

Gas station owner
clashes with oil co.

○ See Page 3

Nutcrackers
hit the stage

○ Fan

Old World is
a short drive away

○ See Page 4

The Spotlight

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem & New Scotland

Volume XLVIII No. 45 75 cents

December 3, 2003

Shopping season gets off to strong start

By MARY LANNON

Black Friday, the annual beginning of the holiday shopping season, also brings with it annual tidings of economic health or malaise. This year in Albany County, from most accounts, health is the word.

Even before the yearly shopping bonanza, the Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce predicted growth in sales of 3 to 5 percent based in part on a survey of retailers.

According to some local business owners and malls, the prediction proved correct.

"It was a very good turnout. It was very busy," said Steven Catalano, store manager of Kay-Bee Toy & Hobby Shops in Delaware Plaza in Delmar.

"It wasn't as hectic in the morning," he added, but the rest of the day made up for it.

One local business owner didn't have as good a day as last year.

The owner of Delmar's I Love Books, Melissa Steen, said sales weren't as brisk this year. She attributed the lower numbers to the store's announced sale for Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7.

"We had a very good weekend," Steen said, adding, "We're looking for some nice, sunnier days."

The malls and big shopping plazas traditionally do better on Black Friday, Steen said.

Another manager said he thought the day gets too much hype.

"It was about the same as last year. Every year there's such an overhyping

of Black Friday that it scares people away," said Dan Schreffler, floor manager at The Book House in Stuyvesant Plaza.

Another plaza business owner said sales were up in her store.

"(Sales were) good. We were actually up. Probably 15 percent up from last year," said Sharon Fenno, owner of Circles.

It was a very good turnout. It was very busy.

Steven Catalano

She attributed the increase to a better year overall and to an expansion of her business with additional cosmetics lines.

At Colonie Center Mall, marketing manager Susan Despart said that based on anecdotes she believed sales would be up this year.

"We're very pleased with the turnout," Despart said, but added that the mall no longer keeps daily sales figures, though individual stores may.

An earlier start than last year and greater turnaround in the parking lot led Sara Nieves, marketing director at Crossgates Mall, to conclude that sales will probably be up for this year's Black Friday.

"It didn't seem they spent a whole lot of time shopping, but they had bags," Nieves said, adding that store managers reported high foot traffic in their stores.

"The lines for the traffic started at 3 o'clock in the morning at Best Buy and Kay-Bee Toys," Nieves added.

This compares well, she said, to last year, when lines of traffic began at 4:30 a.m.

At the Albany-Colonie Chamber

□ SHOPPING/page 32

RV made Egan's campaign highly visible

By DAMIAN PAGANO

The campaign is over and the recreational vehicle is in a heated garage where it awaits a trip to Florida and the installation of a satellite dish.

The RV is, of course, THE RV in Bethlehem. It's the 38-foot-long Damon Ultra Sport that served as Teresa Egan's mobile headquarters during her successful campaign for town supervisor.

A portrait of Egan, 3 feet by 4 feet, was in vinyl on the vehicle's sides and 300 feet of rope lights spelled out her name. A large American flag flew from a pole at the vehicle's rear.

"People said, 'My gosh, Rick, what are you doing? It is ingrained in my brain,'" said Rick Bylsma, the vehicle's owner, of

the Egan image and advertising.

The RV was everywhere on Egan's behalf during the political campaign. It was at high school football games, it was at the Four Corners, it was on the side of Route 85 and it was parked overnight at the Big M truck stop.

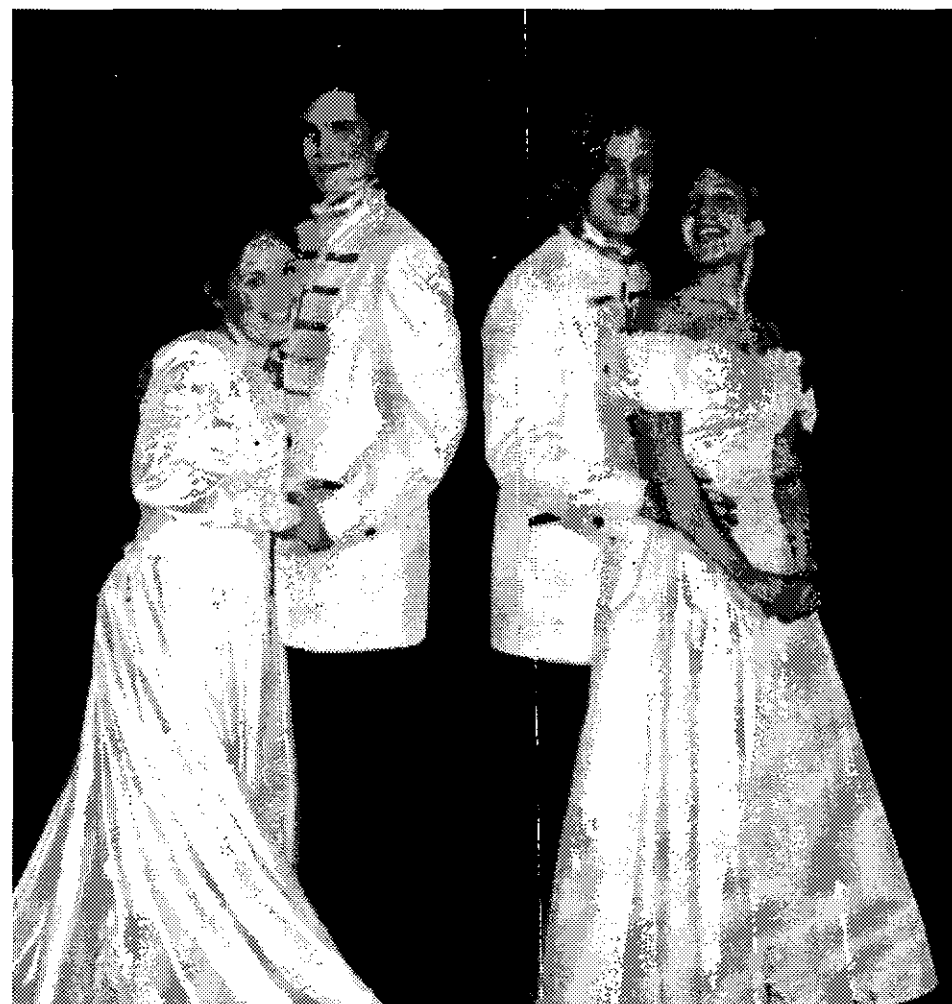
I've never camped around Delmar before. I had a lot of fun with that.

Rick Bylsma

Bylsma, a town resident and longtime friend of Egan's, camped in the RV. He admitted he wasn't really roughing it, since the RV sports a queen-sized bed, two flat screen televisions and a full kitchen and bathroom. It was, all in all, a great time, he said.

"I've never camped around Delmar before," he said. "I had a lot of fun with that."

He said the idea to use the RV to stump for Egan occurred to him when he was dropping off some campaign



Starring in "Much Ado About Nothing" this weekend at Bethlehem Central High School are, from left, Rose Norris, Mike DiGiulio, Teddy Lytle and Beth Carcich.

Theater Without a Net makes it a hat trick

By KATHERINE MCCARTHY

There must be much ado about something, because just two weeks after the Voorheesville Dionysians staged Shakespeare's story of true love getting just the nudge it needs, Bethlehem Central High School's Theater Without

a Net is presenting "Much Ado About Nothing." Bard aficionados of the Capital District will recall that Shakespeare & Co. in Lenox, Mass., ran the story of Benedick and Beatrice this summer as well.

Bethlehem's Theater Without a Net chose its production in the spring.

"This is a fun play," director and BC drama and English teacher Jim Yeara said. "You can have a large cast with it, and we have a talented group of students, especially this year's freshmen."

Seventy-five students auditioned this fall for 15 roles, which Yeara was able to bump up to 26 to tell the love stories of the sharp-witted Beatrice and Benedick and the gentler Claudio and Hero. Princes, soldiers, house servants and night watchmen work to bring the couples together and apart, in witty dialogue that keeps an audience laughing.

"This is Shakespeare's happiest play," Yeara said. "It's very merry. It's from his mid-career, which includes works like 'Twelfth Night' and 'As You Like It.' It's a very easy introduction to Shakespeare."

One of the students who auditioned

□ THEATER/page 32

Bond issue

The voting on Bethlehem Central's \$93 million bond issue Tuesday occurred after *The Spotlight's* deadline for this week. Look for a complete report in next week's edition.

□ RV/page 32



6 09859 00020 1
THE SPOTLIGHTS.75

Shopping the Corners



Checking out Four Corners shops Saturday are Elyse and Cynthia Kunz.

The Country Gentleman Antiques

Galbreath E. Palmer
Route 491/495 • South Westerlo, NY 12163
Wednesday through Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sundays: 11am - 4:30pm

FURNITURE • ART • COLLECTIBLES
CHINA • GLASS (518) 966-5574
JEWELRY • LINENS

CRAFT FAIR
Saturday, Dec. 6th • 10 am - 4 pm
7 Fairlawn Drive - Elm Estates
Selkirk 439-5081

Handcrafted tole-painted and quilted items, gift baskets, jewelry, Christmas decorations, stocking stuffers, all occasion gifts and folk art decorations.
Refreshments and door prizes

Police arrest 5 for drunk driving

Bethlehem police arrested five individuals for driving while intoxicated last week.

Scott Winnie, 34, of 5655 State Route 9H in Hudson, was stopped by police on Nov. 30 at 12:38 a.m. for speeding on Delaware Avenue.

Police said Winnie failed field sobriety tests and was arrested for DWI.

Liza Levallen, 23, of 13 Murelin Drive, Delmar, was stopped on Nov. 27 at 5:03 a.m. for speeding and crossing the fog line on Delaware Ave.

Police said Levallen failed field sobriety tests and was arrested for DWI.

Caitlin Lennon, 18, of 164 Groesbeck Road, Feura Bush, was stopped on Nov. 27, at 3:52 a.m. on Delaware Ave.

Police said Lennon was

charged with operating a vehicle without headlights, failure to keep right and DWI.

Todd Burham, 31, of 1121 Highland Park Road, Niskayuna, was stopped on Nov. 27 at 1:15 a.m. for speeding on the Slingerlands Bypass.

Police said Burham was

charged with DWI.

Jen Crisafulli, 31, of 55 West 26th St., New York City, was stopped on Nov. 26 at 10:15 p.m. for speeding on the Slingerlands Bypass.

Police said Crisafulli was charged with DWI.

Police make vandalism arrests

Bethlehem arrested four teens for criminal mischief on Nov. 30.

Giles Chase, 16, of 7 Parkwyn Drive, Delmar, was arrested at 1:18 a.m. and charged with third-degree criminal mischief, a felony, and trespassing, a violation.

Police said Chase threw items through the window of a Jordan Boulevard home.

Three other 15-year-olds were

also arrested, but their names were not released.

Four Corners slates holiday celebration

The fifth annual old-fashioned Four Corners holiday celebration weekend is set for Dec. 5 to 7.

On Friday, Dec. 5 at 6:30 p.m. the Christmas tree and Menorah will be lit and there will be caroling.

Santa will be on hand to meet and greet children, and there will be complimentary hot chocolate and cookies. The shops will be open until 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. there will be free open carriage rides to view the holiday decorations.

Pick-up points are Evergreen Bank, the municipal parking lot, and Delmar Reformed Church.

In Glenmont, The Spotlight is sold at Cumberland Farms, CVS, Glenmont Beverage, Brookwood Mobil, Exit 23 Mobil, Stewart's and Van Allen Farms.

CURRY ROAD ROTTERDAM **ADAMS** Family Owned and Operated Since 1968

HEATING & COOLING CO. INC.
"Our Business is Your Comfort"
www.adams-heating.net

DUCT AND DRYER VENT CLEANING

• Sanitizing • Deodorizing **NEW** Now Offering
The area's premier duct cleaning machine: **Ultraviolet Air Purifiers**

20,000 CFM Vacuum **CALL THE PROFESSIONALS**
FREE DUCT CONSULTATION

Albany 465-0100 Schenectady 356-4730 Clifton Park 383-1881

DELAWARE PLAZA

Over 30 Shoppes and Restaurants

BANKS

Charter One Bank

Key Bank

FOOD

Hannaford

Bruegger's Bagels

Yan's Chinese Buffet

The Hidden Café

Pizza House

SERVICES

Delmar Travel

Cingular Wireless

North Country

Academy Day Care

CLOTHING

Fashion Bug

SPECIAL

Delaware Plaza Liquor

Friar Tuck Bookshop,
Newsroom & Tobacconist

GNC

K-B Toys

The Paper Mill Hallmark

Remax Premier

Tea Laden

MUSIC, VIDEOS, ELECTRONICS

Coconuts

Radio Shack

Computer Renaissance

SALONS

Choices Hair Studio
& Day Spa

Nails Design

Sally Beauty Supply

Scissor Society

For leasing information, call
Delaware Plaza Associates at 439-9030 or
Fine Properties at 446-1388.

Friendly service and convenience with plenty of free parking. All just around the corner

180 DELAWARE AVE. DELMAR

Gas station owners close pumps in protest over policies

By ADRIENNE LANCHANTIN

For Amir and Faiza Salman, selling gas at their Getty station on Delaware Avenue used to be a way of life. It's become one that they are trying to hold onto.

The couple said they can no longer stay in business since Getty Petroleum has been taken over by Lukoil, a Russian corporation, and in protest they have closed down their pumps.

Today their store on Delaware Avenue in Delmar is blanketed with signs calling for a fair market and their pumps are wrapped in caution tape. Just off the street a sign reads, "Getty Lukoil, 'Russian Tycoon,' The sweatshops of America."

"They don't care about customers, they don't care about us," Faiza Salman said. "For them we are just a number."

Under Lukoil, Salman said she and her husband are required to pay market price for the gas they receive when it is delivered and are required to charge that same market price for the gas.

The Salmans then would receive a 5.5 cent commission per gallon on the gas they sold, but Salman said there is no way she can stay in business with this system and can't possibly be expected to compete with larger stores with newer gas pumps.

If they could buy the gas and then set their own prices, Salman said, she would be able to compete.

In the last few years, Salman said the company has gradually lowered the amount of gas delivered to them from 120,000 gallons to 40,000 gallons. Their commission also dropped from 6.5 cents per gallon to 5.5 cents.

"Five cents at 40,000 gallons would not generate that much money," Salman said. "What else should I sell in this little place to generate that kind of money?"

Salman said she relies on that commission to pay her rent, as



Faiza Salman and her husband are protesting Lukoil USA's policies by shutting down their gas pumps. Adrienne Lanchantin

well as property and school taxes.

Since the switch, she said she and her husband have had to refinance their home, dilute the

education fund for their children and sell their cars.

"Everything we have went to save this business," Salman said.

From 1996 to 1999, she said, they were able to lower their gas prices by close to 2 cents. At that time, she said, "business was booming." In 1999, when Lukoil bought out Getty Petroleum, the commission was lowered and their rent increased.

According to Donny Furst, a spokesman for Lukoil USA, that was standard procedure when Lukoil took over Getty and that all commissions were lowered by an average of 1 cent, and rent raised by 10 percent. Since 1999, those numbers haven't changed, he said.

Now, the Salmans are taking Lukoil to court on violations of business law, and will keep their store open as long as they can. It won't be easy as their bills are months behind, and their only income comes from the few packs of cigarettes and bottles of soda they sell every day.

The Salmans are not alone as they have a petition with close to 700 signatures, and more are being added all the time.

"I have to stay here until eviction starts," Salman said. "Keeping this place open is a nightmare."

She said they have also received letters from the Getty Corp. asking them to sell the business and to show "good faith" in the company. They have also been asked to refrain from talking to the media, she said.

"I'm not for sale," Salman said. "Do what you have to do, but I'm not going to give up."

According to Furst, most dealers operating with Lukoil gas pay a security deposit on the gas delivered and pay Lukoil based on the gas pumped. To go to a cash on delivery, or COD system, as in the Salmans' case, there has to be a change in credit. As for the offers to buy the Salman's business and requests that the couple not talk to the news media, Furst said Lukoil is only interested in working with its dealers to avoid a court situation.

"We always strive to settle disputes amicably," he said. "That's our policy."

Norek endowment expands bereavement program

Jewish Family Services' Bereavement Project has a new name and a new range of services, thanks to a \$50,000 endowment given by Al and Meryl Norek of Slingerlands.

The newly-revamped Norek Family Transitions Program expands on the original program by offering support, advocacy, and referrals to those facing family illness, as well as providing a full range of bereavement support services.

"Many folks don't have the resources available that we've been fortunate enough to have," said Al Norek. "We see this as providing some very needed help." As a lawyer, he was aware of the need for health care and estate planning.

"Al has a good heart," said Meryl Norek, a reference

librarian at the Bethlehem Public Library. "Seeing our friends go through these events with their parents has forced us to think about dealing with aging and death. With people living longer these days, often without family members living in the community, there is a need for this program. We just wanted to help."

"We are so pleased to receive this endowment from the Noreks," said Anshel Weiss, executive director of Jewish Family Services (JFS). "This is a perfect example of tzedakah, our responsibility to give to those in need. Their gift beautifully shows the Noreks' ongoing commitment to their community."

The Noreks' donation, which will be fulfilled over a five-year period, comes after years of involvement with JFS, beginning



Meryl and Al Norek of Slingerlands recently gave \$50,000 to Jewish Family Services.

with the resettlement of new Americans from the former Soviet Union in the early 1990s.

"That was something our son, Josh, really got involved in," said Al Norek, who has been a member of the JFS board for the past four years. "Josh was out there on the vans picking up furniture and household goods to help the new."

It was their own history, in fact, that helped to imbue the Noreks with a deep commitment to their community.

"My grandfather came here from Poland when he was 5," said Al Norek. "He was a concrete reminder that someone put him on that boat and sent him here, to make a better life. That's something I don't take for granted."

He went on to explain that Meryl's great-grandfather immigrated to the United States from Russia seeking a better life. "He came here very poor, and did very well for himself. He basically gave away all of his money on philanthropic pursuits. He was one of the founders of Yeshiva University and also a driving force in the creation of Beth Israel Hospital in New York City."

"Meryl and I are the beneficiaries of this history of Jews caring for each other. It's a history we want to perpetuate."

Al Norek explained that while involvement in the Jewish community is very important to their family, they were reluctant to stand in the spotlight for their contributions.

"Originally, we didn't even want our name on the program," he said. "We changed our minds, however, when we realized it might inspire others to give as well."

"Jewish Family Services is lucky to have the Noreks," said Ian Arcus, president of the JFS board of directors. "Not only for their wonderful contribution but also for their continued involvement in the day-to-day operations of our organization. Their care and concern for JFS has truly benefited our community."

This is a perfect example of tzedakah, our responsibility to give to those in need. Their gift beautifully shows the Noreks' ongoing commitment to their community.

Anshel Weiss

Voorheesville village board Nov. 25

By MICHELE FLYNN

Work on the Voorheesville Village Water Storage Improvement Project will start in the spring. At its Nov. 25 meeting, the Voorheesville board of trustees voted unanimously to accept the two low bids for the project. Natgun Corp. will provide the tank and Trinity Construction will supply the pipeline.

The village received seven bids

for the water main and just two for the tank. The total amount for the replacements, which will cover the area along Route 85A from the high school to New Salem, is \$1.17 million, under budget by \$227.

Mayor Jack Stevens commended Francois Vedier from Lamont Engineering for his good work in overseeing the bidding.

"Tell them we're not in favor of change orders," he added.

Though work is scheduled to start in April, Vedier said, "Both contractors asked if they can start work (clearing and grubbing) while the ground is still frozen."

Stevens said the village has had problems with poor construction in the winter but had no issues with doing some preliminary work in nonresidential wooded areas.

In another matter, the village

received a letter from Bob Mudge about decreasing oxygen levels in a pond on Pine Street. Though the village does not think there is a problem, Will Smith, superintendent of public works, will contact the state Bureau of Fisheries.

After two years of negotiations, the village has an oral agreement with the town of Gunderland regarding a water interconnect and is looking to put it in writing.

"We're still ironing out the cost sharing of sending water to them or them sending water to us," Stevens said, noting that the municipality requesting water would pay the prevailing rate of the community providing the water.

The next village board meeting will be on Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., a change from the usual meeting date. The holiday party will follow a brief meeting.

Index

Editorial Pages	6-9
Sports	15-16
Obituaries	19, 21
Weddings	23
Neighborhood News	
Voorheesville	5
Family Entertainment	
At Your Service	27
Calendar of Events	25, 26
Classified	28, 30
Crossword	23
Dining Guide	26
Legals	20
Real Estate	29

The Spotlight (USPS 396-630) is published each Wednesday by Spotlight, LLC, 125 Adams St., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Periodicals postage paid at Delmar, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Subscription rates: Albany County, one year \$26, two years \$50, elsewhere, one year \$32. Subscriptions are not refundable.

Bonjour, we really are better spoken than that

By KATHERINE McCARTHY

If we squinted, we could have imagined the waitress who served us our Thanksgiving dinner was a pilgrim. In truth, she was dressed as one of the original

inhabitants of Quebec City, as befitted the name of her restaurant, Aux Anciennes Canadiennes.

Quebec City may seem like an unusual location for an American family whose parents profess to

COMMENTARY:

*Mom's
the
Word*



love Thanksgiving, and consider it best of all our holidays. When we had discovered that the bulk of our relatives would be spending Thanksgiving with other family members, we decided to head to Canada — joking that we were going because winter in the Capital District just isn't long enough.

We've always loved Montreal, an easy four-hour drive from the Capital District, and we thought we could finish our long Canadian weekend there. With the four-day holiday, though, we thought we might press on to a destination that's been on our "I'd love to go there" list for years.

The destination was worth every minute of the six-and-a-half hour drive, and since November isn't Quebec City's biggest tourism month, we were able to

get a deal at the city's landmark hotel, the Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac. With a gorgeous view of the river and the boardwalk terrace that overlooks this cliffside city, we were impressed from the moment the red-jacketed front desk clerk motioned us to his "Club de President" station. "Come on

old Cormac and we walked past the toboggan run waiting for snow to fall, along the Promenades des Gouverneurs and onto the Plains of Abraham, where British Gen. Wolfe and French Gen. Montcalm both met their end in the 1759 battle that determined British dominance of North America.

The "bonjour" that we heard in each gift shop and from restaurateurs looking to lure us into their establishments made us truly feel that we were citoyens du monde, on our own journey of adventure and discovery in this foreign-feeling part of our own continent.

over, Madame President," he said, pegging us immediately for Americans.

With a pool for the kids, *The Globe and Mail* delivered to the room each morning and a buffet celebrating the hotel's 120th anniversary, there was practically no need to leave the bastion located on the site of the former governor's residence. We were glad we did, for the city is storybook perfect. With cobbled streets and old stone buildings with bright red, green or blue roofs, we felt we'd gone a lot further than just six hours.

The terrace enchanted 11-year-

er for France, not to return until winter's long stay ended.

We rode the funicular down the steep cliff that allowed Quebec to become a walled city and today a UNESCO heritage site. The "bonjour" that we heard in each gift shop and from restaurateurs looking to lure us into their establishments made us truly feel that we were citoyens du monde, on our own journey of adventure and discovery in this foreign-feeling part of our own continent.

The French words they read and heard were a puzzle the boys enjoyed solving, starting with the "F" and "C" on the bathroom

This past summer, Chris and I had both read Willa Cather's charming novel, *Shadows on the Rock*, and we stood on the Cap Diamante, imagining the young Colonial girl watching the last ships sail out the St. Lawrence Riv-

*Season's Greetings
& Best Wishes
for a Happy
Holiday Season*

**John Fritze, Jr.
Jeweler**

4 Normanskill Blvd., Delmar
(Next to Del Lanes)
Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9-5:30 • Sat. 9-2

439-7690

Computer
RENAISSANCE

DELAWARE PLAZA
180 DELAWARE AVE
(NEXT TO BRUEGGERS BAGELS)
689-0068
OPEN 7 DAYS !!

LET US SHOW YOU HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT !

FREE

DIAGNOSTIC !
ALL COMPUTER BRANDS

\$45.00 Value - Up to 1/2 Hour Diagnostic
One Coupon Per Customer. Not to be combined with other Offers.
Expires 12/11/2003

\$10.00 OFF
ANY PURCHASE OF
\$50.00 OR MORE

One Coupon Per Customer. Not to be combined with other Offers.
Expires 12/11/2003

NEW - USED - REPAIRS - UPGRADES - NETWORKING - PARTS

**20th ANNUAL HAMAGRAEL
Craft Fair**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2003
10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM • FREE ADMISSION

Hamagrael Elementary School
1 McGuffey Lane • Delmar, NY

85+ vendors of handcrafted wares

For directions: <http://www.bcsd.k12.ny.us>

TechValleyOutlets.com
Intelligent Shopping Solutions

Now there's a local website where you can find everything you need for the holidays

The Capital Region's Outlet Store
Blowout Bargains on Brand Name Products!
Get to www.TechValleyOutlets.com Today!
We're Local, We Understand.

MAIN SQUARE
SHOPPES, L.L.C.
318 Delaware Ave., Delmar



Contemporary Shopping
& Services

**Weichert,
Realtors®**

Northeast Group

439-1900

**Thomas Nicolla
Physical Therapy Associates
of Delmar**

Specializing In:

Back & Neck Rehabilitation • Sports Physical Therapy
Orthopedic Rehabilitation • Arthritic Disorders
Neurological and General Physical Therapy

MAIN SQUARE • 318 Delaware Ave.,
Delmar, NY 12054

Telephone: 478-9049

Provider of most major insurances

Balance Massage Studio

Invites you to our 2ND ANNUAL

Holiday OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 5, 2003 • 3:00-7:00 p.m.

- Meet the therapists
- Receive complimentary chair massage
- Enter to win a gift basket - including a hot stone massage!
- Enjoy light refreshments

Massage makes a wonderful holiday gift

Gift certificate specials & Aromatherapy gifts available

Main Square, 318 Delaware Ave., Delmar

475-9999

visit us at: www.balancemassagestudio.com

Solutions By Design	478-0373	Framingham Associates, Inc.	439-7007	Bethlehem Networks Project	439-7740
Alteri's Restaurant	475-1047	Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce	439-0512	Walden Asset Group	475-0500
Java Jazz Cafe & Bakery	439-1727	Weichert Realtors	439-1900	Pet Spas of America	439-3670
Joyelles Jewelers	439-9993	Kitchens & Baths by Design	439-6200	Gregory's Barber Shop	439-3525
Thomas Nicolla Physical Therapy of Delmar	478-9049	The Magic of Music	475-0215	Keystone Architectural Services	439-4795
Edward Jones	475-7642	Kaplowitz Company	439-6919	The Business Source	475-9250
		Seattle Sub & Pita Co.	439-1727	Balance Massage Studio	475-9999

faucets. They both take Spanish at school and more than once, launched into comparisons of Spanish and French words and elaborate discussions of cognates, and we felt our school tax dollars very well spent.

