an all-you-can-eat breakfast on Sunday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to noon.

The menu will include eggs, sausage, corned beef hash, bacon, French toast, home fries, toast and beverages.

DARE graduation set for May 6

The fifth-grade DARE gradua-

Voorheesville

Jane Norris 439-8532



tion program will be held on Thursday, May 6, at 1:40 p.m. at the elementary school.

DARE is an acronym for drug abuse resistance education.

Students who successfully complete the program receive a certificate to recognize their commitment to the program.

School board to meet

The school board will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m. at Clayton A. Bouton Junior/Senior High School.

Kiwanis slate blood pressure clinic

The Kiwanis Club of New Scotland will sponsor a blood pressure clinic on Tuesday, May 11, ing.

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from 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church on Maple Avenue.

Library to host Internet workshop

workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the public library on School Road.

The session will cover the basics of Internet use.

Sign-up is required. For information call, 765-2791.

Student wins vocational award

Daniel Scherer was recently awarded the Tools of Tomorrow All-American Vocational Student Award.

The national award recognizes high school students who achieve standards of excellence in vocational and academic skills and demonstrates leadership in their community.

Scherer is studying landscap-

to debate at middle school

The League of Women Voters positions: incumbents James will moderate a debate among candidates for the Bethlehem Central school board on Monday, An Introduction to the Internet May 10, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Central Middle School on Kenwood Avenue.

> The debate will inovlve five candidates vying for three board

Schwab and Happy Scherer, and candidates Robert Wing, Warren Stoker and Robin Storey.

Voting will take place May 18. For information on the debate, call the Bethlehem Central School District offices at 439-3650.

Thacher Park announces events

John Boyd Thacher State Park in New Scotland will host outdoor programs on two upcoming weekends in May.

On Saturday, May 8, at 7 a.m. Walter Ellison will lead a search for bird species during spring migration season.

Participants should bring binoculars and dress for chilly spring weather.

At 1 p.m., botanist Ed Miller will lead a walk to learn about spring wildflowers.

The two programs will be repeated on Saturday, May 15, at 7:30 a.m. with bird authority Chris Keefer and at 2 p.m. with botanist Ruth Schottman leading the wildflower walk.

For information and meeting place, call 872-1237.

--- CLIP & SAVE --

NOTICE

TO THE TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND **WATER SYSTEM CUSTOMERS**

Water main flushing will begin on Tuesday, May 11, 1999 and continue through Tuesday, May 18, 1999. Flushing will take place between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM.

May 11th **Northeast Water District** May 12th Clarksville Water District May 13th Heldervale, Mason Lane, Font Grove Rd.,

& Swift Road Water Districts **Feura Bush Water Districts** May 18th

Some discoloration may occur which could result in staining of laundry. Users are advised to check water before using. If discoloration occurs, run water until it clears.

For additional information, or if discoloration persists, Call 765-2681 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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Tributes to mom Mother stays close to heart

I have been fortunate to have had a wonderful mother. She was of 1998, but she is never far from a caring, loving person who took me. She is in my heart and little time for herself. She devoted thoughts each and every day and endless hours caring for her fam- I feel blessed to have had such a ily, which was always the most wonderful mom to grow up with. important thing in her life.

ways there to lend a helping hand to my 3-year-old daughter. to her family and friends. She sionate person and to have restrength to conquer many things. full our lives with love.

My mother passed away in July

My only hope is that I may pass She was very unselfish and al- on all of these wonderful lessons

This letter is in memory of my taught me to be a kind, compas- mom, Jennie Vitillo, who is remembered not only on this spect for others, as well as myself. Mother's Day, but forever in our She taught me to be an indepenhearts. Happy Mother's Day to all dent woman and gave me the of the mothers who so unselfishly

JoAnn Vitillo Reichel

For my mom Carole Isdell

Please join us for

Prayer for Hope & Healing

(in response to the Littleton tragedy)

Thursday, May 6

8:00 p.m.

led by area youth and regional clergy

on the front steps of the

Delmar Reformed Church

386 Delaware Avenue

Delmar, NY

call 439-9929 for more information

An Interfaith Service of

five minutes away from from my mom. I like it this way. So do my brother and sister. I always tell mom when she's having pangs of maternal guilt that she and Dad certainly did something right to raise three kids who love each other and them as much as we do and who still want to live near each other!

In her quiet and gentle way, she's been a firm and loving foundation for our family. Strong family values and Christian faith are what she stands for and has mod-

I'm 50 years old and I still live eled every day of her life. For me, she has been an ally and friend upon whom I can always depend.

I know she wants to be remembered for her special holiday traditions — the clever birthday cakes, homemade cards, garage sale gifts and Christmas cookies.

But it is the pure, unselfish, unconditional love that she's given me all my life that I carry with me in my heart and treasure most of

> Cathy Schaefer Slingerlands

The following poems were written by Slingerlands Elementary School students.

My Mom

Lisa, what a pretty name, Imagine, I came from such a radiant dame

With eyes of olive green,

She loves tangerines. Her loving nature shines with

Her heart is filled with love inside.

> Molly Gordon (Mom Lisa Gordon)

Mother's Day

Roses are red and violets are

You like me and I like you. A rose for you and one for Carrie Hogan grandma

And I hope we live forever af-

Molly Ruslander Mom Barbara Ruslander

Mother's Day wishes for the best

Flowers remind me of your gentle touch

I love you oh so very much You're the best, you beat the

I'm here to say have a happy Mother's Day

> Kelly Hotaling (Mom Pam Hotaling)

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Special day for mothers

One day is a special day Where mothers can just relax, When Dad brings drinks, When Son brings food, When Sister does great acts. But when the clock strikes one, The day is done.

And we dream of what Father's Day will be like.

> Colin Gillman (Mom Mary Fish)

The following poems were written by Elsmere Elementary School students.

My mom,

My mom is always there for me, even from a distance, you see She is different from all moms. Can your mom give a massage? Does she know what reiki means? of your aura can she see? Can she understand abut clogged Chakias? Probably not, but my mom can! I would be lost without my mother. I love her so much, she's like no other

Madeline

Mother's Day for Yasmin Boodhun

Mother's Day Mother's Day It's over here I can't wait to cheer! My mom never screams, My mom never shouts My mom is the peat But I'm the pest!

Love Asifa

To my mom, Patricia Sgarlata

Roses are red, Violets are blue Hey mom did you know I love you?

Heather

My mom, Dale Fink

My mom is the best she never rests. She works all day without any play. This poem is to you for all you do.

Love Chris

Mother's Day to JoJo

Roses are red, violets are blue There is no one sweeter than you. Happy Mother's Day Love Jamie Turner

Church to observe Day of Prayer

South Bethlehem United Methodist Church on Willowbrook Avenue will observe a National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 6, with a special luncheon from noon to 1 p.m. and by opening its doors all day for private prayer obser-

For information, call the church at 767-2281 or Mary Dushek at

Slingerlands church to serve dinners

Community United Methodist Church in Slingerlands continues its series of Zippy Tuesdays takeout dinners from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. throughout the spring.

The church, located at 1499 New Scotland Road, offers a different complete-dinner menu each week for \$5 each.

The May 11 dinner will be chicken Parmesan and ziti, followed in successive weeks by lasagna on May 18; pot roast and potatoes, May 25; chicken and biscuits. June 1, barbecue ribs and potato salad, June 8; and barbecue chicken and macaroni salad, June 15.

For information, call 439-1766.

Button collectors to meet at library

The Half Moon Button Club of the Capital District will meet on Wednesday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

New members are welcome. For information, call 899-7103.

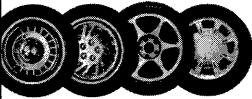
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Various program on tap

few days.

The community room is the site for the New York State Bar Association's "Decision Making Day 1999" on Thursday, May 6, at

estate planning elder law attorney, will review health care proxy and durable power of attorney.



This is the fifth year of bar association public service programs to explain "advance directives," legal means of ensuring that people's health care and financial decisions are honored in the event they become physically or mentally incapacitated. The program is free and open to the public, with coffee, tea and free handouts.

Registration is required.

Also on Thursday, at 7 p.m., entrepreneurs can learn ways to profit by marketing their ventures on the Internet in "Putting Your Business on the Web."

Independent consultant Polly-Alida Farrington is the speaker. The program is part of the continuing Libraries Mean Business series, which was recently granted additional federal funds by the New York State Library through the Upper Hudson Library System. Call 439-9314 to register.

Our Saturday movie matinees. continue with George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead" (1968 not rated) on May 8 at 2 p.m. No registration is required and the price is right — it's free along with the popcorn. The film is appropriate for grade six and up and is closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.

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Elder law, the Internet, a Satur- HTMl Web page design begins day matinee and a budget forum Tuesday, May 11, from 2:45 to make for a varied calendar of 3:45 p.m. The program concludes events at the library in the next the following Tuesday at the same time and is a cooperative venture with Bethlehem Central Middle School.

> Call 439-9314 for information and to register.

Library trustees will convene Margaret Z. Reed, a Delmar at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 10, to allow for public comment on the proposed 1999-2000 budget. The meeting will be in the library board

www.uhls.org/bethlehem.

Louise Grieco

Five Rivers slates spring bird walks

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center at 56 Game Farm Road in Delmar will host a weekly "Early Bird" outdoor walk, offering tips for bird identification for the beginning birder, Thursdays through May 20.

Refreshments are available at 7 a.m. before the 7:30 walk, led by a Five Rivers staffer.

Binoculars and identification books are recommended, and some equipment will be on hand. For information, call 475-0291.

Slingerlands School plans carnival

The Slingerlands Elementary School Carnival is set for Friday. May 14, from 5 to 8 pm. at the school on Union Avenue.

Games, raffles, food and prizes for the whole family will be on hand, rain or shine.

elects new officers

recently elected officers for the 1999-2000 season.

They are: David Rhodes, president; Elizabeth Rees, vice president; Mary Watso, treasurer; Donald Nania, recording secretary; Tanya Pankin, corresponding secretary; and Richard Ahlstrom and Adrian Larrivee as members-at-large.

The group meets at Bethlehem town hall Monday evenings from September to May.

Visit our Web site at http:// BCHS class of '89 planning reunion

Bethlehem Central High School Class of 1989 is planning a 10 year class reunion for June 26 - and trying to track down missing classmates.

