

Lab School senior
performs in Allentown

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Apple festivals

BC girls take
2nd at invitational

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The Spotlight

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem & New Scotland

Volume XLV No. 34 Seventy-five cents

October 2, 2002

Fuller, Kehoe unveil 2003 spending plan

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

Bethlehem Supervisor Sheila Fuller and Town Comptroller Judith Kehoe formally unveiled the proposed \$27.8 million town budget for 2003 last week.

The proposal, due for further discussion later this month before its adoption in November, calls for a roughly 4 percent increase in the overall tax rate for the town's general, highway and sewer funds, coupled with the heftier hike in water tax levies already approved by the board in August.

It also holds the line on most spending by town departments beyond an overall package of salary and benefit increases for town employees. The bottom line: a projected \$19.98 property-tax hike per thousand in assessed valuation on a home valued at \$100,000 — a figure well below the town-wide average valuation.

With a full agenda for the board meeting following the budget presentation, no discussion of the plan's details was conducted last week, but a board workshop was set for Wednesday, Oct. 16, beginning at 7 p.m. at town hall, with a second session the following evening if needed. A public hearing is set for 7:30 p.m. at the board's Oct. 23

If you follow the economic news, the economic picture is not overly optimistic. But Bethlehem is a little different.

Judith Kehoe

meeting, and a vote on the finalized budget is set for Nov. 13.

While the town has adopted 3 percent annual cost-of-living raises in salaries for the last several years, Fuller proposed a 4 percent hike this year for all town employees. She also proposes to offer supplemental payments to town employees who hold college degrees — a \$500 a year bonus for an associate's degree, \$1,000 for a bachelor's or higher — and a doubling of the cap on the town's 50 percent tuition reimbursement for employees to \$2,000 a year.

The hikes, Fuller said, reflect the need for the town to remain competitive in recruiting new employees. While the town has long regarded its compensation and benefits packages as competitive, recent recruitment efforts in town departments from senior services to the building department to parks and recreation, she said, produced some unexpected findings.

"The town's pay scale seemed to be lagging, and even though the benefits package was good, it was more challenging to attract the best candidates," Fuller said.

The proposed salary and bonus hikes are outflanked, Kehoe said, by rising fringe benefit costs beyond the town's ability to control.

Health insurance costs across the board are up more than 14 percent, workers compensation over 20 percent — and mandatory municipal contributions to the state retirement system, as the state tightens its belt due to the impact of the shaky economy on the value of its stock holdings, are projected to rise by 38 percent.

Fortunately, Kehoe said, projected

□ SPENDING/page 32

Bus driver suspended after incident

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

A Bethlehem Central school bus driver — who returned to the district parking garage on Elm Avenue last Thursday with a sleeping kindergartener still aboard — was immediately suspended last week by school Superintendent Les Loomis. The driver faces a disciplinary hearing this week over the Sept. 26 incident.

Loomis went public with details of the mishap after an anonymous tipster alerted several local TV and radio news stations. Loomis also said last week that the district has taken formal action against two Bethlehem Central High School students suspended last month over a series of vandalism and arson incidents at Hamagrael

□ DRIVER/page 18

Catch o' the patch



Nora Abbott of Unionville carries a pumpkin she selected at Red Horse Farm on Orchard Street in Delmar last Sunday.

Jim Franco

Debate for assembly hopefuls still up in air

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

As Bethlehem voters prepare to elect their first new representative to the State Assembly in 16 years, will the electorate in the largest community in the newly-reconstituted 108th Assembly district see the two candidates for the post in a head-to-head public forum before Election Day?

That was the question last week as the Albany County League of Women Voters announced that it has booked Bethlehem town hall auditorium on Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. for an event focusing on what is widely regarded as the region's most competitive legislative contest.

Incumbent Republican Pat M. Casale of Schaghticoke, who will also carry Conservative and Right-to-Life backing in November, faces Democratic challenger and Coeymans attorney M. Tracey Brooks, who secured the Independence Party line in the 108th district in a head-to-head

primary with Casale last month.

Brooks has agreed to the league's Thursday night event, but as of Monday, Casale and his campaign staff have yet to do so — amid a war of words over his intentions between the assemblyman and Melanie Trimble, president of the Albany league chapter.

"I have spoken with his office on a daily basis since Sept. 5," said Trimble — but she maintained last week that Casale's staff no longer returns her phone calls inquiring about his availability for the 17th.

"We are interpreting the delay tactics as a refusal to debate, so we are going ahead with Tracey Brooks alone," she said. But she said the league hopes Casale will either agree to appear or propose an alternate date for a debate or joint meet-the-candidates forum, and Brooks said

she would consider alternative dates if that's what it takes to set up a face-to-face.

"I can tell you my schedule is filling up," she said. "I had to cancel another event to make room for the 17th. But what I've said all along is that this is my highest priority. I will move what I have to (for a joint appearance). We're being as flexible as we can to accommodate these meet-the-candidate events."

For his part, Casale insists he has not closed the door on a joint appearance.

"I'd love to do it," he said last week. "I'd love to debate Tracey Brooks. I have a very good record and I'm very proud of it." The real issue, he said, is the demand on his

□ DEBATE/page 19



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THE SPOTLIGHT\$.75

Car larcenies reported

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

Bethlehem police are investigating a one-night spree of larcenies from unlocked automobiles parked at residences in Selkirk that may have ties to similar incidents in several local communities.

Some 16 incidents, all occurring on Sept. 17, were reported to Bethlehem police. All involved unlocked vehicles parked at homes.

Only in one of the reported incidents did the culprit or culprits go away empty handed. And only one theft required much effort, a stereo system pried from a dashboard. In all of the rest, the items stolen from the unlocked cars were loose in plain sight or in unlocked glove boxes.

The thieves made off with cash, licenses, personal papers, credit cards, check books, at least one purse, a backpack and electronic devices including cell phones, lighters, CD's and players, and a \$5,000 laptop

computer left on one car seat.

Five residences along River Road reported cars rifled through during the night — and another on Parker Road, a small side road off River north of the Thruway exit.

A single theft was reported on Maple Avenue. The remaining thefts occurred on side streets off Maple. There were three on Hackett Street, two on Whitehead Street, two on Thatcher Street and two on Paulsey Court.

A tool kit was found abandoned on the lawn of one of the Thatcher Street residences, but whether it may have been used by the thieves — or stolen from a vehicle — has yet to be determined.

The rash of thefts may be related to recent similar heists in several other local communities in Albany and Rensselaer counties, according to police spokesman Sgt. Thomas Heffernan.

"Our detectives are working with some surrounding police agencies on that possibility," he said.

Car theft, arson under police probe

A case of auto theft and arson last week is under investigation by Bethlehem police.

Police responding to a 911 call shortly before 5 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 23, found a driverless car crashed into a stand of trees off Wemple Road in Glenmont, with smoke coming from beneath the hood. The Selkirk fire company responded and extinguished the fire, which singed several nearby trees.

Investigators found a wooden stick lodged between the gas pedal and the driver's seat in the damaged vehicle, forcing the gas pedal down. A license check determined the vehicle to be the property of a Catskill resident, who had reported it missing from their driveway the previous day.

Several Wemple Road residents questioned by police reported hearing the sound of an engine repeatedly revving shortly before the time of the crash.

A K-9 unit from the Guilderland Police also responded.

An investigation is continuing.

Police arrest 5 for DWI

Bethlehem police recently charged five individuals with driving while intoxicated (DWI).

Two arrests stemmed from incidents on River Road in Glenmont, including that of a Greene County woman arrested on Saturday, Sept. 14. At about 7:45 p.m., Officer Chad Rice observed a northbound vehicle driven by Virginia Lee Stroud, 59, of 92 Birch St., Cairo, crossing the center lines.

Rice administered field sobriety tests and charged Stroud with DWI and failure to keep right.

The other River Road arrest took place about midnight on Thursday, Sept. 26. Officer James Rexford stopped a vehicle driven by Matthew James Thompson, 27, of 138 Southern Blvd., Albany, for a seat belt violation by Thompson's front-seat passenger.

Thompson was also charged with DWI after Rexford administered field sobriety tests.

New Scotland Road in Slingerlands was also the scene of two arrests. About 2 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21, Officer Scott Galough said a westbound vehicle on Route 85 failed to stop at a flashing red light at the New Scotland intersection. He stopped the vehicle and ticketed Richard David Stankinas, 34, of 39 Old Fort Ave., Schenectady, for DWI.

Also arrested, shortly before 5 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 22, was Heather Lynn Gamble, 25, of 2132 12th Ave., Watervliet. Officer Adam Hornick responded to a report of a vehicle off the road on New Scotland Road. He found Gamble in her vehicle on the lawn of a nearby residence.

After field sobriety and preliminary screening tests, Gamble was charged with DWI,

unlicensed operation of a vehicle, failure to reduce speed and failure to keep right.

Another arrest took place on Friday, Sept. 20, at about 5:15 p.m., after Officer Christopher Hughes pursued a speeding vehicle northbound on Route 9W.

Police said Kevin Matthew Rooney, 46, of 155 West Bridge St., Catskill, pulled into a parking lot behind Van Allen's Market in an attempt to elude pursuit, but Hughes apprehended him him.

Hughes administered field sobriety and preliminary screening tests and arrested Rooney for DWI and speeding.

Stroud was due in Town Court on Oct. 1. The others were all ordered to appear on Oct. 15.

Appearing in Town Court on Sept. 17 before Town Justice Theresa Egan, Francis John Casey, 39, of 1019 Schoharie Turnpike, Athens, originally charged last April 27 with felony DWI, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor DWI count. Egan sentenced him to three years' probation and revoked his license for three years.

Peter George Verhagen Jr., 58, of 321 Upper Flat Rock Road, Clarksville, arrested on July 3, also pleaded guilty. He was fined \$500 and a \$125 state-mandated surcharge, and his license was revoked for six months.

Manuel Valentin, 27, of Bradford St., Albany, arrested on July 2, pleaded guilty to driving while ability impaired (DWAI), and was fined \$300 and a \$35 surcharge. His license was suspended for 90 days.

All three were ordered to attend a drinking driver remediation program and face a Victim Impact panel.

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Tuesday, October 22nd 2:00pm
Breast Cancer Presentation
 October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Join us for this important presentation by To Life!, an organization which provides free education and support services for women and their families dealing with breast cancer. Find out the importance of taking an active role in women's health care, basic breast health issues, and how to perform a proper breast self-exam.

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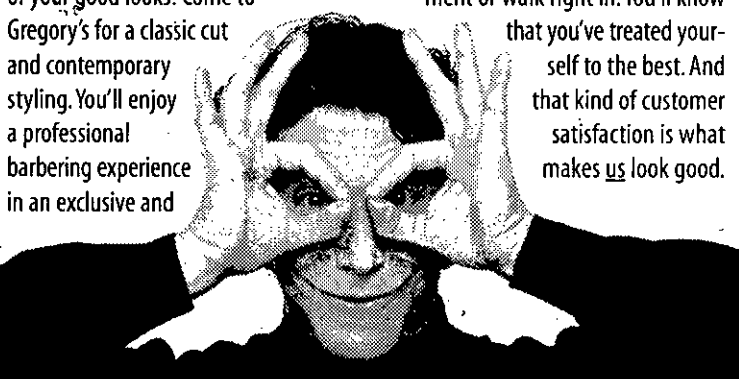


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Cell tower plan gets negative declaration

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

The ongoing controversy over a proposal to build a cell-phone transmission tower in New Scotland moved another step closer to resolution last week.

The town's zoning board of appeals and planning board, acting jointly in reviewing the tower project under the terms of the state's Environmental Quality Review Act, met Tuesday, Sept. 24, and issued a "negative declaration" — a finding that applicant Tower Ventures need not prepare a full environmental impact statement on its plan to build a 160-foot tower at 341 Upper Font Grove Road.

Only zoning board member Adam Greenberg, seeking legal guidance on whether some existing documentation supplied by the applicant regarding archaeological and visual impacts was adequate, dissented from the vote of the two boards.

Attorney Marc Gerstman, representing the Northeast New Scotland Homeowners Association, which opposes the project, expressed disappointment over the negative declaration.

"It's fair to say we believe the determination on environmental review is wrong," he said. "We don't believe they met the legal standards for issuing a negative declaration of significance."

The joint finding cleared the way for the zoning board to resume a public hearing, adjourned every month since it began in February, on the Clifton Park firm's application for an area variance to build the tower. But meeting after the conclusion of the joint SEQR hearing, the zoning board postponed the hearing once again — until its meeting on Oct. 22.

That will allow board members and attorneys representing Tower Ventures and the homeowners group to review documentation related to the project received just before meeting time from Richard Comi, a consultant on tower-siting issues hired by the neighborhood group. He presented documentation suggesting that multiple existing sites might be preferable to a new tower in meeting the needs of Tower Ventures' co-applicants on the project, including Cingular Wireless and Independent Wireless One.

The eighth straight postponement of the hearing prompted comment by board counsel Lou Neri.

"This can't continue to go on and on," he said. "It's a disservice to the public."

Board member Mike Cavanaugh agreed.

"I have some concern that every time we have a meeting, something new comes up, and we push (the hearing) back," he said. "In no way do I want to be an advocate for Tower Ventures, but I'm starting to expect Christmas cards from them because we've been seeing them for so many meetings. I don't want to prolong the issue."

Gerstman vowed that the fight to halt the project is far from over.

"We are still hoping that the ZBA will deny the area variance," he said.

But he declined to speculate on whether his clients might mount an Article 78 proceeding, challenging the legality of the town's actions.

"Whether a group of citizens feels it necessary to sue their town is always a difficult issue," he said. "But I believe there's no question they violated legal standards."

Also on the zoning board agenda last week was Stewart's application for setback and size variances for a sign it proposed to erect on the site of a proposed new store at 1936 New Scotland Road.

Resuming a hearing continued from the previous month, the board heard first from Paul Bulmer, a Stewart's representative, withdrawing the sign-size variance request. He unveiled a new design for a brick "monument-style" sign that will conform with existing town size requirements. That left only the setback request — and Bulmer said the sign would be moved more to the center of the property and further back from the shoulder of the road, more in keeping with the placement of roadside signs on adjacent business properties.

Several residents continued to challenge the need for the sign and the overall appropriateness of the site for a convenience store. Voorheesville resident Edie Abrams, speaking of the "small-town ambience" of New Scotland Road, urged that the town consider establishing a Business Improvement District for commercial zones to set design and architectural guidelines for new businesses there, "to create an enhanced sense of place."

"As this area becomes more and more developed and businesses want more and more signs, visual clutter is an issue we'll have to confront," she said.

Nevertheless, the board approved the variance request. "The applicant has demonstrated a willingness to work with the town" to resolve aesthetic issues, chairman Ronald Von Ronne said.

The project now returns to the planning board for site plan review. The application has been postponed for another month at the applicant's request.

Big wheel



Briann Brey enjoys being in the driver's seat at the North Bethlehem Fire Department open house last Saturday.

Jim Franco

Lab School senior to perform Organist to share love of instrument

By KATHERINE MCCARTHY

Vaughn Mauren paused for just a moment as he sat at the organ at the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar.

"I don't play this organ much anymore," he said, kicking off his Birkenstocks and flipping a switch on the instrument. A second later, the upbeat, quick notes of Eugene Gigout's Toccata filled the church, eliciting sounds of awe from the few people gathered there on a late autumn afternoon.