Their greatest discovery was "chocolat chaud," a creamy treat that has forever ruined packets of Swiss Miss cocoa for them. When Cormac spotted a "chocolaterie," Mme. Gigi in the Petit Champlain quarter, we found the proprietor typical of all the people we'd met so far in Quebec City — openly friendly, something you don't always get in areas that survive because of tourism. He reminded us that Quebec and Albany are sister cities and touted the minimal amount of traffic and low housing costs in his home city.

He'd started our conversation with a hearty "Bonjour," but switched to English when we returned the greeting, something that had been happening since our arrival in Quebec City.

"Are we saying it wrong?" I asked Chris, who, like me, had taken as much French as our high school years would allow. We were both eager to be good guests in the French-speaking province to our north, and had looked forward to at least getting by in this language we'd learned long ago.

We got to put our skills to the test outside of Quebec City, in a fast-food restaurant on the road to the shrine of St. Anne de Beaupré.

We figured it would be a dunk shot — we're American, we totally get fast food, and the Tim Horton's menu was written in French and English.

Our stop there was the most pathetic thing we'd ever done, as we turned completely into les imbeciles as we tried to figure out if we could get the bread bowl with soup beyond just the one shown in the lovely picture on the menu. Did we want it avec le sandwich, and certainly we wanted a doughnut, a beigne. Why else go to Tim Horton's, eh?

After waving about six groups around us, we finally stepped up to a cash register and I stuttered out my rehearsed request. I smiled confidently at my children, and my husband nodded encouragement. What's this, though — oh, no, the man was talking back to me and he sounded just like Charlie Brown's teacher.

Every language I'd ever brushed up against ran through my head as I tried to say that I didn't understand. Did I want to say "Comment?," "Excusez-moi," "Que?," or "Wie, bitte?" I think I finally settled for the very erudite "Ha?" with the flattest American "a" imaginable.

He patiently repeated his question, faster and louder. I tried again, but Chris sensed that the crowd behind us knew that they wanted to order No. 6, Maxi, and they didn't have patience for the big dumb Yanks. "Parlez-vous anglais?" Chris finally asked and

the man grinned.

"Of course I do," he said, and we ordered, deflated but relieved.

"We're trying," I said.

"It's how you learn," he nodded sagely. "You just keep trying."

"Well, that was pitiful," Chris said as we enjoyed our meal, and we could only laugh at ourselves, reduced from sophisticated world citizens to doughnut-eating rubes.

In Montreal, Chris continued

to speak French, able to understand directions and the cost of things, while I opted for the role of smiling, slightly dimwitted wife. At the Musée des Coureurs de Bois in Lachine, we had a breakthrough when the Parks Canada ranger asked in French if we wanted to visit the museum, and we understood her.

Bolstered by our success — and having greatly enjoyed the little museum about Canada's fur-trading days — we were ready for one last try at another Tim

Horton's. We just wanted one box of doughnuts for the drive home.

We tried the drive-through, where the language and the intercom squawk made us feel like we were playing fast-food roulette. Instead of receiving a family-sized assortment of "Tim-bits," we got a snack-pack sized box of just glazed doughnut holes.

Oh, well, not bad for Thanksgiving travelers who discovered a bit of the Old World within driving distance of the Capital District.

Latham Circle Mall Holiday Giving Tree

December 1st-14th

Stop by Latham Circle Mall & select a dove from the Latham Circle Mall Holiday Giving Tree. Purchase the item listed on the dove & make a child from the Albany Youth & Family Support Program's holiday wish come true!

LATHAM CIRCLE MALL
Makin' it easy for you

Latham Circle Mall
Holiday Giving Tree

7 year old wishes for:
Children's Books
Bring your gift to Customer Service.

PX55

Open All Year
Mon.-Sat. 8-5
Sunday 9-4



STORY'S NURSERY
Greenhouses • Nursery
Landscaping

(518) 634-7754
Route 67
Freehold, NY



Holiday Open House December 6 & 7 ~ 10am - 4pm

Homemade Refreshments, Door Prizes & Specials
Join Us For a Holiday Tradition!

Story's Grown Poinsettias

Traditional Red & White

New Designer Colors!

Starting at \$2.99

Wreaths Made By Us

Plain Or Decorated

Specialty Mixed Greens Wreaths

Custom Orders Welcomed

Greens & Garlands

Here for your Holiday decorating needs.

SPECIALS!

6 1/2" Red Poinsettias

Buy 2 Get 1 Free ~ \$12.99

20% OFF

Specialty Lights

Clay Pots & Baskets

Holiday Ribbon

Books

Bird Houses & Feeders

Gift Certificates ~ Always Appreciated

www.storysnursery.com

Delmar Carpet Care

QUALITY CARPET CLEANING

- WALL TO WALL
- UPHOLSTERY
- ORIENTALS AND AREA RUGS

439-0409

Tim Barrett



Objects of Affection

The what's what,
where it's at of

Home Decorating and
Holiday Gift Giving

- Slippers from Paris • Furniture from the Orient
- Hair Ornaments by Swarovski Crystal
- and so much more

Private shopping parties - Complimentary gift wrapping
No problem parking!

389 Kenwood Ave., Delmar • 689-0219

HOLIDAY HOURS: Black Friday thru Christmas Eve
Tues-Wed. 4-8PM; Thurs. 10AM-8PM; Fri. 12-8PM,
Sat. 9AM-6PM, Sun. 11AM-4PM; Mon. Closed or by appt. only

Because it's
the way you
want to look.



Refreshed. More youthful. Confident in the way you look, and in your choice of our board-certified plastic surgeons. Call for your private consultation.

FREE FACIAL REJUVENATION SEMINAR

Thurs., December 4, 7pm • Register online, by phone or just stop by.



THE
PLASTIC
SURGERY
GROUP

Confidence is Beautiful

1365 Washington Avenue, Albany
www.theplasticsurgerygroup.net
438-0505

Up to 100% Financing

Gerald Colman, MD E. Scott Macomber, MD Steven Lynch, MD John Noonan, MD William DeLuca, Jr., MD Douglas Hargrave, MD Jeffrey Rockmore, MD

Matters of Opinion

Have an artful holiday

There's more to the period between Thanksgiving and New Year's than searching for that elusive parking place, standing in line at the cashier and loading up credit cards before the reckoning in January.

The five weeks are also a prime time for the local arts scene, with special holiday offerings by local art organizations that often mean the difference between ending the year in the black or the red.

Editorials

Nonprofit arts groups, both in the Capital District and across the country, have had a tough couple of years. The stock market swoon has limited foundation support and local philanthropy, the tremendous federal and state deficits have sharply curtailed government grants, and arts groups have found they have a limited ability to raise ticket prices, given how careful consumers are with their money these days.

So, where does the money to keep a vital arts scene going in the Capital District come from? For many groups, special holiday-theme programs at this time of year are crucial.

From ballet companies who rely on "The Nutcracker" for their very survival to local choruses like the Mendelssohn Club or the Masterworks Chorale, from theatre groups with holiday-theme shows to museums who hope you'll stop and buy in the gift shop, the holidays are a highlight of their year.

Unlike the major Pepsi Arena concerts or SPAC / Clear Channel concerts in the summer which are grossly overpriced, this time of year offers a wide variety of live entertainment with most ticket prices on the fair side of \$25.

And this period ends with two of the great entertainment bargains of the year, the New Year's Eve First Night celebrations in Albany and Saratoga Springs — it's just too bad we can't attend both.

Give how hectic the holidays can be, remember that's it's also a good time to get out and see a show — give yourself a break and also help local arts groups close out the year on a high note.

Off to a good start

To judge by the cars in mall parking lots and backed-up traffic at intersections near those malls, the holiday shopping season is off to a good start.

Sure, there were lots of early-bird and Black Friday sales, but it appears, thankfully, that consumers feel somewhat more secure about the future than in previous years, and are therefore spending more on their holiday gifts.

This is good news not just for retailers, but also for state and local governments which have suffered revenue declines in the last few years, leading to dramatic tax hikes.

Homelessness is on the rise

By DONNA DeMARIA

The writer is executive director of the Homeless Action Committee in Albany.

Homelessness is on the rise in the Capital District and across the country.

Since 2000, there has been an alarming trend of an increase in homelessness of historic proportions.

The Homeless and Travelers' Aid Society — the intake and referral agency for people who are homeless in the Capital District — reports that the monthly new episodes of homelessness have increased more than 130 percent in Albany County since the summer of 2000.

In 2002, the number of people seeking shelter increased by 27 percent and the new episodes of homelessness were 28 percent higher than in 2001.

In addition, there are people living on our streets and sleeping in abandoned buildings, in parks, and on our sidewalks.

The Homeless Action Committee provides services to people who live on the streets of Albany. The HAC Outreach Van program assists people on the streets with referrals and transportation to local shelters, detoxification programs, while also providing for basic needs such as food, clothing and blankets.

HAC's Outreach Van program assists 200 to 300 people per year who are sleeping on the streets. In addition, there are the "hidden" homeless — people who double up in other people's apartments, who cannot afford a place of their own.

Why are we seeing this trend in a nation as rich as ours? Why are people homeless? Why are the numbers increasing?

There are many reasons, but the top two are poverty and the lack of affordable housing.

Many people who are homeless are employed, but cannot afford housing if they are working at low-wage jobs. Imagine working 40 hours per week at minimum wage and trying to find a decent, affordable apartment.

Point of View

Sometimes, individuals have to make difficult choices between paying for necessary prescriptions or the rent.

Many who live in poverty have difficulty finding jobs if they lack high school or college educations and the necessary skills to earn a livable wage.

Obtaining assistance from welfare has become more and more difficult for individuals who live on the edge of society, who are at risk of hunger and homelessness. Welfare reform has contributed to this problem.

Elected officials boast of the number of people who are now off

in this county who roam our streets in search of food and shelter. Veterans' programs have been slashed and yet one-third of the homeless population are veterans.

As we continue in this "war" frenzy, there are veterans who are scarred by war, and who live with haunting memories. Several years from now, we will likely see a new generation of homeless veterans from our current war, who may have difficulty coping with the death and destruction they have witnessed.

Approximately one third of people who are homeless have a mental illness. Institutions have closed and community programs are not adequately funded. Up to 50 percent of people who are homeless have substance abuse

problems, with about one third reporting both mental illness and co-occurring addictions.

For the population of people who are homeless who live on the streets, the statistics are much higher — 90 percent have a

substance abuse problem; 90 percent are considered to have a disability; and 80 percent are chronically homeless.

The success rate for individuals suffering from addiction is low; addiction combined with homelessness makes success even more difficult. Only 5 percent of chronic alcoholics will ever sober up.

Finally, there are runaway and "throwaway youth" who are homeless and families who are homeless. More than 500 families will seek shelter this year in Albany, including more than 1,500 children and youth.

When confronted with the scope of this societal problem, most people ask, "What are the solutions? What can we do?"

The solutions are varied and multifaceted. Providing more affordable housing programs in our communities, combined with services for individuals in such housing, works for most people who are homeless.

Allocating more funding on a federal basis for housing and human needs is essential. Raising the minimum wage and providing affordable childcare to families who need it is also critical. Allowing nonprofits to locate shelters and housing programs in

Many people who are homeless are employed, but cannot afford housing if they are working at low-wage jobs. Imagine working 40 hours per week at minimum wage and trying to find a decent, affordable apartment.

the welfare rolls, but are all those individuals now employed and housed? Are they doing better financially? Do they have health insurance or affordable child care?

There are many regulations now which restrict access to benefits, making it difficult for individuals who are in need to obtain help. For those individuals who are on welfare, finding housing at the amount allowed by welfare is practically impossible.

The maximum shelter allowance for an individual in Albany County is \$321 per month. One look at the classified ads will show that there are very few apartments or even rooms available at that amount. And many landlords will not accept welfare tenants.

Budget cuts have diminished affordable housing programs on a national and state level. Government spending on affordable housing continues to shrink as we make choices in this country to spend billions of dollars on wars and weapons, which has a very real impact on human needs.

As Congress approves President Bush's request for billions of dollars for war and rebuilding Iraq, there are people

The Spotlight

President and CEO — Richard K. Keene

Vice President and COO — John A. McIntyre Jr.

Publisher — Stewart Hancock

Executive Editor — Susan Graves

Managing Editor — Dev Tobin

Associate Editor — Elizabeth Dineen

Editorial Staff — Donna Bell, Linda DeMattia, Michele Flynn, Betsy Glath, Katherine McCarthy, Kristen Olby

Sports Editor — Rob Jonas

Photography — Jim Franco

Advertising Manager — Corinne Blackman

Advertising Representatives — Dan O'Toole, Michael Parmelee, Meg Roberts, John Salvione, Carol Sheldon

Production Manager — John Brent

Assistant Production Manager — David Abbott

Production Staff — Martha Eriksen, Matthew Mimura, Kevin Whitney

Business Manager — John Skrobela

Classified & Legals — Brenda Wierzbicki

Office Assistant — Liza Cline

125 Adams St., Delmar 12054

E-mail —

NEWS: spotnews@nycap.rr.com

ADVERTISING & CLASSIFIED:

spotads@nycap.rr.com

(518) 439-4949

FAX (518) 439-0609

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday

Letters policy

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

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

Write to Letters to the Editor, The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054.

Letters may be faxed to 439-0609 or e-mailed to spotnews@nycap.rr.com.

The Spotlight also welcomes longer opinion pieces for the Point of View section.

For information on submitting a Point of View, contact Dev Tobin at 439-4949.

Your Opinion Matters

our communities, instead of resisting these projects with "NIMBY" attitudes that are so prevalent today, is crucial.

Housing programs for chronic substance abusers such as the Single Room Occupancy housing HAC operates have proven successful. There are similar successful models of supportive housing for individuals with mental illness across this country.

Addressing addiction in families early and reaching out to our youth to prevent substance abuse problems is another key to solving the homeless problem. Assisting families in crisis in our schools and neighborhood is part of the solution.

Promoting peaceful solutions instead of military solutions to conflicts around the world will prevent more veterans from becoming homeless.

Each of us can help by promoting the solutions described above and examining the choices we are making on a local, state and national basis.

We need to let our elected officials know what budgetary priorities we desire in this nation.

We need to ensure that affordable supportive housing is created in our communities which will help end long-term homelessness.

Volunteer opportunities and funds are needed by many local providers of services for people who are homeless.

To participate in solving the homeless problem in the Capital District, contact HAC at 426-0554.

NS should be consistent in zoning enforcement

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to commend Stewart's for making their new store on Route 85 an attractive commercial addition to the town.

The town of New Scotland planning and zoning officials were diligent in making Stewart's adhere to the town's site-plan requirements. The architecture, signage, lighting and landscaping was tastefully done and will set the tone for future commercial development along this corridor.

However, I feel the same officials have done the citizens of the town an injustice by allowing New Scotland Sales and Rental to basically write their own rules as they go.

A commercial endeavor that started off as a door and window store has now become an equipment sales and rental operation.

Great pains were taken to ensure that the Stewart's store was properly set back off the highway, that mature landscape buffers were installed and, at one point in the approval process, it was suggested that the gasoline pumps be placed in the rear of the store because of the unsightly nature of the canopies.

I find it very ironic that the New Scotland Sales and Rental store, less than one half mile down the road, is void of any

landscaping and rental equipment is stored within 12 feet of the highway.

Zoning enforcement can't be selective, but in this case, the town for whatever reason has been selective and, in doing so, has been negligent in upholding its own laws.

Now might be the time to test the resolve of the newly elected officials to answer questions as to why this lack of enforcement has been allowed to occur.

Eric Miller
Voorheesville

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.

Write to Letters to the Editor, The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054.

Drive carefully while shopping

FIRST STOP...

A Christmas Tradition... Since 1959

LE-WANDA JEWELERS

246 DELAWARE AVENUE
DELMAR, NY 12054
439-9665

Looking for a new Career ?
Become a Life Coach in 12 weeks

Life Coach College



1-800-841-8776

Classes starting now

Learn from home.

www.LifeCoachCollege.org

Who wants just
average CD rates?

You can do better with Allstate Bank.

2.02%
APY*

1 Year CD

\$1,000 Minimum to Open
Through December 4, 2003

Rick Schrade, Agent
636 Delaware Ave.
Delmar, NY 12054
475-0123



Allstate
BANK

Member
FDIC

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) quoted for a 1 Year Certificate of Deposit (CD), effective 10/31/03 through 12/04/03. Rate subject to change. Penalty imposed for early withdrawal. Deposits FDIC insured up to \$100,000 per depositor. In certain states, referral of CDs to Allstate Bank limited by state security law to agents who are registered securities representatives. Contact an Allstate Agency or Allstate Bank for further information. Allstate Agencies receive compensation for referral of Allstate Bank CDs, which may vary depending on size and term of the certificates.
©2003 Allstate Insurance Company, allstate.com 11/03

Curves
for women
"30 Minute Fitness & Weight Loss Centers"

Give the Gift Of...

HEALTH

Holiday Gift Certificates
2 Month Membership \$99

Glenmont

Town Squire Plaza
329 Glenmont Rd.
Glenmont, NY
(518) 427-0725

Guilderland

2511 Western Ave.
Guilderland, NY
(518) 464-0180

New Scotland

Stonewall Shopping Center
1969 New Scotland Rd.
Slingerlands, NY
(518) 475-1835

B.I.G. ARENA

Skate with Santa
Saturday, December 13 • 2:30-4 p.m.

- Skate Rentals
- Hockey Leagues
- Learn to Skate
- Food Concession & Arcade



PURCHASE ONE
Public Skate Admission
and Skate Rental
AND GET ONE FREE!

Expire 12/31/03

900 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 439-2211

Locally Owned and Managed

Matters of Opinion

Dog-killing hit-and-run hits Elm Avenue family hard

Editor, The Spotlight:

On the evening of Saturday, Nov. 22, my children lost their best friend to a hit-and-run

accident. No, it wasn't a friend from school or a playground pal, it was their pet dog Snapple. Somebody hit and killed

Snapple in front of our home on Elm Avenue in Delmar. It has been hard enough dealing with the loss of Snapple, but what has made it worse is whoever hit her never stopped and just drove away.

I cannot understand how somebody could do that. I know she shouldn't have been in the road, but being part beagle she would catch a scent and wander at times.

Where she was hit was in a 35 mph zone in a residential area. It was not far from the four-way stop at Feura Bush Road; I cannot imagine the speed the person

must have been doing. There weren't even any skidmarks in the road.

It angers me that whoever hit our dog didn't stop to help her, or to say "I'm sorry."

I cannot find a reason to forgive you for driving away. My children have cried daily since this has happened. My son blames himself for Snapple getting out the door. They ask me why the bad person let Snapple lay in the road and drive away. Snapple was their best friend, their playmate and their security at night when they went to sleep.

She meant a lot to me and my

family. It will be a sad Christmas with our Snapple. Not that Snapple could ever be replaced, but I cannot even afford to buy the children a new dog to try and start a bond with them and give them a new playmate and security at night.

I would like to end this letter by thanking my neighbors who came out to help me after the accident and to all the passersby who stopped to help me. A special thanks to the lady with the blanket, your help and kindness was greatly appreciated.

Shane Weidman
Delmar

SALISBURY
Small Engine Repair
Snowblower Tune-Up
It's almost that time again!

\$49⁰⁰

- Test Ignition
- Test Compression
- New Spark Plug
- Change Oil
- Lube & Adjust All Belts & Pulleys

■ Pick up and delivery available • **475-9772** ■

Ohav Sholom Senior Citizen Apartments

One Bedroom and Studio Apartments
Available for Immediate Occupancy

115 New Krumkill Road
Albany, New York 12208

- Rents starting at \$372, including heat/hot water/electric
- Scenic park-like setting
- City bus transportation at door
- Beautician and store on premises
- Weekly social activities
- Private, on-site parking

E-Mail: info@OhavSholomApts.org
Web: www.OhavSholomApts.org



Equal Housing Opportunity

489-5531

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Dec. 31, Sheila Fuller, Doris Davis, and Michael Jenks will step down from the Bethlehem Youth Court board.

Bethlehem Youth Court is a unique and effective alternative sentencing program for "at risk" youth in Bethlehem.

Supervisor Fuller, Ms. Davis and Mr. Jenks, have been instrumental in its creation and continued operation.

Ms. Davis has served in the position of co-chair since 1996 and Mr. Jenks has performed the important role of treasurer since 1997.

Supervisor Fuller has served ex-officio since the court's inception and has provided tremendous support.

Each one has brought to

Bethlehem Youth Court their considerable knowledge and individual skills and made Bethlehem Youth Court a successful program.

To date, Bethlehem Youth Court has served more than 189 troubled youth, provided local agencies with more than 1,500 hours of community service and trained dozens of students to take on leadership roles.

The board of Bethlehem Youth Court thanks Mike Jenks, Doris Davis and Sheila Fuller for their time, service and support.

As we look forward to working with new board members next year, there is one empty board position that still needs to be filled.

The board is seeking a prospective board member with accounting or banking experience who is willing to take on Mike Jenks' role as treasurer.

Bethlehem Youth Court board

membership is a rewarding experience and helps to provide a viable alternative to court for local youth accused of non-violent misdemeanors and violations.

Anyone interested in taking on a board position as treasurer should contact Bethlehem Youth Court Director Stacey Whiteley at 478-9544 for information.

Again, thank you Sheila, Doris and Mike for all your hard work and belief in the youth of the community.

Janet Kaplan
Co-chairwoman
Bethlehem Youth Court
board of directors

In Delmar and Elsmere,
The Spotlight is sold at
Delmar Marketplace, Stewart's,
Mobil, Getty and Sunoco Elm Ave.,
Friar Tuck Books and CVS.

Performance comes with

a mean safety streak.



2004 SAAB 9-3
LINEAR SPORT
SEDAN

\$289
MO./35 MO.*

The Saab 9-3 Sport Sedan and the Saab 9-5 Sedan have been named best picks by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.**

SAAB ADVANTAGE

\$1,499 down payment.

In 36 months: Turn in vehicle and pay \$350 disposition fee OR \$15,256.05 36th month pmt. 4.9% APR See dealer for residency restrictions.



2004 SAAB 9-5 SEDAN. More thrilling than ever.

0%
APR*
Up to 60 Months

On all 2004 models in stock (in lieu of Saab Advantage financing)

See Our Certified Pre-owned Saab Cars on www.saabofhalfmoon.com

Welcome to the
state of independence



New Salem Saab

Rt. 85 - 7 miles west from I-90 Exit 4
Slingerlands, NY 12159
478-7222

New Salem Saab of Halfmoon

Route 146 - 1 mile east of Rt. 9
Clifton Park, NY 12065
665-0200

www.saabofhalfmoon.com

*Subject to credit approval. Delivery must be taken out of dealer inventory by December 31, 2003. Dealer financial participation may affect consumer cost. Not to be combined with any other program offer. Terms apply to a 2004 Saab 9-3 Linear Sport Sedan based on an MSRP of \$26,766.00. Taxes, insurance, title registration fees extra. At the end of the term, buyer may refinance the final payment or sell the vehicle to creditor for the final payment, less a \$350.00 disposition fee plus any excess mileage (\$20 per mile over 30,000 miles) and wear charges. Not to be combined with any other program offer. Price subject to change without notice. **Based on results from a 40 mph frontal offset test from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. †No Charge scheduled maintenance is for 3 years or 36,000 miles, whichever comes first, provided the service is completed within 1,000 miles of the recommended service interval. SEE YOUR PARTICIPATING SAAB DEALER FOR DETAILS ON FINANCE PROGRAMS. © 2003 SAAB CARS USA, INC.

Experience the difference...
with a Saint Rose graduate degree.

Information Session December 9, 6:30 pm

Learn about our 28 flexible evening graduate programs and find out how small classes and personal attention from faculty can make a difference in your life.

To register call 454-5143 or email
acc@strose.edu

www.strose.edu

Accounting
Adolescent Education
Applied Technology Education
Art Education
Business and Marketing Education
Childhood Education
College Student Services Administration
Communication Disorders
Computer Information Systems
Counseling
Early Childhood Education
Educational Administration and Supervision
Educational Computing Certificate
Educational Psychology
English
History/Political Science
JD/MBA
Literacy
MBA
Music
Music Education
Not-For-Profit Management Certificate
Public Communications
School Psychology
Special Education
Teacher Education

The College of Saint Rose

Your Opinion Matters

Local businesses support scholarship

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Delmar Progress Club recently held its annual "Dollars for Scholars" card party at Bethlehem town hall.

Proceeds from this card party help fund the \$1,000 scholarship that the club awards each year to a graduating senior from Bethlehem Central High School.

This year's event was another success thanks in large part to the generosity of many local businesses who donated the door prizes.

Despite the downturn in the economy and the challenges presented by months of road and sidewalk construction along our main streets, many businesses supported our scholarship fund raising efforts with contributions of gift certificates and merchandise.

Notes of gratitude are being sent directly to our merchant donors by card party committee members.

In addition, a list of these donors is being distributed to each of our 315 members along

Town highway workers keep streets clear

Editor, The Spotlight:

Last Friday, during the extreme windy conditions we were experiencing, a 60-foot tree fell in our front yard and into the street.

We immediately called the Bethlehem Highway Department because the tree was blocking the road and preventing traffic from driving through.

Within 10 minutes, the Highway Department responded and cleared the street.

Then, early Monday morning, a second Highway Department crew removed the tree trunk and branches.

We would like to thank the Bethlehem Highway Department for a job well done.

Susan and Marty Rowan
Delmar

In Glenmont, The Spotlight is sold at Cumberland Farms, CVS, Glenmont Beverage, Brookwood Mobil, Exit 23 Mobil, Stewart's and Van Allen Farms.

with the suggestion that each member can show their ongoing appreciation to local businesses by purchasing from them during this holiday season and throughout the year.

We encourage all residents in the town of Bethlehem to support local business merchants as well.

The 100-year-old Delmar Progress Club is a member of both the New York State Federation and the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Its

activities include working toward civic betterment, providing community service and remaining aware of environmental and conservation issues. The club also provides opportunities for members to participate in antique studies, gardening, health-related activities, creative arts and book and travel reviews.

Carol Jonas
Liz Matterson
Co-chairwomen, 2003 card party committee

Letters policy

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

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

Write to Letters to the Editor, The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054.

Letters may be faxed to 439-0609 or e-mailed to spotnews@nycap.rr.com.

The Spotlight also welcomes longer opinion pieces for the Point of View section.

For information on submitting a Point of View, contact Dev Tobin at 439-4949.

WORKING: TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY IN TOUCH

More Minutes! More Value!

UNLIMITED
Family Calling Minutes

To call other Family SharePlan® members on our national mobile-to-mobile network. Mobile-to-mobile not available throughout the America's Choice® network.

UNLIMITED
Night & Weekend Minutes

On the America's Choice network.

PLUS

400 anytime minutes
all for life When on the America's Choice network.