For information on the reunion, or to pass along information on the whereabouts of class members, contact Jennifer (Flynn) Robinson at 301-725-5614, or email her at jrobinson@popai.com.

Business women to meet at Normanside

Bethlehem Business Women will hold its monthly meeting today, May 5, at Normanside Country Club in Elsmere.

The guest speaker will be attorney Margaret Reed of Delmar, who will discuss estate planning, elder law and long-term care.

The meeting begins with a social at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at

Guests and new members are welcome. For information, call 439-8012.

Community orchestra Keep on track May 6 Delmar Community Orchestra cently elected officers for the with special concert

Don't miss a concert with a use. Call 765-2791 to sign up. railroad theme set for Thursday, May 6, at 7 p.m.

George Ward is an acclaimed area talent who will highlight the



Friends of the Library annual meeting with railroad tunes and tales. Bring your friends and neighbors to this free concert.

This is also an opportunity to meet and learn about the Friends. The volunteer organization is dedicated to sponsoring activities, volunteering their time to raise funds for purchases that enhance services offered to the community.

The Voorheesville centennial celebration will kick off with the clock dedication ceremony on Saturday, May 8.

Stop by the library to vote on your favorite art work in our centennial art show People's Choice

An introduction to the Internet will be presented by the reference staff on Tuesday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m.. Sign up is necessary for the session covering the basics of Web

Boy Scout Troop 73 will contribute to the centennial with a display and talk abut Scouting "Then and Now." On May 20, at 7 p.m., Scouts will be on hand to discuss the 79 years of local his-

Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine is the 1998 Newbery Honor Book which will be discussed at the May 10 mother-daughter book discussion group at 7 p.m. If you're a fast reader, it's not too late to sign up.

The Road from Coorain is an autobiography by Jill Kerr Conway about her childhood in Australia's outback. Adults can sign up now to receive a copy of the book for the May 19 discussion.

There will be no story times on May 10 or 19.

Barbara Vink

V'ville Dionysians to present classic

The Voorheesville Dionysians drama club at Clayton A. Bouton High School will present "Guys and Dolls" May 14 to 16.

For information, call the high school at 765-3314.

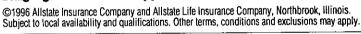
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Inter faith prayer service set at Delmar Reformed

By Joseph A. Phillips

As troubling as recent events at a suburban Colorado high school were for the questions they raised about security at public schools, just as troubling were their implications for the soul and conscience.

Clergy and young people in Bethlehem will gather on Thursday, May 6, for an Interfaith Prayer Service for Hope and Healing in a search for a response to the implications of Littleton.

"It certainly challenged everyone's idea of how safe we are," said Sandy Damhof, pastor of Delmar Reformed Church, whose church at 386 Delaware Ave. will host the interfaith gathering on its front steps.

Damhof's ministry before com-

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took her to a corner of the world without much in common with suburbia.

"Working with high school students in the Bronx, I saw that they almost expected violence," she said. "It's more of a reality there in their everyday lives. Here, when you go to school you think you're safe. This has shattered that. Littleton is so much like Delmar and Bethlehem as a whole that it's scary for our young people."

Shattered, too, she said, is any illusion of the harmlessness of the "in-crowd," clique-ridden atmosphere typical in a large, suburban high school. "I had some young people come to me, who all of a sudden realized the impact they have on others who may be considered young people at risk," Damhof said.

"They wanted to know, instead of ostracizing others, an us versus them mentality, how to try to get together and develop a sense of unity. Let's be a little more tolerant of one another, they're saying, so it doesn't become the preppies versus the jocks versus the geeks. We've seen now where that can lead."

"What I think struck home for them is that the town this horrible incident took place in is much like theirs," said Theresa Borchetta, who serves as adviser to an interfaith youth group in Delmar, which calls itself the RPM's — an

is open to teen-agers of any faith, Borchetta said.

"It's suburbia USA, the same socioeconomic situation," she said of Littleton and its similarities to Bethlehem. "It could happen here. The question they're asking is, is this gonna stop?"

To address both the need for a spirit of unity and the spiritual questioning these feelings reflected, Damhof, a member of the informal Bethlehem Ministerial Association that meets periodically, brought the matter to her colleagues for discussion on April 27. "One of the things we talked about doing was contacting (Bethlehem School Superintendent) Les Loomis at the school district offices and offer ministerial support for any student needing it," she said.

What emerged from their discussions was a decision to take advantage of the forthcoming World Day of Prayer, an interfaith observance already scheduled for Thursday, May 6, to focus more specifically on Littleton - and on noting these tragic events not in a negative way, but in a positive way to pray for hope and healing.

Plans for the interfaith service, which will assemble on the church steps at 8 p.m. (indoors in the event of rain), remain fairly loose, Damhof said. Pastors at several other nearby churches, including

ing to Bethlehem two years ago acronymfor Reformed/Presbyte- St. Stephen's and St. Thomas's, rian/Methodist, though the group have been contacted about par- in some way for the community ticipation, but Damhof said the group hopes to reach beyond even the Christian denominations.

> We'd like to get as many clergy as possible together," she said. "But while we'd like clergy present, we'd like the service to be youth-led as much as possible. What I heard a lot of people in the community saying last week was, we have great young people who don't get much (attention) in this town. We want them to take the lead here."

A logical place to go for such youth leadership, she said, was to the RPM's. Borchetta said members of the group had already planned a retreat to Lake George last weekend before the tragedy in Littleton took place, and over the weekend, the teens reflected on how Thursday's prayer service might take a stand for the positive. Monday, an informal planning group gathered to begin putting it together.

'We want to show our support (in Colorado)," said Abby Minor, a member of the RPM's. "And we want to build a sense of community in this town, to show the public that not all kids are violent.'

The format of their prayer service is still evolving, but Minor said the young people who participate in it can "read prayers, read poems, share something of themselves." There will be music, and there will be the joining of hands - and they plan to keep it informal, to go where the mood of the gathering takes it. They are hoping for participation by a disparate group of young people.

"This was a shock to a lot of people," said Minor of the Littleton tragedy. "It bothered a lot of people. But it will be a lot easier to deal with in a community.'

"Hopefully, what will emerge out of it will be a raising of the consciousness," said Damhof, "that they can be a part of the solution, that they can promote tolerance and unity."

Scout camp to run in July

The Hudson Valley Girls Scout Council is currently accepting registrations for 1999 sessions at its two summer camps.

Open to Scouts and non-Scouts alike, the camps run from July 5 through Aug. 23.

Camp Is-Sho-Da offers a day camp program for girls entering first-grade and above.

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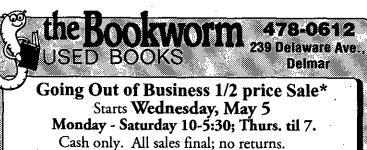
Located in East Greenbush on 100 acres of fields and woods, the camp offers programs ranging from swimming and hiking to theater and outdoor living. Facilities include hiking trails, a 5-acre pond, playing fields, teepees and covered wagons.

All campers have the opportunity to stay overnight once a week.

Camp Little Notch is a resident camp for girls in second-grade and above, on a 2,300-acre site east of Lake George. A half-mile lake for swimming and boating, hiking trails, an historic iron furnace and iron mines are on the premises.

The camp offers five, seven and 12-day sessions, with programs including biking, camping, sailing, canoeing, music and arts, rock climbing, Project Adventure and others.

Each camp will hold an open house in June offering tours to parents and meetings with staff. For information, contact the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council at 439-4936.



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Middle school students to stage adaptation of "Little Women"

Linda Marshall

756-3520

RCS Middle School Drama NEWS NOTES Club will present Thomas Hischak's adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's Little Women on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8, at 7 p.m. in the high school audito-

There are 50 students in the Other Reports from My Life with cast, including fifth- and sixthgraders, and 15 stagehands.

Grange to serve roast beef dinner

The Ravena Grange on Route 143 in Coeymans Hollow will serve a roast beef dinner on Saturday, May 8, from 4:30 p.m. on.

Takeouts will be available.

Coeymans students to perform choral concert

Students from P.B. Coeymans Elementary School will present a choral concert on Thursday, May 6, at 7 p.m.

School board sets public hearing

The school board will hold an information session and public hearing on Monday, May 10, at 7 p.m. in the large group room at the middle school to discuss the 1999-2000 budget.

The public will have an opportunity to ask questions of the six candidates vying for three school board seats.

Community library schedules events

Residents of the school district have been sent a library newsletter, containing the summer youth Main Street. schedule, the 1999-2000 budget, and information regarding candidates for the library board of trust-

For additional copies, contact the library at 756-2053.

The 1999-2000 budget will be presented at the public hearing on the school budget on Monday, May 10, at 7 p.m at the middle school. Voting takes place on Tuesday, May 18, at the high school.

Preschool story hours continue on Thursdays at 1 p.m. No registration is necessary.

The adult book club will discuss an autobiography by Temple Grandin, Thinking in Pictures and

Selkirk South Bethlehem



Autism, on Thursday, May 20, at 7 p.m. Copies are available at the main desk.

Church plans plant swap & bake sale

New Baltimore Reformed Church will hold a plant swap and bake sale on Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Medway church slates garage sale

A community-wide garage sale, bake sale, and plant sale will be held Saturday, May 15, starting at 8 a.m. at Medway Congregational Church on Route 26 in Medway.

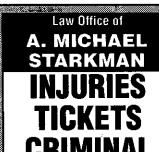
The rain date is May 22. For information, call Marie Blakesley at 756-9221.

RCS to host math contest

This year's Colonial Council Math Contest will be hosted by RCS on Wednesday, May 6.

Potter plans studio sale

Wende Williams will host her second annual Pots in the Garden Studio Sale of fine ceramics on Saturday, May 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at her garden studio, 49 Central Ave., Ravena — just off



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The park features spectacular limestone ledges, a small cave and 2 miles of trails.

RCS committee to meet at school

The next meeting of the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District's Safe Schools Committee is set for Tuesday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the middle school library on Route 9W in Ravena.

For information, call 756-5200.

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Library to offer program on living with chronic illness

Bethlehem Public Library will present a program on Monday. May 10, at 7 p.m., by Susan Milstrey Wells, author of A Delicate Balance: Living Successfully with Chronic Illness.

Based on her own and others' personal experience, Wells will discuss coping with the stumbling blocks of chronic illness.