Mauren's fingers and feet made a joyful noise on their parts of the instrument, one that the senior at Bethlehem Lab School is hoping more people will learn to play. On Oct. 12, Mauren is hosting "Piping Hot: From Piano to Organ" from 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 107 State St. in Albany.

Mauren is currently the organ scholar at St. Peter's, which means he accompanies the choir. Mauren is under the direction of Neil Keen, St. Peter's organist and choir director. Mauren is also a bass in the choir.

The organ at St. Peter's has 5,000 pipes, ranging from pencil length to 16 feet.

"I'm lucky to play a multi-million dollar instrument," Mauren said of the organ he practices between two and three hours daily. When he was 8, Mauren knew he wanted to play the organ. At 9, he started playing the piano, and at 13, he moved to the organ. The Delmar resident lives close to St. Thomas, where he used to practice.

Mauren has studied organ with many teachers in the Capital District and has traveled to improve his already considerable talent. His summer studies have taken him to Princeton, N.J., with

the Westminster Choir College, and this past summer found him at Eton College in England.

One of Mauren's regular teachers is John Rose at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., where he hopes to attend college next year. "The pipe organ is 2,000 years old," Mauren said. "It's got the largest range of musical styles of any instrument. If you've got a really nice organ with good acoustics, the power of it is tremendous. I love when you're playing, the music builds up, you stop and the sound continues."

Mauren easily explains the workings of the intricate instrument. "There are four families of pipes," he said. "There are the principals, the flutes, the reeds and the strings. They loosely replicate other instruments."

When you play an organ, Mauren explained, you're pushing wind through the pipes. At first, he said, the organ can be very intimidating, with its huge console and pipes everywhere. Although it can still have an overwhelming effect, Mauren said the organ's complexity is something he loves about it.

"You can create this big, smashing sound," he said. Mauren said the music from an organ is stereotyped as church music, but it can create much more.

He personally plays a lot of French music by composers like Cesar Franck and Charles-Marie Widor from the mid-1800s and Louis Vierne from the early 20th century.

"At the beginning of the 20th century, there was a lot of organ music in this country," Mauren said. "There were theater organs, there was church music, and people had organs in their homes." A change in church

music, particularly in the Roman Catholic Church, introduced more guitars and easy melodies and reduced the interest in organ music. Still, Mauren said, it shows up in more places than you'd think.

"A lot of the music from the movie 'Gladiator' was organ music," Mauren said. Also, he said that there's a big music scene in Europe. "I met 250 singers at Eton this summer," he said, "and about half of them played the organ." Mauren said he is the only organist his age in the Capital District, and there are only six organ studies students at Trinity College. Mauren hopes the program he's organized for the 12th will draw potential organists.

"It's open to everybody, age 13 to 18," he said, "but pianists are the most likely to take up the organ." Mauren has recruited Paul Jacobs, a graduate student at Yale University who performs nationally, in South America and in Europe, to assist him on the 12th.

In 2000, when he was 23, he performed the complete works of J.S. Bach in 14 consecutive evenings in New York City and Philadelphia. "Paul and I will give a demonstration," Mauren said of the program. "We'll show the four families of the organ and talk about the range of sounds with the organ. We'll take questions, have an intermission with refreshments and play the organ."

There will also be organ teachers on hand to answer questions and talk about taking lessons. "Piping Hot: From Piano to Organ" will take place on Sunday, Oct. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 107 State St. in Albany. The program is free. For information, contact Mauren at 439-0765.

I'm lucky to play a multi-million dollar instrument.

Vaughn Mauren

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We're taking kid's rating of us as a compliment

By KATHERINE MCCARTHY

COMMENTARY:

Mom's the Word



someone who's drawn a conclusion he assumes apparent to the world, "you and Dad have been Commandants from Day One, so we know what we're not allowed to do."

Great. No more "Hogan's Heroes" on Nickelodeon for them: All the freedoms we gave them sprang to mind, and I wondered why I felt the need to defend myself. Was I really that strict? Was my heavy-handedness stunting their growth? Crippling their development? Impairing their ability to learn their own lessons? Crushing their confidence?

Worst of all, were we being so strict now that we were setting the stage for rebellion at a later age — when the stakes would be high, with cars and access to alcohol and drugs?

"But Dad and I let you do some things," I protested.

"Oh, sure," Christopher said, with great equanimity, "you're strict, but nice." Well, there was a surprise. I often think our children play us like violins, but here was the elder one, either tossing me a big snow job or confirming what every parenting

expert has always said, that kids like limits. We strive so hard for that elusive element that's supposed to be the key to successful parenting, consistency. The trouble with consistency is that it's really hard. Inconsistency, though, is harder, as we've

something is understandable; a pre-teenager in a sulk because he only needed one more dollar and Thing One wouldn't give it to him is just reprehensible. Bedtime, too, remains something we need to hold fast to, although as they get older, it feels like it would be

easier to let the kids figure out how much sleep they need each night. For Christopher, who's quite fond of a good night's sleep, this would be no problem at all. For Cormac, blessed with a nocturnal gene that has him just

gearing up as the rest of the world winds down, this would be a nightmare.

In the hope that by letting them establish a reasonable bedtime they'd stick to it, we involved them in the decision. After half an hour of listening to their arguments of why they should stay up until midnight and their disregard of how much sleep kids their age need, we ended the discussion by just setting bedtimes that we find excessively generous and they oppose on principal.

So maybe we are the Commandants, just a little bit. Sometimes their logic wears us down, and we have to turn to the "because I said so" answer. Why, for instance, will we let them walk to a nearby store with a

Worst of all, were we being so strict now that we were setting the stage for rebellion at a later age — when the stakes would be high, with cars and access to alcohol and drugs?

learned with allowances and bedtimes.

We are trying to teach them to save up for things they really want, to budget their money and to spend wisely. But a sweet face pleading and promising the moon in return for just one advance now is a hard thing to stand firm against. We want to give our children so much — it's hard to remember that the word no is sometimes the best gift they can get from us. If we advance too many allowances or offer to buy them something because they've just been so great lately, it backfires. Too soon, they expect generosity every time they're near a toy store, and re-establishment of our financial policy is tough.

A two-year-old pitching a fit in a toy store because he can't have

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For a complete listing of Radio Disney AM 1460 events, you can check out radiodisney.com!

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Zoning board to review WM ruling

By JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS

group of friends, but won't let them be at somebody's house without a parent there? Why don't we want them to watch hours of TV on a winter weekend afternoon, but we'll offer to take them to a movie? Why, if we spontaneously offer to let them spend \$5 or less on a Halloween decoration at Ames' going-out-of-business sale, can't they just spend \$5 on whatever they want?

Bedtime and allowance turn out to be easy areas in the world of parenting. It gets harder when we tell them to do something and meet with a wall of defiance. When we're pretty sure they're not telling the truth, we need to figure out why and make sure there's a good incentive to "always tell things the way they happen." When do normal sibling rivalry and brotherly altercations extend to the point where they require intervention or even punishment?

So, with all the internal wailing and gnashing of teeth I go through daily, it was a surprise to be described as strict. Surely, the children of strict parents have clean rooms, brush their teeth without being told and never try to put homework off just five more minutes while they finish playing this video game.

Strict, in a world full of dangers and too many choices, isn't the worst thing for kids to encounter. Still, it was good to hear it balanced with nice.

The official line may be that I don't need my children to consider me their friend, but nothing cuts to a mother's heart as much as when a child reacts to parental firmness with a look of pure hatred. Nice means there's hope for the memories they'll take with them from their childhood. Maybe they'll remember the good times along with all the times they got yelled at for not just doing their homework, or bringing dirty dishes from the playroom or giggling and chattering in their room till 11 p.m.

It's a long, interesting and mostly exhausting road that we travel with our children. Someday, they will come to the road they travel without us. When they get there, I hope that as Thing One, the Commandant and just Mom and Dad, we have done everything we can to help their journeys go well.

At its meeting tonight, Bethlehem's zoning board of appeals will consider a draft resolution backing town building inspector Kevin Shea's ruling last spring that a site on River Road is appropriate under the town's zoning code for the proposed Waste Management of Eastern New York operations center.

The zoning board voted unanimously at its Sept. 18 meeting to deny an appeal brought by Attorney Marc Gerstman on behalf of BREATH, a group of Selkirk residents, challenging Shea's decision that the proposed site of the Waste Management facility, in such a "rural-not zoned" district, was appropriate for construction of Waste Management's office and industrial complex. The zoning board directed Don DeAngelis, its special counsel for the Waste Management appeal, to draft a resolution spelling out its findings.

The board discussed the appeal at two successive meetings in September. They voted to concur with Shea's position that the zoning code lacks any prohibition applicable to the Waste Management project, and that long-standing town practice permitted any type of use in the not-zoned areas, found principally in Selkirk and South Bethlehem.

"The community is obviously disappointed in this decision," said Gerstman. "We'll obviously have to see the formal resolution to see what it says before we decide what further action we might take."

Shea's finding last May came in a memo to the town planning board, which sought clarification whether the Waste Management project, under consideration since February of last year, required a zoning variance before a site-plan review could proceed.

Citing several sections of the zoning code, including one specifying that "Nothing herein contained shall affect the Rural Districts... until such time as portions of the Rural Districts may be otherwise classified," Shea concluded that the principal

structure Waste Management proposes to build — a two-story, 28,000-square foot administrative and truck service building — was specifically permitted by the zoning code, though required to obtain site plan approval from the planning body.

But he wrote that "No Planning Board approval or other board approval is necessary" for a separate 5,000-square foot building for the maintenance of disposal containers to be stored on the site.

Testifying at the August public hearing, Shea reiterated his view.

In its deliberations two weeks ago, the zoning board reaffirmed the planning board's authority to conduct site plan review.

Gerstman said he and his BREATH clients intend to monitor that process closely.

"The planning board has indicated that it will require a full review and environmental impact statement from Waste Management, and we will participate in that process," he said.

Planner Ed Kleinke presented a proposal from the Rural Landowners, a group of owners of 10 or more acres in the town, regarding special "overlay zones" to promote agricultural, technology manufacturing and other specialized development areas in the town. The proposal was first presented in October 2000 and has been slightly amended since then.

The proposal was prompted by the group's objection to the proposed zoning of the previously unzoned parts of town by the Land Use Management Advisory Committee in 1997. Many of those

areas were proposed to be zoned as "environmentally sensitive," thereby restricting their commercial or residential development.

The group proposed instead that the town board incorporate into the zoning code formal definitions of agricultural and extraction business, as well as resource-based density, a concept that would supplant some of the existing residential-lot density requirements with standards based on factors including existing topography, environmental conditions and access to essential utilities.


It also proposed that definitions be created in the code for "technology manufacturing," riverfront opportunity zones, farm-to-market roads, rural architecture and farmstead design, and hamlet zones. Finally, the board advocated creation of "agricultural business viability overlays" that would permit such

uses in certain areas without altering the underlying zoning.

Their main purpose, said Sheila Powers, president of the Albany County Farm Bureau and a member of the landowners' group, was to preserve the viability of agricultural land in the town for future generations.

But Kleinke's proposal also outlined areas they hoped to promote for riverfront development and technology manufacturing as well. And several members of BREATH attending the meeting challenged the proposal. "It feels like an end run under the radar before discussion takes place," said Richard Orsi of Selkirk.

While the board unanimously expressed its support for agricultural business in the town, Supervisor Sheila Fuller said the overlay proposal would require review by the town Planning Department before it could be acted upon by the board.



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Matters of Opinion

Voters deserve debate

We applaud the Albany County League of Women Voters' effort to arrange a debate between the candidates for the 108th District Assembly seat.

But so far that effort has come to naught, according to league President Melanie Trimble, who has attempted to arrange a time for a debate since early September.

M. Tracey Brooks has said that she is willing to debate, and so has Pat Casale, but he so far has failed to agree on a date.

Although incumbent Casale, R-Schaghticoke, is well-known in Rensselaer County, his newly carved district includes Bethlehem and Coeymans, where he is a relative newcomer. And political neophyte M. Tracey Brooks, D-Coeymans, would also benefit from a debate forum where she could air her views on matters affecting the district.

The league has a long-standing record of integrity and objectivity, and we are confident a debate between Casale and Brooks would be conducted so that both candidates would have equal opportunity to present their views.

So far, the only definite is that there will be a Meet the Candidates night on Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Bethlehem town hall. That's a step in the right direction, but we hope at that event or another, a real discussion of the issues can be aired.

Certainly the voters in the 108th deserve the chance to hear what their prospective representatives have to say.

Seed money

The Friends of Five Rivers annual bird seed sale is coming up, but it's important to get your order in on time. There's only one week left to place an order — they're due Oct. 9 — and the pick-up date is Oct. 19 this year.

A variety of high quality seeds are available, but as important is the sale's support of the friends.

Thousands of school kids and adults benefit from the programs sponsored by the friends at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center.

Friends of Five Rivers deserve our support for their work at the center.

To place an order, call 475-0295 or stop by the center on Game Farm Road in Delmar.

Sematech moves area to forefront

By MARC GOLOVEN

The writer is a senior regional economist for J.P. Morgan Chase.

Although the Capital District is often considered to be a one-dimensional "government town," such a moniker ignores the deepening technology-driven vibrancy of the area and is ill-suited to any contemporary assessment of the region's economic prognosis.

While the public sector may still control a large chunk of the area's purse, business growth in recent years has been almost entirely concentrated in the metro's private service-producing industries, resulting in not only a shifting economic epicenter that is lessening Albany's sensitivity to the vicissitudes of state spending, but is also fashioning a local industry mix that closely resembles the high technology powerhouse that is maturing throughout the lower- and mid-Hudson River Valley.

The high-tech tilt that is transforming the local economy has just received its most significant reinforcement yet with the selection of the University at Albany campus as the second location nationally for the computer chip consortium International Sematech, an alliance of 12 high-tech titans that serves as the petri dish of global semiconductor research and the arbiter of chip industry standards.

It is the Sematech imprimatur that ensures product quality and consistency across the spectrum of semiconductor manufacturers.

Sematech and the university campus are an ideal match of commercial promise and academic excellence, since Albany is located in the middle of the state's emerging Tech Valley and the university brings a bountiful dowry to the union as the past recipient of substantial public and private funding to advance the frontiers of computer chip research and development, especially into the realm of nanotechnology.

Point of View

But aside from the well-deserved "bragging rights" associated with securing such a high-profile, high-tech entity, the area can realistically expect substantial economic benefits, providing a boost to everything from jobs to incomes to population growth.

If ultimately realized in the quantities that Albany's political and economic stewards hope,

If ultimately realized in the quantities that Albany's political and economic stewards hope, these benefits may ensure that the Capital District's journey along the information superhighway will eventually prove to be as profoundly transformational as the experiences of such other high-tech centers as Austin, Texas; Boston; and San Jose.

these benefits may ensure that the Capital District's journey along the information superhighway will eventually prove to be as profoundly transformational as the experiences of such other high-tech centers as Austin, Texas; Boston; and San Jose.

Indeed, Albany is now being compared with Austin, the other Sematech location within the United States.

After Sematech established its presence in the Texas capital in the late 1980s, Austin rapidly became a national lodestar toward which other technology companies, both service-producing and manufacturing, gravitated.