JUST \$39.99
monthly access on primary line

PLUS \$20 MONTHLY ACCESS EACH ADDITIONAL LINE

- No roaming charges coast to coast
- Nationwide long distance included

When on the America's Choice network.
Calls placed while off the America's Choice network \$.69/min.

**TEST
the BEST**

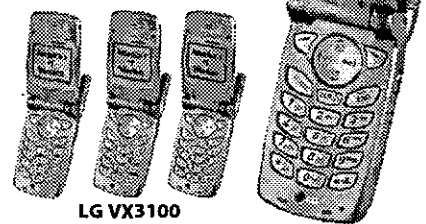
We're so confident you'll prefer our service to any other, if you're not 100% satisfied during the first 15 days, simply return your phone and pay only for the service you've used.

verizonwireless
We never stop working for you.™

Huge Holiday Sale!

**BUY ONE FOR \$19.99
GET UP TO THREE FREE!**

With new 2-year Customer Agreement per phone.
Shipping charges apply. While supplies last.



LG VX3100
ultra-light 3.14 oz

CALL 1-800-811-7600

VISIT any of our stores

CLICK verizonwireless.com

Call for Extended Holiday Hours.

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES Open Sundays.

Verizon Wireless has been awarded



ALBANY
1770 Central Ave.
518-452-8491

Albany Crossgates Mall
518-862-6400

CLIFTON PARK
Shopper's World Plaza
Next to Kmart
518-373-6050

SARATOGA SPRINGS
Wilton Mall
3065 Rt. 50
518-691-3800

AMERICAN WIRELESS COMPANY
Colony Center Mall
518-454-9700

BRUNSWICK ELEC. BRUNSWICK
870 Hoosick St.
279-3653

CCS TELECOM & ENERGY CORP. AMSTERDAM
120 Polar Plaza
843-2200

COUNTRY HOUSE OLD CHATHAM
605 Rt. 295
392-5264

GA WEST HUDSON FALLS
169 Lower Dix Ave.
747-5283

PAGEMAX ALBANY
Crossgate Mall
456-6971

PAGEMAX (Cont'd)
Rotterdam Square Mall
346-1550

Wilton Mall
583-0071

PAGEONE ALBANY
438-2324

Aviation Mall
761-0607
Kingston Valley Mall
845-382-1375

RadioShack



This Holiday Season...
Give the gift of health!

Gift of

- Personal Training
- Club Membership
- Golf Club Fitting
- Golf Fitness Training
- Massage

10% off any gift with this ad
Gift Certificates Available

The Capital Region's Premier Fitness Facility

Classes Offered:
Pilates, Body Sculpting,
Yoga, Step, Cardio Kick-
boxing, Boot Camp



Delmar Health and Fitness
28 Hudson Avenue, Delmar
439-1200

Nights 9:01pm-5:59am M-F; Wknds. 12:00am Sat.-11:59pm Sun. Taxes and surcharges apply and may vary. Federal Universal Service Charge of 1.90% (varies quarterly based on FCC rate) and a 5¢ Regulatory Charge per line/month are our charges, not taxes.

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement, Calling Plan and credit approval. \$175 cancellation fee per line, taxes, other charges and restrictions. \$35 activation fee per line with 1-year term. Cannot combine with other offers. Usage rounded to next full minute. Unused minutes lost. Coverage, service and offers not available in all areas. Maximum of 4 lines total, all on same billing account. See return/exchange policy. Limited time offer.

© 2003 Verizon Wireless.

Firehouse hosts annual Breakfast with Santa Sunday

Come to the Voorheesville Firehouse on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 11 a.m. and have the hungry man breakfast with Santa.

The all-you-can-eat breakfast includes eggs, toast, pancakes, sausage, French toast, coffee, tea and juice. The cost is \$6.50 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12 and free for kids 5 and under.

Dollars for Scholars plans holiday activities

Dollars for Scholars is offering a holiday child care program with lots of activities on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the elementary school. Drop off your school age children for any amount of time and they will enjoy a day of fun while you take care

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville
Betsy Glath
765-4415



of last minute holiday preparations.

To register, call Patty Miller at 765-4552.

The cost is a donation to Voorheesville Dollars for Scholars; a local chapter that provides scholarships to college-bound high school seniors.

Volunteers are needed for any shift. Middle and high school students are encouraged to help.

Dollars for Scholars is also sponsoring a holiday gift wrap fund-raiser at Crossgates Mall on Saturday, Dec. 20, from 11 a.m. to

8 p.m. The group is looking for teams of three to four people to sign up and work a shift together.

Donations of paper, tape and ribbon are needed and can be dropped off in the collection box in the foyer of the high school anytime before Dec. 20.

To help out, call Miller at 765-4552.

Thacher Nature Center hosts presentation

The Friends of Thacher Park will host a presentation by Roland Kays, curator of mammals at the State Museum.

Kays will talk about his research on the diet, movement and survival of coyotes, foxes, and fishers in suburban Albany and the Adirondacks. He will discuss the effects of human-caused changes to the landscape on these populations.

The presentation is open to the public and will be held at the Voorheesville Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. For information, call 872-0800.

Town of New Scotland offers art class

The Town of New Scotland is offering an adult pastel art class every Tuesday, Jan. 6, through Feb. 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Class size will be limited and there will be a \$40 fee.

The instructor is Sandy Pelletier, a certified art instructor. For information, call 475-0385.

Food co-op orders due Dec. 6

New Scotland Extra Helpings food co-op will be accepting food orders and payment until noon on Monday, Dec. 6. The delivery date is Thursday, Dec. 16.

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

Each order costs \$14 and you are under no obligation to purchase every month. Payment can be either cash or food stamps.

School board to meet

The school board will be held on Monday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the large gym of the elementary school. All are welcome to attend.

Library to sponsor book discussions

Voorheesville Public Library will be holding a book discussion on Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. for fourth- through sixth-graders.

The book is *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson.

Everyone is asked to bring a new copy of their favorite book to donate to a child who might not have books of their own. They will make bookmarks to go along with the book after the discussion.

Sign up at the reference desk and pick up a copy of the discussion book.

The next session will be on Friday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. for grades two and three. The book will be *Barkley's School for Dogs: Snow Day* by Marcia Thornton Jones and Debbie Dadey.

There will be book-related activities and refreshments. Parents are welcome to attend. For information on either of these sessions, contact the library at 765-2791.

Caregivers group to meet at town hall

The Daytime Caregivers Support Group will meet Dec. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Bethlehem town hall.

The group is geared towards caregivers living with a person who has dementia. Caregivers are welcome to attend and share what has been helpful to them, and hear from others about their experience with caregiving. The group is co-sponsored by Bethlehem Senior Services and the Alzheimer's Association.

For information, call 439-4955, ext. 174.

New Stewart's makes donations

The grand opening of the Stewart's Shop on Route 85 in New Scotland included a contribution of \$1,541 to the Clarksville Elementary School playground and \$1,541 to the Voorheesville Community and School Foundation.

Stewart's donated the proceeds from all "Buy 1 Get 1 Free" specials for the day. The grand opening donation is part of the company's commitment to support the communities where they have shops.

In Glenmont, The Spotlight is sold at Cumberland Farms, CVS, Glenmont Beverage, Brookwood Mobil, Exit 23 Mobil, Stewart's and Van Allen Farms.

www.iuba.com

Advertise your small business on your very own page of information on one of the most visited websites in the Capital region! Visited by thousands every week!

Design A Ad - 6 Months \$400 Design B Ad - 12 Months for \$600
Design C Ad - 24 Months \$1000
FREE Business cards 250 - 1000

Call Dan at 439-1814 or E-mail us at support@iuba.com for further information

THE ORCHARD
TAVERN & RESTAURANT

68 North Manning Blvd. Albany 482-5677

Celebrating 100 Yrs. 1903-2003

- Wonderful Family Atmosphere
- Enjoy our "Unique Style" famous Homemade Pizza
- Party in Our Private Room w/Fireplace
- Extensive Menu, reasonably priced

Century Celebration Special Offer

3 Cheese Pizzas and 20 Wings
\$19.03
fix toppings extra

Dine in or Take out
Not to be combined with any other offer or discounts
Exp. 3/31/04

EVERETT ROAD (Exit 5)
CENTRAL AVE.
ORCHARD
NO. MANNING BLVD.
WATERVLIET AVE. EXT.
I-90
COMMERCE AVE.

The Village Stage

Proudly Presents
the Pulitzer Prize winning comedy

Harvey
By Mary Chase

Performances: Thurs. Dec. 4 – Sat. Dec. 6 at 8:00 p.m.
Sunday Matinee, Dec 7 at 2:00 p.m.

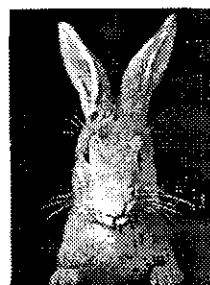
General Admission Tickets \$10
Senior (65 & up) and Student Tickets: \$8

Bethlehem Grange
Route 396 (West just off route 9-W)
Selkirk, New York

For additional information, please call 768-2036

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc.

Why not make it a night of Dinner Theater?
On Saturday December 6, the Grange is hosting a Chicken and Biscuits dinner. Dinner tickets are an additional \$8.50. Dinner is being served from 4-7 p.m.



VADNEY'S UNDERGROUND PLUMBING

Septic Tanks Cleaned and Installed
Septic System Inspections

SEWERS WATER SERVICES
Drain Fields Installed and Repaired

SEWER ROOTER SERVICE
All types Backhoe work
439-2645

From Poe to Breaznell, library has lots of mysteries

It's the season of dark and stormy nights. Conditions are right to settle into a wing chair in front of a fireplace and crack a good mystery novel.



Mystery stories have fascinated the reading public for a couple of centuries. Edgar Allen Poe is generally credited with having written the first, *Murders in the Rue Morgue*, published in 1841. Today, the genre incorporates a wide range of characters and cultures, settings and moods.

Something for every body

Mystery fiction comes in several varieties, "hardboiled" urban classics like the Raymond Chandler mysteries, rural "cozies," like Agatha Christie's Miss Marple books, police procedurals, amateur sleuth and private detective yarns, gothic and historical thrillers, psychological, legal and romantic suspense, espionage and the relatively new forensic mysteries and "techno-thrillers."

Librarian and longtime mystery aficionado Babs Carlson prefers British police procedural mysteries; one of her favorite contemporary authors is Martha Grimes.

Carlson said she looks for a well-told yarn with a logical, believable progression of events. She is also interested in writers whose books offer insights into other cultures. The mysteries of Walter Mosley and Tony Hillerman, for example, are windows on contemporary African-American and American Indian life.

Better read than dead

Numerous book awards in the genre include the Edgars (as in Edgar Allen Poe), the Agatha (for best "traditional" mystery) and the Shamus (for best private-eye fiction). A selected list of 2002 Edgar winners (announced in May 2003) is published in the summer issue of *Mystery Review Quarterly*, available on our periodical shelves. This delightful Canadian publication includes interviews and reviews (rated by daggers, four being excellent and one-half being deadly), puzzles, poems and essays and several vials of wry and witty humor.

The library also subscribes to *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, a venerable publication where you can read the latest in short mystery fiction.

Local history mysteries

Our region has inspired mystery settings and mystery writers. Mysteries by the

Village Stage to present 'Harvey'

The Village Stage will present "Harvey," a comedy suitable for all ages, Thursday to Saturday, Dec. 4 to 6, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. at the Bethlehem Grange on Route 396 in Selkirk.

Tickets will be sold at the door. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students.

For information or reservations, call 393-9200.

husband-wife team Maan Meyers take place in Dutch-Colonial and Civil-War-era New York City. Several of Stephen Dobyns' private-eye novels are set in Saratoga.

Closer to home, Jessica Treadway's novel *I Give You Peace* is a fictionalization of a real murder mystery that took place in Delmar.

Local mystery writers include George Chesbro (the Mongo mysteries) and Gene Breaznell, who has just published his second novel, *Deadly Divots* (Bridge Works), which we recently purchased.

Breaznell, a Delmar resident, was featured in the Nov. 19 issue of *The Spotlight*.

Chesbro was our guest on Library Day a few years ago; we have several of his books.

Book 'em

New mysteries on our shelves include *Burning Carbo* by Robert Eversz, *The Small Boat of Great Sorrow* by Dan Fesperman, *The Breathaker* by Alice Blanchard and *Death on a Cellular Level* by Vicky Hunnings. Recent mystery acquisitions also include titles in large-print format; among them are Carolyn Hart's *Engaged to Die*, John Sandford's *Easy Prey*, Carole Nelson Douglas' *Cat in a Neon Nightmare* and Judith Jance's *Lying in Wait*.

Sleuth the sleuths

If you want to find out more about the mystery genre, a good place to start is *Genre Reflecting: A Guide to Reading Interests in Genre Fiction*, by Diana Tixier Herald, available in our reference collection.

This book is an excellent introduction to genre history, themes, criticism, and related resources, as well as a compilation of authors and titles arranged in various useful categories. *What Mystery Do I Read Next: A Reader's Guide to Recent Mystery Fiction* by Steven A. Stilwell contains hundreds of

reading suggestions annotated and arranged by author, as well as several comprehensive indexes.

If you'd like to do some online investigation of the genre, Carlson recommends School Libraries on the Web (www.sldirectory.com/mystery) and www.mysterynet.com. Our staff can give you other suggestions for reading and research.

Last words

Raymond Chandler and P.D. James, deans of the genre, offered cogent reasons for the wide appeal of mystery fiction in our age. Chandler described a murder mystery as "the most complete pattern of tensions on which we live in this generation."

James maintained, "What a detective story is about is not murder but the restoration of order."

So — was it Colonel Mustard

in the library with a candlestick? If we can solve that, maybe we can solve the greater mysteries of life on our planet.

Louise Grieco

George W. Frueh
Fuel Oil • Kerosene • Diesel Fuel

Call for today's prices

Cash Only
Prayer Line
462-1335

Mobil®
436-1050

Cash Only
Prayer Line
462-1335



*Relieving Stress is Our Job,
Relaxing is Hers.*

*At Belle Images we have Special
Packages for that Special Someone.*

"Queen For A Day"

Our Specialty European Facial, European Body Wrap, Sea-Salt Body Polish, Manicure with hand paraffin, Pedicure with foot paraffin, Professional Makeover. Allow 5 hours. reg. \$285 only \$255 ♦

"Create Your Own"

Combine any 3 services or more of your choice, Less 10% ♦

"Day of Beauty"

Our Specialty European Facial, Therapeutic Body Massage, Manicure and Pedicure, Professional Makeover. Allow 4 hours. reg. \$215 only \$185 ♦

"Indulgence"

Our Specialty European Facial, Makeup Application and Manicure. reg. \$98 only \$78 ♦

*Dollar Denominations
Also Available*

Belle Images

Skin, Body and Nail Care

1971 Western Avenue, Guilderland
(next to Hewitt's Garden Ctr.)

452-2847

www.belleimagesdayspa.com

Phone orders gladly taken.
All major credit cards accepted.

Hours:

Tues.-Thurs. 11:30 - 7:30
Fri. 10:30 - 4:00
Sat. 8:30 - 3:00



FRASER FIR • BALSAM FIR SCOTCH PINE, SPRUCE

- Hundreds to choose from
- 3 To 12 feet tall
- Have fun • No confusion
- One-way traffic

\$14.00
AND UP

- Measure for height at home
- Bring your tree stand and a blanket for your roof

Come to Barkman's Farm

Rt. 9W, Glenmont • 767-9738

*Take your time and pick out a tree of your choice.
There's candy for everyone.*

1. We cut the stump to fit your tree stand.
2. We clean your tree by machine.
3. We load your tree where you want it. We supply the rope.

*This year all our wreaths are made
from Fraser Fir*

**Hundreds of Wreaths, Plain or Decorated, Roping, Grave Blankets,
Kissing Balls, Boughs, Cemetery Flowers, Decorations, Ribbons, etc.**

We accept Checks, Cash, Mastercard and Visa. We are open 9am to 7pm - 7 days a week

P.S. Keep your tree stand full of water daily. If you store your tree now and put it up later, keep it out of the wind and sun. Store in a cold place and recut the trunk at least one inch before you put it up. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. — Carl and Peggy Barkman

The following students were recently named to the first quarter honor and merit rolls at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Middle School.

Amanda Barror, Graham Bastian, Crystal Betts, Jessica Carmel, Courtney Charbonneau, Michael Condon, Michael Coughli, Elizabeth Cowan, Hanna David, Caira Edwards, Laura Frueh, Kristina Gagnon, Meghan Gallagher, Tyler Hammond, Cassidy Herman and Sarah Hughes.

Also, Matthew Norris, Riley O'Brien, Kayla Phillips, Mollie Powers, Brittany Ramsey, Jessica Roberts, Miranda Salisbury, John Schmitt, Emily Scott, Amy Selkirk, Andrew Semenick, Caitlyn Smith, Ashley Ten Eyck, Christopher Tofinchio, Kelly Visconti, Bryan Weisheit and Allison Whalen.

Kohlton Barkman, Alyssa Barrett, Carlyle Bennett, Judith Bennett, Kristyn Borowiec, Allisa Carroll, Dan Cobb, Douglas Cochrane, Victoria Connors, Dillon Davis, Cody Decker, Valdy Delgado, Amber Dickson, Sean Downey and Kaitlyn Drobner.

Kochanski, Cameron Mahar,
Ciera Mason, Lindsey Mott,
Justin Myers, Kristina Pelletier,
Tanner Penzabene, John
Peterman and Kevin Phillips.

Also, Karlie Haack, Elias Hammann, Keith Hoyt, Daniel Irwin, Laura Koonz, Collin Krueger, Spencer Kuhn, Stephanie Lawrence, Christopher Libertucci, Zachary Lisa, Morgan McLaughlin, Justin McMullen, Heather Meyer, Brittany Palmer, Mariah Parker, Kaylee Persico and Justin Purcell.

Byerwalters, Emily Cochrane, Brittany Ecklund, Josephine Forezzi, Samuel Fry, Nikki Goldberg, Sean Keller, Lauren Kolanckick, Shaun LaMay, Matthew Lambertsen, Alyssa Leonardo and Brianna Markel.

Also, Stephen Maynus, Jonathan Mergendahl, Jessica Mizener, Katherine Myers, Jessica Northrup, Kari O'Halloran, Calynn Pecora, Jihad Perez, Aaron Preston, Jessica Ryan, Matthew Saltis, Eric Segerberg, Tyler Smith, Frankie Spence, Lisa Waters and April Zwack.

Gabriella Ballou, Jamie Breedlove, Steven Busch, Geoffrey DeLuca, Christopher Dottino, Garrett Frueh, Andrew Fuller, Jason Gallagher, Amber Gibson, Erin Gilmore, Anthony Hardy, Rebecca Herrington, Khloe Houlihan, Jacob Hyer, Patrick McCarthy, Juan McQueen, Jenna Melewski, Lauren Miller, Zachary Nagy and Zoe Ostrander.

Also, Jamie Paeglow, Christopher Parker, Meghan Patterson, Amelia Persico, Andrew Philpott, Jennifer Rosen, Jamie Sanderson, Jill Scalzo, Paige Scott, Karmen Smith, Christopher Snyder, Tara Ten Eyck, Vicky Tiberia, Tarang Vakharia, Jourdan Vatalaro, Erica Wagner, Amanda White, Ashley White, Nori Williams, Valerie Wolanski and Brianna Yurek.

Lea Agans, Caitlyn Albano,

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS

capital district seniors spotlight

the resource for seniors

2nd Annual Health & Services Fair

Volunteering - It's good for the soul

Senior BLUE

Wellness It's true - it's the best

From the Chef's Corner

Massage Therapy for Older Adults

Guided tour of the Albany Senior Job Fair for May

A Spotlight Newspapers publication in cooperation with Senior Services of Albany

April 2002 vol. 4 no. 3

Telephone support groups offer help for caregivers

Senior Services of Albany and the University at Albany Institute of Gerontology are seeking to develop web services for family caregivers

Support

Spotlight Newspapers, in conjunction with Senior Services of Albany, is proud to bring you **Capital District Senior Spotlight**. Right here, "at your fingertips," you will have access to information about today's hottest issues regarding **health, travel, special events, and more!** Plus learn what's happening in your own community.

Please look for us monthly at various Capital Region drop-off sites, including senior centers, physician offices, and community centers. Or call Eileen Handelman at 463-4381 for subscription information.

Admission to this fair is free and the event is open to all. The fair provides free health screenings (see page 6 for details).

Volunteering is a good way to get out of the house and spend time with others. April is a time of renewal, a time when spring is in the air, tulips are coming in, and the weather is warming up. April is also a time when the country focuses on volunteerism. April 21 - 27 is National Volunteer Week. Many organizations locally will be recognizing those strong spirits who give so much of themselves all year long in order to help others in their own community.

It has been said that a way to truly feel good about yourself is to give of yourself to others. Not only can you make a significant difference in the life of someone else, but there are significant benefits to the house and spending time with others. As we all know, it's out of the house and spending time with others. It's a key to a healthier living. Page 15 has a number of volunteer opportunities around the region. Pick something that appeals to you and give it a shot. You'll be happy you did. For those of you who are out there giving yourselves an out there giving ourselves a community, THANK YOU! We need each and every one of you.

Senior BLUE is a new publication that will be distributed to all seniors in the Capital District. It will contain information on health, travel, special events, and more. It will be a valuable resource for seniors and their families.

Wellness It's true - it's the best. This is a collection of articles on health and wellness for seniors. It includes information on diet, exercise, and mental health.

From the Chef's Corner. This is a collection of recipes for seniors. It includes recipes for appetizers, main courses, and desserts.

Massage Therapy for Older Adults. This is an article about the benefits of massage therapy for seniors. It includes information on how to find a massage therapist and what to expect from a massage.

Guided tour of the Albany Senior Job Fair for May. This is an announcement for a job fair for seniors in Albany. It includes information on the date, time, and location of the fair.

A Spotlight Newspapers publication in cooperation with Senior Services of Albany. This is a statement about the publication and its partnership with Senior Services of Albany.

April 2002 vol. 4 no. 3. This is the date and volume/issue number of the publication.

Telephone support groups offer help for caregivers. This is an article about telephone support groups for caregivers. It includes information on how to find a support group and what to expect from one.

Senior Services of Albany and the University at Albany Institute of Gerontology are seeking to develop web services for family caregivers. This is an announcement about a project to develop web services for family caregivers.

Support. This is a section for support groups and resources. It includes information on how to find a support group and what to expect from one.

Thomas Boehm, Richard Connell, Jacob Constantine, Megan Corsi, Crista Delgado, Emily DePaula, Keri Freiermuth, Melanie Griffith, Corinn Haker, John Hillmann, Karl Hunter, Kalika Jenkins, Justin Knowles and Joseph Lisa.

Also, Lisette Luna, Briana Macaione, Jarad Margiasso, Jessica Meyer, Chelsey Miller, Jessica Payne, Anthony Perez, Allie Radliff, Mindy Rivers, Gregory Russ, Ariel Searles, Emilie Searles, Kristin Sterling, Samantha Viviano, David Winne and Hannah Winzenread.

Quilters plan holiday party

Quilters United In Learning Together (QUILT) will meet on Friday, Dec. 12, at Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., for a holiday party with demonstrations and a block and gift exchange.

The cost is a \$3 program donation. Doors open at 9:15 a.m.

For information, call 456-0552.

In Feura Bush,
The Spotlight is sold at
Houghtaling's and Stewart's.

Buses to leave at 8 a.m. for New York City

If you belong to the happy holiday revelers who will be traveling to New York City from Voorheesville Public Library on Saturday, Dec. 6, buses will leave from Voorheesville Elementary School at 8 a.m. Passengers will be dropped off near Radio City Music Hall and picked up from the same location at 9 p.m.

**Voorheesville
Public Library**



Check with the circulation desk for last-minute tickets.

All the Nimblefingers ladies are invited to enjoy their annual Dutch-treat holiday lunch on Dec. 9, so there will be no meeting at the library. Call Julie Stump for details at 765-2791.

Book discussion for grades four to six meets at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9, to discuss *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson.

The Thursday Night Poets meet on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. No sign-up is necessary and newcomers are welcome. Bring an original

poem to read to the group.

Sign up at the reference desk and receive a copy of *On Green Dolphin Street* by Sebastian Faulkes to read for the January adult book discussion. With its title taken from a jazz song of the period, this novel portrays a love triangle set in Cold War era Washington, D.C. Events of the period — Sputnik, the Kennedy-Nixon race, the U-2 incident,

Vietnam — form the backdrop for a passionate romance between a reserved Englishwoman who is the wife of a diplomat, and a New York journalist.

Two final "Light Up December" story times will be on Dec. 10 and 12 at 10:15 a.m. No sign-up is necessary. Regular story times resume in January.

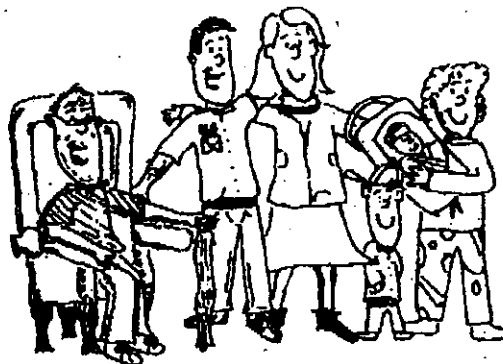
The Alzheimer's Caregivers Support group meets on Dec. 8

at 7 p.m. No sign-up is necessary. Call 765-5111 or 438-2217 for information.

Sign up for library programs by calling 765-2791 or e-mail voorefq@uhls.lib.ny.us. Visit the Web site at www.voorheesvillelibrary.org. All library programs are free, handicapped accessible and open to the public.

Barbara Vink

Bethlehem Family Practice



Philip T. Drew, MD • Michael A. Piplani, MD
B. William Pyle, III, MD • Kristin M. Cooke, FNP, GNP-CS

are pleased to announce that

Kim Sheldon, RPA-C

will be joining their staff on January 7, 2004

1345 New Scotland Road
Slingerlands, NY 12159
(518) 439-8555

Getting Ready
for Christmas?

**Let us Help
You Prepare**

Worship Services ~ Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

Advent Theme: "Touched by the Angel"

Child Care Provided

Intergenerational Advent Activities for Children & Adults
Every Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

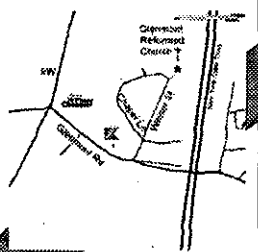
Glenmont Community Church

1 Chapel Lane, Glenmont
(behind Kmart/Price Chopper Plaza)

Rev. Sandy J. Damhof, Supply Pastor

www.glenmontchurch.org

For more information—Call 436-7710



The Guilderland Chamber of Commerce
Presents

The 11th Annual Regional Family Expo



Come and showcase YOUR business
to over 115,000 potential customers at this unique trade show event!
An added plus... there will be fantastic live FREE entertainment
in Crossgates Mall all weekend!