An author and editor for more than 20 years. Wells writes about homelessness, health care and mental illness and runs WYSIWYG Publishing in Halfmoon.

The program, at the library at 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar, is free and open to the public. For information, call 439-9314.

Kiwanis to serve pancake breakfast

will host its fourth annual pan- grams in the town of Bethlehem. cake breakfast on Saturday, May 15, from 8 a.m. to noon, at Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

Proceeds from the breakfast contact Sue Matterson at 439-9833.

The Kiwanis Club of Delmar support youth and senior pro-

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$4 per adult, \$2 for children under 12, and free to preschoolers. For information,

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by Nick

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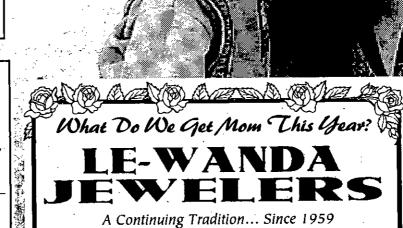
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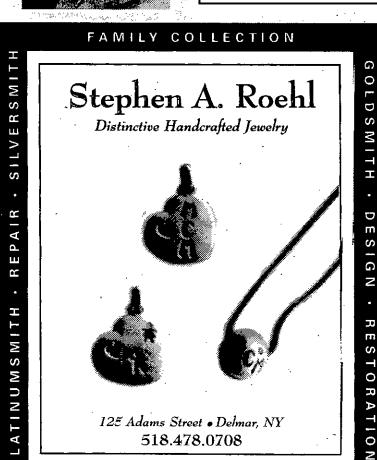
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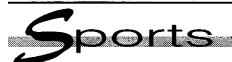
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Bethlehem girls undefeated in league

Softball

It took an extra inning, but Bethlehem got the iob done hadthree singles. Hennessey also against Columbia High School on had two RBI. Getz had two singles. April 19, pulling out a 5-4 win.

Carrie Getz, making up for a seventh-inning error that allowed singles. Columbia to tie the game at four

and reached on an error. She moved to second when **Denise Chisholm** bunted for a single, and Getz took third when Kim Comtois drew a walk. Leah cil, 5-3 overall). Hennessey then popped the ball into shallow center field, and Getz dashed home as the ball fell to the

Bethlehem tagged Columbia for 11 hits. The Eagles' Alexis **Grant** had a rough first inning, giving up three runs, but after that, she allowed only one un-

Chisholm and Hennessey each and scored three runs, and Monique Roberts had two

The Eagles played Mohonasen runs apiece, scored the winning High School on April 21 and exrun in the bottom of the eighth ploded for a 24-0 victory. Bethlehem had 16 hits, and scored Getz led off the extra inning 12 runs in the fifth inning. Comtois had two home runs and six RBI, and scored four runs. Roberts had a single, a double and two RBI for Bethlehem (5-0 Suburban Coun-

> Jessica Urschel threw a complete game three-hitter to earn the win.

Girls' Lacrosse

Grace Tsan's four goals led Bethlehem Central High School to 12-1 victory against Columbia High School on April 26. First-

earned run in the seventh inning. year goalie Stephanie Sherman made five saves for the Eagles (2-1 Suburban Council, 4-1-1 over-

> Suzie Breaznell had two goals. Heather Axford, Katie Regal, Rebecca Frank, Carter Piechnik, Ellen Lowrey and Amy O'Donnell each had a goal.

On-road bike safety offered in Bethlehem

Beginning May 7 and throughout the month, weather permitting, the Mohawk Hudson Cycling Club will offer a series of Effective Cycling programs every Friday at 6:30 p.m., meeting at the Park & Ride on Route 32 in Bethlehem. Safety and riding instruction for on-the-road cycling will be followed by a short ride. Children participating must be accompanied by a riding adult, and helmets are required.

BCHS grads playing

Nate Kosoc, a Bethlehem Central High School graduate, was named the New York Collegiate Athletic Association Conference's baseball Pitcher of the Week for the period of April 19 through April 26.

He was also named The College of Saint Rose's Male Athlete

Kosoc, a senior right-hander, was honored for consecutive complete game shut-out efforts against Dowling College and Molloy College, Saint Rose used Kosoc's arm to beat Dowling 11-0 on April 21 and Molloy 2-0 on April 24. The wins helped the Golden Knights clinch a NYCAC playoff berth.

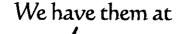
Kosoc (7-3) posted 20 strikeouts in the 14 innings of work and gave up just six hits and three walks. He has won each of his last six starts and has dropped his earned run average to 2.92.

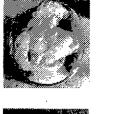
Kosoc has recorded 93 strikeouts on the year, against just 62 hits and 20 walks in 71 innings of action. Of his 10 starts this season, Kosoc has gone the distance in eight.

Kosoc is Saint Rose's all-time strikeout leader, with 318 career K's. Former All-American Eric LeBlanc held the record

Saint Rose's sophomore center fielder Mike Gambelunghe. also a BCHS grad, batted 467 with five RBI over a recent tourgame span. Currently batting 331, he also had four stolen bases during the stretch, raising his team-leading total to 20 this

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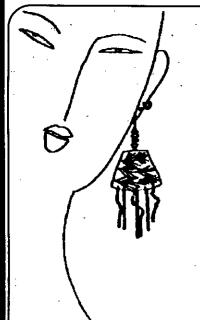
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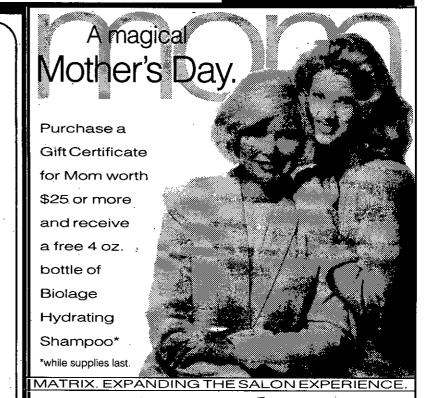
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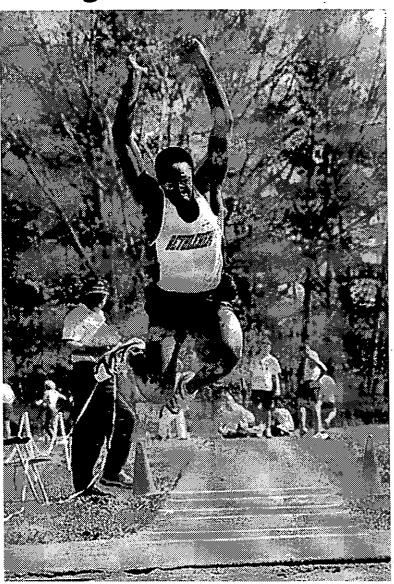
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Taking off



Max Andersen goes skyward, contributing to a team win in the triple jump for Bethlehem in the recent Colonie Relays. Andersen was also in the winning threesome in the long jump. Overall, Bethlehem placed fourth in the 11-team boys' field.

RCS racks up four softball wins including pair over Bouton nine

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Indians made five errors, but over-High School again on May 1. High School in softball on April 26, smoking 15 hits and scoring a

Casey Firstiun had a big day at the plate, going 3-for-3 with two doubles and five RBI.

The Prior sisters got the job done against the Clayton A. Bouton Junior Senior High School on April 28, leading Ravena to a 15-1 victory.

Kim Prior gave up just three hits over six innings, and Colleen Prior had two singles, a double and three RBI. Firstiun added a triple and four RBI.

RCS scored a total of eight runs in the final three innings on April 30 to post a 9-5 victory against Academy of the Holy Names. The

Calling all goalies: camp program set

The All-East Goaltending Hockey Program will take place at the Albany County Hockey Facility from June 28 to July 2.

The program is for children ages six to 17. Call 603-929-4967 for information.

> In Voorheesville The Spotlight is sold at Stewart's, Voorheesville Mobil and Super Valu

High School blasted Watervliet came their mistakes by pounding out 12 hits. Kim Prior and Beth Filkins both had two singles and two RBI.

> Prior's complete game two-hitter helped the Indians down Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior

RCS had only four hits, but capitalized on five errors by their opponents to score a 5-2 victory. Kim Brown had an RBI double.

RCS is currently 5-2 in the Suburban Council and 6-3 overall.

Blackbirds burn Holy Names, 'Burgh

tory. Brittany Burnham scorched Holy Names for a double and three singles.

The Blackbirds fell behind early and two runs scored.

Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Se- against Lansingburgh High nior High School pounded out 14 School on April 29, but used a hits against Holy Names on April four-run third inning to post a 4-2 26, en route to a 15-8 softball vic-victory. Debbie Greene had a single, a triple and two RBI for the Voorheesville squad (4-5 overall). Jan Rissacher added two singles



Bethlehem hoops camp scheduled

Bethlehem Central High School girls' varsity basketball coach Kim Wise will conduct a summer basketball camp for girls entering grades 3through 12 from July 5 through 9 at the high school.

Assisting Wise as counselors will be area coaches and college players, emphasizing both individual skill development and game

The camp will take place daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration for the camp is \$95, and applications are available at the BCHS athletic office, Bethlehem Central Middle School nursing office, at any of the elementary schools, or by calling Kim Wise at the high school, 439-4921. The deadline for applica-

Five Rivers plans spring bird walks

Education Center at 56 Game 475-0291. Farm Road in Delmar will host a weekly "Early Bird" outdoor walk. offering tips for bird identification for the beginning birder, Thursdays through May 20.

Refreshments are offered at 7 a.m. before the 7:30 staff-led walk.

Five Rivers will also hold an outdoor walk on Saturday, May 15, at 9 a.m., at the mid-May height of migration season.

Binoculars and identification books are recommended for all walks, and some equipment will

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tions is May 29.