The decade of the 1990s was one of unbridled growth; the job count rose from 375,000 in 1989 to nearly 675,000 in 2000, with nearly a third of the increase attributed directly and indirectly to Sematech.

Venture capitalists flocked to the area and business confidence bubbled. What's more, Austin solidified its position as not only a hub for chip research, but also as the anchor of a tech corridor stretching from Dallas to San Antonio.

But the most striking reflection of Austin's increasing technology bent over the past decade has been a steep acceleration of income growth. While it may be difficult to believe today, Austin wasn't always so prosperous. Two decades ago, personal income per person, which consists largely of wages, stood 2.5 percent below the \$12,000 statewide average.

To be sure, the job count in this government/university town was growing, but the jobs didn't pay all that well, a familiar lament throughout upstate New York.

The arrival of Sematech changed this. As employment at high-paying technology companies grew — there are now roughly 2,000 employing 125,000

workers — income growth quickened. Rather than trailing the rest of the state, Austin was transformed into a statewide pacesetter.

By the year 2000, before the onset of the nation's latest recession, the metro's per person personal income reached \$32,000, 15 percent higher than the statewide Texas average.

In several ways, Albany resembles the pre-Sematech Austin. The Capital District is surely growing — its job count expanded by nearly 40,000 positions, or

more than 11 percent, over the past seven years — yet there is a widespread belief that even more rapid growth can be attained.

Although Albany County possesses the highest per-person personal income of any upstate county north of Putnam County, it is still 2 percent below the statewide average; and while there exists

significant local pride in the role that the region is playing in furthering the emergence of Tech Valley, there is a nagging unease that the echo of this achievement reverberates only locally.

Herein, lies the fundamental import of Sematech. To be sure, Sematech will create jobs, perhaps a lot of them if a sufficient number of workers can be found in an area which already possesses the lowest unemployment rate of any major metro in the state.

Incomes will surely rise as the region adds to its inventory of well-skilled, highly-productive workers, but the big change will be attitudinal, as Albany catapults into the major leagues of high-tech.

No longer will the Capital District be the understudy of a sputtering Silicon Alley or be the stepchild of Long Island's thriving technology cluster.

Quite the contrary, with the establishment of Sematech and the support of the university and other local academic establishments, the metro will move onto the passing lane of the information super-highway, overtaking a bevy of other metros that would dearly desire to possess their own high-tech credentials.

For although the technology industries are in a slump, the technology recession won't last forever, and when the rebound occurs, Albany will have the assets in place to capitalize on the coming upturn — high-tech academic prowess, a strategic location in the middle of Tech Valley, a proven track record in luring the industry's heavyweights and a local business and political community that is determined to succeed.

It all adds up to a Capital District confection that promises to fortify the economy for years to come.

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Matters of Opinion

Thanks to everyone for festival support

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to say thank you to all the people who participated in and helped with the Five Rivers Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 14.

Our festival was a complete success because of all the people who gave their time and talent to help with everything, because of all our exhibitors, because of all those businesses in the area that supplied our Silent Auction with items and because of the splendid music provided by Acoustic Hartland and the Nisky Dixie Cats that kept us hippping and hopping. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

I have been told that some of the favorite things at this year's festival were the snakes, turtles and frogs brought and shown by Dee Strnisa. Another favorite exhibit was shown by Tauri Smith, who brought examples of rocks and minerals, plus a program to view on his computer to explain the why and wherefores of rocks and minerals in this area.

Fishing in the meadow was enjoyed by both young and old, especially those of us who always cast into the trees or reeds. We had a large number of people who turned up for the orienteering

program and learned the basics, plus we had two experts on insects. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thank you to all the businesses for contributions of items and gift certificates to our Silent Auction. The business owners in the Delmar, Slingerlands, Glenmont and Voorheesville area make our auction exciting with items that capture festival-goers attention. These business owners have always been very generous, but they outdid themselves this year. Thank you.

Thank you also to the Main Square shops, Community United Methodist Church in Slingerlands and Bethlehem Central High School for allowing us the use of their signboards to publicize our event.

The fall festival is a cooperative effort between the center staff and Friends of Five Rivers. This year, the friends also celebrated its 30th birthday. Thank you to all who made our birthday so happy. See you all next year.

Linda Blattner
Fall Festival Committee
chairwoman

Volunteer for grad party at BC open house

Editor, The Spotlight:

Parents of graduating seniors will have the opportunity to volunteer for Graduation Celebration Celebration 2003 at Bethlehem Central High School's Open House on Thursday, Oct. 3.

Graduation Celebration is an all-night drug- and alcohol-free party which will take place on June 27, 2003. All graduating seniors are welcome. Volunteers are needed to decorate, fund-raise, plan activities and organize

junior parents who work on the night of the celebration.

Please stop by the cafeteria and volunteer.

Laura Swiatowicz
Graduation Celebration
co-chair

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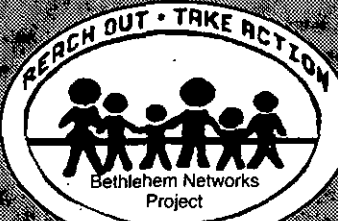
In the town of Bethlehem, we care deeply about the health and safety of our youth. We strive to create a supportive environment where they can make positive life choices. We are concerned about teen drinking, unsupervised house parties, binge drinking, DWI.

Parents and others are serious about prevention, and have formed a group called Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited. BOU works to promote positive decisions for young people. Police officers teach DARE and serve as resource officers in the Bethlehem Central Schools, concerned about the availability of alcohol and other drugs.

Town officials support healthy activities like Feestelijk Bethlehem and S.C.R.E.A.M.S. - Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School. The Bethlehem Central School District offers many educational programs to help students and their families to develop healthy, positive lifestyles. Businesses in Bethlehem support efforts such as mentoring to help our young people.


Please be serious about prevention. We invite you to attend the Bethlehem Community Partnership Annual Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 26th from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bethlehem Central Middle School. Please call Bethlehem Networks Project to register.

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Matters of Opinion

Parent takes umbrage with BC dress policy

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am outraged with the high school's dress policy and parking fee.

The school called me three times in one day about the outfits my daughter wore to school. The first call was that she was wearing

two sets of spaghetti strap tank tops and a button down sweater over them. She was told to change.

Because she felt harassed, she changed into a more dramatic outfit that fit the school policy. They allowed her to go to class

because she wasn't breaking any rules, but they then proceeded to pull her out again to return home to change. Again, they didn't like her third outfit but let her stay.

When the assistant principal called to tell me my daughter wasn't wearing a bra, I told her that I wasn't wearing one either.

I think it's interesting that women at the high school are enforcing a very male policy. What is the matter with small straps? Are they too sexual and distracting?

Bras might be suggested for athletics, but are boys dictated to wear jock straps? Who cares what students are wearing? Some of the male teachers still grope the female students independent of

what they wear. Is anyone doing anything to control them?

The fee for parking may have been necessary for the first year for the improvements. However, are there no plans to discontinue this? I know I'm paying a hefty school tax that pays for maintenance. Is the fee to punish students for driving there?

It discriminates against the families who can't afford this. Tolls are collected with the intention of ending when bills are satisfied. What are the plans, if any, for ending this additional student/family fee? Are these policies solving problems or creating them?

Pat Kane
Delmar

Town law on dogs is too restrictive

Editor, The Spotlight:

David Young and friends are correct in their letter to *The Spotlight* published Sept. 25) that Henry Hudson Park is a beautiful and underutilized asset of the town of Bethlehem.

I personally don't use the park because the thing I would most like to do there — grab a leash and a couple of plastic bags, and take my dear old dog for a nice walk — is illegal.

The town of Bethlehem bans pets in parks, period. This rule is understandable on, for example, the playing fields at Elm Avenue Park (although the town of Colonie manages to maintain a perfectly nice park without such restrictions).

But why is it necessary everywhere? Ban the conscientious, law-abiding (and waste-scooping) dog owners from all parts of all town parks, and all you're left with is those who don't obey the rules — with nobody else to keep an eye on them. A good general rule for governments to remember is that when something is overregulated, it will be underutilized.

And at some point people start asking: if we can't use it, why do we have to pay for it?

David F. Shaffer
Delmar

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The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, accuracy, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and a daytime telephone number.

Unsigned letters receive no consideration, and no letters will be published with the writer's name withheld.

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Kiwanis to sponsor blood pressure clinic

The Kiwanis Club of New Scotland will sponsor a blood pressure clinic on Tuesday, Oct. 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. at SuperValu Foods on Maple Avenue.

The screening is free and open to the public.

Garden club to hold dedication at park

Join Mayor Jack Stevens and the Helderview Garden Club on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m. for a dedication Sept. 11, 01, at Hotaling Park in Voorheesville.

Open house set Oct. 3

Voorheesville Senior High School parents night/open house is set for Thursday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.

Voorheesville preschool to honor Pakenas

The board of Voorheesville Community Preschool is hosting an open house to honor Ree Pakenas for 17 years of dedication to the children of our community.

All are welcome to attend on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the social hall of the Methodist church.

The reception will feature cookies of the community, so please bring 1 or 2 dozen cookies and the recipe.

A memory book will also be assembled, so bring any written memories, photos or mementos you would like to include. For information, call 765-2111.

Golf outing raises money for scholarship funds

Kiwanis members presented checks in the amount of \$3,500 to Elaine Nichols and Judy Douglas for the Jim Nichols Community Fund and the Peter Douglas

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville
Betsy Glath
765-4415



Scholarship fund. Proceeds from the golf outing were shared between the two organizations.

Co-op orders due Oct. 10

New Scotland Extra Helpings food co-op will be accepting food orders until noon on Wednesday, Oct. 10, for the Thursday, Oct. 24, delivery.

Forms and menus can be picked up at town hall on Route 85 or at St. Matthew's Church.

Extra Helpings provides a pre-select menu of groceries at wholesale prices. Each order costs \$14, and there is no obligation to purchase every month.

Payment can be made by cash or food stamps.

Anyone in the area is welcome to participate.

Town board to meet

The New Scotland town board will meet Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. at town hall on Route 85 in Slingerlands.

Some tips on plastic recycling

By SHARON FISHER

The writer is the town of Bethlehem recycling coordinator.

Plastics recycling might never catch up to the volume of plastics that are produced in the daily waste stream. Sad but true — plastic recycling and manufacturing facilities for certain types of plastics are too far away to make it economical.

Certain plastic items should never go in one's recycling bin. The unacceptable plastic items include flower pots and trays, toys, laundry baskets, berry baskets, deli containers, microwave dishes, Styrofoam pieces, take-out containers, peanuts, plastic bags and buckets.

In other words, any plastic item that is not a bottle shape should be thrown out or reused.

When recycling plastics, the first thing to consider is whether or not it has a neck. PET No. 1 and HDPE No. 2 bottles make up approximately 60 percent of the plastic container waste stream. PET No. 1 bottles can be recycled into paint brushes, scouring pads, audio cassette tape cases, non-food containers, six-pack carriers, fiberfill for clothing insulation,

sleeping bags, fiber for carpet backing and rope. HDPE No. 2 plastic bottles can be molded into laundry baskets, flower pots and toys.

There are ways to deal with plastic items that can not be recycled. Ask the local florist or farmer if they could reuse clean flower pots or berry baskets. Bring all plastic store bags to the grocery store for recycling.

Reuse buckets for bringing compost to the garden, leaves to the curb or for storing kids toys. Donate good toys to local charities, schools or neighbors. Reuse deli containers to store leftovers or pack lunches.

Throw nrecyclable or unreasonable plastics into the trash.

Stonyfield Farms yogurt containers can be recycled if you return them to the company. They

become plastic handles for toothbrushes created by RecycleLine, a neighboring business.

For instructions, visit its Web site www.stonyfield.com or call 1-800-776-2697.

Remember, telephone books are being accepted at Elm Avenue Park 'n' Ride now through November.

Correction

The Montessori School of Albany/Woodland Hill Montessori was inadvertently omitted from the list of private schools in the Sept. 11 Community Services guide. The school serves children in pre-school through eighth grade. To reach the school, call 455-8964 or visit www.msany.org.

\$20,000 PLUS!

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Pumpkin carving slated at Parks & Rec office

Newcomers & Friends of Bethlehem will be holding a pumpkin carving on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Office at the Elm Avenue Park. Participants should bring their own carving tools and \$2.50 to cover the cost of a pumpkin. For information or to reserve a spot at the carving, call Andrea Robinson at 432-7772.

Winslow Homer program on deck

October is State Humanities Month. The library honors that designation with "Winslow Homer in New York State," a talk by Syracuse University fine arts professor David Tatham, this Sunday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m.

Among the best known and most widely admired American artists, Winslow Homer spent the first two decades of his career as a painter in New York City. Even after he moved to the Maine coast, he still returned frequently to the Adirondacks, painting oils and watercolors in localities there (Keene Valley and Minerva) and along the Hudson River (Mountainville, Walden, Hurley and Leeds). Without slighting the power of the paintings as works of art, this lecture interprets them also as vital documents of the fast-moving currents of thought that energized American culture in the post-civil War decades.

For instance, Homer was the first painter to portray American women in non-domestic roles. His work also contributed to the conservation movement and its drive to save the northern forests. This movement eventually



resulted in the establishment of the Adirondack Preserve.

Tatham's presentation is sponsored in part by the New York Council for the Humanities, with funds it has received from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Afternoon concert this Friday

Baritone Drew Mills and pianist Stan Muraski perform "Music to Tease Your Memory" at the library this Friday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m.

The concert features Broadway hits and music of decades past. Mills has been a performer and producer with the Schenectady Light Opera Company for 30 years. He is also a member of the Mendelssohn Club and the choirs of First Reformed Church in Schenectady and First Congregational Church

in Wellfleet, Mass. Mills is a former director of the arts for the state Education Department.

Muraski has accompanied the Washington Opera Guild, the Troy Vocal Society and Troy Musical Arts. Since 1977, he has been accompanist for the Mendelssohn Club. He serves as organist and choir director for St. Mary's Church in Waterford and is a member of the American Guild of Organists.

Mills and Muraski perform dozens of concerts each year in community centers throughout the Capital District. The program is cosponsored by Bethlehem Senior Projects. Call 439-9314 to register for both these events.

Louise Grieco

Artists exhibit at Delmar gallery

Otter Hook Gallery, 121 Adams Street, Delmar, will be showing an exhibition of monotypes by Stanley Maltzman and pastels by Susan Story.

Both Story and Maltzman, members of the Pastel Society of America, have earned many awards.

Will Moses to visit Indian Ladder Farms

Artist and author Will Moses will be at Indian Ladder Farms on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 1 to 3 p.m. to sign his children's book *Johnny Applesed: The Story of a Legend*.

The book tells the story of John Chapman, the real-life Johnny Applesed, who traveled along the western frontier planting apple trees in the late 1700s.

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New books added every week

What are you reading this week? Need a suggestion?

Freshly processed materials are added to the collection once a week and to help you keep track of what's new, the library reference department is now producing weekly lists of selections from our new books. If

and travel guides to plan the honeymoon.

Perhaps you aren't aware that our collection includes a growing number of large print books, which many people find extremely handy. The books are in an area just inside the front door and offer a selection of both fiction and non-fiction titles.

Up Country by Nelson DeMille and Nora Roberts' *Face the Fire* are both new this week.

Mysteries, which are always best-sellers at the library, rate a list all their own.