February 28 & 29, 2004

at

Crossgates Mall in Guilderland, NY

Sponsored by

B95.5 fm
"Covers the South Rock, Very Little Talk"

Spotlight Newspapers &
Parent Pages

**Guilderland
Chamber of Commerce**
"In Business for Business"

PAX55
WYPR-TV ALBANY-SCHENECTADY-ROCK

Call 518/456-6611 today to register!
Take advantage of great early bird booth pricing through
December 15, 2003

You're invited to visit...

The Garden Path

359 Broadway
Menands, New York 12204
465-7496

50% - 90% OFF selected merchandise.

Even in this beautiful season of swirling
snowflakes and colorful lights,

The Garden Path gift shop still stands
out as a truly special place.

We are located in Menands True Value
Hardware where you will find beautiful
fresh cut Christmas trees, wreaths,
kissing balls, poinsettias, custom made
gift baskets and floral arrangements.

Wishing all our patrons a safe
and *Happy Holiday*.

New York's natural gas outlook for winter 2003-2004

Preparation can help minimize winter heating bills

Bright October days and crisp cold nights are sure signs that winter is just around the corner. The colorful leaves are beautiful to look at and a reminder to prepare for the coming heating season. Now is the time to learn what natural gas users can expect this year, take a few basic steps to get your home ready for winter, and find out about programs or opportunities that may be helpful during the winter heating season.

You can make the cost of keeping warm this winter a little easier to deal with by conserving energy, shopping for a natural gas supplier, and knowing how energy prices during this coming heating season compare with last year's.

Natural gas prices vary with national and international markets.

Over the last few months, stories about natural gas supplies and rising prices have been everywhere. Prices for natural gas have increased and are expected to approach the record-setting levels of two years ago. Colder weather and higher prices than last year mean you might pay higher heating bills.

Most of the natural gas we use in New York comes from the Gulf of Mexico and Canada. Retail suppliers of natural gas —

utilities and energy service companies (ESCOs) — buy the gas and arrange with pipeline companies to have the gas delivered to utility distribution systems and eventually to you. Suppliers have adequate amounts to serve New Yorkers this winter.

Your natural gas bill has two main parts: Supply (the cost of the gas itself) and Delivery (the cost of delivering the gas throughout the utility's system). On average, supply costs make up about 50-70% of your bill, depending on your local utility.

Natural gas (supply) prices vary with national and international markets and are beyond the control of the Public Service Commission and the utilities. However, the Public Service Commission sets delivery prices, and works very hard to keep them as low as possible while helping consumers deal with changes in the market.

Due to last year's cold winter, a temporary slowdown in drilling and exploration in 2002, and an increasing year-round demand for natural gas, prices are likely to be as high or higher than last winter.

In 2002 we experienced an exceptionally cold winter with temperatures about 3% to more than 8% below average across the state. The long, cold winter meant we all used more energy to heat our homes. The price of natural gas, heating oil, and other fuels rose because of the high demand.

It is impossible to know what this winter's temperatures will be over time. They could be as cold as last winter, as warm as the year before, or closer to normal. Predicting this year's natural gas price is nearly as difficult. A return to normal weather, coupled with higher prices, might result in total bills that are about 6-10% higher than last year.

Use Energy Wisely.

Your heating costs are made up of the cost of your heating fuel and the amount you use. No matter where prices go or what temperatures are, you can take basic steps to lower your heating costs.

What you should do:

Conserve a little. Save a lot.

- Make sure your attic, walls, and foundation are well insulated.
- Seal gaps around doors, windows, and foundations.

- Have your furnace or boiler inspected and insulate your hot water heater and pipes.
- Set thermostats back — for every degree you lower your thermostat, you'll save 1-3% on your heating costs. Installing a programmable thermostat will make saving even easier.

Consider bill payment options and assistance programs.

- Budget Plans provide equal monthly payments based on past energy usage.
- Deferred Payment Agreements may be available if you have fallen behind on your bill. You may qualify to pay the past due amount over time.

Financial assistance programs can also help you with your heating costs.

- NYS Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- Utility-sponsored assistance programs

Remember, you can shop for your natural gas supply.

- Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) can compete to sell you electricity and natural gas.

- Your utility will still deliver your energy safely and reliably and will still respond to emergencies.
- Competition among ESCOs to supply your energy means new products and services, and better value for your dollar.

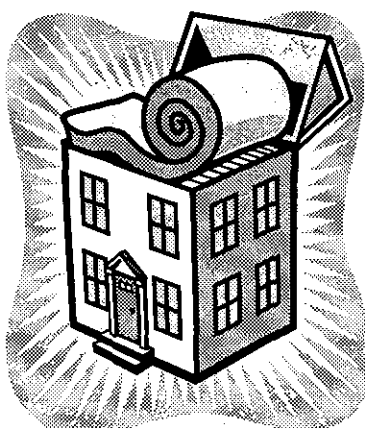
For more information about energy conservation, assistance programs, the natural gas outlook, or shopping for energy, please visit the New York State Public Service Commission Web site at www.AskPSC.com

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) can help you save money by making your home more energy efficient. Through the Home Performance with Energy Star program, certified contractors will inspect your home and provide recommendations for energy improvements. You may be eligible for low-interest financing. For more information, go to www.GetEnergySmart.org

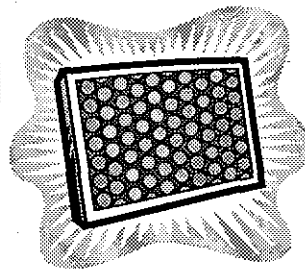
New York Energy Smart
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — NYSERDA
George E. Pataki, Governor

Conserve a little.

LOWER YOUR THERMOSTAT WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT HOME AND AT NIGHT OR INSTALL A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT.

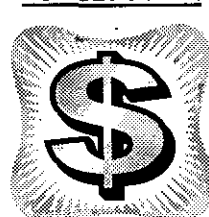


WEATHERIZE AND INSULATE YOUR HOME.



HAVE YOUR HEATING SYSTEM CHECKED AND CHANGE YOUR FURNACE FILTER.

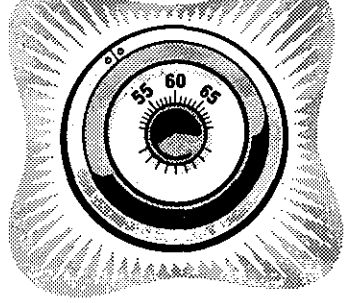
SIGN UP FOR YOUR UTILITY'S BUDGET PLAN.



YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILLS.



SHOP AROUND FOR AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SUPPLIER.



Save a lot.

REMEMBER — IT'S YOUR ENERGY... YOUR CHOICE.

Sports

DeGrazia takes title at New York City Marathon

By ROB JONAS

Her times aren't as fast as they had been, but **Martha DeGrazia** isn't slowing down.

The Slingerlands long-distance runner has picked up several medals this season, including a first-place finish in her age group at the New York City Marathon in October.

"I've never placed at New York before," said the 52-year-old DeGrazia. "First, second, third (place) — it all depends on who shows up."

DeGrazia has been one of the top local distance runners in her age group for several years, but she has broken through nationally this season. Besides her win at the New York City Marathon, she has placed second at the Boston Marathon and the Boilermaker Run in Utica.

"I've been placing quite high," DeGrazia said. "My times aren't as fast, but for some reason, I've been winning races."

DeGrazia — who added a victory at the annual Stockade-athon in Schenectady less than a week after winning in New York City — said that the challenge of running in the Big Apple is dealing with all of the other runners.

"There were 35,000 runners at the start," she said. "I had a pretty good start, but I was still in a group of 12,000 runners."

"I would have liked to have gotten (my time) closer to 3 hours, 20 minutes, but it is a very tough course," added DeGrazia,

Hughes receives conference honors

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Pat Hughes** was named an Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association all-star in football for the 2003 season.

Hughes — a senior at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute — is one of the leading receivers for the Engineers this season.

Grant helps Hamilton relay team

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Ricky Grant** was part of a winning relay team for Hamilton College in a men's swim meet Nov. 22.

Grant teamed up with **Kevin Thompson**, **Ben Delia** and **Andrew Saunders** to win the 400 freestyle relay in a time of 3:19.72.

New-look Eagles start season

By ROB JONAS

who finished with a time of 3:23.

DeGrazia started running distance races in 1978, but she said that she didn't get "serious" until she joined the General Electric team in the 1990s. She now runs with the Lockheed Martin team, which will be competing at the New Orleans Marathon early next year.

DeGrazia said the appeal of running distance races is that "it's great exercise. You don't have to worry about equipment, and it's the clock and the distance you have to worry about. It's simple."

Before New Orleans, DeGrazia will compete at the Dallas Marathon Dec. 15.

Not much is left from last year's state finalist Bethlehem girls basketball team.

With eight players graduating and a new head coach, the Eagles are starting over from scratch after coming within a victory of a Class A state title.

"It's like starting over, but there are some girls left over from last year's team who have some experience," said first-year coach **Mark Nealon**, who replaces **Kim Wise** after the veteran coach stepped down to raise her family.

The few veterans Nealon has will be in the starting lineup. **Kaitly Conklin** and **Katie Rowan** will be low post players, while

Holly Storm becomes the team's new shooting guard.

After that trio, Bethlehem is left with a group of newcomers who played at the junior varsity and freshman levels last year, led by point guard **Julie Hooper** and forward **Liz Casline** — both of whom are projected starters.

"We're young," Nealon said. "I have ninth- and 10th-graders on the team this year."

With a new lineup and a lot of young players, Nealon is keeping

his expectations modest for the 2003-04 season.

"This team will get better," he said. "Our record may not indicate how good we are at the end of the year, but we will be competitive."

Bethlehem began its season Tuesday with a game at Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake. The Eagles host their annual tournament this weekend, with Colonie Central, Guilderland and Catholic Central also participating.

The Choir and Orchestra of
First Presbyterian Church of Albany
invite you to
A Vespers Service of Music for Advent
7:30 p.m. December 7, 2003
Victor Klimash, conductor
featuring
Mozart — Epistle Sonata in F, K.244
Schiassi — Christmas Symphony Puccini — Magnificat
Deborah Rocco, soprano; Alan Kirk, bass; Nancy Frank, organist
362 State Street, Albany 518.449.7332 www.firstpresalban.org

Stop at the
TOLLGATE
~ Holiday Ice Cream Flavors ~
Egg Nog • Cinnamon Apple • Tangerine • Rum Raisin
Irish Coffee • Pumpkin • Pistachio
Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials
Gift Certificates Available
Tollgate Ice Cream & Coffee Shop, Slingerlands
Open Daily 11-9 • 439-9824 • Take-out Service

ines beauty salon
European Estheticians
Hair Stylists
WALK-INS WELCOME
~Hair~Nails~Makeup~
Featuring
~Schwarzkopf~
~Goldwell~
RECEIVE
10% OFF
WITH THIS AD
478-0174
As a hairstylist/make-up artist for Jean Paul Spa in Stuyvesant Plaza, Samra Bartula worked with WRGB (Channel 6). Trained in Germany, she specializes in coloring, cutting and upstyling.
333 Delaware Avenue • Delmar • NY • 12054
www.inesbeautysalon.com

FREE
Pilates Mat Class
Thursday, December 11th
12 Noon – 12:45
at 204 Delaware Avenue
(Delmar Chiropractic)
With **Monica**
439-9612
Pilates Machine
and Yoga Classes
also available

PRIME CARE
PHYSICIANS, P.C.
Proudly Announces the Relocation of
Paul E. Gaffuri, MD
Kenneth J. Kroopnick, MD
Currently Located at
190 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, New York, 12054
Phone: 478-9423
(Accepting New Patients)
Effective December 8, 2003, this Practice will Relocate to:
4 Normanskill Boulevard
Delmar, New York, 12054
All Phone Numbers Will Remain the Same
www.primecarepc.com

Bethlehem Dental Arts
Virginia Plaisted, D.D.S.
Todd Vaccaro, D.D.S.
Complete Family and Cosmetic Surgery
Our Comprehensive Care for Children and Adults Includes:
• Preventative Care
• Periodontal Therapy
• Tooth Whitening
• Bonding & Veneers
• Orthodontics
• Invisalign
• Comprehensive Cosmetic Reconstruction
• Advanced Oral Imaging and Diagnostics
• Participating with Delta Dental, Cigna PPO & Met Life
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME
74 DELAWARE AVENUE, DELMAR
439-3299
www.bethlehemdentalarts.com

New Hampshire names Dunn crew tri-captain

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Eileen Dunn** was named a tri-captain of the University of New Hampshire women's crew team.

Dunn has been part of several award-winning boats at UNH, including a silver medal at this year's New England Championships and a bronze medal at the

Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Invitational. She also received the most improved rower award from the team.

Dunn will work as an intern for UNH coach **Sue Taylor** this spring. She expects to graduate in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in sports studies and a minor in psychology.

JV team recognized at soccer banquet

The Bethlehem junior varsity girls soccer team celebrated its best finish in the program's history at the annual soccer banquet Nov. 23.

The Eagles finished with a 14-2 record, with their losses coming against Shenendehowa and Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake.

Head coach **Piera Canuto** had a roster of 14 players for most of the season, having lost one player to injury at the start. To compensate, Canuto had the girls play a variety of positions and often made switches during games.

The strategy worked. Bethlehem outscored its opponents 45-8, including a three-goal effort in avenging an early-season loss to Shen.

"Shen never had a goal scored on them this season," Canuto said. "I knew that this was going

to be an exciting game. We didn't just score one goal, not two, but three goals against Shen. This is what the girls worked for all season long. What a victory. I couldn't ask for anything else."

Several players received coaches awards. **Rebecca Lee** was named the outstanding offensive player, while **Chelsea Carman** and **Natalie Singer** shared outstanding defensive player honors. **Becky Hager** was the most improved player, while **Hannah Morgan** received the coaches award and **Colleen Hart** earned most valuable player honors.

The rest of the players received team awards. They included **Megan Braaten**, **Julia Cardamone**, **Ryen Conley**, **Diana Denio**, **Laura Marmulstein**, **Dylan Naughton**, **Halley**

Quillinan, **Christy Wray** and **Becca Young**.

In her closing remarks at the banquet, Canuto thanked her players.

"I truly couldn't have had a nicer group of girls. They all went above and beyond the call of duty," she said. "These girls showed a work ethic and a sense of teamwork that translated into performance and success."

Blanchard earns hockey honor

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Dani Blanchard** was named the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference West Division III Co-player of the Week Nov. 19.

Blanchard, a sophomore forward with the SUNY Cortland women's hockey team, had three goals and an assist in a 6-5 overtime victory over St. Michael's College of Vermont Nov. 16 and added an assist in a 2-2 tie against St. Michael's the next day.

Blanchard leads the Red Dragons with six goals.

Macri leads Oneonta volleyball

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Jen Macri** had a strong all-around performance for the SUNY Oneonta women's volleyball team at the final State University of New York Athletic Conference pool play weekend.

Macri had 28 kills, six aces and 71 digs for the Red Dragons, who finished second in the East Division with an 8-2 record and qualified for the SUNYAC Tournament.

For the season, Macri is fourth on the team with 210 kills, third in aces with 45 and second in digs with 358.

Decker turns in top-15 performance

Bethlehem Central High School graduate **Geoff Decker** finished 12th at the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships Oct. 31 at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx.

Decker's time of 26:27.9 helped Marist College place second in the team standings with 60 points. He also earned all-league honors for finishing in the top 15.

*In Slingerlands
The Spotlight is sold at Falvo's
Price Chopper and Tollgate*

Town of Bethlehem
Historical Association
**Annual Holiday
Silver Tea**

Sunday, December 7, 2003
1:00 to 4:00 PM

Free Admission.
Public welcome.

Come enjoy refreshments
and decorations prepared
by our members.

**Cedar Hill
School House Museum**
1003 River Road (Rt. 144)

Sellkirk, NY

For info. call:

767-9432

*Let the staff at 333 Cafe
help you with your
Holiday Catering needs*

*In-house or off-premises catering available
Luncheon parties 10-50 people*

10% OFF
Holiday Gift Certificates with this ad

333 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 439-9333
Fax: 475-9049 or Email: mister333paul@aol.com

**Hudson Valley Little League
2004 Registration**

Hudson Valley Little League will be holding registration for the 2004 season on December 6 and January 24 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the K of C, Main Street, Ravena.

Registration Fees:
December 6, \$80 for 1st Child, \$15 for 2nd, \$10 for 3rd
January 24, \$85 for 1st Child, \$15 for 2nd, \$10 for 3rd

Please bring original birth certificate and one copy for Hudson Valley Little League to retain in their files along with two proofs of residence (utility bills).

For further information, contact Rose Marie (756-6821) or Al (756-9569).

Picket Pottery
Now Open!

3 Rooms filled with simple gifts.
Enjoy the fire! Sip Cider!
Rt. 144, New Baltimore - worth the drive.
Wed.-Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-4
756-6779 • www.picketpottery.com

Give Him a Break

There's no present like the time. The time to relax and enjoy the special treatment he deserves. And the time is now to buy him Gift Certificates for classic grooming services at the most unique and distinguished Barbershop in the Capital Region.

You'll know that your gift of Gregory's is the one he'll never forget. And we'll take the time to be sure he remembers.

**Gregory's
BARBERSHOP**
Masters of Barbering

Main Square • 318 Delaware Ave., Delmar
Tues., Wed. and Thurs. 9 to 8, Fri. 9 to 6, Sat. 9 to 5
439-3525 • www.gregorysbarbershop.com

COMING SOON TO CLIFTON PARK

DELMAR DENTAL MEDICINE

THOMAS H. ABELE, D.M.D.
GEOFFREY B. EDMUNDS, D.D.S.

**COMPLETE FAMILY
DENTISTRY AND
COMPREHENSIVE CARE**

Most insurances accepted as partial payment.

439-4228

344 Delaware Avenue, Delmar
(next to St. Thomas Church)
MONDAY-THURSDAY 8-5
FRIDAY 8-3

**PRIME CARE
PHYSICIANS, P.C.**

Proudly Announces the Relocation of

**Robert R. Quimby, MD
Jacqueline Bredwood, RPA-C**

Currently Located at
4 Normanskill Boulevard
Delmar, New York, 12054
Phone: 475-9235

Effective December 8, 2003, this Practice will Relocate to:
**190 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, New York, 12054**
All Phone Numbers Will Remain The Same

www.primecarepc.com

Obituaries

Lee Olby

Harold Lee Olby, 57, of Ravena, died Saturday, Nov. 29, at St. Peter's Hospital with his family at his side. For five years, he had fought a courageous battle with cancer.

Born in Albany, he was a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy and Hudson Valley Community College.

He was a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the Seabees.

An avid bowler, he built and opened Ravena Lanes in 1976 and it continues to operate today.

He was active in local politics, serving on the Ravena village planning and zoning boards.

He was also active in the Business Association of Ravena-Coeymans.

He enjoyed golfing and vacationing with his wife

in Florida.

He will be remembered for his strong work ethic, quick wit and determined spirit.

Survivors include his wife of 37 years, Carol Irwin Olby; a son, Brian Olby of Port Charlotte, Fla.; two daughters, Kristen Olby of Albany, a reporter with *The Spotlight*, and Aleisha Olby of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a sister, Victoria Doyle of Rochester; his brother-in-law, Winthrop Irwin of Coeymans; and a nephew and three nieces.

Services were from Grace United Methodist Church in Ravena, with burial in Grove

Cemetery in Coeymans.

Arrangements were by Babcock Funeral Home in Ravena.

Contributions may be made to the Lymphoma Research Foundation, 111 Broadway, 19th floor, New York 10006.

May Kinney

May Elizabeth Kinney, 102, of Voorheesville, died Wednesday, Nov. 26.

She was the wife of the late Solen Kinney.

Survivors include good friends Donald Meacham of Voor-

heesville and Eileen Mulderry of Delmar.

Services were from Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar, with burial in Woodlawn Cemetery in Berne.

Gerald Roarke

Gerald T. Roarke, 74, of Selkirk, died Tuesday, Nov. 25.

He was a truck driver for the former Ready-Mix company, retiring in 1976.

He was also co-founder and owner of the South Albany Airport in South Bethlehem. He was an avid pilot and enjoyed

rebuilding airplanes.

Survivors include his wife, Florence Baer Roarke; a son, Jim Roarke of Virginia; two stepsons, Rick Padula of Guiderland and Victor Padula of Rensselaer; a brother, Charles Roarke of Colonie; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and his dogs Molly and Smokey.

Services were from Durant Funeral Home in Glenmont, with burial in Memory's Garden in Colonie.

Contributions may be made to the Heart Program at Memorial Hospital, 600 Northern Blvd., Albany 12204.

St. Thomas to host Mass and fiesta

St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Mass and fiesta on Friday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m.

The celebration is the first event in the parish's new Pueblo to People partnership that links St. Thomas with churches in Mexico.

The Mass, which will be celebrated in Spanish and English, will conclude with a procession to the gathering space where the Rev. John Provost, pastor, will hang a hand-carved cross that is a gift from San Antonio de Padua parish in Merida, Mexico.

A fiesta will follow in the parish hall. A group of 9- to 12-year-old girls from St. Thomas will perform Mexican dances. In addition, folklorico dancers from Colombia, Spain, and Mexico also will perform. The fiesta will include Mexican food, decorations, music and the breaking of a piñata.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, one of the most important feast days for Mexican Catholics, celebrates the appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the Indian peasant Juan Diego on Tepeyac hill outside Mexico City in 1531.

The celebration is free and open to the public.

For information, call the St. Thomas rectory at 439-4951.

Orchestra slates holiday concert

Delmar Community Orchestra, directed by David Beck, will perform a program of seasonal favorites, both classical and pops, at its holiday concert on Monday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church, 35 Adams Place, Delmar.

The concert is free. The orchestra is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to the sharing and enjoyment of music through ensemble playing. Instrumentalists of all ages and levels of ability are invited to join. No auditions are required.

For information, visit www.timesunion.com/communities/dco.

See Ya Saturday

**Free phone card
with new Key Free
Interest Checking
Account.**

**Your KeyCenter is now open Saturdays from
9 a.m. to 12 noon. Stop by your local KeyCenter and
take advantage of:**

- Full-service banking
- Lasting advice of a Key Relationship Manager
- Offer available on Saturdays thru December 27

The Solution is Key.

Capital Region KeyCenters with Saturday hours:

Clifton Park KeyCenter at 1703 Route 9. 371-5501
Collins Corners KeyCenter at State Highway 30. 842-5212
Delmar KeyCenter at 164 Delaware Avenue. 439-4132
Glenmont KeyCenter at the Glenmont Plaza. 449-4080
Guiderland KeyCenter at 2050 Western Avenue. 456-8304
Latham KeyCenter at 851 New Loudon Road. 785-0610
Niskayuna KeyCenter at 3337 Consaul Road. 346-7083
Queensbury KeyCenter at 154 Quaker Road. 798-1807
Rensselaer County Plaza KeyCenter at Route 4 and 43. 283-8384
West Sand Lake KeyCenter at Route 43 and 150. 674-2866
Westgate Shopping Center KeyCenter at 911 Central Ave. 482-3357
Wilton KeyCenter at 3020 Route 50. 587-2405
Wolf Road KeyCenter at 1 Metro Park Drive. 453-1613

Minimum deposit required to open a Key Free Interest Checking Account is \$1000. If you close your account within 180 days of account opening you will be charged a \$25 account early closure fee. Other miscellaneous charges may apply. Offer available for opening Key Free Interest Checking at the participating KeyCenter locations on Saturdays through December 27, 2003. Pick up your phone card when you open your account at a participating KeyCenter while supplies last. The Solution is Key and Key.com are federally registered service marks of KeyCorp.

 KeyBank is
Member FDIC
©2003 KeyBank

Achieve anything.

KeyBank


Start a tradition
and put a song in the hearts
of families and children!



"CAROLING FOR KIDS" is an annual fundraising effort
for Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region.

Start the tradition in your neighborhood, your workplace
or your community. Caroling groups are gathering
during the month of December to sing in their neighborhoods.

Call the Ronald McDonald House today at (518) 438-2655

To receive your caroling kit or more information.

Obituaries

Marian Sheridan

Marian Peaslee Sheridan, 66, of Voorheesville, died Saturday, Nov. 29.

She was the executive secretary of the Eastern New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for several years.

She was a member of Delmar Presbyterian Church, serving many years as an elder and clerk of session.

She was an avid bird watcher.

Survivors include her husband, Francis J. Sheridan; four sons, James Sheridan, William Sheridan, Stephen Sheridan and Christopher Sheridan; three daughters, Susan Sheridan, Lisa Murphy and Lynn Freedman; two brothers, Russell Peaslee and Carl Peaslee; a sister, Jane

Heidcamp; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. from Delmar Presbyterian Church, with burial in Hancock Cemetery in Hancock, Mass.

Calling hours will be Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar.

Contributions may be made to the Delmar Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund, 585 Delaware Ave., Delmar 12054.

Charles Redmond

Charles H. Redmond, 83, of Glenmont, died Friday, Nov. 28, at St. Peter's Hospital.

Born in New York City, he was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II.

He was a graduate of Hamilton

College.

He was employed by the former New York Telephone Co. for many years, retiring in 1982.

He was a member of Normanside Country Club and the Bethlehem VFW Post.

He was a former member of the Bethlehem planning board and an active member of the Bethlehem Men's Republican Club for many years.

Survivors include his wife of 23 years, Corinne "Mickey" Redmond; four sons, William Redmond of Ridgewood, Niagara County, Charles H. Redmond II of Demarest, N.J., and R. Graham Redmond and Barry Redmond, both of Delmar; his former wife, Susan G. Redmond of Delmar; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

His body was donated to the Albany Medical College. Arrangement were by Anatomical Gift Program. A Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar memorial service will be held at a later date.



First Care Family Practice & Minor Emergency

Open 7 days/weekdays 9am - 7:30pm,
weekends 9am-3pm

Dr. S. Michael Fuhrman, D.O.