Five Rivers Environmental be on hand. For information, call

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Views on



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

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

New products make dentistry safer

Dentists have never had a (polishing tips), patient napkins,, infection. Very simple devices dentistry much safer. such as disposable polyethylene and buttons are at one end of the spectrum. Fast autoclaves (heat sterilizers) for sterilizing

regularly don gowns, masks, environment. gloves, protective eyewear, hair nets and other protective clothing to prevent both themselves and their patients. Some disposable items, including prophy angles

wider selection of products syringetips and tray tops add little designed to prevent the spread of to the solid waste stream, but make

New surface disinfectant barriers to cover light handles sprays are available that are less corrosive and will kill "bugs" | quicker than the old solutions. We dental personnel are excited handpieces and other instruments, about the new products and are at the high tech end of the techniques and hopeful that it will continue to get easier to maintain Dental health professionals a cleaner, uncontaminated

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

Schwartz

(From Page 1)

most of my life," he said. "My family was born and raised here. I've been active in the community. It's been quite a journey. The school is part of my extended fam-

Schwartz is proud of the districthe's leaving. "We've put some fine structures into place," he said. "We've got a great site-based management team, and shared decision-making group. I'm very proud of our curriculum. We've got good committees and task forces evaluating our curriculum. Schools belong to the people, and we have fine communication here. When I walk out the door, the structures are in place, and they'll stay in place. It's nice to have been a part

He is pleased with the developmentally appropriate philosophy the district has embraced, especially its Head Start and experimental prekindergarten programs, as well as a summer program for beginning kindergarten students.

"We are trying to identify children who need more preparation before coming to kindergarten," Schwartz said. "Once in school, there are a number of strategies that some kids thrive in, and we try to provide the different opportunities.'

To that end, RCS has multi-age classes, looping — "in my day they called it having the same teacher two years in a row," -Schwartz said, and an elementary summer reading program.

has become known in the larger educational community. "Others will tell you," he said, "that we're innovative. We've been risk-takers, and we've made some mistakes, but education is dynamic and changing, and so are we.'

RCS is unique in its diversity, Schwartz said. There are approximately 2500 students in the district that stretches from Bethlehem to Greenville and Coxsackie and borders the Hudson

We have everything from estates along the Hudson River to shacks," poverty-stricken Schwartz said. "That's one of our strengths. Kids get to acknowledge and learn about each other early on. In real life, we don't always get to associate with 'our kind,' and we want our kids to be successful."

Schwartz said the two most significant influences in education during his career have been technology and the changing nature of the family.

"The challenge with technology is that we're training kids for jobs that don't even exist now," he

By this fall, all the district's buildings will be wired for the Internet, and there will be five computer "drops" in every classroom, with one operational by September. Teacher training will accompany the technology up-

"I'm very proud of how we financed our technology," Schwartz said. "We've been able to keep a

As a result, Schwartz said, RCS level of funding, and with our approach towards leasing, we've been able to bring in our technology incrementally.'

As a result, RCS will not have to carry debt service from bonding to fund technology improvements.

Schwartz said that along with technology, the district needs to continue to provide a well-rounded education. In the face of state Regents for All mandates, under which the state will require all students to pass five Regents exams to graduate from high school, RCS is beefing up its curriculum.

"I applaud Regents for All," Schwartz said, "although maybe this isn't the best way to implement change. The difficulty in education is that you don't just change a subject, you change a culture. Changes in educators means changes in their personalities. You can't just change a method. Sometimes it's hard.'

As to the changing nature of the family, Schwartz quoted a popular saying in education, "Life was much simpler when there was just Dick, Jane and Spot.'

"Our battle all the time is what our role is," Schwartz said, citing educational researcher Larry Lazzotte, who found that educators have three missions. "We have custodial care; classing and sorting, where we figure out who can do, and who can't; and teaching and learning. Some schools have to do more of the first two than teaching and learning. I think that intervention early lets us do more teaching and learning later

Colorado have made everyone a little bit tenser. He sent a letter to parents after the shooting incident, and he and the school staffs have reviewed the crisis response plan and their disaster prepared-

district is its size," Schwartz said. With 2500 kids, we're large enough to do interesting things, but small enough to know about problems. The faculty has done a wonderful job of keeping an eye on things. Our emphasis is on prevention, and we try to get to the kids before they don't see any other way out."

In addition to his full-time job as superintendent, Schwartz has been an adjunct professor of educational administration at The College of Saint Rose since 1991. "As teachers, we have to be lifelong learners," he said. "By continuing to teach, I learn a lot. The day I stop teaching is the day I stop learning."

Schwartz is also the chairperson of two BOCES groups, the district superintendents council, and the school support services superintendents advisory committee. He has also taught at North Adams State College and the University at Albany.

Schwartz has been a member of the board and religious school committee at his temple. B'nai Shalom, and like parents everywhere, has sat in bleachers and stands at athletic events.

His wife Sheila Schwartz is a social worker with Questar III. The Schwartzes have two children, Jennifer, an assistant manager at Comfort Inn (and mother of the Schwartz's first grandchild, 16-month-old Jacob), and David, a sophomore at Hobart College.

Jerry DeLuca, president of the RCS school board, said that Schwartz has earned everyone's respect. "He's done a good job,' DeLuca said. "He's very caring of the district's needs, and is highly thought of by the staff."

Schwartz said being school superintendent can be a lonely job. "I've gotten a lot of support and worked closely with Les Loomis, superintendent in Bethlehem, and Alan McCartney,

Schwartz said recent events in the Voorheesville superintendent. They're refined gentlemen, and we've developed a real camaraderie. This area has a lot of stability in its school superintendents; Les, Al and I all live and work in our school districts.

"I have so many good memo-"One of the strengths of our ries that I'll take with me," Schwartz said, adding that he'll still be around on weekends, since his wife will still be working in the Capital District. "I feel I'm leaving a district that is forward thinking and knows where it's going. The next person can add and modify. As things change, needs change, and how we continue may change. But I feel this is a district that understands its missions, and its *

Library announces preschool story times

Bethlehem Public Library at 451 Delaware Ave. in Delmar will offer a special spring story time series for preschoolers ages 2 to 6 from May 18 through June 3.

The hour-long programs will include stories, songs and fingerplays around a theme, followed by films and crafts. Participants may register for one of two sessions per week, a Tuesday morning program at 10:30 a.m., or a Thursday evening session at 7 p.m. For information, call 439-

Collectors' group to meet at library

The Capital District Collectors' Club will present Bill Younger. artist and entrepreneur of Harbor Lights Lighthouses, on Tuesday, May 11, at 7 p.m. at Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave.,

The public is welcome, and refreshments will be served.

BCMS to host Web page workshop

Bethlehem Public Library, in cooperation with the middle school, will offer a two-session workshop on HTML Web page design on May 11 and 18, from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. at the middle school library.

For information, call 439-9314.



Parenting workshops start May 12

Are you feeling puzzled by parenting? Being a parent is not easy and it helps to connect with others.

Summer is nearly here and help is on the way. Now you can join a discussion group for parents of students in grades-one through five, led by trained, experienced facilitators.

Topics will include communication, fostering self-esteem, coping with conflicts, discipline and decision-making.

EPIC (Every Person Influences Children) workshops are successful and rewarding because you learn parenting skills in a warm and supportive atmosphere.

A series of EPIC workshops will be held Wednesdays, May 12, 19, 26, and June 2, from 7 to 9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

For information or to register, call 439-7740.





Live from Lincoln Center NYC Ballet: Swan Lake Wednesday, 8 p.m. Mystery! Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **New York Week in Review** Friday, 9 p.m. **Antiques Roadshow** Masterpiece Theatre: Great Expectations, part 1 **Great Expectations: conclusion** NOVA: Curse of T. Rex

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Brett Singer and Randi Wolkenbreit

Wolkenbreit, Singer to wed

Randi Susan Wolkenbreit, daughter of Jed and Linda Wolkenbreit of Slingerlands, and Brett Ian Singer, son of Carroll Singer of the Bronx, are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Harvard University and Columbia Law School.

She is a judicial clerk in the Southern District of New York.

The future groom is a graduate of Clark University.

He is a theatrical publicist and president of Brett Singer Associ-

The couple plans a July 31 wed-

Selkirk girl takes second place at College of St. Rose science fair

land of Selkirk recently won second place at The Saint Rose Science Fair in Albany.

Her winning project was entitled, "Tartar Protection Tooth-paste: Does It Work?"

Toseland, a student at Albany March.

Eighth-grader Rebecca Tose- Academy for Girls, was one of two academy students to place in the top three, and one of 12 entrants from the school.

> The original research projects were first exhibited at a middle school science symposium in early

Local law firms announce merger

ing in taxation and estate planning and administration recently merged to form the area's largest estate planning firm, with expanded offices in Colonie.

Bethlehem's Conway Lavelle & Finn joined forces with Roach

Two area law firms specializ- & Harris of Colonie to form a new partnership that will consist of 10 lawyers, 12 paralegals and support staff.

> The new entity will retain the Bethlehem firm's name, but will move its offices to the Colonie study and practical instruction in partner's current location, 450 Karner Road.

Ambulance sets Red Cross blood drive

host a blood drive on behalf of the American Red Cross on Saturday,

Bethlehem Ambulance will Route 9W across from Becker Elementary School in Selkirk.

To schedule an appointment, May 8, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on call Paul Parisi at 478-0563.

Mail weddings, engagements

The Spotlight would like to publish your engagement, wedding or anniversary announcement and photo. There is no charge for this community service.

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 PO Box 100, Delmar 12054.

Sinths

Out of town

Boy, Ethan Paul Iaia, to Ruth and Brian Iaia of Wilton, March 25. Maternal grandparents are Louis and Marian Choppy of

Girl, Hannah Karla Gohlke-Schermer, to Kathy Schermer and Leslie Gohlke of Guilderland, Feb. 9. Grandparents are Karl and Beth Gohlke of Slingerlands.

BCHS senior competes for scholarship

Bethlehem Central High School senior Alexis O'Brien, daughter of Raymond O'Brien and Pamela Tindall-O'Brien of Delmar, was among 243 high school seniors who competed in Roanoke College's semi-annual Scholars Program.

The Virginia-based coeducational liberal arts college conducts the Scholars Program to recognize and support students of superior academic and leadership abil-

Finalists complete for full scholarships, some including room and board; and scholarships up to \$2,500 annually. Other finalists not qualifying for top awards receivea Faculty Scholarship worth at least \$1,000 annually.

Clarksville native completes basic

Seaman John Fugitt, a 1998 graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and the son of Marie Fugitt of Clarksville, recently completed an eight-week basic training program at the Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill.

Fugittis among 55,000 who will take up the training program this year, which includes classroom naval customs, first aid, fire fighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety, along with an emphasis on physical fitness.

Slingerlands lawyer named to committee

Charles Haviland Jr. of Slingerlands, an associate at Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna in Albany, has been named to the Committee on Corporations and Other Business Entities of the New York State Bar Association's Business Law Section.