Check out the new Robert Parker, Marcia Muller, Andrew Greeley and Diana Mott Davidson and pick up a new list regularly.

A patron has inquired about having game nights at the library. We've had fun in past years playing board games such as Scrabble and Trivial Pursuit and found it a good way to pass a winter evening.

If you are a player with or without playmates and would like to participate in games in the library community room, leave your name and phone number at the reference desk so we can call you. Note: this will be an adult

program designed for teens and adults.

Please welcome our new librarian, Karen Starr, who comes to the library from the UAlbany library and will be working part-time on the reference desk.

Students in grades four through six and their parents are invited to sign up for a kids book discussion on Oct. 22 to talk about the engaging Newbury Prize winner *Because of Winn-Dixie*.

For additional program information, visit the library Web site at www.voorheesvillelibrary.org.

Barbara Vink



you need ideas, ask for a handy bookmark list.

New non-fiction this week includes instruction books on painting and sketching and a beautiful artist's photo reference for those of you who want to settle in with an art project this winter.

For a few laughs, try *Cosbyology* by Bill Cosby. And the parents of wild children may benefit from a foray into Emily Post's guide to teaching your kids good manners.

There are valuable new volumes on health and legal topics, an outstanding book on planning a wedding to remember

becoming a volunteer firefighter are and how rewarding the experience can be.

Come get your picture taken with Sparky the Fire Dog. The Selkirk Fire Department will be handing out information about their various Fire Prevention Week activities, like their BIG Community Day event on Saturday, Oct. 12, from noon to 4 p.m. They will be bringing some of their fire apparatus to the fund-raiser and doing some demonstrations with them.

The Robin Hood Relief Fund helps those in need affected by the World Trade Center tragedy.

Volunteer recruitment drive & fund-raiser set Saturday

On Saturday, Oct. 5, the Selkirk Fire Department is joining forces with Glenmont Car Wash to hold a recruitment drive and fund-raiser to benefit the Robin Hood Relief Fund.

The Glenmont Car Wash will donate 50 percent of all automatic car washes sold to the fund. The Selkirk Fire Department will be conducting a membership recruitment drive to bring in new members. The fire service is in desperate need of people to volunteer their time to help protect the community. People can stop by and find out more about what the benefits of

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Church prayer labyrinth open to community

Delmar Reformed Church invites the public to join in a time of reflection, meditation and prayer using the prayer labyrinth.

The labyrinth is set up in the church fellowship hall from noon to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 9, and 7 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Oct. 10. It is open to the public during those times.

The labyrinth is a prayer and mediation tool that allows you to focus your thoughts and utilize both left and right brain activities to deepen your spiritual experience. There is no right or wrong way to walk the labyrinth.

It is a different experience every time you walk it.

Prayer takes many forms, and the labyrinth is one that many people find meaningful and stimulating.

To learn more about the labyrinth as a tool for meditation, "An Introduction to the Labyrinth" will be offered Sunday, Oct. 6, at 10 a.m. at the church on 386 Delaware Ave.

The community is invited.

For information about this program and other opportunities, visit the church Web site at www.drchurch.org.

Grange to dish up roast pork dinner

The Bethlehem Grange will hold a family-style dinner featuring roast pork on Saturday, Oct. 5. Food will be served from 4 to 7 p.m.

The cost for adults is \$8 and \$4 for children.

The Grange Hall is located on Route 396 in Selkirk. For information, call 767-3342.

Five Rivers to host program on squirrels

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center will hold a program on gray squirrels on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 2 p.m.

The program will feature an outdoor walk and discussion of the squirrel's habits and the adaptations that make it so successful at surviving close to humans.

The program is free. Participants should dress for the outdoors. For information, call Five Rivers Center at 475-0291.

Friends of Five Rivers planning bird seed sale

Friends of Five Rivers, the private nonprofit organization that supports educational programs at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar, is conducting its annual Bird Seed Sale from now through Oct. 9.

Premium quality seed from Lyric including a special Five Rivers blend, black oil sunflower, cracked corn, thistle, safflower seed, sunflower hearts and cardinal and woodpecker mixes are available. These exceptional mixes contain only high quality bird foods that provide high food value and no waste.

Suet cakes from Maine manna and a variety of bird feeders from Droll Yankee will complete all of your backyard bird feeding needs.

Friends of Five Rivers sells roughly 55,000 pounds of seed each year for the benefit of our feathered friends, the environment and school children and residents of the Capital District.

Proceeds from this annual fund-raiser allow thousands of school children to attend curriculum-based environmental educational programs at Five Rivers Center throughout the year.

From pre-schoolers on up, children have the opportunity to explore the outdoors while

focusing on various themes such as insects, animal signs, stream and pond ecology and maple sugaring.

Older children can participate in "Winter Challenges" and "Winter Challenges on Snowshoes," two programs which provide an opportunity to track animals in the snow.

In addition to supporting on-site educational programs, bird seed proceeds support several other friends projects including "Tails By Mail," which teachers can borrow for the teaching kits for classroom use, the wildlife garden and special projects like development of the center's accessible backyard trail.

Consider supporting the work of Friends of Five Rivers by stocking up on your winter feeding supplies.

You can place an order by calling the friends at 475-0295.

Orders must be received by Wednesday, Oct. 9, and picked up at Five Rivers Center, 56 Game Farm Road in Delmar on Saturday, Oct. 19, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., rain or shine.

To obtain an order form and prices, call 475-0295 or stop by the center.

Volunteers will be available to load your order into your vehicle.

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The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, accuracy, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

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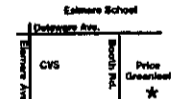
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Sports

Eagles remain undefeated

By ROB JONAS

For the second time this season, the Bethlehem boys soccer team found a way to beat Roy C. Ketcham High School of Wappingers Falls.

Matt Narode scored with under a minute left in regulation to help the Eagles edge the Indians 2-1 last Saturday in Bethlehem.

Luke Sullivan also tallied in the second half to guide the Eagles (8-0-1) out of a 1-0 halftime deficit. **John Thibdeau** made four saves to preserve the victory.

It was the second one-goal victory for Bethlehem over Ketcham this season. The Eagles defeated the Indians 1-0 in their season opener Sept. 4.

Bethlehem looked to continue their winning streak when they returned to Suburban Council action Monday against Niskayuna. The Eagles maintained their unbeaten league record last Thursday with a 5-0 win against Mohonasen in which they scored four times in the second half.

"When we finish, we're really good, but that's any team," Bethlehem coach **Brett Miller** said. "We have to keep working at it."

Bob Barrowman scored two goals, while Sullivan, **Brendan Tougher** and **Cody Germain** added tallies for the Eagles in last Thursday's win.

Pee Wees shut out by Rotterdam

The Bethlehem Pop Warner Pee Wee team was shut out by Rotterdam 33-0 Saturday, Sept. 22.

Quarterback **Casey O'Connor** had several big plays on offense, and **Connor Lee** led the defensive effort at the line for the Junior Eagles.



Bethlehem's Matt Glannon brings the ball upfield during last Thursday's Suburban Council game against Mohonasen in Rotterdam. The Eagles downed the Mighty Warriors 5-0. *Rob Jonas*

BC girls take second at Hermann Invitational

The Bethlehem girls cross country team had three runners place in the top 20 to finish second at the E.J. Hermann Invitational last Saturday in Utica.

The Lady Eagles finished with 96 team points to place second behind Colonie Central in the girls varsity A division. Shaker was a close third with 103 points.

Emily Malinowski was the lead runner for Bethlehem with a third-place finish in a time of 18:45.4. **Katie Parafinczuk** was 13th in a time of 19:28.9, and

Taylor Jackson finished 16th in a time of 19:33.5.

Bethlehem's boys cross country team took fourth place in the varsity A team standings with 119 points, 13 points ahead of fifth-place Saratoga. Sauquoit Valley won the team title with 35 points.

The Eagles were paced by **Evan Savage's** 20th-place finish in a time of 17:01.2.

Scott Sajdak followed in 21st place with a time of 17:01.9, and **Mike Dineen** was 23rd in a time of 17:04.7.

River Rats game at BIG Arena

The Albany River Rats will host the Worcester IceCats in an American Hockey League exhibition game Sunday, Oct. 6, at 6 p.m. at the BIG Arena in Delmar. Tickets are \$5, and proceeds benefit the Cam Neely Foundation.

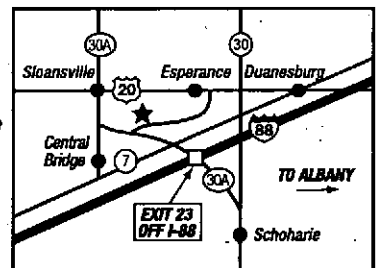
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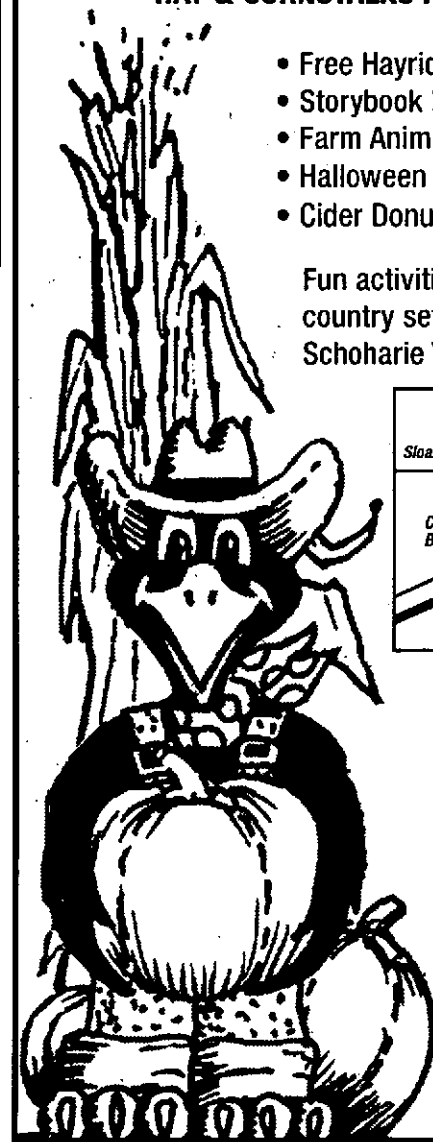
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Indians, Blackbirds post wins; Eagles struggle

By ROB JONAS

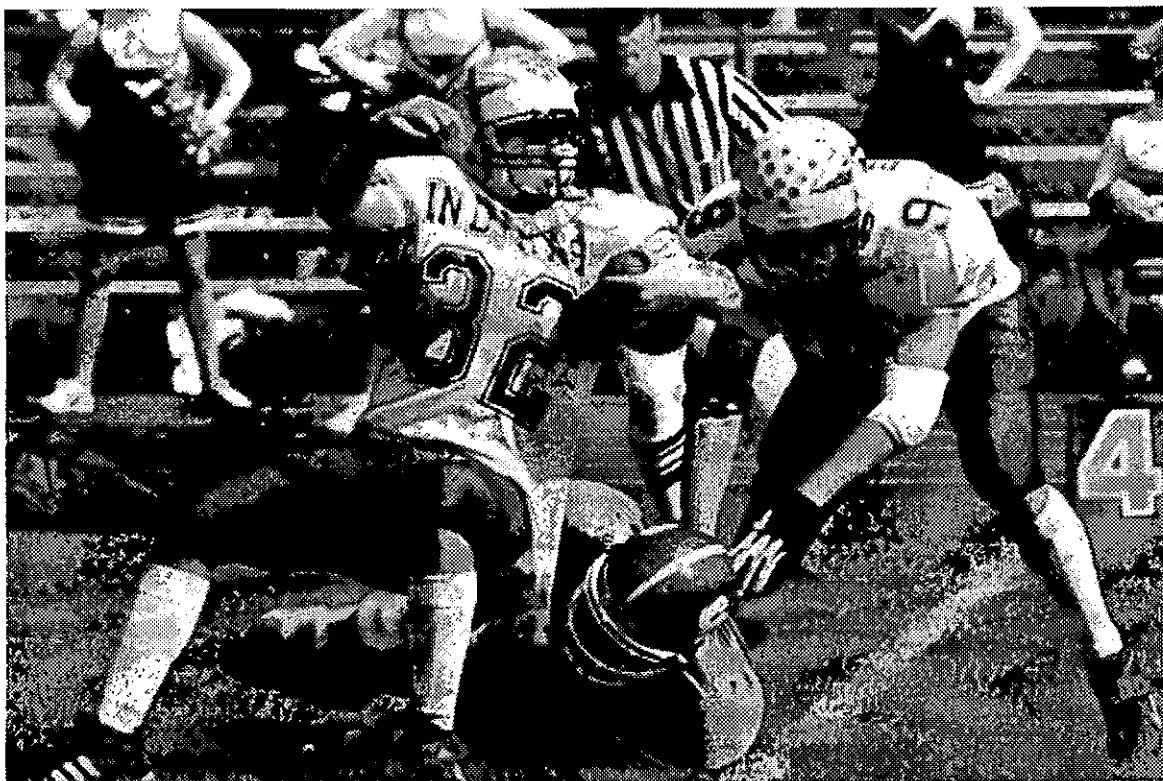
With three weeks left in the high school football regular season, two area teams are scrambling for playoff positions and the third is trying to get back to its winning ways.

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk (3-1) kept its share of second place in the Capital Conference's Reinfurt Division with a 31-6 victory over Schalmont last Saturday, while Voorheesville (2-2) downed Stillwater 34-13 to

reach the .500 mark in the Northern Adirondack League.

"We're playing well," Voorheesville coach **Joe Sapienza** said. "We're balanced offensively, defensively we're playing well and we're healthy. So, we have a shot."

Bethlehem (1-3) is heading in the opposite direction after losing its third consecutive game with a 28-14 setback against Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake last Saturday. The Eagles fell behind 21-0 before rallying in the second half on a 1-yard scoring run by Sean



Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk running back Steve Correll (32) is brought down by a Schalmont defender during last Saturday's Capital Conference game in Rotterdam. *Rob Jonas*

McManus and an 80-yard touchdown pass from **Tim Hannigin** to **Dane Bar clay**.

RCS and Voorheesville both ran over their opponents. The

Indians rushed for three touchdowns against Schalmont, including a 50-yard scoring run by

Steve Correll to open the third quarter. **Eric Vasquez** added

several key runs, including a 14-yard touchdown scamper late in the first quarter.

"They're real tough, real physical runners," RCS coach **Gary VanDer zee** said, "and the offensive line did a good job of creating holes for them."

Voorheesville's ground attack was led by tailback **Brendon Schlappi**. The senior gained 154 yards and scored four touchdowns to lead the Blackbirds to the victory. Quarterback **Frank Catellier** completed 6 of 10 passes for 92 yards and a touchdown.

"Stillwater came out with eight guys on the line of scrimmage on the first (offensive) series, and Frank hit his first three passes — the last for a touchdown," Sapienza said. "The next series, they took one of their defensive linemen out and put an extra defensive back in, and we were able to run right at them after that."

Both RCS and Voorheesville have opportunities to solidify their playoff positions this weekend. RCS hosts the team it's tied with for second place in the Reinfurt Division, Cobleskill-Richmondville, Friday night, while Voorheesville welcomes Hoosick Falls to Buckley Memorial Field Saturday.