Board Certified Family Practitioners

Hypertension, Routine Medical Care, Diabetes

We do it all on site: X-Rays • EKGs • Minor Surgery

Accepting all major insurances including
CDPHP, MVP, Blue Cross/Blue Shield,
Empire & United Health & GHI

363 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 439-9911



LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

289 ONTARIO ST LLC
Notice of Formation of the above Limited Liability Company (LLC) Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on August 8, 2003. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC, PO Box 325 Albany NY, 12201 No registered agent. Purpose: For all legal purposes. LCD-9126 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

898 LOUDON ROAD, LLC, Notice of formation of a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC) Articles of Organization filed with the New York Secretary of State on October 16, 2003. 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 596 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110. LCD-9081 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

BBD OF ALBANY, LLC
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Articles of Organization for BBD of Albany, LLC (the "LLC") were filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on September 19, 2003. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 799 Madison Avenue, Albany, New York 12208. Office location is in the County of Albany. Duration is perpetual. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the New York Limited Liability Company Law. LC-9097 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP OF WORCESTER PARTNERS, L.P.
UNDER SECTION 121-201 OF THE REVISED LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ACT

1. The name of the limited partnership is "WORCESTER 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, Latham, New York 12110.
4. The name and business address of the sole general partner is:

LEGAL NOTICE

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 June 30, 2103.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Certificate of Limited Partnership on the 20th day of June 2003, and verify and affirm under penalties of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct as of the date hereof.
WORCESTER PARTNERS, L.P.
by: Shopping Center Development Co., L.L.C.
By: Kenneth B. Segel, Member
LCD-9085 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

ESCO CONTROLS, LLC
PURSUANT TO SECTION 206 OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW
To be published once a week for six successive weeks in the Times Union and the Colonie Spotlight:
1. The name of the limited liability company is Esco Controls, LLC.
2. The articles of organization were filed with the Secretary of State on June 25, 2003.
3. The office of the limited liability company is to be located in Albany County.
4. The Secretary of State has been designated as the agent of the LLC for service of process. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process served upon it for the LLC to 390 County Road 75, Mechanicville, New York 12118.
5. John Caligaris is a registered agent of the LLC who may be served for the LLC at 390 County Road 75, Mechanicville, New York 12118.
6. The purpose of the LLC is engaging in any lawful act for which an LLC may be formed.
LC-9199 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

LIBERTY WAY, LLC
Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 10/23/2003. 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 any such process served to: the LLC, P.O. Box 11-600, Albany, New York 12211-0600. Purpose: any lawful business purpose. LCD-9146 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY FORMATION NOTICE
Arts. of Org. filed with Secty of State of NY on 11/13/03 for J. Bahan Enterprises, LLC. Office located in Albany County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Joseph R. Bahan, 7 Thompson Street, Albany, NY 12205. Any lawful purpose. LC-9187

LEGAL NOTICE

(December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

MIJARO REALTY LLC
Notice of Organization:
MIJARO REALTY LLC was filed with SSNY 11/04/03. Office: Albany County.
SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. P.O. address which SSNY shall mail any process against the LLC served upon him: c/o Rory McGreesh 91 Moultrie St., Brooklyn, NY 11222
Purpose: To engage in any lawful activity.
LC-9106 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)
The name of the LLC is ANF1, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the Secretary of State on November 13, 2003. 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 agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 304 Loudon Road, Loudonville, New York 12211.
LC-9203 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC
Liberty Election Systems, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on November 14, 2003. 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 Richard A. Langer, McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, P.C., 75 State Street, Albany, NY. 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.
LC-9198 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Chat LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/20/03. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: 3724 Carmen Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303. Any lawful purpose. LCD-9183 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Publication
DIPLOMATIC INTERNATIONAL
LLC was filed with SSNY on 11/

LEGAL NOTICE

14/2003 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: The LLC, 46 STATE STREET, 3RD FLR, ALBANY, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA CORPORATE SERVICES INC. at the same address. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
LCD-9181 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Under Section 203 of the New York Liability Company Law
Name: DONLYNN INSPECTIONS, LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State New York (SSNY) on November 7, 2003. Principal office location: Albany County. The SSNY is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is 9 Warren Avenue, Albany, New York 12203. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which a limited liability company may be formed under the Limited Liability Company Law. Filer: William P. Hessney, Esq., Bartle, McGrane, Duffy & Jones, LLP, 251 River Street, P.O. Box 448, Troy, New York 12181 (518) 274-3510.
LC-9180 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Under Section 203 of the New York Liability Company Law
Name: ACTION HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State New York (SSNY) on October 27, 2003. Principal office location: Albany County. The SSNY is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is 2 Castle Court, Loudonville, New York 12211, Attn: Michael Catellier. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which a limited liability company may be formed under the Limited Liability Company Law. Filer: William P. Hessney, Esq., Bartle, McGrane, Duffy & Jones, LLP, 251 River Street, P.O. Box 448, Troy, New York 12181 (518) 274-3510.
LC-9179 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of 32 Vallera, LLC, a NYS limited liability company (LLC). Formation filed with SSNY on 11/6/2003. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC, upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: CT Corporation System, 111 Eighth Avenue, New York 10011. Purpose: Any

LEGAL NOTICE

lawful act.
LC-9163 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Articles of Organization of Home Run Properties, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on November 13, 2003, effective upon the date of filing. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC, 34 Princess Taylor Lane, North Bethlehem, New York 12203. 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.
LCD-9160 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of 24 Dove, LLC, a NYS limited liability company (LLC). Formation filed with SSNY on 11/6/2003. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC, upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 1 Imperial Dr., Loudonville, NY 12211. Purpose: Any lawful act.
LC-9158 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 98 Fourth Street, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 7/9/03. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: Bernard Dillenberger, 320 Dean St., Brooklyn, NY 11217. Purpose: to deal in real estate and any other lawful purpose.
LCD-9151 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of James M. Gaughan, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 11/3/03. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: Box 102, Altamont, NY 12009. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
LCD-9150 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BOGHT ROAD DEVELOPMENT, LLC
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Articles of Organization for a limited liability company to be known as Boght Road Development, LLC (the "Company") were filed with the Secretary of State of the State of New York on November 5, 2003.
The Company is being formed to acquire title to and manage or sell certain real property located between Boght Road and Loudon

LEGAL NOTICE

Road in the Town of Colonie, New York and engage in any lawful act or activity incidental thereto. The principal office of the Company is to be located in the County of Albany, New York. The Secretary of State has been designated as the agent of the Company upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State may mail a copy of any process against the Company served upon such Secretary of State is 8 Pheasant Lane, Menands, New York 12204.
LC-9145 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law
New Scotland Florist, LLC (LLC) articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 24, 2003. New York office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon it is 263 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208. The purpose of the LLC is any purpose for which a limited liability company may be organized under applicable law.
LCD-9143 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Name: Sports Signup LLC. Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SOS) on 10-29-2003. Office location: Albany County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS will mail copy of process to Sports Signup LLC, 2 Skyview Dr, Cohoes, NY 12047. Purpose: Any lawful business purpose.
LC-9142 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Old Albany Properties, LLC, a NYS limited liability company (LLC). Formation filed with SSNY on 10/16/2003. Off. Loc: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC, upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 54 Willett St., Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: Any lawful act.
LC-9130 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Boght Based Lender, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/17/03. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: 26 Locust Dr., Voorheesville, NY 12186. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
LCD-9123 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). The name of the LLC is RED OAKS RESIDENCES, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on November 3, 2003. 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 302 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203. LCD-9105 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REGISTERED LLP. Budd, Tribble & Von Ahn, CPAs, LLP, filed a Certificate of Registration with the New York Secretary of State on October 29, 2003. Its principal office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process may be served. A copy of any such process shall be mailed to P.O. Box 687, Fonda New York 12068. Its business is to engage in the practice of certified public accountancy and any other lawful activity for which limited liability partnerships may be organized under Section 121-1500(a) of the New York Partnership Law. LCD-9103 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC. Notice of Formation of Z-LAND ACRES, LLC, a domestic Limited Liability Company, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of the State of New York on 10/21/03. NY office location is Albany County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon Sandra Zabarsky, One Mann Drive, Apt. 6, Castleton, NY 12033. The Purpose of LLC is real estate investments. LCD-9101 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of a New York Limited Partnership
1. Name of the Limited Partnership: The Lucille M. Stein Family Limited Partnership
2. Date of Filing of the Certificate of Limited Partnership with the Secretary of State: October 28, 2003
3. County in which the Limited Partnership's principal office is located: Albany County, New York State.
4. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Limited Partnership. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company which is served on it is: c/o Ellen Newell 22 Lenox Street West Newton, MA 02465
5. The registered agent for the Limited Partnership, upon whom process against the Limited Partnership may be served: NONE
6. The name and the business or residence street address of each general partner is available from the Secretary of State.
7. The latest date upon which the Limited Partnership is to dissolve is: November 1, 2053
8. The character or purpose of the business of the Limited Partnership is: to engage in any lawful business.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES F. SEELEY, ESQ.
October 29, 2003

LC-9094
(December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of limited liability company (LLC): Name: AMB Enterprises, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/17/03. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served.

LEGAL NOTICE

SSNY shall mail copy of process to AMB Enterprises, LLC, 23 Bergen Woods Drive, Cohoes, New York 12047. Term: Perpetual. Purpose: real estate holding company and any other lawful purpose. LC-9088 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Articles of Organization of ABN Technologies, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on October 21, 2003, effective upon the date of filing. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC, 828 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12203. 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. LC-9078 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A REGISTERED LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (LP). The name of the LP is CAMPINO ENTERPRISES, L.P. The Certificate of Registration of the LP was filed with the New York Secretary of State on October 10, 2003. The purpose of the LP is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LP is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LP upon whom process against the LP may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LP is 2 Edgewood Circle, Menands, New York 12204. LCD-9064 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). The name of the LLC is R&S MENANDS, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on October 10, 2003. 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 2 Edgewood Circle, Menands, New York 12204. LCD-9063 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

PINETREE Mgmt., LLC. Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 10/23/2003. 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 any such process served to: the LLC, P.O. Box 11-600, Albany, New York 12211-0600. Purpose: any lawful business purpose. LCD-9147 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW. TURF PARILLO LLC. Dated: November 10, 2003. Notice is hereby given of the formation of the above-named limited liability company ("Company") for the transaction of business in the State of New York and elsewhere. Pursuant to section 206 of the Limited Liability Com-

LEGAL NOTICE

pany Law of the State of New York, your attention is directed to the following facts:
1. The name of the Company is Turf Parillo LLC.
2. The articles of organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State on October 7, 2003.
3. The County in which the office of the Company shall be located is Albany.
4. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company to the following post office address: 792 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham, NY 12110.
5. The character of the business of the Company is as follows: to engage in any lawful act or activity for which a limited liability company may be formed under section 201 of the Limited Liability Company Law. LC-9138 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to New York Limited Liability Company law 206, SC THE VISCOMM GROUP LLC publishes the following legal notice:
1. The name of the limited liability company is: THE VISCOMM GROUP LLC.
2. The articles of organization were filed with the Secretary of State on June 24, 2003 with an amendment filed on October 31, 2003.
3. The offices of THE VISCOMM GROUP LLC (the "Company") will be located in Albany County, New York.
4. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served, and the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him or her to the Company at c/o The Viscomm Group, LLC, No. Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207. Attn: Paul Madelone.

LEGAL NOTICE

5. No registered agents have been designated for service upon the Company.
6. The Company has not specified a date of dissolution, or any events that will automatically cause the dissolution of the Company.
7. The Company shall be engaged in the media development, meeting and event production and any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York. LC-9134 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Real Property Options, LLC. Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 10/09/2003. Office location, County of Albany. Spiegel & Utrera, P.A., P.C., 45 John Street, Suite 711, NY, NY 10038 has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any such process served to: The LLC, P.O. Box 1251, Latham, NY 12110. Purpose: any lawful act. LCD-9135 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

ROCKMORE, LLC. Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 10/23/2003. 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 any such process served to: the LLC, P.O. Box 11-600, Albany, New York 12211-0600. Purpose: any lawful business purpose. LCD-9148 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

SELLNOW REALTY, LLC. Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 10/23/2003. 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 any such process served to: the LLC, P.O. Box 11-600, Albany, New York 12211-0600. Purpose: any lawful business purpose. LCD-9149 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

SOBE PROPERTIES, LLC. Notice of formation of the above Limited Liability Company (LLC). Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/5/2003. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copies of any process against it to SOBE PROPERTIES, LLC, 420 Route 9W, Glenmont, NY 12077. LLC is member-managed. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. LCD-9120 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

WOODVILLE MOTORS LLC. NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Articles of Organization for Woodville Motors LLC (the "LLC") were filed with Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on October 21, 2003. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 1037 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12205. Duration is perpetual. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act for which limited liability companies may be organized. LCD-9074 (December 3, 2003)

LEGAL ADVERTISERS:

Please note our new
Legal Advertising Deadline is ...

Friday at 11:00 A.M.

Obituaries

Elizabeth White

Elizabeth Tougher White, 99, of Delmar, died Monday, Nov. 24, at St. Peter's Hospice.

Born and educated in Belfast, Northern Ireland, she came to the United States in 1929.

She was employed by the state Department of Audit & Control for many years, retiring in 1969.

She was a longtime member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Albany.

She was also a member of the Bethlehem Senior Citizens.

She was wife of the late James H. White.

Survivors include a son, William H. White of Clifton Park; a daughter, Beth Wensley of Delmar; two brothers, Stanley Tougher of Glenmont and the Rev. Eric Tougher of Whitinsville, Mass.; and a grandson.

Services were from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Albany, with burial in Albany Rural Cemetery in Menands.

Arrangements were by Tebbutt Funeral Home in Albany.

Contributions may be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany 12208.

Herbert Hafley

Herbert E. Hafley Jr., 75, of Nashua, N.H., and formerly of Delmar, died Thursday, Nov. 27, at home.

Born in Albany, he was a graduate of the former Delmar High School and Miami University of Ohio.

He had lived in Nashua for many years, after moving from the Capital District.

He was the Northeast manager of the former Peneteryn Systems and also was vice president and co-owner of Eastern Pipe Service of Nashua for many years.

He was a member of the Northeastern Public Works Association and the National Association of Sewer Cleaning Operators.

He also drove patients for the Road to Recovery program.

He was a member of Good Shepherd Church in Nashua for 34 years.

He enjoyed boating, swimming, snorkeling, tennis, traveling, outdoors and yard work.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Patricia Elwell Hafley; two daughters, Karen Brown of Chesterfield, Mo., and Debra Alcox of Brookline, N.H.; a son, Herbert Hafley III of Merrimack, N.H.; two sisters, Jane Kesler of The Villages, Fla., and Lois Hinds of Skaneateles, Onondaga County; eight grandchildren; and his dog Nixie.

Services were from Good Shepherd Church, with burial in 214 Main St., Nashua,

Wednesday at 10 a.m. Interment and burial in Good Shepherd Memorial Garden in Nashua.

Arrangements were by Davis Funeral Home in Nashua.

Contributions may be made to Home, Health and Hospice Care, 22 Prospect St., Nashua, N.H. 03060 or Good Shepherd Church, Book of Remembrance, 214 Main St., Nashua, N.H. 03060.

Gladys Terwilliger

Gladys Chandler Terwilliger, 94, of Lebanon County, Pa., and formerly of Delmar, died Thursday, Nov. 20, at ManorCare Health Services in Lebanon.

Born in Rensselaer, she enjoyed painting and traveling.

She was the wife of the late Frank R. Terwilliger.

Survivors include a son,

Robert Terwilliger of Lebanon; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were private. Arrangements were by Kreamer Funeral Home in Annville, Pa.

Contributions may be made to the Sexual Assault Resource and Counseling Center, 834 Cumberland St., Lebanon, Pa. 17042.

Stocking Stuffers

Make an appointment with Delmar's Podiatrist, Dr. Joseph Manzi, and treat your stocking stuffers to the gift of good health in the new year.

261 Delaware Ave.
Delmar • 439-0423



Medicare-covered Diabetic Shoes. Medicare and most insurances accepted.



4.00% APR*

No one can give you a better Home Equity Credit Line than

Your Home Town Bank.

- 3.75% Variable APR* for the First 12 Months
- No Closing Costs**
- Quick, Local Decisions
- Tax Advantages***

Plus...

- No Points
- No Appraisal Fees
- No Application Fees
- No Origination Fees
- No Recording Fees
- No Annual Fees



Your Home Town Bank

Call today, or stop by one of our over 60 convenient home town branches for details.

(518) 377-3311

*Annual Percentage Rate of Prime minus 1/2% is offered for the first 12 months after closing only. Rate thereafter becomes Prime Plus Zero. Trustco may adjust its Home Equity Credit Line rate weekly, based on the highest Prime Rate published on Tuesday in the Wall Street Journal. Rate may vary weekly over the life of the loan. 14.99% lifetime rate cap. **No closing costs if \$15,000 or more is drawn on your Line at closing. If less than \$15,000 is drawn, no closing costs except NYS mortgage tax of 3/4% of the total credit line amount. If your Line is cancelled for any reason within 3 years from the closing date, the amount of closing costs and mortgage tax we pay at closing will be added to your payoff amount owed. Offer good for new Home Equity Credit Lines only and cannot be used to pay off existing Trustco debt. ***All or part of the interest on a Home Equity Credit Line may be tax deductible under the Tax Reform Act. We suggest you consult your tax advisor about your personal situation. Please note: We reserve the right to alter or withdraw these products or certain features thereof without prior notification.



Member FDIC



HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.,
Fri. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.,
Sat. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

*Holiday Catering
Hot & Cold Buffets
Party Platters*

244 Delaware Avenue, Delmar 439-8272

**Builders OF BOYS,
Makers OF MEN**



LA SALLE INSTITUTE

— Educating Young Men Since 1850

Sign up for our

**ENTRANCE & SCHOLARSHIP
EXAMS**

Saturday, December 6

8:15 am

Saturday, January 10

8:15 am

Prior Registration Required.

Call To Register.

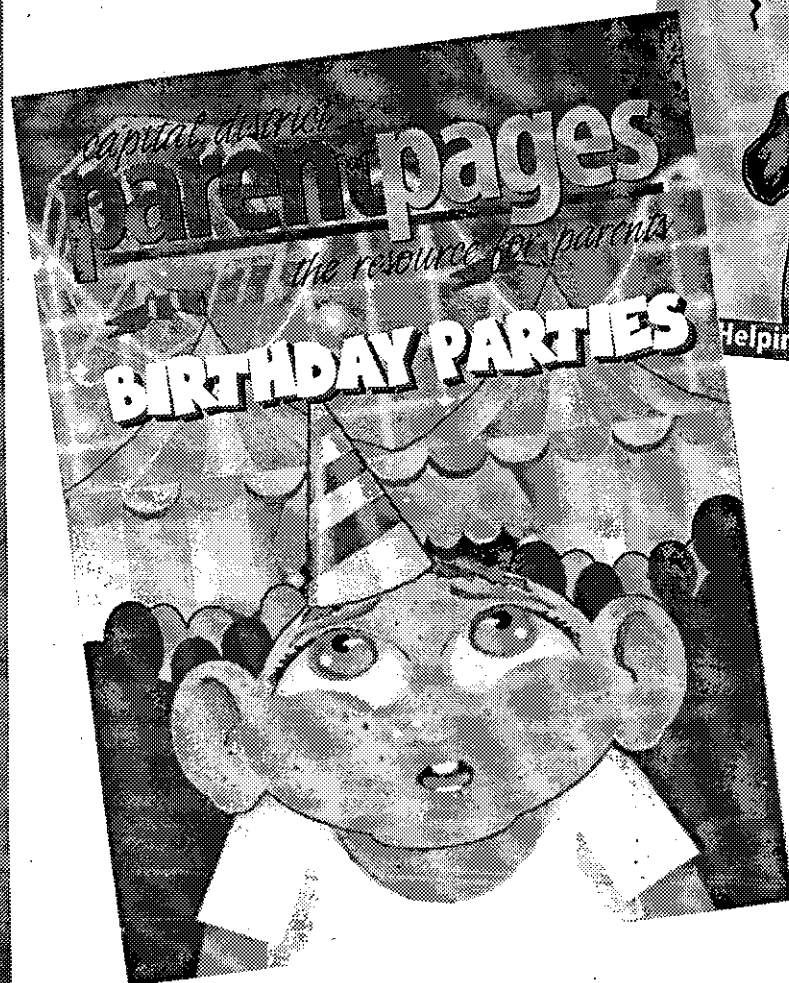
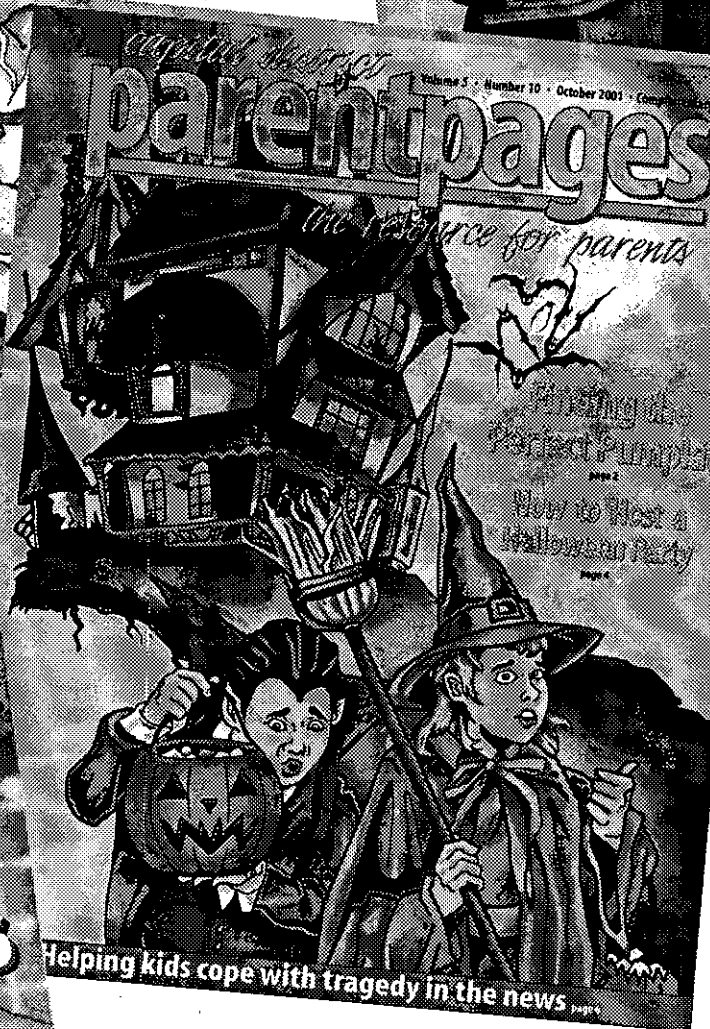
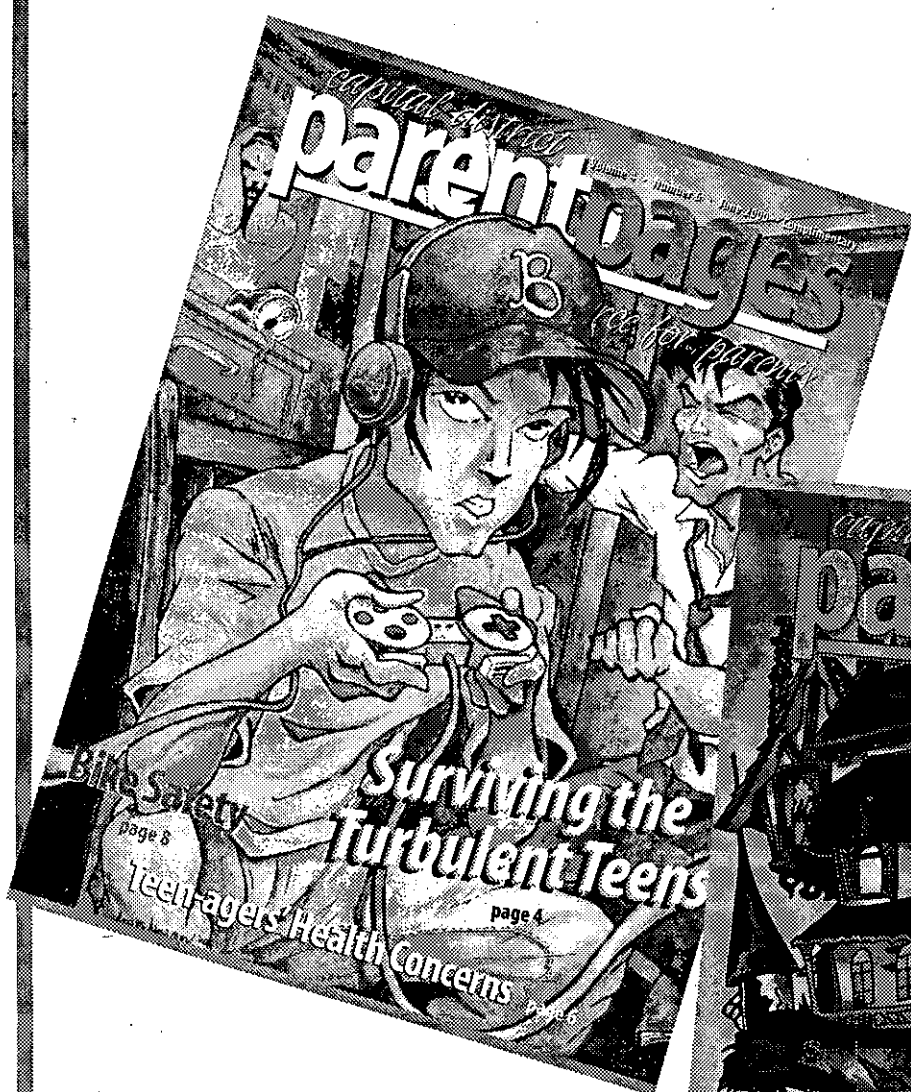
(518) 283-2500

All Exams Are Located At:

**LA SALLE INSTITUTE
174 WILLIAMS ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12180**

from Diapers TO Diplomas

we can help!



**NEWS
CALENDARS
FEATURES
ADVICE
KID PAGES
FAMILY FUN**

capital district
parentpages
the resource for parents

For information please call: (518) 439-4949 • FAX (518) 439-0609
e-mail: cdparentpg@aol.com



Eric and Julie McPhee

Horwitz, McPhee wed

Julie Anne Horwitz, daughter of Dr. Raymond and Janice Horwitz of Slingerland's and Eric Peter McPhee, son of Christine Alesch of Vineyard Haven, Mass., and Dr. Walter McPhee of Mansfield Center, Conn., were married Sept. 6 at The Equinox in Manchester, Vt.

The maid of honor was Beth Wagstaff. Bridesmaids were Laura McPhee and Tanya McPhee, both sisters of the bride, Aimee Brobst, Emily Inge and Amy Preston-Gayle.

The best man was Jon Roberts.

Groomsmen were Peter McPhee, brother of the groom, Brian Horwitz, brother of the bride, Jack Wallace and Tom Hansen.

The bride is a graduate of

Selkirk woman studying abroad

Erica Brunner of Selkirk is participating in St. Lawrence University's International Study Program for the fall. St. Lawrence is a coeducational liberal arts and sciences institution of 2,000 students in Canton.

BCHS students chosen for bands

Eleven BCBS students were chosen to attend the All-State Music Festival in Rochester, Nov. 30 to Dec. 3. Participation is based on solo performances that were adjudicated last spring by the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA).

Timothy Karpowitz, Zach Sherman and Danielle Wolinsky were chosen for the symphonic band; Emily Abbott and Elizabeth Birkhead were named to the women's chorus; David Richardson will participate in the wind ensemble; Jackie Avitabile, Tom Hackman, Carolyn Niehaus, Federico Rodriguez and David Schwab were chosen as band alternates.