Haviland is a senior associate in the firm's corporate practice group, and is a graduate of the University at Albany and Albany Law School.



Cortney and Todd Romansky

Langford, Romansky marry

Cortney Allynn Langford, daughter of Richard and Debra Langford of Voorheesville, and Todd Peter Romansky, son of John and Patricia Romansky of Hilton, Monroe County, were married

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. George Klohck at First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville. A reception followed at Albany Country Club.

The maid of honor was Erinn Langford, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Darcey Langford, sister of the bride, and Sarah Stevens. Kristin Holtz gave a read-

The best man was John Romansky, brother of the groom. Ushers were Michael Romansky, brother of the groom, and Joey Langford, brother of the bride.

The bride is a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton High School and the University of Buffalo.

She is a quality assurance analyst for SynQuest in Clifton Park.

The groom is a graduate of the University of Buffalo.

He is a product design specialist at SynQuest.

After a wedding trip to Disney World, the couple lives in Clifton

Farmers' market at church open for business every Tuesday

open for the season, every Tuesday from 3 to 6 p.m., rain or shine, at First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

open through the end of Novem- Association at 732-2991. ber for the sale of homemade

The farmers' market is now baked goods, handcrafts, flowers, herbs, perennials, hanging baskets, bedding plants and vegetables.

For information, contact the The outdoor market will remain Capital District Farmers' Market.





INVITATIONS

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Community

Garden clubs plan annual plant sales

Albany Men's Garden Club will hold its Pre-Mother's Day Plant Sale Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Delaware Avenue parking lot adjacent to the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle. For details, call Henry Fox at 438-7550.

The Helderview Garden Club's annual plant sale is also set for May 8 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of SuperValu Foods on Route 85A. There will be a drawing for plants and other items donated by local businesses.

oituaries

Dr. Sae Youn Chung

Dr. Sae Youn Chung, 57, of Delmar died Wednesday, April 28, at Albany Medical Center Hospi-

Born in Sungjin, Korea, he came to the United States in 1966.

He was a graduate of Seoul National University Medical College. He completed his medical residency in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dr. Chung was a professor of psychiatry at Albany Medical Center for many years. He was also director of inpatient services. He was a board member of the Albany Korean Association and treasurer of the Seoul National University College of Medicine alumni association.

Survivors include his wife, Imai Park Chung; two sons, Stephen Chung of Boston, Mass., and Dr. Michael Chung of Wilmington, Del.; a daughter, Kay Chung of Delmar; a brother; and two sis-

Services were from the Chicorelli Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in Bethlehem Cem-

Marjorie Whitmore

Marjorie E. Whitmore, 86, of Delmar died Tuesday, April 27.

she worked for the state Department of Audit & Control before she retired. She was a communicant of the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle and active in Bethlehem Senior Citizens.

She was the widow of Tyler A. Whitmore.

Survivors include two daughters, Mary McCabe of Ravena and Virginia Freitas of Ballston Spa; a son, John Whitmore of Delmar; a brother, Paul Eldridge of Florida; four grandchildren; and two greatgranddaughters.

Arrangements were by the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

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

Ray H. Haisdorf

Ray H. Halsdorf, 82, of Albany and formerly of Delmar died Wednesday, April 28, at Eden Park Nursing Home.

Born and educated in Delmar. he was a self-employed painter and paper hanger before he re-

Survivors include several grandchildren.

Services were from Norman E. Dascher Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in Holy Spirit Lutheran Cemetery in Glenmont.

Contributions may be made to Community Hospice of Albany County, 315 S. Manning Blvd., Albany 12208.

John C. Mudge

John C. Mudge, 87, of Unionville died Sunday, April 18,

Marion Clark Richards in Gainesville, Fla.

Born in Sloansville, he graduated from the former state College of Agriculture. Mr. Mudge was a line splicer for Niagara Mohawk for 38 years before he retired.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in Africa and Europe. He was a life mem-

ber and former battalion chief for member of Onesquethau Masonic Lodge 1040 in Delmar, Mr. Mudge was a member of Unionville Reformed Church and the Elks Lodge 2693 in Florida.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Hopkins Mudge; a son, Jeffrey C. Mudge of Unionville; a brother, Floyd Mudge of Pennsylvania; a sister, Anna Hoganhamp; and two grandsons.

Services were from Unionville Reformed Church.

Arrangements were from the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to Unionville Reformed Church, 1134 Delaware Turnpike, Delmar 12054 or the Onesquethaw Fire Co., PO Box E, Clarksville 12041.

Michael Mudar

Michael Mudar of New Scotland died Sunday, May 2.

Mr. Mudar worked in the large steam turbine division of General Electric in Schenectady for 44 years before he retired.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Jean H. Mudar; three daughters, Karen I. Hawes of Delanson, Marian J. Mudar of Colonie and Kathryn M. Dorsey of Dallas, Texas; a sister, Olga Rakoczy of Albany; and two granddaughters.

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

Elizabeth M. Walsh

Elizabeth M. Walsh, 79, of Elsmere died Saturday, May 1, at her home.

Born in New York City, she was a longtime resident of Delmar.

Mrs. Walsh was an account clerk for the state Facilities Development Corp. before she re-

She was a volunteer classroom aide at Elsmere Elementary School and a volunteer for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. She was a communicant of the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle and a member of the choir.

She was the widow of Robert J.

Survivors include two sons, James Walsh of Ann Arbor, Mich., and David Walsh of Delmar; a sister. Irene Dunne of Harwichport, Mass.; and six grandchildren.

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

Burial was in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

Arrangements were by the Applebee Funeral Home in

Contributions may be made to the Delmar Rescue Squad, 145 Adams St., Delmar 12054.

Marion Clark Richards, 97, of Good Samaritan Nursing Home and formerly of Albany died Saturday, May 1, at the nursing home.

Born in Albany, she graduated from the former St. Anne's Academy. She was a communicant of St. Margaret Mary's Church.

Mrs. Richards was the widow of John H. Richards.

Survivors include a son, Willthe Onesquethaw Fire Co. and a iam J. Richards of Albany; a brother, John J. Clark of Albany; 14 grandchildren; and 25 great-

> Services were from St. Margaret Mary Church.

grandchildren.

Burial was in Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery in Glenmont.

Arrangements were by the Daniel Keenan Funeral Home in Albany.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1450 Western Ave., Albany 12203.

Robert Hausmann

Robert John Hausmann, 56, of Feura Bush died Tuesday, April 27, at his home.

Mr. Hausmann worked for the State Teachers Retirement System before he retired. He was a former exalted ruler of the Bethlehem Elks Lodge 2233.

Services were from the Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar.

Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Ann Schepp Hausmann; a son, Justin Hausmann; and a daughter, Katrina Hausmann.

Wilbur J. Groesbeck

Wilbur J. Groesbeck, 78, of Feura Bush died Monday, April 19, at Albany Medical Center Hos-

A lifelong resident of Feura Bush, he was a bus mechanic and driver for Bethlehem Central School District for 23 years before he retired.

Mr. Groesbeck was a member of the Capital District Corvair Club and a volunteer superintendent of the Onesquethaw Cemetery Association.

Survivors include his wife, R. Hilda Williman Groesbeck; a son, Wayne J. Groesbeck of Muskegon, Mich.; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchil-

Services were from the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Burial was in Onesquethaw Cemetery in Clarksville.

Contributions may be made to Onesquethaw Church, Tarrytown Road, Feura Bush 12067 or the Onesquethaw Cemetery Association, c/o Elwood VanDerbilt. Tarrytown Road, Feura Bush 12067.

Louise A. Surloff

Louise A. Surloff of Rensselaer and formerly of Bethlehem died Tuesday, April 20, at her home.

Born in Bethlehem, she was a longtime resident of the Capital

Mrs. Surloff worked for B.T. Babbitt in Albany, Watervliet Arsenal and Albany County Nursing

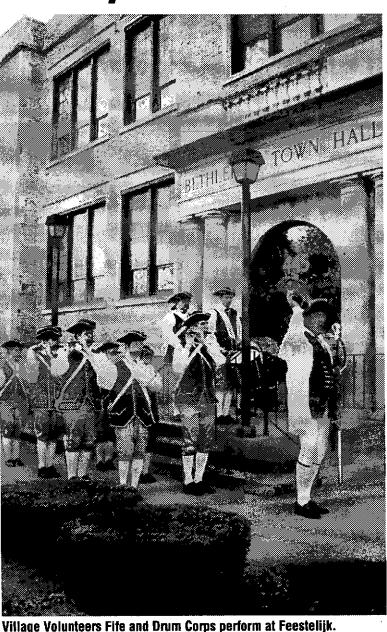
She was the widow of William S. Surloff.

Survivors include two daughters, Ruth A. Reichert and Hazel Rakowski, both of Rensselaer; a sister, Violet Kendrick of Albany; three grandchildren; and a greatgranddaughter.

Services were from the Rockefeller.

Burial was private.

Crowd pleasers



Elaine McLain

Library

(From Page 1)

the rise in book-buying costs, Pieri said. "Children's books in particular have taken quite a jump in purchase prices. We've tried to keep our purchasing steady." But the overall library-material budget, set at \$238,600, represents a virtually negligible rise.

That is thanks to modest savings as a result of the rise of the Internet, Pieri said. The library's budget for database services dropped slightly, she said, because fewer programs are purchased in CD-ROM form now. "Now with the advent of the are available online at little services is projected. charge," she said.

responsible for a drop in revenue solicit public comment on the from photocopy services by al- budget proposal before the folmost \$8,000, as a result of more lowing week's vote. research material being down-

loaded off the Net by students rather than copied.

That accounted for most of the \$9,000 decrease in projected revenues before taxes, from such sources as fines, sales, investment income and state aid, which are set at \$409,000 for the coming

A small increase is projected in the maintenance budget for the 25-year-old building to \$103,000, Pieri said, and small increases are projected in professional services and in automated circulation costs.

No change in utility costs, which represent \$90,300 of the Internet, more and more of those budget, or of other programs and

The library board of trustees But the Internet may also be will meet May 10 at 7 p.m. to

Town of New Scotland Annual Spring Brush and Lawn Debris Clean-Up

May 3rd - May 28, 1999

Lawn and Yard Debris: must be bagged in bio-degradable bags and placed near the curb. Bags can be purchased at the Highway Garage Mon.-Fri., 7:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.. Cost is 3 for \$1.00 or 35 cents each. Bags purchased at local grocery and department stores are also acceptable.