Bethlehem travels to Suburban Council Blue Division leader Shenendehowa Friday night. The undefeated Plainsmen have allowed 13 points in their first four games. Twice, Shen has shut out its opponent, including last Friday's 55-0 blanking of Kingston.

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LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SPORTS RESULTS SEPT. 25-28

WED., SEPT. 25

GIRLS SOCCER

BETHLEHEM 8, AVERILL PARK 0

Scoring: Bethlehem — Emily Petraglia 2-0, Ashley Spath 2-0, Kate Metevia 1-0, Liz Murphy 1-0, Vanessa Patry 1-0, Sammy Weyant 1-0.

VOORHEESVILLE 3, RCS 2

Scoring: Voorheesville — Michelle Nadratowski 2-0, Katie Inglis 1-0, Sarina Fiero 0-1. Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk — Brittany Edelson 1-0, Meredith Pascale 1-0.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 26

BOYS SOCCER

BETHLEHEM 5, MOHONASEN 0

Scoring: Bethlehem — Bob Barrowman 2-0, Cody Germain 1-0, Luke Sullivan 1-0, Brendan Tougher 1-0.

VOORHEESVILLE 2, COHOES 0

Scoring: Voorheesville — Adam Hatch 1-0, Greg Herzog 1-0.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Saratoga 96, Guilderville 74

GIRLS TENNIS

Voorheesville 4, Schalmont 3

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake defeated Bethlehem 25-11, 25-12, 25-2.

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk defeated Holy Names 25-5, 25-10, 25-12.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

FIELD HOCKEY

BURNT HILLS-BALLSTON LAKE 3, BETHLEHEM 2 (OT)

Scoring: Burnt Hills — Teagan Grice 3-0. Bethlehem — Megan Herzog 1-0, Emily Szelest 1-0.

GIRLS SOCCER

BETHLEHEM 3, GUILDERLAND 0

Scoring: Bethlehem — Vanessa Patry 1-0, Emily Petraglia 1-0, Ashley Spath 1-0, Kristen White 0-1.

Saves: Bethlehem — Brianna Bubeck 2, Megan Volo 2. Guilderland — Becky Green 18.

RCS 3, WATERVLIET 1

Scoring: Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk — Jaclyn Levic 1-1, Brittany Edelson 1-0, Cassie

Ostrander 1-0. Watervliet — Casey Pruc 1-0, Amanda Morris 0-1.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

HERMANN INVITATIONAL VARSITY A RACE

Top 5 teams: Sauquoit Valley 35, Cicero-North Syracuse 74, Fayetteville-Manlius 90, Bethlehem 119, Saratoga 132.

Top 5 Bethlehem finishers: Evan Savage (20th place, 17:01.2), Scott Sajdak (21st, 17:01.9), Mike Dineen (23rd, 17:04.7), Doug DeMarco (26th, 17:15.3), Pat Shaffer (29th, 17:24.2).

GALWAY INVITATIONAL

SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION

Team scores: Galway 65, Duaneburg 89, Schenectady Christian 130, Mayfield 144, Maple Hill 155, Greenwich 161, Schoharie 169, Hawthorne Valley 194, Berlin 215, Hadley-Luzerne 240, Voorheesville 257.

BOYS SOCCER

BETHLEHEM 2, KETCHAM 1

Scoring: Bethlehem — Luke Sullivan 1-0, Matt Narode 1-0. Ketcham — Ryan Fornabai 1-0.

SCHALMONT 5, VOORHEESVILLE 3

Scoring: Schalmont — Corey Zeh 2-0, Joshua Cooksair 1-0, Jason Fish 1-0, Jake Gavin 1-0, Justin Flores 0-1. Voorheesville — Greg Klopfer 2-0, Adam Hatch 1-0, Greg Jones 0-1, Adam Stewart 0-1.

FOOTBALL

BURNT HILLS-BALLSTON LAKE 28, BETHLEHEM 14

FIRST QUARTER

Burnt Hills — Zachary Wurz 17-yard run (Brian DiPasquale kick).

SECOND QUARTER

Burnt Hills — DiPasquale 27-yard run (kick failed).

Burnt Hills — Darryl Viscusi 30-yard pass from Wurz (Greg Cramer conversion pass from Wurz).

THIRD QUARTER

Bethlehem — Sean McManus 1-yard run (Steve Strait kick).

FOURTH QUARTER

Burnt Hills — Cramer 36-yard pass from Wurz (DiPasquale kick).

Bethlehem — Dane Barclay 80-yard pass from Tim Hannigin (Strait kick).

RCS 31, SCHALMONT 6

FIRST QUARTER

Ravena — Eric Vasquez 15-yard run (kick failed).

SECOND QUARTER

RCS — Steve Correll 14-yard run (conversion run failed).

RCS — Larry LaMountain 22-yard pass from Anthony Teriele (conversion run failed).

THIRD QUARTER

RCS — Correll 50-yard run (C.J. Haslam kick).

FOURTH QUARTER

RCS — Greg DeLuca 12-yard pass from Haslam (conversion pass failed).

Schalmont — Jake Milne 3-yard pass from Chris Holoday (kick failed).

VOORHEESVILLE 34, STILLWATER 13

FIRST QUARTER

Stillwater — Matt Dahlin 35-yard field goal.

Voorheesville — Jeff Nelson 27-yard pass from Frank Catellier (kick failed).

Voorheesville — Brendon Schlappi 4-yard run

(conversion pass failed).

SECOND QUARTER

Stillwater — Dahlin 35-yard field goal.

THIRD QUARTER

Voorheesville — Schlappi 4-yard run (Matt Underwood conversion run).

Voorheesville — Schlappi 10-yard run (Schlappi conversion run).

FOURTH QUARTER

Voorheesville — Schlappi 3-yard run (conversion run failed).

Stillwater — Tyler Mason 55-yard run (Dahlin kick).

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

HERMANN INVITATIONAL

VARSITY A RACE

Top 5 teams: Colonic Central 63, Bethlehem 96, Shaker 103, Beaver River 106, Cicero-North Syracuse 111.

Top Bethlehem finishers: Emily Malinowski (third place, 18:45.4), Katie Parafinczuk (13th, 19:28.9), Taylor Jackson (16th, 19:33.5).

GALWAY INVITATIONAL

SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION

Team scores: Galway 48, Voorheesville 60, Schoharie 117.

Top Voorheesville finishers: Kate Alpert (second place, 19:34), Steffi Fried (fifth, 19:59).

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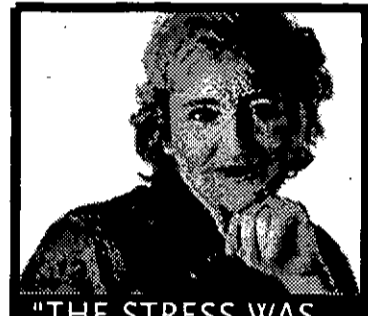


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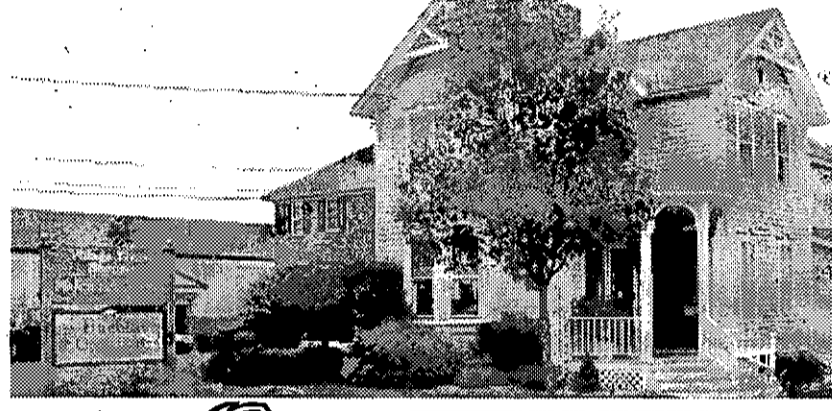
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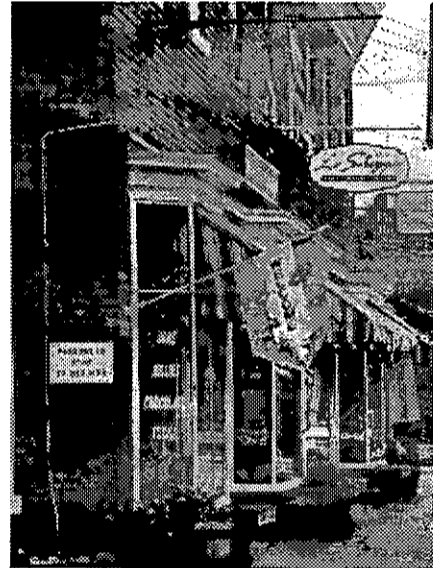


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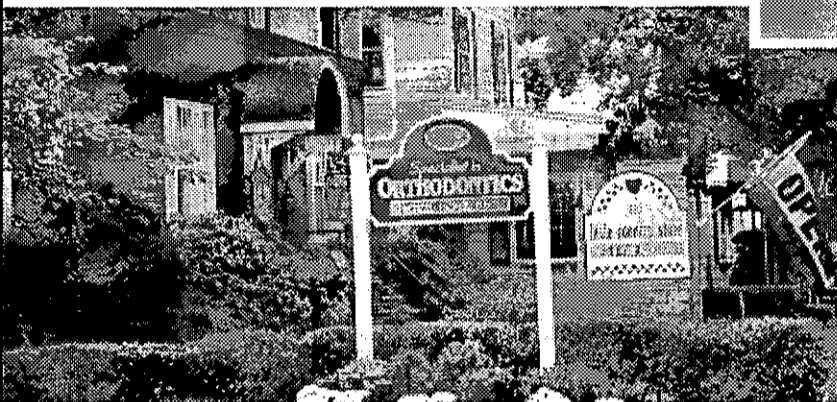
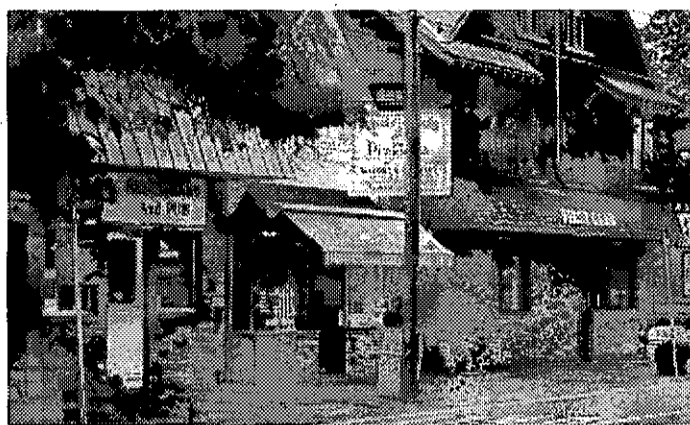
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Driver

(From Page 1)

Elementary School, but he declined to discuss details, citing district confidentiality practices in disciplinary matters.

Last week's bus incident involved a district employee that Loomis identified as "a long-term driver for us who has a very positive record."

The man was driving a midday run shortly before 1 p.m., taking

half-day kindergarten children to the Early Learning Center.

During the ride, one boy fell asleep in the back seat of the bus. Discharging students at the school, the driver took a headcount to verify that all had arrived safely.

"But this particular day, there happened to be an additional pupil assigned to ride the bus," Loomis said, a fact the driver failed to take

into account.

The driver did not notice the sleeping child when he returned to the bus garage, where he parked and locked the vehicle.

A district procedural manual — whose contents, Loomis said, were reiterated to bus drivers in a meeting with all drivers shortly before the start of the fall semester — requires drivers to thoroughly inspect their vehicles before parking them.

"I think the driver just didn't walk far enough back in the bus, where the boy was asleep in the back," Loomis said.

The boy was found in the locked bus at about 1:40 p.m. "Another driver whose bus was parked adjacent to this bus heard the boy crying," Loomis said. "He apparently had just awakened, and he was disoriented and upset."

The driver immediately notified transportation Supervisor Al Karam, who comforted the child, contacted his parents, drove him to the Early Learning Center and delivered him to class — and notified the district office.

The offending driver was pulled from his afternoon route and immediately suspended, with pay, pending a disciplinary hearing that Loomis said will

occur "within the next couple of days."

"He has been a good employee with no previous disciplinary record," Loomis said. "He feels very bad about this. That, of course, does not excuse his apparent failure to follow established procedure."

"Any disciplinary hearing could lead to punishment ranging all the way from no discipline at all at the least to, at the most, termination," he added. "And it could result in anything in between."

Disciplinary action against employees is confidential, he said.

But as a result of the mishap, Loomis said, "We will again be covering with all drivers our expectations of our procedures for checking each bus after every run." He also said the district will evaluate the possible future use of a device currently employed elsewhere around the state; mounted in the back of each bus, it sounds a buzzer when the bus is parked and can only be deactivated by being manually switched off.

Loomis said teachers at the Early Learning Center had noted the boy's absence from class Thursday, but the school staff member who follows up on

attendance rosters and contacts parents — delayed by other pressing business in the school office — had not done so before the boy turned up at the bus garage. School officials sent a letter home to kindergarten parents Monday reiterating district procedures regarding student absence and bus security, Loomis said.

Loomis also released a statement last week concerning disciplinary action against two teenagers, BCHS freshmen, who were arrested in late August after a firebombing of several classrooms at Hamagrael on Aug. 17 that followed a lengthy string of vandalism incidents at the school, including window-smashing and spray-painting of walls.

The two boys were turned over after their arrest to Albany County Family Court for prosecution as juvenile delinquents in the vandalism spree, as well as the arson of a schoolmate's home on Aug. 22.

They were also suspended and barred from school district property at the time, pending a district disciplinary hearing.

"I conducted the superintendent's hearings for the two high school students responsible for the vandalism at Hamagrael Elementary School," Loomis said last Friday. "My decision involved appropriate disciplinary penalties which provide for the future safety of Bethlehem Central students and staff members."

The two boys, he said, had no prior disciplinary record in the district and had presented no reason to anticipate their summer vandalism spree.

"It's certainly my impression that not only were both boys excellent students prior to the incidents in terms of grades and disciplinary records, but that the parents were good parents" who had appropriately monitored their children's behavior, he said.

The school district hopes to secure restitution for more than \$29,000 in damage. "Both families indicated at the hearings that they would be willing to consider restitution," he said last week. "I'm not sure whether that will be part of the court action. Legally, I'm not able to require that through disciplinary proceedings."

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- 1.) Use of the public water supply for outside watering of lawns, shrubs, flowers, gardens, etc. is allowed only during the hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on an odd and even basis. (Properties with odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days and properties with even numbered addresses may water on even numbered days.)
- 2.) All new lawn installations that are watered from the public water supply, must comply with the odd and even watering restrictions as stated above. Property owners should consult with the builder or landscaper to try to select grass seed that is more drought resistant and consider using straw mulch (or other methods recommended by the lawn installer) that will help the grass seed succeed with the odd/even water restrictions.
- 3.) New swimming pools — permit for any new pool to include condition that water to fill the pool is trucked in from a private source.
- 4.) Existing swimming pools may be filled using public water supply.
- 5.) New underground sprinkler systems installed in 2002 (unless permit for system was issued prior to declaration of emergency in January of this year) can not be used until the emergency water restrictions are lifted.