Thirty-nine BCBS students were also chosen to participate in the Area All-State Festival, which took place at Glens Falls High School on Nov. 14 and 15.

The following students were selected: Corey Alston, Jackie Avitabile, Arthur Barnard, Elizabeth Birkhead, Timothy Brosnan, Vanessa Calaban, James Collins, Sean Comber, Sophia DeBlasi, Mark Fitzsimmons, Emma Gordon, W. Christopher Gray, Thomas Hackman, Eric Hansen, Victoria Knox, Joshua Levy, Meredith Lutz, Peter Marler, Johanna Marvin, Carolyn Niehaus, David Richardson, Federico Rodriguez, Jeffrey Sagor, Laura Scialolino, Diane Sheppard, Zach Sherman, Genya Shimkin, Sarah Shulman, Jeremy Siegel, Andrew Smith, Heather Soleau, Abby Stambach, Kyra Swartz, Lauren Triner, Amy Van Deusen, David Ward, Erica Wegerzyn, Roxanne Wegman and Katie Young.

Bethlehem Music Association assists students with costs associated with attending.

Objects of Affection Out of the box decorator wants to make your house sing for:

- Parties • Special Occasions • Holidays or whatever or forever...

Please call A.S.A.P. to schedule your appointment
689-0219

Turning Stone Gift Cards available. Call 1-866-426-3774 or inquire within.

MARDI GRAS MADNESS!

New Year's Eve

December 31, 2003
Conference Center • 7PM-Midnight

New Orleans Style Masked Madness Packs the "Streets" of Turning Stone At The Grandest Party Event of the New Year

Spice It Up With...
An American, Cajun & Creole Specialty Buffet
Let Loose to the Live Music of Atlas & Classified All Night Long

Celebrate With...
Harlequins, Jesters and More
Till Balloon Drops Usher In 2004!

\$25,000 Scan & Win Drawing
Scan your Diamond Card between 3PM and 4AM
Drawings every hour from 12:30AM till 4:30AM!

\$50 Buy-in Multi-Games and Blackjack Tournaments
Win your share of \$20,004 in cash and prizes per tournament.
Register at the Showroom Box Office starting December 1, 2003.

It's All About The Beads!

Reserve your party tickets at the Showroom Box Office.
Call 1-877-833-SHOW.

TURNING STONE Casino
R.E.S.O.R.T

Exit 33 off the New York State Thruway - Verona, New York 13478
1-800-771-7711

MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL OR MODIFY EVENTS AT ANY TIME.

www.turning-stone.com

Wedding Directory

For Bridal Services

FLORISTS Floral Garden Specializing in Weddings 339 Delaware Ave. Delmar, 478-7232 www.thefloralgarden.com Catering to all budgets	INVITATIONS Paper Mill Delaware Plaza. 439-8123 Personalized invitations & announcements for weddings, showers, bar mitzvah, new baby, graduation.
JEWELRY Harold Finkle, "Your Jeweler" 1585 Central Ave., Colonie. 456-6800. Diamonds - Handcrafted Wedding Rings & Attendant's Gifts.	PHOTOGRAPHY Personal, Professional Photographic Services. - 469-6551.
PLANNING Brides' World ESP 1-11-04 25th Annual Bridal/Party Planning Exhib. 438-4753. Adm. \$6. Reg. @ www.PocketWeddingGuide.com	TOOTH WHITENING Dr. Kabinoff, 458-1892. 1465 Western Avenue, Guilderland. Professional Teeth Whitening.

Community Corner

Hamagrael craft fair set for Dec. 6

Hamagrael Elementary School PTA will host its 20th annual craft fair on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the school on McGuffey Lane in Delmar. Admission is free.

More than 85 vendors will be selling handcrafted wares including jewelry, pottery, Chinese calligraphy, handmade books, watercolors, dried flowers, jams and jellies, holiday items, lamps, woodworking, tole painting, accessories, tie-dyed items, soaps and toiletries.

Lunch will be sold to benefit the fourth-grade trip to Nature's Classroom.

There will also be a bucket auction. For information, call the school at 439-4905.

Family ENTERTAINMENT

CALENDARS ♦ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Magical Nutcrackers come to life this season

By Donna J. Bell

The ultimate holiday classic, "The Nutcracker," is being performed locally with all its glittery magic by several ballet companies this month.

Many a future ballerina has been inspired to dance by the leaps and arabesques of the Sugar Plum Fairy, and for many families seeing the ballet is a yearly ritual.

The Nutcracker Ballet is based on the book called "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King," written by E.T.A. Hoffman. In 1891, the legendary choreographer Marius Petipa commissioned Tchaikovsky to write the music for the ballet and in 1892, the first showing of the Nutcracker took place at the Mariinsky Theatre of Russia, home of the Kirov Ballet.

"It's a family holiday tradition," Jackie Lape, the company manager of the Northeast Ballet said of the perennial show.

The story begins on Christmas Eve at the Stahlbaum house as they have their annual Christmas party. The children, Fritz and Clara, are excited and welcome their friends to come join in play and dancing. Fritz and Clara's godfather Herr Drosselmeyer arrives and gives presents to them. Although his gift to Fritz is quite nice, his gift to Clara, a beautiful Nutcracker is the hit of the party. Fritz, being a bit jealous, grabs the nutcracker from Clara and promptly breaks it. Later that night, after the guests depart and the family goes to bed, Clara, worried about her beloved Nutcracker, sneaks back to the tree to check on him, when strange things begin to happen. Soon a battle takes place between the mice and their king and the toy soldiers. The Nutcracker turns into a prince and sets Clara out on a journey to a land of snow and enchanted forests. Then they travel onto a land of sweets where the infamous Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier dance a pas de deux after which Clara awakes from her dream and finds herself by the tree with her beloved Nutcracker.

Thousands of times each year, as Christmas approaches, the story is retold in dance with countless variations, to audiences worldwide.

Founded in 1960 by artistic director Madeline Cantarella Culpo, the Albany Berkshire Ballet has been performing The Nutcracker for more than 30 years.

From start to finish the Albany Berkshire Ballet's version is filled with exciting sets, dazzling professionally designed costumes and wonderful dancing, including New York City professionals. From the tiny reindeer making their stage debut at the tender ages of 4 and 5, to the teen-agers who train all year for a chance to be a snowflake or a flower, local children are a major asset to the performance.

"They are very excited," said company manager Ferr. Ardriano of the children in the ballet. "It's exciting for them to be part of professional production." This year Ardriano, who's own daughter once performed Clara for the company, will be watching her granddaughter in her debut as a reindeer.

The Albany Berkshire Ballet's Nutcracker will be performed Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4 and 7 pm at The Egg. Ticket prices are \$10 to \$25 and can be purchased by calling The Egg box office at 473-1845 or the Albany Berkshire Ballet at 426-0660.

The Malta Ballet's will show off their 10th season of "The Nutcracker" at The Egg while featuring guest artists from the New York City Ballet Company.

"Our ballet has lots of extras," said Ginger Morris, the company's artistic director. "We have a choir singing Christmas carols, our rats do gymnastic and our soldiers are tap dancers. I've also added dances from different countries such as Scottish and Irish dances." Another fun touch is a magician that comes before the Waltz of the Flowers and does magic for the audience, Morris said.

Of course, no Nutcracker is complete without the legions of ballet students who study all year to be part of a great show.

The Albany Berkshire Ballet's Nutcracker has been performed in the area for more than 30 years.



"I think it is a special feeling, it's a privilege for them and it's something they will remember always," Morris said.

The Nutcracker will be performed at The Egg on Dec. 5 at 10:30 a.m. for schools, organizations and the public at a special price of \$9. Tickets for the Dec. 5 performance are available by calling The Malta Ballet Company at 899-6664.

On Saturday, Dec. 6 the company will also perform at The Egg at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. with ticket prices of \$24.50, \$19.50 and \$14.50. Tickets are now on sale at The Egg box office at 473-1845.

This year the Northeast Ballet will star New York City Ballet's principal dancers, Philip Neal and Maria Kowroski, and, not to upstage the ballet stars, a live horse will show up on stage.

"We are performing at a wonderful place," said Lape, of the company's 16th yearly appearance at Proctors Theatre.

"We have a largest cast of local dancers from many area schools," Lape said. "Everyone that was awarded a part at the auditions has been very excited and are taking their responsibility very seriously."

Lape said that even though the Northeast Ballet Company's production remains traditional, the choreography is a little different each year thanks to Darlene Myers, the company's artistic director.

The show runs Saturday, Dec. 6, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$22.50 and \$27.50 and are available by calling Proctor's Theatre Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The box office is also open until curtain on the day of any performance. Call 346-6204 to charge by phone.



The Northeast Ballet's Nutcracker features New York City Ballet dancers and a live horse onstage.

ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

THE SWEEPERS

neighborhood comedy, Capital Repertory Theatre, 111 N. Pearl St., Albany, through Dec. 14, \$31 to \$39. Information, 445-7469.

THE FULL MONTY

Proctor's Theatre, 432 State St., Schenectady, Dec. 9 to 14, \$25.50 to \$59.50. Information, 346-6204.

BABES IN ARMS

Rodgers and Hart musical, Schenectady Light Opera Company, 826 State St., Dec. 5 to 7 and 11 to 14, \$18, \$9 for children under 13. Information, 393-5732.

COMMUNICATING DOORS

Ayckbourn comedy, Schenectady Civic Players, 12 S. Church St., Dec. 5 to 7 and 11 to 14, \$12, \$10 for students. Information, 382-2081.

NUNCRACKERS

Nonsense Christmas, C-R Productions at Cuhoes Music Hall, weekends, Dec. 5 to 21, \$16 to \$26. Information, 237-7999.

Music

DUBRAVKA TOMSIC

pianist, playing works by Hadyn, Beethoven and Chopin, Memorial Chapel of Union College, Schenectady, Dec. 4, 8 p.m., \$20. Information, 372-3651.

HOT TUNA

The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., \$24. Information, 473-1845.

THE VIENNA CHOIR BOYS

The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., \$24, \$20 for seniors, \$12 for children under 13. Information, 473-1845.

TONY KENNY'S CHRISTMAS TIME IN IRELAND

The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 10, 8 p.m., \$20. Information, 432-6598.

JUDY COLLINS

Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, State and Second streets, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., \$32 and \$35. Information, 273-0038.

AMY GRANT AND VINCE GILL

Christmas concert, Pepsi Arena, South Pearl Street, Albany, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.,

\$25.50, \$41, \$51 and \$76. Information, 465-4663.

MENDELSSOHN CLUB WINTER CONCERT

The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 12, 8 p.m., \$16. Information, 473-1845.

ALBANY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

playing works by Bach, Haydn, Handel, Levin and Griffes, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, State and Second streets, Dec. 12, 8 p.m., \$19, \$29.50 and \$37.50. Information, 273-0038.

Dance

THE NUTCRACKER

presented by Northeast Ballet, Proctor's Theatre, State Street, Schenectady, Dec. 6 at 2 and 7 p.m., Dec. 7 at 2 p.m., \$22.50 and \$27.50. Information, 346-6204.

THE NUTCRACKER

presented by the Malta Ballet Company, The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 5 at 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., \$9, Dec. 6 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., \$24.50, \$19.50 for students and seniors, \$14.50 for children under 13. Information, 473-1845.

THE NUTCRACKER

presented by Albany Berkshire Ballet, Palace Theatre, Clinton Avenue and North Pearl Street, Albany, Dec. 21, 4 and 7:30 p.m., \$25 and \$30, \$17 and \$20 for children and students. Information, 426-0660.

Family Fun

VICTORIAN STROLL

downtown Troy, dozens of free performances by local artists, Dec. 7, noon to 5 p.m. Information, 274-7020.

HOW MUSIC SAVED THE HOLIDAYS

Albany Symphony Orchestra family program, Palace Theatre, Clinton Avenue and North Pearl Street, Albany, Dec. 14, 3 p.m., \$12, \$6 for children. Information, 463-4663.

Comedy

CHICAGO CITY LIMITS

performing "Revenge of the Reindeer," The Egg at Empire State Plaza, Albany, Dec. 12, 8 p.m., \$24. Information, 473-1845.

Visual Arts

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

permanent collections on New York state history and geography, Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue. Information, 474-5877.

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND ART

exhibits on Hudson River School painting, American sculpture, Egypt and the history of Albany, 125 Washington Ave. Information, 463-4478.

SCHENECTADY MUSEUM

Spirit of Schenectady and Collection Highlights, planetarium, Nott Terrace Heights. Information, 382-7890.

ALBANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GALLERY

Albany-Shaker Road, Colonie, Unplugged: Painting in the Age of Technology, through Jan. 4. Information, 242-2222.

Call for Artists

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

openings in the string, horn and percussion sections. Information, 439-7749.

COLONIE TOWN BAND

several openings, rehearsals on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at town hall, Route 9, Newtonville. Information, 783-2760.

COLONIE CENTENNIAL BRASS CHOIR

openings for brass players, rehearsals on first Thursday and third Tuesday of the month, at 7:15 p.m., town hall, Route 9, Newtonville. Information, 783-2760.

SUBURBAN SOUNDS COMMUNITY CHORUS

openings in mixed chorus, rehearsals Sundays at 7 p.m. at Allamont Village Hall, 115 Main St. Information, 861-8000.

FRIENDSHIP SINGERS

openings in women's singing group,

focusing on old favorites and show tunes, rehearsals Tuesday mornings at Community United Methodist Church 1499 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands. Information, 439-2360.

Third Reformed Church, 20 Ten Eyck Ave., Albany, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Information, 477-4454.

CAPITAL COMMUNITY VOICES

rehearsals at Columbia High School, Luther Road, East Greenbush, 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesdays. Information, 477-8308.

ARTISTS WANTED

exhibit space available for original paintings at Local Color Art Gallery, 961 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham. Information, 786-6557.

Classes

DANCE CLASSES

ongoing, all levels, ballet, jazz and modern, New School of Ballet, 1098 Parkwood Blvd., Schenectady, Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays. Information, 346-1096.

ART CLASSES

watercolor, oil and drawing, beginner and intermediate, Wednesdays and Thursdays, taught by Kristin Woodward. Information, 783-1828.

WORDS USING THE 1ST HALF OF THE ALPHABET

MAGIC MAZE

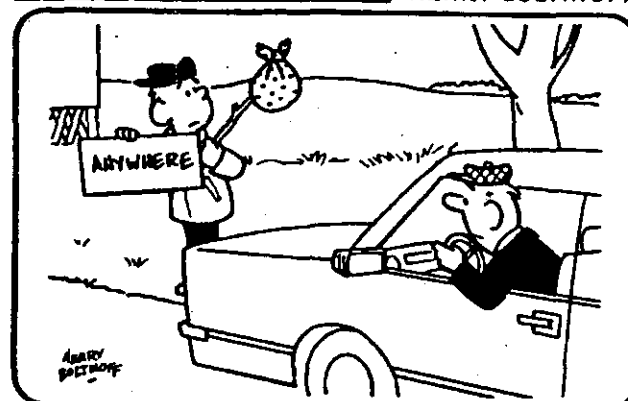
D Q M J F B Y U R O K H D A H
X E U Q N K H E B Y V S P A M
D F L A M B E J H E B Y I D V
T E Q K I I O L I G D L E D B
Y W K T C I L E A G E K A C R
P M K C H A L K E D C I F D B
Y B L E A C H W E I I U E S Q
O M K I E J F L L D M M D B Z
X W U D L E I F K C A B S Q O
N L J H F A D H C L L A Y W V
T S Q P J N L K F I H F E C B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

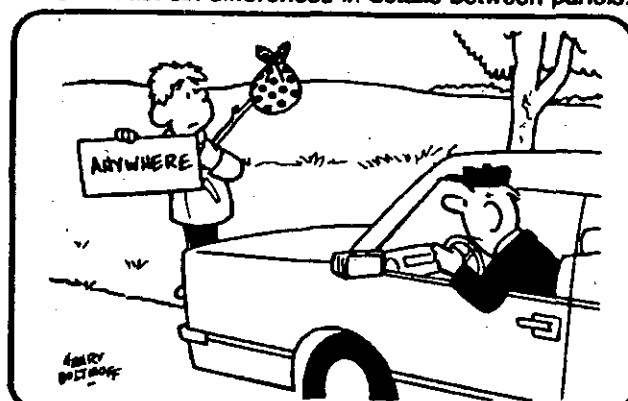
Backfield Field Gaelic Jailed
Bleach Flambe Hackled Michael
Chalked Flame Hailed Milked
Decimal Flicked Hijacked

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

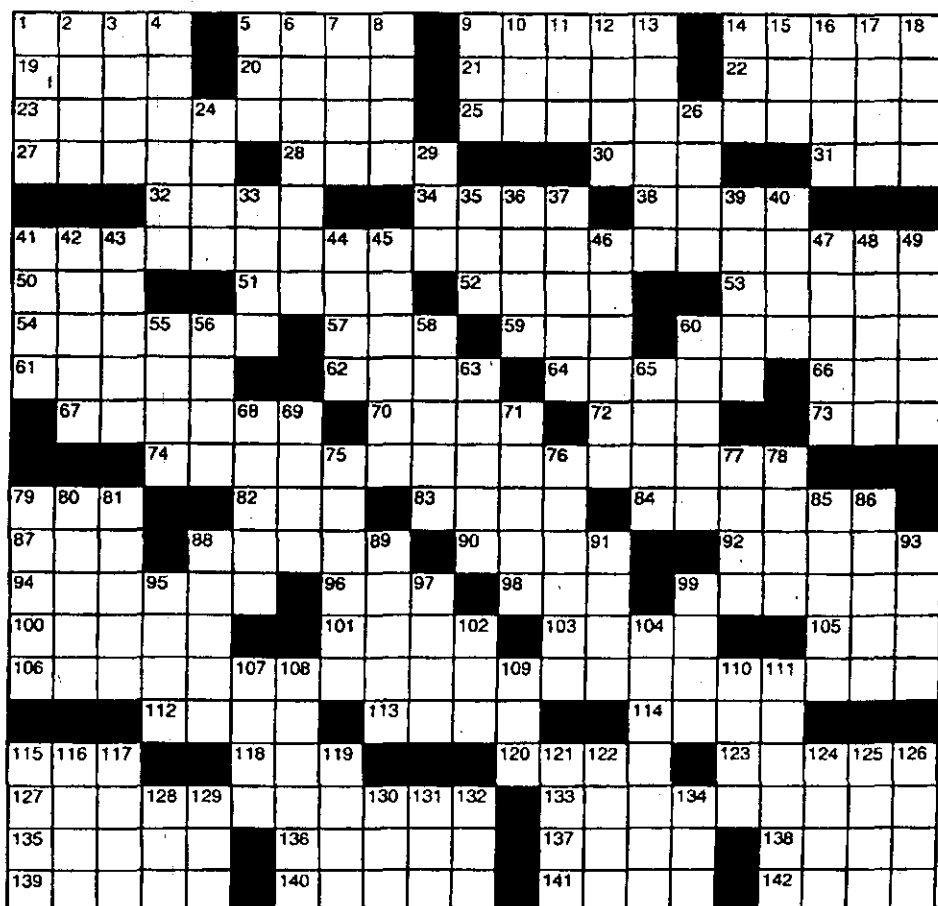


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy's hat is gone. 2. Knapsack is different. 3. Tree has leaves. 4. Man's hat is different. 5. Tire is black. 6. Billboard is gone.

The Super CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Still
5 Little devils
9 Lost a lap
14 '83 Woody Allen film
19 — code
20 Year segment
21 Dodge
22 Beethoven dedicatee
23 Melanie Griffith movie
25 W. Somerset Maugham work
27 Check recipient
28 Marge in the fridge
30 Impresario Hurok
31 "Mal de —"
32 More than more
34 Author Martin
38 Dick Tracy's love
41 Laura Esquivel novel
50 Southern st.
51 Green bean
52 Artist Joan
53 Arrives
54 Most painful
57 Drivers' lics., e.g.
59 Bando of baseball
60 Yam purchases
61 — drum

DOWN

1 "Friday the 13th" setting
2 Sayao solo
3 Painter Peter
4 "You — Feel Like Dancing" ('76 hit)
5 — Jima
6 "The Baskul"
7 Rigo for Rigg
8 — terrier
9 Wine word
10 Dam org.
11 Acorn, eventually
12 Poems of praise
13 Spanish explorer
14 Road to enlightenment
15 Antiquity, archaically
16 Novelist O'Flaherty
17 Tropical spot
18 Will of "The Walttons"
19 Valuable
20 Chiles or Nettleton
21 Baggage checkers?
22 Sociable starting
23 German river
24 — lily
25 "No, No, Nanette" song
26 "Angel of the Morning" singer
27 "No, No, Nanette" song
28 Actress Eve
29 Baskin-Robbins venue
30 Chiles or Nettleton
31 Baggage checkers?
32 Sociable starting
33 German river
34 — lily
35 "Friday the 13th" setting
36 Sayao solo
37 Painter Peter
38 "You — Feel Like Dancing" ('76 hit)
39 — Jima
40 "The Baskul"

46 Shout
47 Off the mark
48 Belief
49 Lamb product
55 95 Down's real name
56 Big rig
58 Bend
60 No longer trash
63 Man or stallion
65 Antistic output
68 Big pitcher?
69 Tragic monarch
71 Laotian native
75 Study for exams
76 More macabre
77 Or — (threat words)
78 "You — Me" ('57 hit)
79 Capital of Belarus
80 Persian, presently
81 Los —, CA
85 Ruth's mother-in-law
86 Chel's shield?
88 Stickpin locale
89 Cabinet wood
91 Realty map
93 Mean Marquis
95 "Bonanza" brother
97 Patella's place
99 Inspid
102 Dug in
104 Pie filling
107 Any time now
108 Flow
109 High rails
110 West.
111 Spirals
115 Trojan War hero
116 Raymond of "Godzilla"
117 "Celeste —" (Verdi aria)
119 Crooked
121 Raison d'
122 Authentic
124 Nebraska native
125 Baby branch
126 Mediocore
128 Dodger Ron
129 Minnesota twins?
130 Hamilton bill
131 Out — limb
132 Slang negative
134 Service charge

The Spotlight CALENDAR

Wed., Dec. 3

BETHLEHEM

DELMAR ROTARY
Quality Inn, Route 9W, 7:30 a.m.
Information, 767-2930.

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

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

BETHLEHEM BUSINESS WOMEN

Normanside 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

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

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB

Normanside Country Club, Delmar, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4857.

BETHLEHEM ELKS LODGE 2233

1016 River Road (Route 144), Cedar Hill, 7 p.m. Information, 767-2886.

TESTIMONY MEETING

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

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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

BINGO

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

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58

Elsmere Elementary School, 247 Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.

BC SCHOOL BOARD

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

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

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

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.

PRAYER MEETING

evening prayer meeting and Bible study, Mountainview Evangelical Free Church,

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

FAITH TEMPLE

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

AA MEETING

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

Thurs., Dec. 4

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. Information, 439-0503.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN (SEPTEMBER THRU MAY)

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.

NEW SCOTLAND

THE CLOTHING CLOSET

A service supported by area Reformed churches to provide clothing to those in need; volunteers welcome. Clarksville Reformed Church, Route 443, Clarksville, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. Information, 768-2916 or 439-5400.

Fri., Dec. 5

BETHLEHEM

AA MEETING

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

CHABAD CENTER

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

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., Dec. 6

BETHLEHEM

AA MEETING

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

Sun., Dec. 7

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 and fellowship, nursery care provided, church school 10 a.m., Poplar Drive and Elsmere Avenue. Information, 439-3265.

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 through grade 7, 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 or INFO@DRCHURCH.ORG.

BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Worship service 10 a.m.; nursery and Sunday school through grade 5 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, Route 9W, Selkirk. Information 767-2243.

FAMILY OF GOD COMMUNITY 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 9:30, Worship service 9:30 & 11 a.m. (in chapel); 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 provided, 1499 New Scotland Road. Information, 439-1766.

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., 68 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.

JERUSALEM REFORMED

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

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., Dec. 8

BETHLEHEM

PEACE VIGIL

Bethlehem Neighbors For Peace, weekly peace vigil, Four Corners intersection, Delmar, 5-6 p.m., information, 439-1968.

MOTHERS' TIME OUT

Christian fellowship 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 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.

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.

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.

Tues., Dec. 9

BETHLEHEM

FARMERS MARKET

Market and Chicken Barbeque, 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. rain or shine, First

United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave.

TREASURE COVE THRIFT SHOP

First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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

ELSMERE FIRE COMMISSION

firehouse, Poplar Drive, 7:15 p.m. Information, 439-9144.

A.W. BECKER PTA

Becker Elementary School, Route 9W, 7:30 p.m. Information, 767-2511.

BINGO

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

SLINGERLANDS FIRE COMMISSION

firehouse, 8 p.m. Information, 439-4734.

NEW SCOTLAND

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Weekly at Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10:15 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

NIMBLEFINGERS/QUILTERS

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

Wed., Dec. 10

BETHLEHEM

DELMAR ROTARY

Quality Inn, Route 9W, 7:30 a.m. Information, 767-2930.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH

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

TOWN BOARD

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

BETHLEHEM TOASTMASTERS

The Clubhouse, Adams Station Apts., 1 Juniper Drive, Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-0871.

BINGO

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

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58

Elsmere Elementary School, 247 Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.

DELMAR FIRE COMMISSION

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

TESTIMONY MEETING

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

NEW SCOTLAND

TOWN COUNCIL

New Scotland Town Hall, Route 85, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4889.