Brush and tree limbs: Must be stacked neatly at the curb with butts facing the road. Limbs no longer have to be cut into four foot lengths. Our new chipper will accept longer and larger limbs than in the past. Please be sure to stack brush and limbs as neatly as possible with butts facing road so that our crew can work in a safe, efficient manner.

QUESTIONS? CALL 765-2681 **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

SPOTLIGHT ON FAMILY ENDARS AR

Tulips, talent, treats & crafts fill Washington Park for weekend fest

By Joseph A. Phillips

The Albany Tulip Festival in Washington Park is the Capital District's pivotal rite of spring.

Surrounded by the park's famous beds of tulips, which are reaching their peak right on cue for this weekend's 51st edition of the festival, and by the booths and tables of literally hundreds of artisans, food vendors and craftsmen offering their wares, the main stage set up on the Parade Grounds at the eastern end of the park offers a profusion of events.

They include, of course, all the formal ones, like the Tulip Court's processions and coronations on Saturday, and the annual Mother of the Year award presentation on Sunday afternoon.

The main stage also is the focal point for the music that is the festival's hall-mark. Friday night brings a special "Shamrocks and Tulips" concert, featuring two local Celtic-flavored bands, Hair of the Dog and the MacKrells, along with the high-stepping Irish dancers of the Boland School of Dance.

Saturday the stage belongs to the rockers, with this year's featured acts being Conehead Buddha and The Samples. And Sunday, in honor of Mother's Day, the Albany Symphony Orchestra will present a pops program of "Mom's Favorite

Songs" ranging from familiar classics such as "Finlandia" and Carmen's "Habanera" to Rodgers and Hammerstein and "Danny Boy."

Around the periphery of the main events are a plethora of pleasers for youngsters and the young at heart. Here is an hourby-hour guide to events that will engage even the littlest festival-goers.

Friday, May 7

Pull up a bit of curb near Academy Park in Albany at 11:30 a.m. and enjoy a half-hour concert featuring Albany city hall's carillon, played by Pieter Blonk. It offers a great lead-in to the ceremonial scrubbing of the streets that commences at noon near State and Lodge streets.

Following the official mayoral proclamation, a squadron of volunteer "Dutch maidens" gives the streets of Old Beverwyck a once-over-lightly spring cleaning. Following hard on their wooden heels is a battalion of Dutch Dancers and the marching band from Christian Brothers Academy.

If Moms and Dads want to hear the Friday night Irish rockers down at the park, but don't want to spend a bundle on a baby-sitter, the children's rides on the

hill above the Lakehouse will be open for business during the concert. be a Bunjaventure trampoline ride — you'll find pony rides, face painting, candle and sand art, and continuous entertainment from strolling performers who work the crowd when not headlining on the children's stage, set up among the trees near the playground.

On Saturday the featured kiddie entertainers will be Mack-o the Magic Clown with his sidekick Clown J, and Captain Long John. The latter is a friendly pirate who enthralls the little ones with magic, juggling and audience participation while keeping the one-liners coming.

A special event that might appeal to slightly older kids is a 3 p.m. presentation down at the Lakehouse amphitheater by the drama clubs of several Albany schools, offering selections from "Man of La Mancha" and "Cinderella,"

coupled with a revue by performers from Park Playhouse II, the summer theater's young-performers' company.

At noon on the Willett Street side of the park, Yury's School of Gymnastics wows 'em with a popular gymnastics exhibition. If you miss them, fear not; they'll be tumbling back on Sunday.

And over by the Moses statue on the south side, fittingly surrounded by rows of tulips, is Der Klompenmaker — Ontario-based craftsman Jack Van Winssen, who demonstrates the art of wooden shoe making all afternoon long.

Portable exhibits from the Scotia-Glenville Children's Museum and the Iroquois Indian Museum are on hand for the young and curious.

Sunday, May 9

On Mother's Day, Mom gets a helping hand from a different batch of entertainers on the children's stage, including Henry the Juggler, defying the laws of gravity

the laws of gravity and tickling the funny-bone as a kid's comedian parents will enjoy too.

Alternating with Henry will be a pup-

Top: Pinksterfest kicks off Friday morning with volunteer "Dutch maidens" giving the streets of Old Beverwyck a traditional spring cleaning. Above: Large crowds stroll about Washington Park visiting the various craft booths, food and drink vendors and entertainment venues.

pet presentation by the Castle Bridge Puppets, a locally-based puppeteering ensemble with a taste for tales of fantasy and imagination.

Henry roams the grounds when not on stage—where he might bump into an Andean Mountain folk musical ensemble called Sacha, a past crowd favorite and a soothing alternative to the high-amp offerings on the main stage. They'll be strolling through the park for impromptu performances throughout the weekend.

At the amphitheater at the Lakehouse, two family entertainment acts will be featured on stage. At 1 p.m. it's the zany antics of a local trio of musical clowns who call themselves the Zucchini Brothers. And at 3 p.m., the Mother Goose Jazz Band, another local act but with a national recording following, introduces youngsters to the wonders of jazz with a touch of the familiar. Imagine "This Little Pig Went To Market" set to a Thelonius Monk tune, or "Itsty Bitsy Spider" getting a little swing.

Pinksterfest, the Bunjaventure and Der Klompenmaker, all make a return on Sunday too. And when Junior is ready to rest his weary feet, you can always dangle them in the fountain at Moses' feet—and take in the festive floral surroundings that help make the Tulip Festival a delight for the whole family.

Among the entertainers appearing this weekend at the Tulip Festival will be three zany Zucchini Brothers and the friendly pirate, Captain Long John.



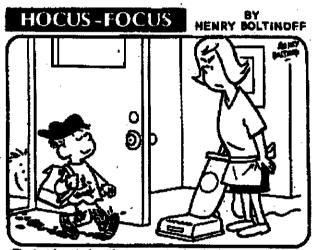
winning tennis.

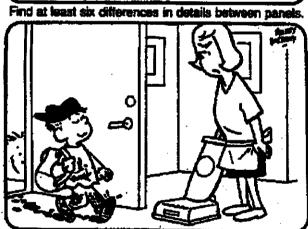
ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

PREPARING TO PLAY One way to avoid having a slow start in a match is to have a routine that gets you in the proper emotional frame of mind to play

You should try to get into the match even during the warm-up by evaluating your opponent's game as you hit and determining any weakness you can attack during play.





Differences: 1. Doorknob is different, 2. Door window is missing, 3. Picture is added, 4. Backpack is different. 5. Cord is missing, 6. Woman's hair is different.

THEATER

INHERIT THE WIND

classic courtroom drama, Capital Repertory Theatre, 111 N. Pearl St., Albany, through May 16, \$10 to \$35. Information, 445-7469.

THE RED BALLOON

New York State Theatre Institute presents production by Visoble Fictions, Schacht Fine Arts Center of Russell Sage College, Troy, through May 7, \$17, \$14 for seniors and students, \$8, for children under 13. Information, 274,326

RED ROSES AND PETROL

Actors' Collaborative production of contemporary Irish family drama, The Egg at Empire State Plaza, May 15, 21 and 22, 8 p.m., \$15. Information, 473-1845.

FAME — THE MUSICAL

based on award-winning movie, Proctor's Theatre, State Street, Schenectady, May 11 and 12 at 8 p.m., May 13 at 7 p.m., \$36.50 to \$42.50, Information, 346-6204

FOREVER PLAID

musical comedy, Schenectady Light Opera Co., 826 State St., May 6, 7 and 8 at 8 p.m., May 9 at 2 p.m., \$16, \$8 for children under 13. Information, 393-5732.

NEITHE BLV

musical adventure, Albany Civic Theater, 235 Second Ave., April 30 and May 7, 8, 14 and 15 at 8 p.m., May 9 at 3 p.m., May 8 and 15 at 4 p.m., \$12, \$5 for children under 17. Information, 462-1297.

MUSIC

THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

songs of World War II, with Lainie Nelson, Proctor's Theatre, State Street, Schenectady, May 5, 8 p.m., \$22.50 to \$26.50. Information, 346-6204.

DIANE SCHUUR AND MAYNARD FERGUSON

jazz concert, Proctor's Theatre, State Street, Schenectady, May 6, 8 p.m., \$29.50 to \$34.50. Information, 346-6204.

MONIQUE VAN VOOREN

cabaret singer, The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, May 7, 8 p.m., \$18, \$16 for seniors and children under 13. Information, 473-1845.

TOM RUSH

folksinger, The Van Dyck, 235 Union St., Schenectady, May 7, 7:30 and 10 p.m., \$25. Information, 381-1111.

ALBANY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

symphonies by Berlioz and Sibelius, Palace Theatre, North Pearl Street, Albany, May 8, 8 p.m., \$14 to \$33. Information, 465-4755.

UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

final performance conducted by Findlay Cockrell, Performing Arts Center, University at Albany, May 9, 7 p.m., \$5 suggested donation. Information, 442-3995.

JEAN REDPATH

Scottlsh traditional singer, Old Songs Dutch Barn at the Altamont Fairgrounds, Route 146, May 13, 8 p.m., \$12. Information, 765-2815.

MENDELSSOHN CLUB

male chorus' spring concert, Palace Theater, North Pearl Street, Albany, May 14, 7:30 p.m., \$12. Information, 395-8863.

LINCOLN CENTER JAZZ ORCHESTRA

with Wynton Marsalis, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Second and State streets, May 14, 8 p.m., \$30. Information, 273-0038.

PIPE DREAMS

Cettic piping with Paddy Keenan and Neil Anderson, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Second and State streets, May 15, 7:30 p.m., \$15 In advance, \$18 at the door. Information, 273-0038.

BURT BACHARACH

legendary composer, Proctor's Theatre, State Street, Schenectady, May 15, 8 p.m., \$34.50 to \$39.50. Information, 346-6204, CAPITAL COMMUNITY VOICES concert of classic and popular songs about rivers and seas, Genet Middle School, Route 4, East Greenbush, May 15, 7:30

students. Information, 370-5434. DANCE

p.m., \$6, \$4 for seniors and

FAMILY FUN

BEAUTY LOU AND THE COUNTRY BEAST

Missoula Children's Theatre country music adaptation of "Beauty and the Beast," The Egg at Empire State Piaza, May 8, 1 and 4 p.m., \$10, \$8 for seniors and children under 13.. Information, 473-1845.