The Town prohibits the use of the public water supply for nonessential uses, such as but not limited to: No washing down of driveways or walkways. (Use a broom or leaf blower); No washing of the exterior of buildings, unless required as preparation for painting.

Visit our website at: www.townofbethlehem.org for additional information

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Letters/policy

The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, accuracy, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and a daytime telephone number.

Unsigned letters receive no consideration.

All letters that are published must carry a signature.

Write to Letters to the Editor, The Spotlight, 125 Adams St., Delmar 12054. Letters can be faxed to 439-0609 or e-mailed to spotnews@nycap.rr.com.

Debate

(From Page 1)

time in a district where roughly half the voters have never been represented by him. His would-be constituents in Bethlehem and Coeymans represent the largest bloc of new voters in a redrawn district that also includes parts of Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene counties.

"I've got four counties I'm representing now, and this is a new experience for me," he said. "I'll have to see what I can fit into my schedule and what I'll be able to go to. I'm going to have to pick and choose. I'm actually out campaigning every spare moment I have out of the office here."

Trimble dismisses that as a stall. "We're not going to let him play this game with the voters of Albany County," she said. "It's not fair. How many weeks are going to go by before he makes up his mind? It gives us fewer and fewer possibilities as we get closer to Election Day."

There are other opportunities in the sprawling district for a head-to-head matchup. The Greene County Chamber of Commerce has scheduled a meet-the-candidates night for Oct. 23 at Catskill Elementary School; both Casale and Brooks have agreed to the appearance — but will share the dais with their counterparts in the 127th Assembly District.

League of Women voters chapters in Rensselaer and Columbia counties have jointly

proposed three different dates for a one-on-one, beginning with Oct. 9, but nothing has yet been secured; Brooks said she has held her calendar open for all three.

"I think these are very important," said Brooks. "Especially for people on this side of the river who've never been represented by Pat Casale or myself. The most important piece of it is to give people an opportunity to hear from a candidate like me, who doesn't have a (legislative) voting record, and a candidate they've never been represented by before (Casale). They need to hear our views on health care, education, creation of jobs, taxes."

But she is skeptical of what she regards as foot-dragging by Casale on the scheduling of joint appearances. "Mr. Casale was given as much time as we were to agree to this date or propose another," she said.

Casale characterized Trimble's attitude toward the debate date as "take it or leave it," and questioned the league's insistence on a debate in the 108th at the exclusion of any other legislative race in the county.

He cited the county-wide State Senate race of Democratic incumbent Neil Breslin of Delmar, challenged by businessman and New Scotland Republican town chairman Peter Belenchia; the congressional race where Democrat Michael McNulty of Green Island seeks re-election against attorney and

Slingerlands resident Charles Rosenstein, a first-time Republican candidate; and the 104th Assembly district, where Guilderland businesswoman Kerry Murphy hopes to unseat incumbent Democrat John McEneny of Albany in a district that includes New Scotland and the Albany County hilltowns.

"It just seems very strange to me, we have all these other races with incumbent Democrats and they all have opponents, and the league isn't interested in any debates for them," he said. "Even (Colonie assemblyman) Bob Prentiss can't get a debate going."

Those contests, Trimble said, are "not competitive" — and in any case, the league is rarely the primary sponsor of any debate, deferring to other civic groups.

"Usually it's the case that the league itself does not ask for the debate," she said. "We only enter into it if we feel the race is important enough. In this case we will, because the race is important enough. The fact that redistricting has caused such a shift in the dynamics of the 108th district means Albany County voters are unfamiliar with both candidates."

So preparations continue for the 17th. "There is a date, and we'll be there," said Brooks. Added Trimble: "So far, nobody (from Casale's legislative or campaign staff) has called about any other debate date, so we hope he'll be there." But Casale is noncommittal: "I really don't know right now."

Book discussions set at Bethlehem library

Nectar in a Sieve by Kamala Markandaya will be discussed at Bethlehem Public Library's next "Afternoons With Books" meeting on Monday, Oct. 7, at 1:30 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the reference desk. New members are always welcome. To register, call 439-9314.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle will be discussed at the next Mother-Daughter Book Club meeting on Monday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m. The program is intended for girls in grades 4 and up and their mothers or caregivers. Copies of the book are available at the youth services desk. New members are always welcome. Refreshments will be served. To register, call the

library.

The library will offer "How to Search on the Internet," a hands-on workshop for adults, on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 1:30 and 3 p.m. The course will teach basic and intermediate search techniques and compare several search engines. Registrants must have prior computer experience. Each session covers the same material and is limited to six participants. Register for one session only by calling the library.

The library's book discussion group "Nonfictionados" will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. to discuss *River Town: two years on the Yangtze* by Peter Hessler. Copies of the book are available at the reference desk. To register, call the library.



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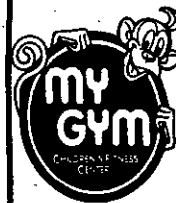
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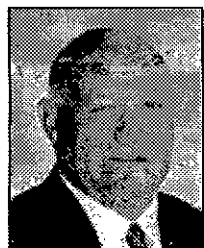
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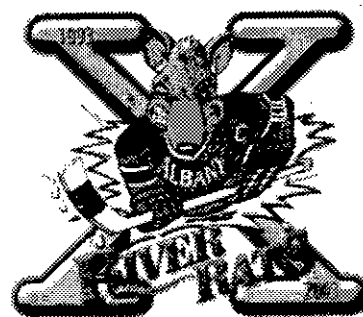


A SNAPSHOT OF HEALTH

The most recent survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control provides a picture of health that is turning decidedly gray. According to the latest of these federal reports, Americans continued a decade-long trend of making more visits to doctors. The Centers attributed the pattern to population growth and an increase in the number of elderly patients. The nature of those visits also reflects the aging population in that, over the past several years, the number of drugs prescribed for cardiovascular problems has risen by about one-fifth. Doctor visits that resulted in hormone prescriptions went up by approximately a quarter, and visits that brought recommendations for vitamin/mineral supplements increased by about 40%.

Seeing your doctor regularly is just one part of maintaining your health, but an important one. At Good Samaritan Lutheran Health Care Center, 125 Rockefeller Road, Delmar, we make sure that those who come to us for services have coordinated medical care. Our professionals are skilled at paying attention to client needs, and it shows in their attentiveness and responsiveness. To set up an appointment, give us a call at 439-8116 for more information.

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Obituaries

George Griffith

George F. Griffith, 94, of Delmar died Sunday, Sept. 22, at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in Hudson Falls, he worked as a manager for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for 60 years before he retired. He also worked for J.R. Sousa & Sons in the tire division.

Mr. Griffith was the oldest living member of the Granville Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the Valley of Providence, Scottish Rite, the Cypress Temple Shrine, the Second Milers in Delmar and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Elsmere.

He was husband of the late Eleanor Kingston Griffith.

Survivors include a nephew, John R. Griffith of Barre, Vt.; and two cousins, Jean Wright of Granville and Raymond Evans of Houston, Texas.

Services were from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Burial was in Graceland Cemetery in Albany.

Arrangements were by the Daniel Keenan Funeral Home in Albany.

Contributions may be made to the Shriners Children's Hospital, 3551 N. Broadway, Philadelphia, Pa. 19140.

George Rockenstyre

George Joseph "Rocky" Rockenstyre III, 59, of Rotterdam, and formerly of Voorheesville, died Sunday, Sept. 22, at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady.

Born and raised in Voorheesville, he was a graduate of Clayton A. Bouton Junior/Senior High School.

Mr. Rockenstyre served in the National Guard from 1962 to 1968.

He worked for the former New York Telephone Co. before he retired after 30 years of service.

He then worked as a blueprint engineer for Byers Engineering in Menands.

He was a member of the Rotterdam Elks and the Telephone Pioneers.

He was a communicant of St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Survivors include his wife, Judy Ann Smith Rockenstyre; two daughters, Tina Marie Stanton of Woodstock, Ga., and Shelly Lea Hunt of Rotterdam; four brothers, Michael Rockenstyre of Suwanee, Ga., Johnny Rockenstyre of Riverside, Ohio, Billy Rockenstyre of Rotterdam and Dwayne Rockenstyre of Knox; a sister, Linda Crouse of Westerlo; and five grandchildren.

Services were from the Hans Funeral Home and St. Margaret Mary's Church, both in Albany.

Burial was in Prospect Hill Cemetery in Guilderland.

Contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, 950 New Loudon Road, Suite 280, Latham 12110.

Robert Funk

Robert E. Funk, 70, of Delmar died Wednesday, Sept. 25, at Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Born in Rome, Oneida County, he received a doctorate in anthropology from Columbia University.

He worked for the State Museum and was appointed state archaeologist in 1971. He retired in 1993.

Mr. Funk was also an adjunct faculty member at the University

at Albany anthropology department.

He was the author of more than 80 professional publications on his investigation of the Hudson, Mohawk and Susquehanna river valleys.

After his retirement, he remained active in state archaeology and was a research associate at the museum.

Survivors include his wife, Nadine Fowers Funk; a son, Alfred Funk; and a sister, Nancy Savage.

Services were from the Tebbutt Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to The Sierra Club, 85 Second St., San Francisco, Calif. 94105.

Judy Angelotti

Judy Anne Angelotti, 62, of Cape Coral, Fla., and formerly of Bethlehem, Albany and Altamont, died Friday, Sept. 22, at Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center in Fort Myers.

Born in Norwalk, Conn., she was raised in Darien and graduated from Darien High School.

She studied at the New York School of Interior Design.

She worked as a hostess at the Clam Box in Greenwich, Conn. She was also a teacher's aide in Altamont.

Survivors include her husband, Carmine Angelotti; four daughters, Nadine Angelotti of Albany, Marietta Angelotti and Maena Voigt, both of Gainesville, Fla., and Victoria Angelotti of Cape Coral, Fla.; three sons, Donato Angelotti of Albany, Mark Angelotti of North Tonawanda and Luca Angelotti of Davenport, Fla.; three sisters, Diane Best of Danbury, Conn., Catherine Blackwell of Cape Coral and Charlotte Swan of Fort Myers; and two grandsons.

Mrs. Angelotti was cremated.

Contributions may be made to the Audubon Society or Hope Hospice of Lee County, Fla.

Ruth Hill

Ruth Adele Ziegler Hill, 80, of Delmar died Saturday, Sept. 21, at Good Samaritan Lutheran Health Care Center in Delmar.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, she lived in Lockport before moving to the Capital District.

Mrs. Hill was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Guilderland.

She was the widow of Ronald E. Hill.

Survivors include a niece, Barbara Williams of Staten Island; and three nephews, Edward Williams of Columbia, Conn., William Williams of Geneseo and David Williams of Indianapolis, Ind.

Arrangements were by the Hans Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in West Ridgeway Cemetery in Medina.

Progress Club sets meeting dates

The Delmar Progress Club has announced the following meetings for September and October.

- The Creative Arts group will car pool to Chatham on Oct. 2 at 8:30 a.m. from the town hall parking lot.

- On Oct. 7, there will be a general meeting at 10 a.m. in the library community room.

- The Literature Group will meet in the community room at 2 p.m. Oct. 8 for a discussion of *Saratoga Sojourn* by the author Allison Bennett.

- On Oct 10, the Travel Group will meet in the library community room at 2 p.m. for a program on Lake Tahoe and Yellowstone Park.

Book program features classics

"Books in the Morning," sponsored by the Bethlehem Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning, will explore seven great literary works on the first Friday of the month, beginning in October from 10 a.m. to noon at Bethlehem town hall. The discussions will be led by Helen Adler. The series, seven characters in search of themselves, begins on Oct. 4 with *Emma* by Jane Austen.

On Nov. 1 Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* will be discussed.

The remainder of the series includes:

- *The Portrait of a Lady* by Henry James on Jan. 3

- *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka on Feb. 7

- *The Stranger* by Albert Camus on March 7

- *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf on April 4

For information about the program, call 439-9661.

Library events slated Friday

The books *Space Case*, *The Witch who was Afraid of Witches* and *What's Under My Bed?* Will be shown at Bethlehem Public Library on Friday, Oct. 4, at 10:30 a.m. The event is for children ages 3-6 and is free. Registration is not necessary.

Baritone Drew Mills and pianist Stan Muraski will perform "Music to Tease Your Memory" at Bethlehem Public Library on Friday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m. The concert will feature Broadway hits and music of decades past. The concert is free. To register, call 439-9314.

Extension to host workshop Oct. 5

The Cornell Cooperative Extension will hold a guided educational workshop of its Self-Tour Home Composting Demonstration Garden on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 10 a.m.

The workshop will run for about 90 minutes and will cover the essentials of composting food and yard waste.

Appropriate dress for the outdoors is necessary. A \$5 fee will cover educational handouts and bin construction plans.

Grange to dish up roast pork dinner

The Bethlehem Grange will hold a family-style dinner featuring roast pork on Saturday, Oct. 5. Food will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

The Grange Hall is located on Route 396 in Selkirk. For information, call 767-3342.

Photo workshop set

Photographer Dietrich Gehring will present a photography workshop at Thacher Park on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to noon. The program fee is \$5 per person, and a \$5 parking fee will be charged for each vehicle. Participants should meet at the Mine Lot parking area. In case of rain, the workshop will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For information or to register, call 872-1237.

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

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

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Jonathan Stolper and Lynn Kovach

Stolper, Kovach to marry

Lynn Kovach, daughter of Rainy and Stu Kovach of Delmar, and Jonathan Stolper, son of Judith Schaeffer and the late Arthur Stolper of Philadelphia, are engaged to be married next summer. The ceremony will take place in Saratoga Springs.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School

and Cornell University.

She is a national account manager for Holtzbrinck Publishers of Manhattan.

The future groom is a graduate of Pennsbury High School and Syracuse University.

He is the vice president of sales for Harry N. Abrams Publishers of Manhattan.

4-H sets reunion Oct. 18 and HIV/AIDS programs

On Friday, Oct. 18, the 4-H program of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County will host a centennial reunion. The event will occur at the Cooperstown Extension Center in Voorheesville. The event is open to all former 4-H members and leaders no matter where they had their 4-H experience.

The evening will include food, prizes, volunteer recognition, Friend of 4-H awards and socializing. Those who want to learn about current 4-H programs are also invited to attend.

For information, or RSVP call 765.3500 by Oct. 11.

In other news, Cornell Cooperative will host a three-day training program on talking with

kids about HIV and AIDS. Seminars will occur on Oct. 10, 11 and 15.

The program will prepare parents, guardians and other adults to communicate with children about healthy behavior, and will enhance and develop basic knowledge about HIV and AIDS.

The cost, for the three day seminar is \$40 and includes lunch and refreshments.

For information or to register, call Tanya Owens at 765-3500.

BCHS slates homecoming events Oct. 11

Bethlehem Central High School alumni and others are invited to visit the alumni endowment tent at this year's homecoming game, on Friday, Oct. 11, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The tent will be located behind the high school on Van Dyke Road. Refreshments will be served.

Information on the district's endowment fund committee will be available.

Passes for reserved alumni seating to the game will also be available.

There will be a group photograph opportunity for the 75th anniversary of the Oriole yearbook.

During half time, alumni members from the classes of 1952 and 1972 will be recognized.

Library sets holiday hours

The Bethlehem Public Library will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 14 for the Columbus Day holiday. Patrons can access the catalog and other online services via the library's Web site, www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org.

Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Button club hosts program

The Half Moon Button Club of the Capital District will host a program on bracelets made of buttons on Wed. Oct. 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library on Delaware Avenue. The event is open to the public.



David and Cara DeCecco

DeCecco and Leggett to wed

Cara Leggett, daughter of Elaine Simpson of Lexington Ky., and Harold Leggett of Evanston, Ill., and David DeCecco, son of Patricia and Dominick DeCecco of Slingerlands, will be married on Oct. 19.

The ceremony will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Lexington. Dr. Lee Bowman will conduct the service.

Mrs. Kirsten Adair will be matron of honor. Andrea DeCecco, sister of the groom, Maria Nakis and Deirdre Latour will be bridesmaids.

The groom's brother Michael DeCecco will be best man.

Peter Winkler, Peter Lewis, Craig Isenberg, all high school classmates of the groom, will be groomsmen.

Following the ceremony, the couple will take a wedding trip to Hawaii before living together in New York City.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Tates Creek High School and Northwestern University. She is a senior account supervisor for Edelman Worldwide of New York City.

The future groom is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Cornell University. He is a senior manager for Pepsi-Cola Company in Purchase, Westchester County.

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Community

C'ville Church to host turkey dinner

The Clarksville Community Church will serve a turkey dinner on Saturday, Oct. 12, with seatings at 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The meal will include mashed potatoes, vegetables, stuffing, rolls, gravy and a relish tray. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages five to 12 and free for children under five. Takeout will be available and walk-ins are welcome.

The Women for Christian Service will also host a bake sale during the dinner.

For information or to make reservations, call 768-2424.

SPOTLIGHT ON **Family ENTERTAINMENT**
 CALENDARS ♦ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Apple festival showcases area's harvest



By HEATHER E. MACDONALD

Apple farmers around the Capital Region are extra busy this week, but it isn't a harvest that has them working overtime. Instead, they're gearing up for weekend activities that will highlight the area's rural landscape and present an opportunity to experience fresh produce, colorful foliage and country-style entertainment firsthand.

Pumpkin painting, pony rides, food, music, a haunted house and crafts from more than 150 vendors all over the Northeast are among the offerings at Altamont Orchards' Capital District Apple Festival and Craft Fair, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. The event will be held at the Altamont Fair Grounds on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults and free for children under 12.

"We wanted to attract more people and offer something different," said owner Joe Abbruzzese of the decision to start the festival years ago. "It was a success. We usually have between 15,000 and 20,000 people."

The festival also features about 12 food vendors and will host wineries for the first time this year. There will be a Farmer's Market, where New York and Vermont

cheeses, maple syrup and vegetables will be sold, along with Edison Club Executive Chef A.J. Jayapal's Miss Sydney's Marinade and locally-produced salad dressings, Adirondack Elixers. Jayapal and members of the American Culinary Federation and the Empire State Chef's Association will also offer cooking demonstrations during the festival.

Jayapal's demonstrations are scheduled for 1 to 2 p.m. each day, and his dishes — an appetizer, an entrée and a dessert — will all feature New York apples.

According to Abbruzzese, diversification is the name of the game in the apple business. "Farmers are trying to do anything and everything they can to generate money. If we don't diversify, we're going to be gone. The apple industry lost \$1.5 billion in the last three years," he noted, adding, "Fortunately, we're in the Capital District. The population base allows us to do other things to stay in business."

Abbruzzese owns the orchard with his three brothers and explained their business has four families to support. Six years ago, they built Orchard Creek Golf Club on the property, and they also offer a farm market, restaurant and apple picking.

During the festival, Altamont Orchards will run a bakery, featuring cider donuts, apple pies, fudge apples, caramel apples, apple chips and other apple-related delicacies.

Riverview Orchards in Clifton Park is another local orchard with a special event going on this weekend. Owner Isabel Prescott said Farm Talk will feature folk singer George Ward singing songs about the Erie Canal and farm life, as well as storytelling by local farmers. The event



is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., with a raindate of Sunday, Oct. 6. Cost is \$8.50 for adults and \$6.50 for children.

"The participants take a hay ride around the farm, and we have a bonfire for them," she added. "The price also includes cider and donuts."

Farm Talk saw its beginnings about four years ago as a way of promoting local history. Prescott said they work in conjunction with the Black Crow Network, a non-profit local heritage and cultural organization.

At Bowman Orchards in Clifton Park, diversification means offering a corn maze, a hay maze, a playground and, on weekends, pony rides and hay rides, according to Ray Bowman. The orchard is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

Bowman said he also started offering fall raspberry picking three years ago and tomato picking for the first time this year. And, of course, apple picking is always a major attraction.

"We have a very nice crop," Bowman noted. "We're very fortunate."

Indian Ladder Farms is known for apple picking as well as retail items, a petting zoo and Yellow Rock Café & Bakery, but this year, they'll offer even more. "We have this great old barn next to our store, and we're going to haunt it," said manager Laura Ten Eyck. "We're really excited about it."

The barn will be open Thursday, Oct. 17, Friday, Oct. 18, Thursday, Oct. 24 and Friday, Oct. 25, from 7 to 10 p.m. It will be open Saturday, Oct. 19, Sunday, Oct. 20, Saturday, Oct. 26, and Sunday, Oct. 27, from 5 to 10 p.m.

On Wednesday, Oct. 30, there will be a special night at the barn with "toned down" hauntings for younger children from 6 to 9

p.m. Radio Disney will also be on-site from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Ten Eyck said other October events include a talk on integrated pest management by Kathleen Leahy on Saturday, Oct. 5, and a visit from Will Moses — writer, folk artist and grandson of artist Grandma Moses — on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 1 to 3 p.m. There will also be live music on Sunday from Sam Jones, who will play in the herb garden.

The Indian Ladder store is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The café/bakery is open Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Both will be open when the haunted barn is open as well.

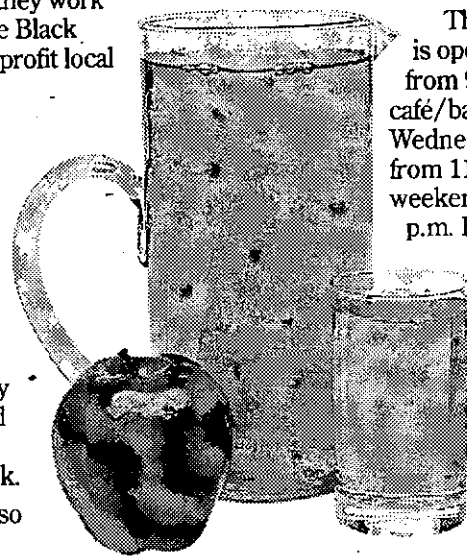
Eagle Mills Cider Co.'s regular attractions include a cider press, country bakery and covered bridge. The Broadalbin business added a gem mining operation in 1996 and

hosts a major annual event, the Art and Craft Show, slated for Saturday, Oct. 5, and Sunday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

The show will feature over 160 juried crafters, 600 pies, 1,000 turnovers and approximately 100,000 donuts, according to owner Craig Boyko. "Prepping for this thing is a huge task," he said, noting about 15,000 people are expected to attend.

"This is my 8th year doing the craft show," Boyko said, adding, "What's unusual about this property is it's extremely picturesque and pristine. It's like looking at a Norman Rockwell painting. It's beautiful."

Eagle Mills will also host a Corvette Cruise-In on Sunday, Oct. 13, with proceeds benefiting Double H Hole in the Woods Ranch for critically ill children, and a Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20.



The Spotlight CALENDAR

To update or correct calendar listings, call 439-4949, ext. 28.

Poplar Drive, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY
Weekly meeting at Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 1-2:30 p.m. Information, 465-8732.

and fellowship, nursery care provided, church school, 9:25 a.m., Poplar Drive and Elsmere Avenue. Information, 439-3265.

provided, 1499 New Scotland Road. Information, 439-1766.

JERUSALEM REFORMED
worship service, 10:30 a.m., followed by coffee hour, child-care provided, Route 32, Feura Bush. Information, 439-0548.

Wed. 10/2

BETHLEHEM

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

Board meetings first Wednesday of each month, open to public. Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 4 p.m.

FEAR IT UP!

Program for children K-6, illustrations in mixed-media collage, followed by "tear your own" collage making; materials provided. Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 4 p.m. Registration, 439-9314.

BETHLEHEM BUSINESS WOMEN

Normansville Country Club, Salisbury Road, Elsmere, 6 p.m.; dinner 6:30 p.m., program and meeting to follow dinner. Information, 439-7237.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

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

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB

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

BETHLEHEM ELKS LODGE 2233

Route 144, Cedar Hill, 7 p.m. Information, 767-2886.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

DISCUSSION SERIES

"A Moral Response to Terrorism": Weekly discussion group Wednesdays through Oct. 16, sponsored by Bethlehem Ministerial Association. This week: "Paths of Love and Justice." \$7 charge for study guide materials. Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., 7:30-8:45 p.m. Information, 439-9252.

BINGO

Blanchard American Legion Post, 16

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.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Onesquethaw Chapter, Masonic Temple, 421 Kenwood Ave., 8 p.m. Information, 439-2181.

TESTIMONY MEETING

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

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.

FAITH TEMPLE

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

PRAYER MEETING

evening prayer meeting and Bible study, Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-3390.

AA MEETING

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

Thurs. 10/3

BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM SENIOR CITIZENS

Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 12:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Parks and Recreation Office, Elm Avenue Park, 2-5:30 p.m. Also Tuesday. Information, 439-0503.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

children's choir, 6:15 p.m., senior choir, 7 p.m., 85 Elm Ave. Information, 439-4328.

AA MEETINGS

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

Fri. 10/4

BETHLEHEM

'BOOKS IN THE MORNING'

Discussion of "Emma" by Jane Austen, sponsored by Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning; Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 10 a.m. -noon. Information, 439-9661.

AA MEETING

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

NEW SCOTLAND

PIONEER CLUBS

For children grades 1 through junior high; Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, 3:45 - 5 p.m. Information, 765-3390.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

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

Sat. 10/5

BETHLEHEM

AA MEETING

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

Sun. 10/6

BETHLEHEM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Masses — Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and noon, 35 Adams Place. Information, 439-4951.

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL

Holy Eucharist, 8 and 10:30 a.m., coffee

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

85 Elm Ave., worship services 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. coffee/fellowship following worship. Sunday School and Bible classes 9:15 a.m., infant and nursery care, assistive listening devices. Bible class for developmentally disabled, second and fourth Sundays of each month. Information, 439-4328.

DELMAR REFORMED

Worship services, 9 & 11 a.m., with child care, Sunday school for all ages T.G.I. Sunday contemporary worship at 5:30 p.m. with child care and children's program through grade 6. 386 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-9929.

BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Worship services 9 & 10:45 a.m.; nursery and Sunday School through 5th grade provided at both services. 201 Elm Ave. Information, 439-3135.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM UMC

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., followed by coffee hour, 65 Willowbrook Ave. Information, 767-9953.

DELMAR FULL GOSPEL

Sunday service, 9:30 a.m., with Sunday school and nursery, home groups, women's Bible studies and youth group, 292 Elsmere Ave. Information, 439-4407.

FIRST REFORMED OF BETHLEHEM

Church school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m., fellowship hour after worship; child-care provided, vespers 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Route 9W, Selkirk. Information, 767-2243.

FAMILY OF GOD COMM. CHURCH

Church of the Nazarene; Sunday school 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Krumkill Road at Schoolhouse Road, North Bethlehem.

FIRST UMC OF DELMAR

Sunday school and worship service, 9:30 a.m., adult classes and fellowship 11 a.m., child-care provided, 428 Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-9976.

MOUNT MORIAH MINISTRIES

Sunday school, 9:45 a.m., morning worship, 11 a.m., youth group, 6 p.m., evening service, 7 p.m., Route 9W, Glenmont. Information, 426-4510.

UNITY OF FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sunday school and worship service, 10 a.m., 436 Krumkill Road. Information, 438-7740.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Sunday school and worship service, 10 a.m., child-care provided, 555 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-2512.

KING'S CHAPEL

Traditional Baptist Bible service, 10 a.m.; 434 Route 9W, just south of Glenmont Road, Glenmont. Information, 426-9955.

BETHLEHEM CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Bible lecture, 10 a.m., Watchtower Bible study, 10:55 a.m., Elm Avenue and Feura Bush Road. Information, 439-0358.

SLINGERLANDS COMMUNITY UMC

worship service and church school, 10 a.m., fellowship hour, nursery care

DELMAR PRESBYTERIAN

worship service, church school, nursery care, 10 a.m., fellowship and coffee, 11 a.m., adult education, 11:15 a.m., family communion service, first Sunday, 585 Delaware Ave. Information, 439-9252.

GLENMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday school and worship service, 10:30 a.m., child-care available, 1 Chapel Lane. Information, 436-7710.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

worship service, 11 a.m., 1 Kenwood Ave. Information, 439-4314.

NORMANSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Services Sundays, 6:30 p.m. Mill Road, Normansville, beneath the Normanskill Bridge on Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-5710.

NEW SCOTLAND

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

Masses Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., Mountain View Road, Voorheesville. Information, 765-2805.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

early worship, 8:30 a.m., worship celebration, 10 a.m., church school classes for nursery through high school, 10 a.m., choir rehearsals, 11:15 a.m., 8 Maple Ave., Voorheesville. Information, 765-2895.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship service, 10:15 a.m., Auberge Suisse Restaurant, Route 85. Information, 475-9086.

UNIONVILLE REFORMED

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship, Delaware Turnpike. Information, 439-5001.

CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., followed by coffee hour, nursery care provided, Route 443. Information, 768-2916.

MOUNTAINVIEW EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

Family Bible Hour, 9:15 a.m.; worship service, 10:30 a.m., nursery care provided. Route 155, Voorheesville. Information, 765-3390.

ONESQUETHAW REFORMED

worship service, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school, 10:45 a.m., Tarrytown Road, Feura Bush. Information, 768-2133.

FAITH TEMPLE

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

NEW SCOTLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

worship service, 10:30 a.m., fellowship following worship service; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m., nursery care provided; 2010 New Scotland Road, New Scotland. Information, 439-6454.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., nursery and Sunday School available, Thursday night prayer and praise at 7 p.m. 92 Lower Copeland Hill Road, Feura Bush. Information, 768-2021.

NEW SCOTLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

in the Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem, 2 to 4 p.m. Information, 765-4446.

Mon. 10/7

BETHLEHEM

MOTHERS' TIME OUT

Christian support group for mothers of preschool children, Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., nursery care provided, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Information, 439-9929.

DELMAR PROGRESS CLUB

General meeting, Community Room, Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., 10 a.m.

DELMAR KIWANIS

Quality Inn, Route 9W, 6:15 p.m. Information, 439-2437 or 439-6952.

CLASS IN JEWISH MYSTICISM

Delmar Chabad Center, 109 Elsmere Ave., 7 p.m. Information, 439-8280.

INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING

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

ELMWOOD PARK FIRE DISTRICT

Board of fire commissioners meeting, North Bethlehem firehouse, 589 Russell Road, 7:30 p.m.

EXPLORER POST-157

For boys and girls 14-21, focusing on environmental conservation, 310 Kenwood Ave., 7:30-9 p.m. Information, 439-4205.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

rehearsal, Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-7749.