PRAYER MEETING

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

FAITH TEMPLE

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

NEW SCOTLAND SENIORS

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

AA MEETING

At Your SERVICE

a guide to services for your home

APPLIANCE REPAIR Joseph T. Hogan Appliance & Electric Service 756-9670	ELECTRICAL GRAVES ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING -Over 20 Years Experience- -Licensed & Insured- "No Job Too Big or Too Small" 439-0352 (Business) or 424-7224 (cell phone) for more details	JUNK REMOVAL Wagner's Junk Removal • Attic & Basement Cleanups • Motor Vehicle Removal Call 356-4511	PAINTING L.M. CURTIN Painting & Paper Hanging RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR • EXTERIOR 20 Years Of Excellence 381-6579 Fully Insured • References Available	PET CARE Cornell's Cat Boarding  767-9095 Heated • Air Conditioned Your choice of food Route 9W, Glenmont Reservations required Eleanor Cornell	TILEWORK HERITAGE TILEWORKS • Professional Installation of Ceramic and Natural Stone Tile • Complete Bathroom Design and Remodeling Feura Bush 768-8018 Fully Insured
BASEMENT WATERPROOFING Smelly, Damp, Moldy, Wet Basement or Dirt Crawl Space? Adirondack Basement Systems Responsible Waterproofing Systems Basement Environment Specialists® • Free Written Estimates • Fully Transferable "Life-of-the-House" Warranty • No Exterior Digging or Excavating • Cracked or Bowing Walls Repaired • SaniDry™, Basement Air System eliminates dampness • CleanSpace™, Crawl Space Encapsulation System • Sunhouse window well enclosures Ask about our replacement vinyl window special offer!  371-9621	FIREWOOD FIREWOOD • Seasoned Hardwood • 100 Face Cord • \$25 extra for stacking ~ Free Delivery ~ Call: Jim Stanton 857-9486 or 365-7334 or 365-8205	LAWN CARE FALL CLEANUPS SNOW REMOVAL Call now for estimates Delmar Lawn Care 475-1419	Affordable Advertising A Great Idea for Local Businesses  The Business Directory Call 439-4940	PLUMBING WMD Plumbing  Michael Dempf 475-0475	TREE SERVICES Outdoor Professionals Tree & Stump Removal, Trimming, Land/Brush Clearing FREE Estimates • Insured Gutter Cleaning 295-8985 Quality work at an affordable price.
CARPET CLEANING SERVICE Tri-Village Carpet Cleaning Service • Carpet cleaning at its finest • Residential/Commercial • Ceramic Tile/Grout Cleaning • Steam Cleaning/Powerwashing Delmar, NY 439-9311 • Fully Insured • Free Estimates Senior Citizen Discount 15%	FURNITURE REPAIR EXPERT CHAIR GLUING  REPAIRS, CHAIR CANING & MORE Repairs include-broken backs, legs, spindles, stretchers, seats & more. All work guaranteed. For Your Free Estimate and Pick-Up Call 518-943-5205 THE CHAIRMAN Serving the Capital District	ALBRIGHT'S LAWN CARE WEEKLY LAWN MOWING Call: (518) 469-1354	WAGNER'S Painting and Home Improvements Interior & Exterior Painting, Junk Removal, Real Estate Clean-ups and Repairs • Insured • References • Senior Discounts • Free Estimates 25 Years Experience Call 356-4511	ROOFING GRADY ROOFING Inc. For All Your Roofing Needs 439-1515 Kevin Grady Free Estimates Fully Insured	HASLAM TREE SERVICE  • Complete Tree Removal • Pruning • Cabling • Feeding • Land Clearing • Stump Removal • Storm Damage Repair FREE Estimates Jim Haslam Fully Insured Owner 439-9702
CARPENTRY Z. IPEK & SONS, INC. All Phases of Carpentry Free Estimates • Fully Insured  • Decks • Windows • Siding Hadi (518) 365-1611 Havzi	RECYCLE HOME IMPROVEMENT VIKING HOME REPAIR & MAINTENANCE, LTD. • Minor Repairs • Painting • Wall Repairs • Masonry • Carpentry • Gutter Cleaning • Electrical No Job Too Small 439-6863 FREE ESTIMATES • FULLY INSURED	LAWN & GARDEN DIR-T-DAN'S Land Sculpturing & Garden Maintenance ***** *Garden Design *Rototilling *Perennial/Annual *Fertilizing *Stone Work *Mulching *Shrubs/Vines *Lawn Care *Trimming *Soil Enhancing *Pruning *Wilt-Proofing *Edging *Clean-Ups *Weeding *100% Organic FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED Days - 767-3061 Eves - 756-9419	VOGEL Painting Contractor Free Estimates • RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST • WALLPAPER APPLIED Interior — Exterior INSURED 439-7922	"The Original Grady Roofing" GRADY ROOFING 439-2205 Since 1984 Brian Grady  www.gradyroofing.com	
CONTRACTORS D.P. ESTEY CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING All types of Interior & Exterior Carpentry, Home Improvements & General Contracting Insured-Professional Reasonable-Experienced Don Estey (518) 465-7642 Glenmont	T. Mullaney Contracting Interior Remodeling Kitchens • Baths • Basements Local References • Free Estimates 439-2833 or 495-3199	LOCKSMITH JC LOCK SERVICE GUILDERLAND, N.Y. • Residential • Auto • Commercial • Locks • Rekeying • Repairs Phone: 366-2337 • Pager: 259-0661	Mike's Painting & Home Repairs Interior/Exterior Residential & Commercial Schenectady, NY Fully Insured/Free Estimates • Senior Discount (518) 370-5965 • (518) 331-6594 cell	SEWER & DRAIN Tri-Village Sewer & Drain Cleaning Service • Residential/Commercial • 24 Hr. Emergency Sewer Drain and Flood Restoration Delmar, NY 439-9311 • Fully Insured • Free Estimates Senior Citizen Discount 15%	Free Estimates Fully Insured ABC Tree & Stump Removal Trimming Storm Damage Repair Firewood for Sale Lot Cleaning Bucket Truck Available (518) 355-4331 or (518) 872-1702
CONTRACTORS J.V. CONSTRUCTION 868-9746 • Expert Painting • Waterproofing • Windows & Doors • Kitchen & Baths • Insulation • Finished basements • Roofing • Floors • Hardwood, Vinyl, Ceramic Fully Insured/Free Estimates Quality Work 20 Years Experience	Countryman Home Improvement Remodeling & Repairs Replacement Windows & Doors • Fully Insured • Free Estimates • Jeff 872-0610 •	PAINTING 3 Teachers (Retired) Painting & Staining • Decks • Interior/Exterior Fully Insured 373-8836 Free Estimates	Mantova Painting, Inc. Painting & Restoration Specialists Superior Quality Craftsmanship Residential & Commercial • Fully Insured/Bonded • Estimates 435-9340	SNOWPLOWING SNOWPLOWING SALTING & SANDING 24 Hour Service Contract or Per Plow 439-5855 Ask for Paul	WALLPAPERING VOGEL Wallcoverings 35 Years of Experience Hanging all types of wallpaper! • Insured 767-9548
Look Us Up on the Web: www.spotlightnews.com	Do you want to advertise with us? Call: 439-4940	MURRAY PAINTING Free Estimates Interior & Exterior Residential • Commercial • Industrial If you count on quality count on us 439-4466 All Calls Returned • Fully Insured	WM H. ROTHER PAINTING INTERIOR • EXTERIOR Fine Quality Workmanship INSURED • REFERENCES • FREE ESTIMATES 381-6618 364-2007	SNOW REMOVAL SNOWBLOWING/SHOVELING Guilderland/Rotterdam Areas Call Par 4-Landscaping for Affordable & Dependable Service 356-3635	WEB DESIGN SALMURA WEB DESIGN Our Top Notch Graphic Design Team Can Get You On The Web!  For More Info: call 428-0329 or 461-5199 or email: salmura@hotmail.com

ADVERTISERS: Please note our new AT-YOUR-SERVICE Deadline is ...

Thursday at 5 P.M.

Call 439-4940



Spotlight CLASSIFIEDS

ADOPTION

ADOPT: Loving couple longs to adopt your newborn. We will provide a warm, wonderful, caring & happy home. Medical/ Legal expenses paid. Call Christine/ Greg 1-888-481-4711.

ART CLASSES

Adult Group Private Days, Evenings. Oil, Watercolor, Pastel. Beverly Carhart- 765-2585.

BUILDING SUPPLIES

SAVE BIG!! High-end plumbing fixtures. (DIRECT) one piece toilets, under counter sinks. EVERYTHING REDUCED 80%. Kitchen pullouts; satin nickel faucets. \$396.00 now \$73.00. 1-561-746-3152 www.sesiplumbing.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PEACOCK 320 TANNING BOOTH- Used 650 hrs. New \$6000. sell for \$2,500. Excellent Condition. (Wed-Sat- 9-5). 233-8033.

Fed Ex Ground Has A Local Route Available For A Owner/Operator. Small Investment Required. Income Of \$80,000 Plus Per Year And Growing. Call For Details

(518) 756-1794 OR (518) 253-5770.

ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and candy. All for \$9,995. CALL 1-800-998-VEND.3.

CHILDCARE SERVICES

Mother of 3 to care for your child in my home. Experienced, References. 427-1031.

CLEANING SERVICES

SHELBY ANN'S CLEANING SERVICE- Quality Courteous & Professional Reasonable Rates. References. Call- 463-4060.

CRAFT FAIR

GRAMMY'S CRAFT SHOW, December 5, 6, 7, 10AM - 4PM. Relaxed shopping in our 1830 farmhouse, warm fire, 25 + crafters, beautiful handmade items, many one of a kind. Clarksville Route 443 to Pinnacle Road, to Elm Drive, to Triangle Road, or Thacher Park 157 to Beaver Dam Road to Elm Drive to Triangle Road. Follow signs. Home 797-3468, or Farmhouse 872-1723.

SANDY'S ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR- December 6th. 10AM-4PM. 2689 New Scotland Road, New Salem. Dolls, Candy, Clothing For The American Girl Doll, Assorted Gift Items, Ice Fishing Lures.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

SAWMILL \$3895. NEW SUPER LUMBERMATE 2000. Larger capacities, options. ATV accessories, edgers skidders. www.norwoodindustries.com Norwood Industries, 252 Sonwil Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225. Free Information 1-800-578-1363 ext300-N

FINANCIAL

\$ CASH ADVANCES \$ Claims, Annuities, Structured Settlements, Inheritances, Trusts. CORE FUNDING GROUP 1-800-836-0479

\$\$\$CASH\$\$\$ Cash Now for Structured Settlements, Annuities, and Insurance Payouts. (800)794-7310 J.G. WentworthJG Wentworth Means Cash Now For Structured Settlements

Cash For Structured Settlement/ Annuity payments. It's your money! Get cash now When you need it most! Oldest/ best in the business. Settlement Purchasers. 1-877-Money-Me.

FIREWOOD

Seasoned Firewood All Hardwood. \$75 Face Cord. \$150 Full Cord. 463-3652.

SEASONED HARDWOOD- Cut, Split, Delivered. \$75 Face Cord. 756-9419.

FOR SALE

QUEEN Size Split Boxspring (ONLY) Factory Sealed, Brand New, Moves Easily Upstairs. 786-1566.

FREE ITEMS

LOVESEAT- White/Brown, Can be Picked Up At 119 Rockefeller Rd, Delmar. 439-9428. Please Leave Message!

GARAGE RENTAL

Wanted Garage Space To Store Small Car. Delmar/Slingerlands Area. Call- 475-0997.

HANDYMAN

A skilled Tradesman (Retired) Yard Work, Lawns, Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Bark, Mulch, Topsoil, Excavation, Septic Systems, Pressure Washing. Jim- 765-2970.

BEST BET HANDYMAN, Home Repairs & Maintenance, Electrical, Plumbing, etc., Senior Discounts, Call 434-5612.

HEALTH & DIET

HERBALIFE Distributor Call For Products/Opportunities. Look Great/ Feel Great/ Energy. Nancy 382-0146.

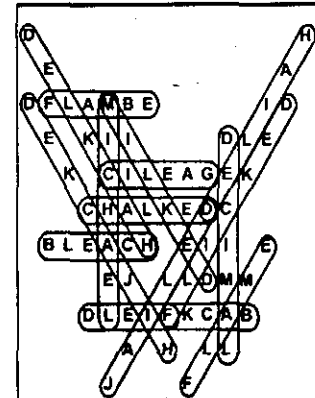
HEALTHCARE

DIABETIC ON MEDICARE? No more finger sticking - with new meters, almost painless. Call Star Medical RX 1-800-840-1687 today for home delivery!

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HAS YOUR BUILDING SHIFTED? Structural repairs of barns, houses and garages. Call

Magic Maze Answers



Woodford Bros., Inc. for straightening, leveling, foundation and wood frame repairs. 1-800-OLD-BARN. www.1-800-OLD-BARN.COM

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

CAUGHT SPEEDING OR OTHER TICKETS? In Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer Or Saratoga Counties? Don't Plead Guilty! Racking Up Points, Doubling Insurance Rates! Call Me First! George P. Kansas, Attorney, 14 Forest Road, Delmar, NY 12054. DON'T PLEAD GUILTY! Most Cases Only \$175!!! Call TODAY! 365-5756.

LOST

FIND SOMETHING? Advertise it free. Call 439-4949.

MEAT

LAMB MEAT- USDA Certified Lamb Meat For Sale. Many Cuts To Choose From. Call 588-6296 For Current Market Prices.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

1 BABY SAFETY GATE \$12 EACH. 899-7049.

2001 ARTIC CAT 250, 2 W/D Standard transmission. Mud guards, Tire chains, Aluminum ramps, \$2900.00. 446-1494 Ask for MARK.

GOT RATS? MICE? Enforcer RatMax bait kills in 1 feeding. Guaranteed. Available at Family Dollar Stores.

GRANITE KITCHEN COUNTER-TOPS- Free Phone Estimate/Brochure. 17' x 25 1/2" \$3485 Installed. Don 8-77 Days 518-663-5143, www.granitecountertop company.com

HARRY POTTER CHOCOLATE FROGS, FIZZING WHIZZBEES, SHERBET LEMONS, HONEY- DUKES BARS. IMPORTED FROM ENGLAND. BRILLIANT GIFTS! 475-9002.

LAND'S END BABY BAGS LIKE NEW- \$12- 899-7049.

LITTLETYKES Slide/Cube, Paid- \$65 asking \$22. 899-7049.

LITTLETYKES SWING- ASKING \$7. 899-7049.

TIRES — (4) RV/TRUCK - 800 X 19.5, One on rim. \$50.00 for all. CALL 767-9501.

WEDDING VEIL- Beading On Edge, Blusher, Comb Attachment. \$15. 899-7049.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE

1996 YAMAHA VIRAGO- Perfect Condition, Many Extras, Low Mileage, \$3,800. 786-1566.

MUSIC

STRING INSTRUMENT REPAIR:

Bow Rehairing, Buying Old Violins. 439-6757.

MUSIC LESSONS

GUITAR LESSONS, guitarist available for private instruction in your home or mine. 20+ years experience. Call Rob, 372-5077.

PAINTING & PAPERING

ELLMAN PAINTING: Interior/Exterior, Decorative And Textured Interior Designs. Guaranteed Lowest Prices For Highest Quality Work. Winter Discounts. Andre Ellman- 421-4456.

TEXTURED PAINTING, Wall-papering, Interior/ Exterior Painting, Pressure Washing, 35 Years Experience. Tom Curit- 228-6560.

PIANO TUNING & REPAIR

PROFESSIONAL PIANO tuning and repair, Michael T. Lamkin, Registered Piano Technician, Piano Technicians Guild. 427-1903.

ROOM WANTED

Professional Male, Quiet, Non-Smoker, Non-Drinker, Seeks Room In Private Home For Commute Residence. Usually Gone Weekends. 402-2881.

SITUATION WANTED

Aides Certified, Impeccable References, Transportation, Mature, Kosher Knowledgeable. 456-1995.

RN's/LPN's- \$24 To \$29 Hour Delmar Part Time Or Per diem. No lifting. Pleasant Surroundings. Medicaid Certified or willing to get certification. 469-3099 Leave Message!

SNOWPLOWING

BEHEHEM AREA- Seasonal Contract Or Per Storm. Free Estimates. 439-4032

Snowplowing Delmar Area. 439-7864.

SPECIAL SERVICES

(CARE FOR ELDERLY)- Companionship/Personnel Care. Our Services Also Provide Meal Prep, Housekeeping, Shopping, Medication Prep, Doctor's Appts. LOTS OF TLC! Trustworthy, Excellent References, RN Supervised, 24 Hr Or Shift Work. Call Debbie For Free Evaluation- 424-4818.

TUTORING

MATH/PHYSICS, Middle School, High School, Regents, SAT, ACT, College All Levels. 370-4248.

WANTED

ANTIQUe PAPER ITEMS Photographs, Stereoviews, Daguerreotypes. Anything Related To Sports, Autos, Motorcycles, Oceanliners, Travel, Politics. Scrapbooks, Photo Albums, Maps, Children's Books, Post Cards. ETC. Tom Jardas- 356-0292.

BCHS ORIOLE YEARBOOKS- Email Grossman@redshift.com Or Write To Glen Grossman 42 Glenlake Drive, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

WANTED TO BUY Pre-1955 telephones, radios, television sets, tube amplifiers, cast iron penny banks, cameras, pocket lighters, pre-1960 restaurant or gas station signs any condition, pre-1960 Comic Books, pre- 1920 photographs, old toy cars, trucks, boats, or model boats, Pre 1950 Fountain Pens, Teddy Bears, Pre 1959 Movie Theater Posters Or Lobby Cards, World War II/American or Nazi items, Civil War swords, pictures, etc.. Any condition on above items even broken or rusty. Call 745-8897.

Classified INFORMATION



Office Hours Deadline
8:30 AM - 5 PM
Monday-Friday
Deadline: Thursday at 5PM for following week



Mail Address • In Person
Spotlight Newspapers
P.O. Box 100
Delmar, NY 12054

125 Adams St.
Delmar, NY 12054



READERSHIP:
9 Newspapers;
105,000
Readers



Phone • Fax
(518) 439-4940
(518) 439-0609 Fax

Classified Ads Appear In All Nine Papers

In Albany County

The Spotlight • Colonie Spotlight • Loudonville Spotlight • Guilderland Spotlight

In Schenectady County

Niskayuna Spotlight • Scotia-Glenville Spotlight • Rotterdam Spotlight

In Saratoga County

Clifton Park/Halfmoon Spotlight • Burnt Hills Spotlight

Classified Rates

Private Party Classifieds - Line Ads - Nine paper combo - \$12.00 for 12 words 50 cents for each additional word.

Commercial Classifieds - Line Ads - Nine paper combo - \$15.50 for 12 words 50 cents for each additional word. Multiple insertion discounts available. Please call for information.

All line ads must be pre-paid in order for placement.

Ads will appear in all nine newspapers, as well as on the internet for the number of weeks requested.

Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

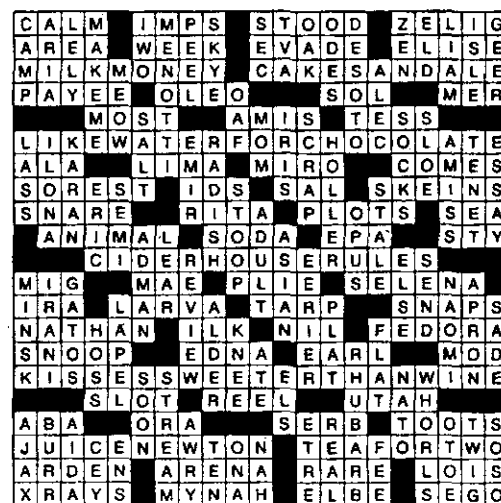
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Weeks _____

MasterCard or Visa# _____

Expiration date: _____ Signature: _____

Super Crossword Answers



You're on target with the

Classifieds

Phone in Your Classified Ad
with **Mastercard** or **Visa**

Call **439-4940**

Real Estate CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

SALMON RIVER - 300' river/ 5 ac. - \$39,900 Lake Altmar access - 20 ac. - \$19,900 Lake Pleasant - 1600' lake/ 100 ac. - \$180k 40 NY. properties. Financing 1-888-683-2626 www.land-first.com

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

\$445 + Utilities, Selkirk, 2 Bedroom, small second floor apartment at 130 Maple Avenue; off street parking, laundry facility and storage. No pets. Reference & Security required. Available December. Please call Karin, at 877-351-8571.

\$795 + Utilities, DELMAR, 3 Bedrooms, 1-1/2 bath duplex on 11 Clermont Street; large yard, driveway. Reference & security deposit required. Available about December 15. Please call Karin, at 877-351-8571.

COEYMANS: 1 bedroom, washer/dryer hookup, \$450+utilities, Available Immediately. 966-4661.

DELMAR- 1 Bedroom Apartment w/study, quiet, lease, no pets \$725/ mo includes utilities. 439-9958.

DELMAR- 2 Bedroom Apartment, 1st Floor A/C, Busline, Garage. Available 1/7. \$750 + 448-5322.

DELMAR- Share A 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Baths, Duplex Off East Poplar. All Utilities Included, No Lease, Available Immediately. \$490/ Month. 598-3434.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

SEBASTIAN FLORIDA, For Sale/ Rent- Double-Wide, 24'x40', 2 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths, Fully Furnished, New Roof, Sun Room, New Screening, Newly Painted, All New A/C/heat, Washer & Dryer. Inquires. 439-8880.

COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE

DELAWARE PLAZA - DELMAR - Retail space available. For lease

ing information call Delaware Plaza Associates at 439-9030.

OFFICE SPACE 636 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Suites from \$400.00 per month gross. Rick 475-0123.

Prime 1st Floor Offices, 264 Delaware Ave. Excellent Visibility, Signage And Parking. Either 500, 1390 or 1890 Sq. Ft. 439-4294.

LAND FOR SALE

LAND BARGAINS, FREE LIST 3

to 14 acre parcels in Albany, Montgomery and Herkimer counties. Ideal homesites. Financing. Call Helderberg Realty 518-861-6541.

VACATION RENTALS

FT. MYERS BEACH, SPACIOUS, IMMACULATE FURNISHED HOUSE On Beach, 2 +BR, 2 Baths, A/C, \$1200/week, \$3800/month. Available Immediately. (239)- 481-7803.

SOUTH OF FRANCE: Two bedroom villa with flower garden, enclosed treed yard. 30KM from Mediterranean. \$800/week. 518-448-8888.

GRAND OPENING! New golf front home \$199,900. SAVE \$25,000

during pre-construction. Spectacular Carolina Mtn home on 18 hole course near Asheville NC. Enjoy mild climate, great golf, low taxes & low cost of living! Limited time savings. FREE VIDEO Call toll-free 1-866-334-3253 X 587

Albany County Public Auction

Tax Foreclosed Properties

Saturday, December 6th
Empire State Plaza
Meeting Room 6
Albany, NY
Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Call for a FREE brochure
(518) 447-7070
Visit our website to
pre-register
www.albanycounty.com

ALTAMONT OAKS

950 Altamont Blvd.

1 & 2 Bedroom Apts.

Family Complex

Call (518) 861-5396

Modern • Handicapped Accessibility

For more information or application, contact (518) 861-5396 or TDD Relay (800) 662-1220

Belmont Mgmt. Co., Inc.
950 Altamont Blvd.
Altamont, NY 12009

Spotlight Newspapers
The Capital District's Quality Weeklies.

We Cover
The News ...

... That's
Important To You!

Look Who's Back In Town!

As an experienced real estate professional, my client's needs, interests and objectives come first!



Darlene Valet
Associate Broker

- Specializing in residential properties
- 7 years with Prudential in Clifton Park



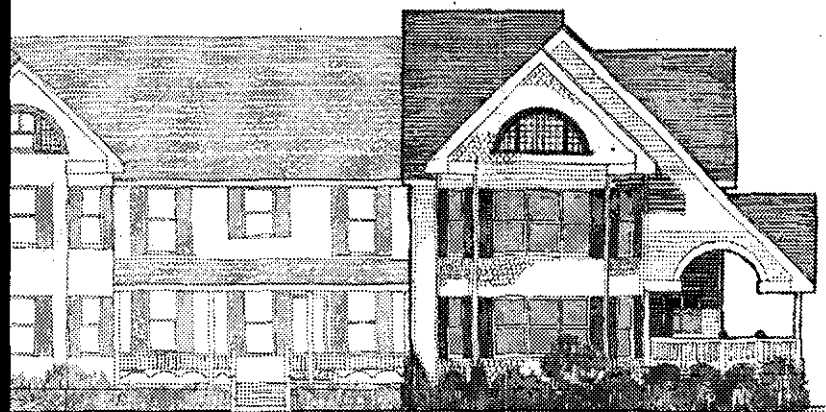
Prudential 205 Delaware Ave.
Manor Homes, REALTORS® Delmar

469-8382 (vm)

E-Mail: dvalet@prudentialmanor.com

"Quality and Results..."

The RealtyUSA team is pleased to announce the expansion of our Delmar Office. Designed to compliment the character of our community and accommodate the needs of our clients and associates, this addition offers high visibility, generous general/private offices and will continue to make your home buying/selling a pleasurable and successful experience...



Also, a few positions are available on our team. Flexibility, excitement and high satisfaction define a career in real estate sales...

For a confidential conversation
call Bill Alston at 448-5396...

RealtyUSA.com

RealtyUSA.com

Glenmont - \$319,900

4 bedroom; 2.5 bath center hall colonial fenced, deep backyard, hardwood, large rooms separately fenced pool.

Unionville - \$170,000

Spacious 5 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1 bedroom, 1 bath in-law apartment. 2 Car garage. Many updates

Glenmont - \$194,900

This 3 bedroom 2.5 bath with open floor plan has it all plus great lot and location.

Delmar - \$130,000

Charming cape with potential in-law apartment. Three season porch. Walk out basement.

Call RealtyUSA at 439-2888
For More Information
on these Wonderful Homes

www.realtyusa.com

Now Available! WALDEN FIELDS



For further information
Visit www.michaelsgroup.com
or Call (518) 439-2020 for an appointment.

A New Twin Town Home, Maintenance Free Community on Elsmere Ave starting in the \$220's. Open floor plans with first floor master suites, full basements, attached garages, and extensive landscaping included! Call daily noon to 4 PM except Tues. (518) 439-2020

THE MICHAELS GROUP
Builder & Developer

Building Communities for Generations
10 Blacksmith Dr., Malin NY 12020

Your dream home...

...is just a phone call away.

Spotlight Newspapers' Real Estate Classifieds

Spotlight on EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

19-A HEAD DRIVER- The Bethlehem Central School District seeks a full time, twelve-month person with knowledge and skills

as a 19-A Examiner and SBDI and be able to teach the 30 hour basic course. Applicants must possess a New York CDL class B with passenger endorsement. Responsibilities in this position

include but are not limited to; training, orientation and testing of new and experienced school bus drivers. Knowledge of computer operations is a must. Apply in writing to Mr. Alfred A. Karam, Director Bethlehem Central School District Transportation Department, 82 Van Dyke Road, Delmar, New York 12054. Deadline is December 11, 2003.

AVON REPRESENTATIVE- Your Business, Your Way! \$10 Start Up, Free Gift, Earn 50% Now. Call Me Get Started Today. Donna-355-6734.

BUS DRIVER SUBSTITUTES WANTED: Voorheesville Central School District. \$11.46 per hour. Earn extra income. Congenial working environment. Class B license with passenger endorsement preferred. Will train. Call: Mike, 765-2381, ext. 508. EOE/AA.

Child care worker for DT Albany church; infant experience preferred; Generally, Sunday mornings. Fax or mail resume plus two refs. First Presbyterian Church, 362 State St. Albany, NY 12210. Fax: 449-3104.

DENTAL ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST - Needed for Delmar dental office, full or part-time. Must be familiar with computer. Will train right person. Cell- 928-9959.

High-Paying Postal Jobs! No Experience Required! DON'T PAY for information about jobs with the Postal Service or Federal Government. Call the Federal Trade Commission toll-free, 1-(877)-FTC-HELP, or visit www.ftc.gov to learn more. A public service message from the SPOTLIGHT Newspapers and the Federal Trade Commission.