SPRING CEILI

Irish music and dance party, with music by Curragh, Sunset Banquet House, 873 Fifth Ave., Lansingburgh, May 8, 7 to 11 p.m., \$10, free for children under 12. Information, 452-2119.

VISUAL ARTS

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

stoneware and antique furniture exhibits; plus permanent collections, Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue Information, 474-5877.

Grea EBEEBLES

Wednesday, May 5

■"How New Need the New Be?" lecture by theater critic John Simon, Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, University at Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 442-4200.

Thursday, May 6

■ George Plimpton discusses his writing, Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, University at Albany, 8 p.m. Information, 273-3265.

Friday, May 7

- Steinmetz concerts at Union College choral concert, 3:30 p.m. in Performing Arts Studio, and orchestra pops concert, 8:30 p.m. in Memorial Chapel. Information, 388-6201.
- "Cal," film about love in Northern Ireland, Page Hall, 135 Western Ave., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 442-5620.
- Singer/songwriter Mark Humphries, Borders Books & Music, 59 Wolf Road, Colonie, 8 p.m. Information, 482-5800.

Saturday, May 8

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- Albany Tulip Festival, Washington Park, music, food and children's entertainment, noon to 6 p.m.
- Union College Jazz Ensemble, Reamer Campus Center, 11:30 a.m. Information, 388-6201.
- Celtic blues duo Ben Murray and Siobhan Quinn, Borders Books & Music, 59 Wolf Road, Colonie, 8 p.m. Information, 482-5800.

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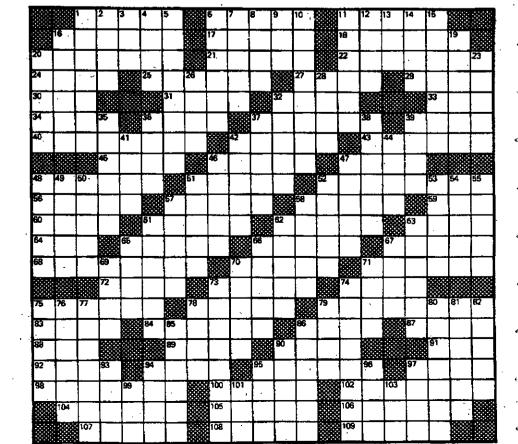
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Spotlight CAL



BETHLEHEM

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

BETH. BUSINESS WOMEN Monthly meeting & dinner, Normanside Country Club, Salsbury Road, Elsmere, 6 p.m., 6:30 dinner, 7:30 guest speaker. Information, 439-3791.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH evening prayer and Bible study, Kenwood Ave., 7 p.m.

Information, 439-4314. **BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB** Days Inn, Route 9W, Glenmont, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4857.

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

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Three public hearings; 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. BC SCHOOL BOARD

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

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

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR Onesquethaw Chapter, Masonic Temple, 421 Kenwood Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-

NEW SCOTLAND

V'VILLE ZONING BOARD village hall, 29 Voorheesville Ave., 7 p.m. Information, 765-2692

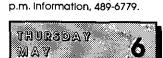
NEW SCOTLAND SENIORS Wyman Osterhout Community, Center. New Salem, call for time. Information, 765-2109.

MOUNTAINVIEW EVANGELI-CAL 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, 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



BETHLEHEM

OUTDOOR PROGRAM

"Early Birder" bird walk at Five Rivers Environmental Educational Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar, refreshments 7 a.m., 7:30 a.m. walk, Information, 475-0291.

BETHLEHEM COMM, CHURCH women's Bible study, 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. in a local home. children's program and nursery provided for morning session, 201 Elm Ave. Information, 439-

"DECISION-MAKING DAY" Program explaining health care proxy and power of attorney, with estate planning attorney Margaret Z. Reed; Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 10 a.m. Informa-

tion, 439-9314. RECOVERY, INC.

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

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

4955. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SVCS. Parks and Recreation Office, Eim Avenue Park, 2 to 4:30 p.m. Information, 439-0503.

HOMEWORK HELP CENTER

Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 6 to 8 p.m. p.m. Information, 439-0503. **FAMILIES FIRST**

support group for parents of children with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Bethlehem

Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 7 to 8:30 p.m. Information, 439-8839.

INTERNET FOR SMALL BUSINESS "Putting Your Business On The Libraries Mean Business Series, Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 7 p.m. Registration, 439-9314.

BETH. LUTHERAN CHURCH children's choir, 6:30 p.m., senior choir, 7:30 p.m., 85 Eim Ave. Information, 439-4328.

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

AA MEÉTINGS

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

NEW SCOTLAND

PRAYER LUNCHEON

Observance of National Day of Prayer, luncheon speaker Rev. Steve Everett, Glenmont Community Reformed Church: noon-1 p.m., South Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 65 Willowbrook Avenue. Information, 767-2281 or 767-3400.

CONCERT AT LIBRARY

George Ward performing at Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, Voorheesville, 7:00 p.m. Information 765-2791. FRIDAY

BETHLEHEM

PRE-SCHOOL FILMS

Goodnight Gorilla," "Great White Man-Eating Shark," Sylvester and the Magic Pebble," and "Amazing Grace," for ages 3-6, Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 10:30 a.m., free, Information, 439-9314.

BOOKS IN THE MORNING Discussing "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" by Thornton Wilder, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bethlehem Town Hall, Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information 439-

AA MEETING

First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Route 9W, 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

CHARAD CENTER

Friday services, discussion and kiddush at sunset, 109 Eismere Ave. Information, 439-8280.

OPEN GYM BASKETBALL

Bethlehem Central High School Lower Gym, sponsored by the Bethlehem Parks & Recreation Department, 8-11 p.m., \$1. Information, 439-4131.

NEW SCOTLAND

YOUTH GROUP

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



BETHLEHEM

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by Bethlehem Ambulance; Route 9W, across from Becker Elementary School,

Selkirk, 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. Informa tion, 478-0563.

PRE-MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE

Sponsored by Albany Men's Garden Club, Delaware Ave. parking lot next to St. Thomas Church, Delmar, 8 a.m-1 p.m. Information, 438-7550.

"SATURDAY MATINEE" AT LIBRARY

George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead,", 1968, For grade 6-adult, free popcorn. Close captioned. Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 2 p.m., free. Information, 439-

AL-ANON MEETING

The Crossroads, 4 Normanskill Blvd., 5:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

AA MEETING

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





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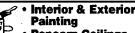
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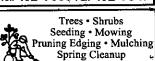
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LEGAL NOTICE APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF PRIMAX CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Under Section 1304 of the Business Corporation Law

s FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is PRIMAX CON-STRUCTION, INC.

SECOND: The corporation is a North Carolina Corporation and was incorporated on July 7, 1998.

THIRD: The purpose for which Primax Construction, Inc. is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the Business Corporation Law of New York State. It is not formed to engage in any act or activity requiring the consent or approval of any state official, department, board or agency or other body.

Propertion Foundation For Foundation fice in the State of New York shall be located be located in the County of Albany.

FIFTH: The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the Corporation upon whom any process in any action may be served. The address to which the secretary of state shall mail a copy of any process against the corporation is c/o CSC Corp., 80 State Street, Albany, New York 12207.

SIXTH: The Corporation has not since its incorporation or since the date its authority to do business in this state was last surrendered, engaged in any activity in this state, except as set forth in paragraph (b) of section 1301.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this certificate of incorporation this 27th day of April, 1999, and I affirm the statements contained therein as true under pen-'alty of perjury.

John F. Von Ahn, Attorney-in-Fact May 5, 1999

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF W-MC **HOLDINGS, LLC**

Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State

1. The name of the limited Liability Company is W-MC HOLDINGS, LLC (the "Limited Liability Company")

2. The principal office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located in the County of Albany, State of New york.

3. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom pro-

LEGAL NOTICE

cess 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: P.O. Box 677, Albany, New York 12201.

4. The Limited Liability Company is to be managed by one or more of its members.

5. None of the members of the Limited Liability Company (the "Members") in their capacity as Members, shall be personally or individually liable for any debts, obligations or liabilities of the Limited Liability Company.

6. The Limited Liability Company shall have all powers and pur-poses allowed it by law. May 5, 1999

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF MESITI FOUNDATIONS, LLC

Under section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State

1. The name of the Limited Liability Company is MESITI FOUN-DATIONS, LLC (the "Limited Li-ability Company")

2. The principal office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located in the County of Albany, State of New York.

3. 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: 1005 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, New York 12208.

4. The Limited Liability Company is to be managed by one or more of its members.

5. None of the members of the Limited Liability Company (the "Members") in their capacity as members, shall be personally as members, shall be personally or individually liable for any debts, obligations or liabilities of the Limited Liability Company.

6. The limited Liability Company shall have all powers and purposes allowed it by law.

The effective date of formation of the LLC shall be the date of filing of these articles of organization by the New York Department of State

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May 5, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

BETHLEHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Bethlehem Central School District hereby invites the submission of sealed bids in accordance with Section 103 of the General MUnicipal Law for the following: **DUAL TV/COMPUTER MONI-**

Bids will be received until 2PM. on MY 19, 1999, at the office of the Business Administrator at Bethlehem Central School District, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, New York, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the same office.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Any bids submitted will be binding for 90 days subsequent to the date of bid opening.

Board of Education STEVEN O'SHEA

District Clerk

Date: 4/28/99 May 5, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE SORELLE ELECTROLYSIS, LLC

1. The name of the limited liability company is SORELLE ELEC-TROLYSIS, LLC.

2. The Articles of Organization creating the limited liability company were filed in the Office of the New York Secretary of State on March 9, 1999 and became effective on said date.