BLANCHARD LEGION POST

meeting, 16 Poplar Drive, 8 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

Temple Chapter No. 5; Masonic Temple, 421 Kenwood Ave.

AA MEETING

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

NEW SCOTLAND

QUARTET REHEARSAL

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



Walk & Talk
at
HELDERLEDGE
"Putting The Garden To Bed"
Saturday, October 5 • 10 a.m.

Getting the garden ready for fall, including the planting of spring blooming bulbs. Organic answers to your garden problems will also be discussed.

435 Picard Road, Route 307,
(Between Voorheesville and Altamont)
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Spotlight on Dining

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION TO ANY NY LLC PURSUANT TO NY LLC LAW SECTION 1203 (c)
The name of the professional service limited liability company is 1254 New Loudon Road, LLC. The date of the filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State was May 13, 2002. The County in which the office of the LLC is to be located is Albany. The agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served is the Secretary of State and such shall mail a copy of any process to: 1254 New Loudon Road, LLC, c/o Edmond J. Duncan Jr., 1254 New Loudon Road, Cohoes, New York 12047. The purpose of the Company is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be formed under the Limited Liability Company Law.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF 75 WATERVLIET HOLDING COMPANY, LLC

First: The name of the Company is 75 Watervliet Holding Company, LLC.
Second: The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on May 24, 2002.
Third: The county within the State of New York in which the company's office is to be located in Albany.
Fourth: The Secretary of State is designated as the Company's agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address within or without the State of New York to which the Secretary of State will mail a copy of any process against the Company is PO Box 6268, Albany, NY 12206.
Fifth: The Company's purpose is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the LLC Law.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

"ASCON LLC" was filed with the SSNY on 9/24/02. Office: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. The P.O. address which SSNY shall mail any process against the LLC served upon him: 80 State Street, Albany, NY 12207-2543. The Registered Agent is Corporation Service Company at the same address. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED COMPANY

FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company is B.A.V. Airport Park, LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Company").
SECOND: The articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State on July 3, 2002.
THIRD: The county within New York State in which the office of the Company is to be located is Albany.
FOURTH: The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process is: B.A.V. Airport Park LLC, 4 British American Boulevard, Latham, New York 12110
FIFTH: The latest date on which the Company is to dissolve is December 31, 2052, unless said period is further extended by amendment of this Agreement or sooner terminated in accordance with this agreement.
SIXTH: The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful activity pursuant to Section 203 of the New York Limited Liability Company Law.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: BACKROADS TRANSPORTATION, LLC.
Articles of Organization were filed with then Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/27/02. Office location: Schenectady County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 1255 Tenth Avenue Schenectady, New York 12303.

LEGAL NOTICE

Purpose: any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

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

The name of the LLC is BonJay LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on August 23, 2002.
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 1465 Western Avenue, Albany, New York 12203.
(October 2, 2002)

RESOLUTION AND PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem in the County of Albany, State of New York has on the 25 th day of September 2002, duly adopted, subject to a permissive referendum, a resolution as follows:
WHEREAS: the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem has determined that it is necessary to fund the computer systems upgrade and
WHEREAS, it is estimated that the costs of said work will not exceed \$ 265,000 and
WHEREAS:, in recognition of these needs, funds for such purpose are in the General Fund Capital Reserve, and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that it is in the public interest to complete these hardware and software installations; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the expenditure of the reserve moneys to fund this project up to a maximum amount of \$ 265,000 and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Comptroller is authorized to expend from the General Fund Capital Reserve the funds necessary up to \$265,000 in said reserve fund; and
This resolution shall be subject to a permissive referendum, as permitted by law.
The motion to adopt the resolution was made by Mr. Lenhardt was seconded by Mrs. Davis and duly adopted by the following vote: AYES; Mrs. Fuller, Mr. Lenhardt, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Marcelle
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
DATED: September 25, 2002
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Crocker Securities, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 8/12/02. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in California (CA) on 2/19/02. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207, registered agent upon whom process may be served. CA address of LLC: 2999 Oak Road, Suite 230, Walnut Creek, CA 94597. Arts. of Org. filed with CA Secy. of State, Business Filings, 1500 11th St., 3rd Fl., Sacramento, CA 95814. Purpose: Broker dealer firm.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC

EGL Holdings, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on September 17, 2002. Its office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail a copy of any process served on him or her to EGL Holdings, LLC, P.O. Box 459, Albany, NY 12201. Its business is to engage in any lawful activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under Section 203 of the New York Limited Liability Company Act.
(October 2, 2002)

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

The name of the LLC is EQUIZAC, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed

LEGAL NOTICE

with the NY Secretary of State on September 13, 2002. 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 652 Sand Creek Road, Albany, New York 12205.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NAME: FUTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/12/02. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 416 Green Hill Court, Albany, New York 12203. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of Garner Street Associates, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on July 5, 2002, effective upon the date of filing. Office Location: Rensselaer County. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC, P.O. Box 285, Cohoes, New York 12047. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the LLC Law.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Jechevic & Associates, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 9/10/02. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to 710 Riverside Drive, Suite 1C, NY, NY 10031, Attn: Arellis Medina. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY VISIONS, LLC
Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company
Articles of Organization of Learning Technology Visions, LLC ("LLC") were filed with the New York State Department of State ("NYDS") on August 12, 2002. Office location: Albany County. NYDS is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. NYDS shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC, 1 Myron Lane, Menands, New York 12204-1309. LLC does not have a specific date of dissolution. Purpose: All legal purposes.
Filer: Law Office of Kara Conway Love
Address: 450 New Karner Road, Suite 203
Albany, New York 12205-3898
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: LITTLE NICKY'S Doghouse, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/20/02. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC Post Office Box 66019, Albany, New York 12206. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NAME: MCR ASSOCIATES, LLC
Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/26/02. The latest date of dissolution is 08/01/2102. office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, c/o Mark Reith, 56 Laura Avenue, Latham, New York 12110. Purpose: For

LEGAL NOTICE

any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF PHILIPS MEDICAL CAPITAL, LLC.

Authority filed with Secy. of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 8/21/02. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/11/02.
SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to c/o Corporation Service Co, 80 State St. Albany, NY 12207, registered agent upon whom process may be served. Principal office of LLC: 1111 Old Eagle School Road, Wayne, PA. 19087. Arts of Org. filed with DE Secy of State 401 Federal St. Dover, DE 19801. Purpose: any lawful activity.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

1. Name of the Limited Liability Company, (hereinafter LLC) is RASH Properties, LLC.
2. Date of filing of Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State is August 13, 2002.
3. The office is located in Albany County.
4. Secretary of State is designated as Agent of the LLC upon whom process it may be served.
5. Post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: RASH Properties, LLC 71 Oliver Street, Cohoes, New York 12047. The LLC shall not have a registered agent.
6. The company has no specific date of dissolution. The LLC is formed for any lawful business purpose and shall have all the powers set forth in Section 202(a)-202(q) of the New York Limited Liability Company Law.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Rho Trading Securities, LLC Authority filed with Secy. of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 8/23/02. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 6/3/02. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against

LEGAL NOTICE

it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: J. Brent McCauley, Ungaretti & Harris, 3500 First National Plaza, Chicago, IL 60602. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts. of Org. filed with DE SECY. of State, Div. of Corps., 401 Federal St. Suite 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Securities trading.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP OF ROUTE 22 AMENIA PARTNERS, LP (UNDER SECTION 121-201 OF THE REVISED LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ACT)
1. The name of the limited partnership is "Route 22 Amenia Partners, L.P."
2. The county in which the office of the limited partnership is located is Albany County, New York.
3. The Secretary of State is hereby designated as agent of the limited partnership upon whom process against it may be served, and the office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited partnership served upon him is 596 New Loudon Road, Albany, New York 12211.
4. The name and business address of the sole general partner is:
Shopping Center Development Co, L.L.C.
596 New Loudon Road Latham, New York 12110
5. The latest date upon which the limited partnership is to dissolve is August 31, 2102.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Certificate of Limited Partnership on the 30 th day of August, 2002 and verify and affirm under penalties of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct as of the date hereof.
ROUTE 22 AMENIA PARTNERS L.P.
By: Shopping Center Development Co, L.L.C.
General Partner
By: Kenneth B. Segel, Member.
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Bethlehem Central School District
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Board of Education of the

LEGAL NOTICE

Bethlehem Central School District hereby invites the submission of sealed bids in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law for the following:
One or more 15-Passenger+ 2 Wheelchair Stations Bus
Bids will be received until 2 PM October 10, 2002 at the Transportation Department, Supervisors Office at Bethlehem Central School District, 82 Van Dyke Rd, Delmar, NY 12054, 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
(September 25, 2002)
(October 2, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Sovereign Agency LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 9/16/2002. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in New Jersey (NJ) on 5/25/1975. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave, NY, NY 10011, registered agent upon whom process may be served. NJ address of LLC: 1433 Hooper Ave, Toms River, NJ 08753. Arts. of Org filed with NJ Dept. of Treasury, Div of Revenue, Business Services Bureau, 225 W. State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity.
(October 2, 2002)

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NAME: VARGA MARKETING CO., LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/15/02. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 1414 Western Avenue, Albany, New York 12203. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.
(October 2, 2002)

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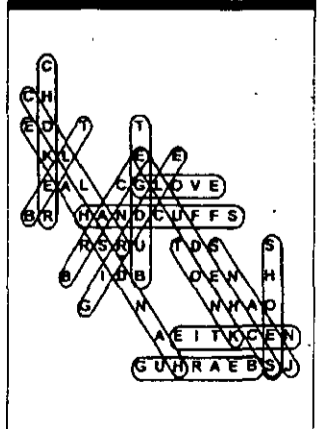
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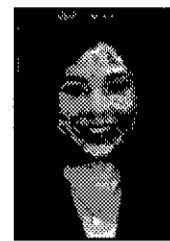
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Your vehicle's windshield must be installed correctly for the passenger-side airbag to function properly. So, if your windshield needs replaced, make sure the work is done by a professional, certified installer who understands its importance to your safety.

Bob Beranek, owner of Automotive Glass Consultants and a recognized auto glass expert, says car owners having a windshield replaced should ask the installer about the airbag.

"A passenger-side airbag is designed to deploy off the windshield in collisions at speeds up to 200 mph," Beranek explains. "So, the windshield needs to be installed cor-

rectly. If it isn't, the airbag could force the glass from the frame, defeating the purpose of the airbag, and possibly ejecting passengers from the vehicle."

Beranek says there are three key steps car owners can take to ensure a proper windshield installation that enables the airbag to function properly:

- 1) Ask for a windshield made by an auto glass manufacturer that is also a supplier to car manufacturers. "That way," says Beranek, "the glass is most likely to fit properly in the frame and be installed with the proper materials."
- 2) Make sure your installer uses a ure-

thane adhesive. "The installer has to use the right urethane adhesive system to bond the glass to the car frame," says Beranek.



The right adhesive is critical to keeping the windshield in place when the airbag deploys.

"Two-part chemical cure systems are designed to provide the needed bond strength."

3) Ask about the installer's training. "Make sure the installer is certified by an industry organiza-

tion and an adhesive manufacturer," Beranek says. "Ask to see the installer's credentials. Professionals won't be upset

and will appreciate your concern."

To learn more about safe auto glass replacement and repair, visit ppgprostars.com. PPG PROSTARS is a nation-

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Spending

(From Page 1)

revenues for the town have remained fairly stable, permitting the town to hold the proposed tax rate increase down and to present a balanced general fund budget and a deficit of just \$160,000 in the highway fund.

"If you follow the economic news, the economic picture is not overly optimistic," Kehoe said. "But Bethlehem is a little different."

County sales tax revenues, which are shared with municipalities, are projected to remain strong in the coming year. And continuing growth in residential and commercial development in town, including such new businesses as Price Chopper and PSEG in Glenmont

and Daisytek in Selkirk, contributed to a rise in the overall town tax base — boosting both basic property tax revenues and mortgage tax receipts.

The reduced assessment for PSEG as a result of last year's PILOT agreement has meant a revenue loss for the town next year, Kehoe said, but overall town fund balances, which have risen steadily in the past few years, have helped offset that. And PILOT payments to the town highway fund are also projected to climb by more than 16 percent next year.

Other highlights of the proposed budget package presented last week: No additional hiring is projected for the coming year, but a full-time

clerical position may be added to the Senior Services department after the expected retirement of several current part-time employees. Overall line-item budgets have held steady or declined in most departments. The public works department's administrative budget leads the declines for the coming year — belt tightening in the wake of the rising water tax bill, which will mostly pay for supplemental purchases from Albany and Guilderland and reduce the ongoing water fund shortfall.

Several significant new outlays are planned, including \$40,000 to re-blacktop the parking lot at town hall; a doubling of equipment purchases by the parks and recreation department to \$54,000 to replace aging lawn-maintenance equipment; a hike of auto leasing costs for the highway department from \$59,000 to \$90,000; and a doubling of the fleet purchase account for Public Works to \$100,000 for replacement of a pickup truck and a heavy duty crane for servicing the town pump stations. In

addition, \$53,300 has been budgeted for consulting services for a planned update of the town's property tax assessments next year, \$30,200 for a consultant on the planned overhaul of the town zoning code and \$15,000 for a study of the town's geographic information systems needs.

The budget draft projects modest decreases in both contractual attorneys' fees and liability insurance premiums on public officials — reflecting, in part, the resolution of several key pieces of litigation involving the town in the past year, including the long-standing lawsuit over the town water plant on Clapper Road.

Debts service costs will drop by \$118,200 next year, as debt for the addition to town hall has been paid in full this year.

Much of last week's meeting following the budget presentation was devoted to discussion of truck traffic restrictions and the coming debate over the town zoning code. But several other significant fiscal actions were also taken by the town board.

They approved another upgraded employee incentive — improvements in the town's cafeteria plan. They also voted to authorize the expenditure of up to \$265,000 from capital reserve funds set aside for that purpose for further upgrades in the town's management information systems, including a backup computer for the police department. The latter authorization is subject to a 30-day permissive referendum — which means it can proceed after that period if it is not challenged by taxpayers.

Spotlight launches Web site

By ANDREW GREGORY

Spotlight Newspapers will officially launch its new and improved Web site today. www.spotlightnews.com was designed by local web developers, Salmura Web Design. Kevin Salhoff and Matthew Mimura teamed up in August 2001 and formed their own Web development company. Shortly thereafter, Salhoff and Mimura began developing Web sites for small, local organizations.

"We got things rolling and were definitely looking for a larger project," said Mimura. After Spotlight Newspapers severed ties with its former web company, Salmura Web Design was approached with the task of developing a new site.

Salhoff, a recent graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Mimura, a graphic design artist, faced several immediate challenges. "There were a lot of directions we could have gone in design and programming wise, but we feel confident in the final product," said Salhoff.

Spotlight General Manager John McIntyre is excited about the launch of the new Web site. "We'll be able to serve our readers even better with a comprehensive Web site. It's not cluttered with links and graphics; it's very easy on the eyes," he said.

www.spotlightnews.com will have several new features. "The classified ads will be in a searchable database," said Salhoff, who designed the search program. Users will be able to search by zip code when looking for real estate properties or apartment rentals.

"We wanted to maintain the sense of localization for every user because that's the goal of *The Spotlight*," said Mimura. Local businesses will be able to contact the advertising department, and readers will be able to send e-mail to the editorial staff.

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