3. The principal office of the limited liability company is in Albany

4. The Secretary of State is designated as the Agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served and the post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail any copy of process against it is SORELLE ELECTROLYSIS, LLC ,c/o Patricia Popolizio, 52 Orchard Street, Albany, New York

5. The latest day upon which the limited liability company shall dis-solve is December 31,2085.

6. The limited liability company is formed for the purpose of engaging in the electrolysis business, and any business purposes per-mitted by law. May 5, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

The limited liability company American Design & Contracting LLC was formed on April 1, 1999, by Marc Micare and Joseph Sutherland . The address of the company is 103 Halfmoon Drive, Altamont, New York 12009, in the County of Albany. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Company on whom process May 5, 1999

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of Cosmetic Laser Surgery of Albany, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State ("SSNY") on April 16,1999, effective upon the date of filing. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as Apent of the LLC upon nated as Agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC c/o 1345 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, New York 12159. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery and for any lawful act or activity in furtherance thereof, in connection therewith, or incidental thereto, for which limited liability companies may be formed under the Limited Liability Law of the State of New York. May 5, 1999

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).

The name of the LLC is Columbia Colvin, L.L.C. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on April 7, 1999. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 30 Corporate Circle, Albany, New York 12203. May 5, 1999

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).

The name of the LLC is Columbia 19th Street, L.L.C. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on March 31,1999. The purpose of

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LEGAL NOTICE

the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served . The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 30 Corporate Circle, Albany, New York 12203. May 5, 1999

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).

The name of the LLC is Truewind Solutions, L.L.C. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on March 26,1999. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 251 Fuller Road, Albany, New York

May 5, 1999

NOTICE OF TENTATIVE COMPLETION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to Section 506 of the Real Property Tax Law)

HEARING OF COMPLAINTS

Notice is hereby given that the Assessor of the Town of New Scotland, County of Albany, has completed the tentative assess-ment roll for the current year; the inventory and valuation information will be available at the assessors office Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. -to 3:30 p.m. A copy of the tentative assessment roll has been filed with with the Town Clerk at Town Hall, New Scotland, New York where it may be seen and examined, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - to 4:00 p.m. by any person interested therein until the forth Tuesday of May, assessment roll figures will also be available for inspection at the Town Hall on Wednesday

5/5/99 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday 05/15/99 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon the Board of Assessment Review will meet at Town Hall, New Scotland, in the said Town, Tuesday May 25, 1999 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to hear and examine all verified written com-

LEGAL NOTICE

plaints in relation to such assessment, on the application of any person believing himself ag grieved thereby.

Dated this 30th day of April 1999.

Patricia C. McVee

Sole Assessor

Town of New Scotland

Slingerlands, NY 12159. May 5, 1999

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Slingerlands Fire District requests sealed bids for a new 1,500 GPM custom pumper with 750 gallon tank for use in the District.

Copies of specifications may be obtained from the Town of Bethlehem, Town Clerk during regular office hours.

Bethlehem Town Hall

445 Delaware Avenue

Delmar, NY 12054

All bids are to be delivered to the Slingerlands Fire District, 1520 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, New York 12159. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes which shall bear, on the face thereof, the name and address of the bidder. Original and one copy shall be submit-

The Board reserves the right to waive any informalities in and/or to reject any or all bids. Bids will be accepted and publicly opened and read aloud at the Slingerlands Fire Station #1, located at 1520 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, New York, on Tuesday, May 25, 1999 at 8:00 p.m.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

OF THE SLINGERLANDS FIRE

William McGarry, Chairman April 26 1999

May 5, 1999

PUBLIC NOTICE

The annual report for 1998 of the Julia O. Wells Memorial Education Foundation, Inc., is available for public inspection at the office of the trustee at 698 Central Avenue, Albany, New York during regular business hours for 180 days beginning today, May 24,

May 24,1999. May 5, 1999

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VOORHEESVILLE, quality care, toddler to school age, experienced, references. 765-4015.

YOUR HOME, nights or overnights, References, experienced. Own transportation. 469-8895.

CHILD CARE NEEDED

CARE FOR INFANT part-time 3 days, 8:00 - 5:30. Experience & references. 439-5828.

RESPONSIBLE NON-SMOKER needed to care for infant in our Niskayuna home, approximately 20-30 hours per week this summer. 377-0638.

CLEANING SERVICES

CLEANING- residential/ small business. Free estimates. References. Call Rose 439-0350.

J'S CLEANING: Experienced, personalized service, fully insured, bonded, Full estimates, 872-9269.

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DELMAR: 134 Hudson Avenue, Friday & Saturday, May 7 & 8, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Multi-family.

DELMAR: 31 Brookman Avenue. Saturday & Sunday, 9 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Moving. Something for everyone!

ELM ESTATES, 38 Fairlawn Drive, Saturday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Gas grill, stereo cabinet, desk, framed prints. Goodies Galore!

GLENMONT: Neighborhood garage Sale, Dowerskill Village, Saturday, May 8th, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. GLENMONT: Saturday, May 8th,

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Colonial Acres Garage Sale. Clothing, toys, antiques & more, furniture, quilt drawing & baked goods.

MOVING SALE: 14 HEATHER LANE, Furniture, computer equipment, software, tools, mirrors, luggage, rug, books, household, Honda Scooter (needs work), skis, boots, roller blades, speaker stands, speakers, baker scaffold and more. 14 Heather Lane, Saturday, May 5th, 9 to 12.

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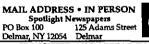
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DELMAR - VILLAGE GREEN. 1 bedroom & den. Balcony, garage. Available May 1st. \$675 + utilities, 230-0501 (pager).

DELMAR SENIORS APART-MENT, bright 2 bedroom, garage, air conditioning, porch, storage. 439-2510.

DELMAR: \$475, utilities included. Small one bedroom house. Suitable for one. Parking, security, no pets. 439-6888.

DELMAR: 625+, 2 bedrooms, hardwood, garage, bus line. 449-8240 x101.

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GLENMONT: A beautiful, bright 2900 sq. ft. Townhouse with full finished basement, custom deck, 2 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, living room dining room, den, study, Chadwick Square, 19 Rusfield Drive, 439-5763. Open Sunday 12-3.

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NISKAYUNA SCHOOLS: \$99, 800, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, sun porch with jacuzzi, hardwood, fireplace, new carpet, floors & paint in 1999. Garage, deck, dining room & family room. 271-0821.

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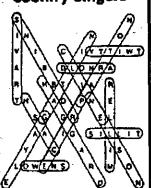
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Candidates

(From Page 1)

Hamagrael Elementary School.

Before becoming a board member, Schwab was active in the PTA, and, with his wife, coordinated the annual science fair at Hamagrael for several years.

He was founder and has been an officer of Parents for Excellence, an academic support group in the district.

He has been a member of Middleworks, a task force of Bethlehem Networks that focuses on parental involvement and support at the middle school.

Schwab has also coached teams in the Bethlehem Soccer Club, Tri-Village Little League and Bethlehem Tomboys softball league.

A research professor at the Atmospheric Sciences Research Center at the University at Albany, Schwab believes he brings "an analytic style that complements very well the mix of board members and administrators."

He said that the district takes seriously a policy of continuous improvement and thinks there needs to be strong evaluation procedures for programs — whether new scheduling or Regents for All programs.

and room for improvement in communication between various groups: parents, teachers, the board, administrators," he said. "We're trying to make progress, and I think we have. We've made some improvements, but there's a long way to go."

Warren Stoker

Having taught seventh- and eighth-graders at the middle school for 30 years, Stoker believes his experience gives him insight into how policy decisions them," he said. affect the classroom.

The English and social studies teacher, who retired two years ago, estimates he taught between three and four thousand students during his career. During his last years at the middle school, he was chairman of the school improvement team.

A past Little League coach and active member of First United Methodist Church in Delmar, Stoker is looking to expand his involvement in the community.

"I feel it's a responsibility," he said of his first run for a school board seat. "I believe fully that everyone should participate in some level of community service.'

Stoker is skeptical of the new standards the state's Board of

is not a valid concept," he said. "The standards are beyond the reach of some, and way too little for others."

He thinks class size and curriculum offerings need to be carefully monitored. "We're adding to the curriculum without taking anything out," he said.

Stoker has two grandchildren who have just started elementary school. "I'm interested in seeing the level of quality continue for

Robin Storey

A nine year Bethlehem resident, Storey served as co-president of Hamagrael's PTA from 1996-98.

She is currently on the board of Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited, a group which funds and promotes character-building activities for local youth.

She also serves on the vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Her three children are students in Bethlehem schools, and her involvement with their education began 10 years ago when she became a classroom volunteer and room parent.

Storey thinks having lived in Oakland, Calif., and the Washing-

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Bethlehem gives her added insight into education systems. "It helps to have been to other places and seen some other things," she

She found being a PTA president stimulated her desire to seek a seat on the school board.

Meeting monthly with the district's administrators and leaders in the President's Council "was a wonderful way to know what's going on," she said.

The new Regents for All standards are a concern for every public high school in the state, she said, "and Bethlehem certainly has been on top of trying to do this."

She thinks district schools will have to address safety issues, especially in the wake of recent school shootings around the country. "We need some type of action plan if that situation were to unfold," she said. She added that resource officers in the middle and high schools are "a step in the right direction.'

Storey also thinks that open communication between schools and parents needs to be kept up through all school levels. "I think if people are informed about what's going on, they're much more comfortable with decisions that are made," she said.

Robert Wing

Being a PTA representative to the school improvement team at the middle school since 1997 was one of the things that influenced Wing's decision to seek election to the school board this year.

He has lived in Bethlehem since 1987 and has two children. ages 13 and 9, who attend district schools.

Wing is a member of the middle

"There are always complaints Regents have set. "One size fits all ton, D.C., area before coming to school's learning task force, a small committee formed by faculty to investigate different learning concepts that can be applied to education policies.

> Wing was a coach for seven + seasons in the town's soccer league, and he is a member of Bethlehem Public Library's recently-formed space planning committee.

> While a resident of Albany, ¿ Wing was president of the Center Square Neighborhood Association and Albany Area Housing Opportunities, a nonprofit corporation that developed and managed four homes for low-income residents.

He places great emphasis on the need for an improved management style in the district. There seems to be a lack of trust of faculty, and maybe support staff," he said.

He thinks "The concept of shared decision-making is alive and well at Clarksville and the middle school, but under siege elsewhere.'

Wing is critical of the board's communication with its constituents. "They don't seem to be as accessible as they should be," he

He found it "disconcerting" that no board member was on a committee making long-range plans for the district several years ago. "That's exactly what board members should be doing," he said.

A manager in a local construction firm, Wing has been involved in two reconstruction projects in the East Greenbush School District, His background in construction management could be helpful in reconstruction issues the Bethlehem district faces, he said.



By Hy Rosen & Peter Slocum

Meet the Authors





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