ICEGUARDS WANTED: Part Time Evenings And Weekends. Late December-February. Apply Bethlehem Parks And Recreation Office At Once. Call- 439-4131 Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

MODEL, Sculptor Needs Character Model For Portrait Head. Se-

nior OK 12 Hrs. 478-9240.

Scotia Church Seeking Part Time Custodian 15 + Hours Per Week Flexible Schedule. 381-9406.

SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE HELPERS NEEDED- \$7.26 per hour If interested, call Florence Selin, Food Service Director, Schalmont Schools, 355-6110 ext. 3042.

TEACHERS LEADS For Childcare Center, Infant & Toddler Experience Preferred. Competitive Salary & Benefits. Continuing Education Training Available. 475-9269.

EARN UP TO \$550 WEEKLY Working through the government part-time. No experience. A lot of opportunities. 1-800-493-3688 Code V-95

****GOVERNMENT & POSTAL JOBS** PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT** Now hiring up to \$47,578. Full/ Part positions. Benefits & training. For application and info: (800)573-8555 Dept P-377 8am-11pm/ 7 days

Mortgage Bank looking for loan officers to work in our offices or from home. Experience preferred but will train serious individuals. Training applies to those working in our offices only. Make your own hours, leads provided (working in offices only) excellent commission structure. For information call 1-866-285-1600 ext 102.

\$550.00 WEEKLY SALARY possible mailing our Sales Brochures from home. No experience necessary. FT/PT Genuine opportunity. Supplies provided, including customer mailing labels. Call 1-708-686-1700 (24 hours)

DRIVERS: 60% of Compos Express drivers make \$50,000+ a year. Class-A (CDL) reg. \$1,000 Sign On Bonus Call 800-326-9568 X5557 or X5552

DRIVERS- Accepting Driver Trainees Today!! 16 day Class-A (CDL) & Refresher training! Companies now hiring nationwide job placement assistance: Call 1-800-883-0171 ext A-26

Drivers: CFI HAS A NEW PAY PLAN!! 3-6 mos. exp. \$.28/cpm; 6-12 mos. exp. \$.30/cpm; 1 yr. + \$.32/cpm. NEW LEASING Plan. \$0 Upfront!! 1-800-CFI-DRIVE www.cfidrive.com

Get a job or Go to college. How about both? Part-time jobs available with full time benefits! Tuition assistance - Cash bonuses and skill training. Have it all in the New York Army National Guard! Our phone number is the same as our web site: www.1-800-GO-GUARD.



Holiday Employment

Specialty food store in Colonie seeks sales clerks and food prep people. Flex hrs. Ask for Mgr. at HoneyBaked Ham Co.

518-438-2297

OUR PEOPLE MAKE THE Difference

WAL★MART® Stores, Inc.

Your Glenmont Wal-mart Store Will be Opening Soon!

Join the world's best retailing team, recognized by Fortune Magazine as one of the most admired companies in the world. As a member of the Wal-Mart team, you will receive competitive wages and enjoy benefits including: merchandise discounts, 401(K), stock purchase plan, profit sharing, health benefits and career advancement opportunities.

Career Opportunities Include:

- Cashiers
- Janitors
- Cart Pushers
- Over-Night Stockers
- Sales Associates
- 3AM-12PM Doughnut Crew
- Bakery Sales Associates
- Unloader
- Meat/Deli Associates
- Produce Associates
- Overnight Floor Care
- Tire/Lube Technicians

Now Accepting Applications for Permanent Part-time & Full-time Positions

Please come by the Glenmont Wal Mart • Mon., Wed., Fri., 9am-5pm; Tues., Thurs. 9am-8pm

**Store #432-6120
Fax: 432-0875**

Beginning Dec. 1st come by the New Glenmont Walmart, 311 Rte 9W, Glenmont, NY

WAL★MART IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/D/V

WANTED

Part Time Accounts Receivable Clerk

Duties include ad scheduling, processing payments and general office work.

**Please fax resume to 439-0609
Attn: John Skrobela, Circulation Manager
Spotlight Newspapers**

AIR PRODUCTS

TRUCK DRIVERS

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, has several openings in the Glenmont, NY facility for qualified drivers.

DRIVER CAREER DAY

*** OPEN HOUSE ***

Sunday, December 7, 2003 • 8am-Noon

Albany Marriott • 189 Wolf Road • Albany, NY

**** PLEASE BRING YOUR RESUME TO THE OPEN HOUSE ****

- Refreshments
- On-the-Spot Interviews

INCOME

- Average Annual Earning Potential \$50,000+
- Excellent Mileage Rates
- Guaranteed 2 Consecutive Days Off Per Week

BENEFITS

- Very Affordable Medical & Dental
- Eleven Paid Holidays • Paid Vacation
- Free Life Insurance • Pension • 401K Plan
- Company-paid Accident & Sickness Insurance

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 3 years recent OTR & tractor trailer experience
- Valid Class A CDL with Tanker and Hazmat endorsements
- High school diploma or equivalency

Applications will be accepted at the Open House. If you are unable to attend, please visit the Air Products Career Center at www.airproducts.com. Click on Career Opportunities, North America, and then select Career Center. You can apply specifically to Job #19154. Call us at 518-434-4192 x11 or x13. Air Products is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V where Diversity matters!

tell me more
www.airproducts.com



NEED HELP?

With over 100,000 readers every week, Spotlight Newspapers can help you find the perfect employees for YOUR business! Give us a call today at 439-4949!

Spotlight Newspapers
The Capital District's Quality Weeklies.

Automotive CLASSIFIEDS

RV study shows vehicles weigh too much

Improper inflation and overloading are dangerous combination

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (June 2, 2003) - Almost a quarter of all recreational vehicles on the road today have overloaded tires. Nearly 40% of RV users say they go six months or more between inflation pressure checks, and 85% of motor homes or campers are unevenly loaded or have out of balance loads by 400 pounds or more.

These startling statistics were recently released by the Recreational Vehicle Safety Education Foundation (RVSEF) in a study they conducted to determine maintenance habits of RV owners.

"These numbers continue to amaze me. We have been tracking this data for years and there has been little change in how people maintain (or perhaps in how they don't maintain) their vehicles," said John Anderson, executive director of RVSEF. "When we initially decided to review the practices of RV owners some years ago, we did not know how big a problem the lack of maintenance had become. This is an industry issue and

should not be taken lightly. It is admirable when a company such as Bridgestone/Firestone takes it upon itself to produce a free educational brochure which could become a lifesaving tool for those who follow its advice."

Everyone knows that being overweight can shorten their life, but it can also shorten the life of a recreational vehicle and its tires. An overloaded vehicle with under-inflated tires can be a dangerous combination. Tires, bearings, suspensions and other components all wear out more quickly with heavier loads. Handling is also compromised and stopping distances are lengthened when a vehicle is overloaded — both of which compromise safe driving.

In a similar survey conducted by Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, four out of five RVs had at least one under-inflated tire, and a third of those were dangerously under-inflated to the point of being at risk of failure.

The fact that 40 percent of RV owners admit they go six months or more be-

tween checking tire pressures is problematic. Tires, even in good condition, can lose between one and two pounds of inflation pressure per month. (Such losses are completely normal resulting from diffusion of air molecules through tire sidewalls.)

At that rate, with no puncture of any kind, a tire could be six to twelve pounds under-inflated after six months of neglect assuming it was inflated to the correct pressure to begin with. That's enough to put a tire at serious risk of sudden failure.

Both overloading and under-inflation have similar effects on tires. Air is the "muscle" of the tire and essentially supports the load. If there's not enough air (under-inflation), or if the tire is overloaded (not enough air for the load), the tire can flex excessively. This stress

creates excessive heat that can overheat the tire, causing it to come apart.

It is vital that RV owners weigh their vehicles, by wheel position, to determine whether they're within the weight limits set by the manufacturer; whether the load is properly balanced; and whether the load capacity of the tires matches the actual axle weight on them. Tire inflation pressure should be checked at least monthly and maintained in accordance with the vehicle manufacturer's load/inflation tables matching the proper inflation pressure to the tire load.

All of this should be conducted with the vehicle fully loaded. This means with passengers, travel gear, and fuel and water equivalent to what the vehicle will be hauling at its maximum load. The

load must also be appropriately placed over the axle on which it will be carried or in the "appropriate wheel position." Many people don't stop to consider that alone water, fuel and propane can easily exceed 750 pounds.

All of this should be conducted with the vehicle fully loaded. This means with passengers, travel gear, and fuel and water equivalent to what the vehicle will be hauling at its maximum load. The load must also be appropriately placed over the axle on which it will be carried or in the "appropriate wheel position." Many people don't stop to consider that alone water, fuel and propane can easily exceed 750 pounds.

To help RV owners make sure they're taking good care of the vehicles' tires, Bridgestone/Firestone has published a free booklet titled "Rx for

Light Trucks, RVs, Mini-buses & Ambulances."

In addition to tips on tire selection and tire care, a worksheet and instructions are also included to help RV owners understand the importance of proper vehicle maintenance.

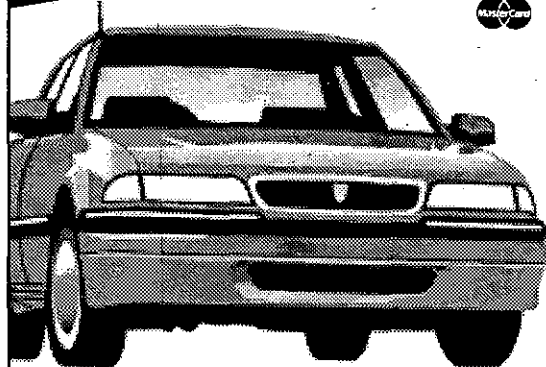
For copies of this free booklet, call 1-800-543-7522 or contact any Bridgestone or Firestone dealer. To order via the Internet, send an email to the tiredoctor@trucktires.com or visit the informative Web site www.tiresafety.com.

Automotive CLASSIFIEDS

AUTOMOTIVES FOR SALE

1990 MAZDA B2600i 4x4, 135K, Runs Well, Cap, Good Tires. Needs Brakes, Catalytic Convert, CV Boots. \$500. 495-7142.

If You're
Ready
To Sell It...



Spotlight Newspapers

AUTO
Classifieds
Get Results!

Phone in Your Classified with MasterCard or Visa

439-4940

 <div style="text-align: right;">   1-877-FRD-MERC 518-756-2105 ROUTE 9W • RAVENA, NY www.crossroads-ford-mercury.com </div>			
BUDGET CENTER			
 02 Focus SE <i>\$179/month tax down</i> Silver, 28K mi., Auto, AC, PS, PB, PW, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy, D/Airbags, CD \$8,995	 96 Mercury Cougar XR7 <i>Only 38K mi. One Owner</i> Red, 38K mi., V6, Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, PL, P/Seat, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, P/Sunroof, Leather \$5,995	 	
 00 Mustang <i>REDUCED</i> Blue, 44K mi., V6, Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys, CD \$8,993	 94 Chrysler Concorde <i>Only 38K mi. One Owner</i> Red, 30K mi., V6, Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, PL, P/Seat, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys \$5,995	 	
 01 Mustang <i>REDUCED Summer Driven Only</i> White, 28K mi., V6, Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys, CD \$9,993	 01 Ford F150 XLT 4x2 - Stick, A/C, Full Power, & 24k miles \$10,995	 	
 02 Focus ZX3 <i>Factory Warranty One Owner</i> Blue, 15K mi., 5 Spd., AC, PS, PB, PW, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys, CD \$9,997	 98 Dodge Stratus White, 62K mi., Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette \$5,993	 	
 02 Escort Silver, 24K mi., Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette \$8,995	 99 Chevy Metro Auto, AC, D/Airbags, Cassette \$4,295	 	
 01 Focus ZX3 <i>REDUCED</i> Black, 41K mi., Auto, ABS, AC, PS, PB, PW, P/Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys, CD \$7,693	 00 Focus SE Red, 32K mi., Auto, AC, PS, PB, PW, Tilt, Cruise, Alloys, CD \$6,995	 	

Theater

(From Page 1)

for the play, Tim Karpowitz, had a talent that will provide interesting musical accompaniment. Karpowitz learned to play the accordion from his grandfather, and that, plus the

nature of the play, inspired the cast to set it in the American 1950s.

"We were inspired by old prom pictures, and the play is about reputation and appearances, which seemed to fit with the

image of the late 1950s," Yeara said. "We're using music of the era and music from television shows."

Shakespeare & Co. set its version of "As You Like It" in the early 1950s, using Sinatra tunes but singing them in Italian. Theater Without a Net's production will have an American musical flavor, while retaining the setting of a piazza in Messina, Italy, where Shakespeare located the play.

The appearance of an accordion player is testament to the talent Yeara has found among BC students.

"The kids are phenomenally talented here," he said. "You just have to get out of their way and let them do their thing."

Rose Norris is playing Beatrice, and Yeara said he has

wanted to cast her as a lead for a long time. Now a senior, Norris was one of the 12 students that Shakespeare & Co. accepted for its "Shakespeare & Young Co." nine-week program this past summer.

a strong and liberated woman who knows what she wants."

Mike DiGiulio, also a senior, is playing Benedick. He left the football team to act in this show, his first.

"My sister has been in Shakespeare plays and acts," DiGiulio said. "I wanted to try it. This is awesome — I get to joke around on stage."

Abby Stambach is the student director. "I've been the stage manager for the last three shows," the

senior said. "As the student director, I'm the communication link between the director and the cast. It's challenging to be so organized."

Stambach is confident about the outcome. "We'll be ready, and it will be a good show."

Theater Without a Net performs in Studio 46, located at the rear of the high school. The class of 2003 donated \$6,000 to the theater, which allowed for a new carpet and paint job in the intimate theater. Costumes come from the Bethlehem Theatre Support Group.

"If it weren't for them, there wouldn't be a Shakespeare play," Yeara said.

"Much Ado About Nothing" will take to the stage the Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 4 to 7 and 11 to 14, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6, 7, 13 and 14, at 2 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the Van Dyke Road entrance to Studio 46 and cost \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

Open All Year
Mon.-Sat. 8-5
Sunday 9-4

STORY'S NURSERY
Greenhouses • Nursery
Landscaping

(518) 634-7754
Route 67
Freehold, NY

Now Accepting Orders From Churches for
Christmas Poinsettias
Buy Direct From the Grower for
Florist Quality at Grower Prices!

www.storysnursery.com

**A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
FOR
SHEILA FULLER
ON HER RETIREMENT AS
BETHLEHEM TOWN SUPERVISOR**

Tuesday, December 9, 2003
Normanside Country Club
Delmar, New York

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres and Light Buffet
Cash Bar

Tickets \$15 per person
RSVP by Friday, December 5, 2003
For Information or Reservations
Call 369-3962

Please make checks payable to
Sheila Fuller Celebration Committee
P.O. Box 526
Delmar, New York 12054

We're Not #1 ... You Are!

NL
Countertops

GRANITE • CORIAN • FORMICA
STAINLESS • BUTCHER BLOCK • CONCRETE

383-2654

Relax and let us do all the work.
Removal - Installation - Sinks - Faucets - Plumbing - Tiling
After hours appointments

FALVO'S
PRIME BUTCHER SHOP

"Quality Always Shows"
WE SELL U.S. PRIME BEEF
We Accept Food Stamps
Not Responsible For Typographical Errors

SLINGERLANDS, ROUTE 85A • PHONE/FAX ORDERS 439-9273

USDA PRIME BONELESS SIRLOIN STEAKS \$6.99 LB.	ALL NATURAL BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST \$2.89 LB.
3 LBS. OR MORE HOT OR SWEET ITALIAN SAUSAGE \$1.79 LB.	3 LBS. OR MORE (THIN SLICED) SANDWICH STEAKS \$2.99 LB.
USDA CHOICE & HIGHER FLANK STEAKS \$5.99 LB.	DELI - DEPT. BOARS HEAD (THE VERY BEST) BAKED VIRGINIA HAM OR CRACKED PEPPER TURKEY BREAST \$5.99 LB.
U.S.D.A. CHOICE & HIGHER WHOLE N.Y. STRIP LOINS 15 Lbs. Avg. Weight \$5.99 LB.	10 LBS. OR MORE GROUND CHUCK \$1.99 LB. GROUND ROUND \$2.59 LB. GROUND SIRLOIN Extra Lean \$2.79 LB.
U.S.D.A. CHOICE & HIGHER WHOLE TENDERLOINS PEELED 6 Lbs. Avg. Weight \$14.99 LB.	

Prices Good Thru 12/06/03 • Tuesday-Friday 9-6, Saturday 8-5, Closed Sunday-Monday

Saturday, December 13th
& Sunday, December 14th

Real Live Reindeer

Santa Arrives on a Tractor-Drawn Hay
Wagon Each Day at Noon

Garden Gnome Calendar Signing
with Dietrich Gehring

Gourmet Food Tastings

Check out the Holiday Menu in the
Yellow Rock Cafe
-Live Holiday Music-

It's Time to Order Apple Gift Packs &
Gift Baskets for the Holidays

Visit our Greens Barn Christmas Trees, Wreaths,
Fresh Garland, Boughs, Holly, Mistletoe
• Buy a Locally Grown Tree to Benefit the Albany
County Land Conservancy •

342 Altamont Rd.
Altamont, NY 12009
(518) 765-2956

**INDIAN
LADDER
FARMS**

www.indianladderfarms.com • e-mail: indianladder@aol.com

Store Open 9-5 Seven days a week.
Café Hours: Serving Lunch weekdays 11-2.
Serving Brunch & Lunch weekends 10-3.

**Hometown
for the Holidays**
...The Bethlehem Custom Throw

Landmarks of Bethlehem, such as
First Reformed Church in Selkirk,
Toll Gate in Slingerlands, and the
Four Corners, all in full color

Names of hamlets woven
into the borders

A great gift for students,
family, and friends - far or near!

Cozy on your lap,
handsome on your couch

All cotton and washable;
52" x 66" including fringe

Only \$55 plus NYS sales tax. Available at
Northeast Framing
243 Delaware Ave
Delmar, 439-7913

Bethlehem Chamber
318 Delaware Ave
Delmar, 439-0512

A PROJECT OF THE BETHLEHEM BUSINESS WOMEN'S CLUB
-Profits support community projects and services-

RV

(From Page 1)

Bylsma said.

The RV can also connect to the Internet and, on the night of the election, Egan and her supporters gathered there to tabulate results from the polls.

She credited Bylsma and his RV with helping her gain name recognition, as well as raising awareness about the local election.

Bylsma, for his part, enjoyed the ride, although there is a downside. When he removed Egan's vinyl campaign portraits a few days after the election, he lost some of the notoriety he gained during the campaign.

"Nobody waves at me," he said. "Nobody honks their car horns at me anymore. I kind of miss that."

Shopping

(From Page 1)

Regional of Commerce, they are standing by their pre-holiday prediction.

"We know that retailers saw steady traffic throughout the weekend. It appears that it will be the best year that they have had in the last couple of years," said Steve Janack, vice president of communications and government relations for the regional chamber.

"The early doorbusters helped attract shoppers out to retail establishments," Janack added.

EMPIRE FUN

Your guide to New York's
travel, recreation & tourism

Zoom!

*New York trails beckon
snowmobilers*

Also inside:

Polar bears take icy dip

Cross country skiing

A Victorian Christmas

Empire FUN

An  EmpireMedia

Publication

Vol. 3, Issue 3
Winter 2003-04

David Tyler

General Manager
315-434-8889, Ext. 340
dtyler@cnylink.com

Daniel Lovell

Editor
315-434-8889, Ext. 330
dlovell@cnylink.com

Contributing Writers:

Brittney Jerred
Katherine McCarthy
Darrin Youker
Ann E. Weidman
Casey A. Smith
Matthew Craver
Fritz Diddle
Jeremy Boylan
Deborah West

For Advertising Information:

Paula Picciotto
Advertising Representative
315-434-8889, Ext. 314
ppicciotto@cnylink.com

Tami Grashof
Corporate Ad Director
315-434-8889, Ext. 320

John McIntyre
Spotlight Newspapers
518-439-4949

Eagle Newspapers
5910 Firestone Drive
Syracuse, NY 13206
315-434-8889, Fax: 315-434-8883

Spotlight Newspapers
125 Adams St.
Delmar, NY 12054
518-439-4949, Fax: 518-439-0609

Richard Keene
President
315-434-8889, Ext. 302

John McIntyre
Vice President
518-439-4949

Empire Fun is published by Empire Media, 5910 Firestone Drive, Syracuse, NY, 13206.

Empire Fun is owned by Eagle Media Partners, LP, Inc. Edward S. Green, chairman; David H. Northrup, vice chairman.

Empire Fun is a supplement to:

EAGLE
NEWSPAPERS

Spotlight Newspapers
The Capital District's Quality Weeklies

Over hill, over dale, New York takes skiers into The great outdoors

By Katherine McCarthy and David Tyler

Cross-country skiing is an unparalleled experience, letting you glide through the woods on sunny, snowy days. The snow gives the air an intensity of color and the cold a crispness that seems to fortify your lungs as you draw breath deeper than summer's warmth ever lets you. Snow-covered trees sometimes shake down a little sprinkle as you whoosh through the sheltered glade they create.

No wonder, then, that as soon as fresh snow falls, every field, town park and golf course bears the mark of the cross-country skier: thin parallel tracks, eager to be part of winter's wonderland. In addition to impromptu cross-country trails that spring up when the snow falls, there are places that devote themselves exclusively to Nordic skiing, with groomed trails, rental equipment, lessons, and usually a place to cozy up with a hot chocolate when the skiing's done.

Pineridge Cross-Country Ski Area

Two areas buffer Saratoga and the Capital District. In Rensselaer County's East Poestenkill, a short jaunt from Albany, is Pineridge Cross-Country Ski Area. Its 35 kilometers of groomed trails are joined by 15 kilometers of ungroomed trails for snowshoeing and skiing. Four kilometers of lighted trails provide night skiing, available to groups who reserve in advance.

Pineridge is in the foothills of the Berkshires and the Taconics, and its trails meander through hardwood and evergreen forests. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., and trail fees are \$12 for adults, and free for children under six. Seniors over 60 ski free on weekdays.

Pineridge also rents skis and offers a first-time skier package, which provides area use, rental, and a lesson, at the cost of \$32 for adults, and \$22 for 12 and under. Pineridge also rents snowshoes to adults and offers them free to children 12 and under.

Ski and snowshoeing lessons are available. A group lesson for adults is \$14 per adult, and \$12 for children 12 and under. Semi-private lessons are \$12, and private lessons are \$35. Night skiing, with an advance reservation by e-mail or phone, is \$8 for an adult, and \$4 for children.

Throughout the winter, Pineridge offers special events. They take advantage of school snow days, for instance, by offering teens skiing and rentals at the under-12 rates. There's a senior fitness program on Tuesdays, and special prices for anyone who can ski on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. There's a winter ski fest in January, snowshoe hikes, and back country ski tours.

When you've finished skiing, a lodge will provide a place to warm up and replenish your energy supplies.

Tree Haven Trails

Everyone knows Bob's Trees in Galway, in Saratoga County. After Christmas, though, when the steady stream of Christmas-tree shoppers depart, a bit of peace and calm return to the



wooded, rolling terrain. After a few good snowstorms, Doug Eaton said, Tree Haven Trails at 1227 Galway Rd. opens with 40 kilometers of set cross-country ski trails.

Originally opened in the late 1980s, Tree Haven is a great place for beginners to get their cross-country legs.

"Since our terrain is mostly rolling," Eaton said, "the difficulty comes only in the distance of the trails."

Eaton anticipates that this season's rates will remain the same as last year's, which were \$8 for adults on holidays and weekends, and \$5 for the under-12 set. Rental packages include trail use and are \$17 for adults and \$11 for children. The maximum family rental rate, Eaton said, is \$60. Tree Haven Trails also rents snowshoes, with trail use, at the same cost.

Lessons are available, but must be booked in advance. Group lessons are \$12 per person, and private lessons are \$25 per person. A warming hut and snack will offer a respite from your winter workout.

Please see Skiing on Page 12

On the cover:

Thirteen-year-old Warners resident Steven Soliday takes a spin on his 440 Pro X Polaris after some early-season snow. Photo by Chuck Wainwright.

For more information

Greek Peak, Cortland. 607-835-6111. 17 miles of groomed, marked trails, warming station, lessons and rentals.

Podunk Ski Touring, Trumansburg. 607-387-6716. More than seven miles of marked trails, warming station, lessons and rentals.

Jackrabbit Trail, Lake Placid. Contact the Adirondack Ski Touring Council at 518-523-1365.

Lapland Lake Cross Country Ski and Vacation Center. 518-863-4974

Mt. Van Hoevenberg, Lake Placid. Contact the Olympic Regional Development Authority at 518-523-1655.

Stony Pond State Forest, Nelson. To check conditions, call 607-674-1655.

Highland Forest County Park, Fabius. To check conditions, call 315-683-5550.

Mendon Ponds County Park, Honeoye Falls. For information, call 585-334-3780.

Pineridge Cross-Country Ski Area, Petersburg. For more information, call 518-283-3652.

Tree Haven Trails, Galway. For more information, call 518-882-9455.

Taking an **ICY** plunge

Polar bear clubs celebrate 100-year tradition of ice diving

By Fritz Diddle

What's 100 years old, weighs nearly 10 tons, and gets its kicks out of jumping into the icy waters of the Atlantic once a week during the winter?

That may be a silly question, but the Coney Island Polar Bear Club, one of the oldest and certainly largest groups of winter swimmers in the nation, takes its cold-weather recreation seriously. Dating back to 1903, the club now boasts a membership of more than 100 brave swimmers, many of whom take dips every Sunday between November and April.

The club was certainly taken seriously by the producers of the movie "Suspect." Peter Yates, the director of the 1987 thriller starring Dennis Quaid and Cher, couldn't find anyone willing to jump into a river in the winter while shooting in New York.

"The stunt guys didn't want to do it," said Tom McGann, vice president of the Coney Island club and an avid winter bather. "So they called us."

While most winter bathers don't swim as often or as seriously as the Coney Islanders – McGann gets in the water about 25 times each winter – more and more New Yorkers are realizing the benefits of winter bathing, often raising money for a good cause to boot.

Avantouinti, and beyond!

Winter swimming has roots in Europe – Finland, to be precise – where increasing numbers of brave souls are realizing the benefits of avantouinti, or "winter swimming" in Finnish. There, more than 80,000 jump into icy waters each winter.

Why, you might ask? According to many, spending a very short amount of time in very cold water has a number of benefits – if it doesn't kill you, that is.

Dr. Walter M. Bortz, a 70-year-old specialist of internal medicine at the Palo Alto Medical Clinic in California, believes winter bathing can be very healthy, provided proper precautions are taken. Here's how it works:

A jump into ice-cold water can result in an involuntary gasp, followed by one to three minutes of involuntary hyperventilation. Basically, the lower the water temperature is, the more air can fit in your lungs. This hyperventilation results in a lowering of blood carbon dioxide levels and a raising of blood pH levels. Rapid cooling of the skin can increase the heart rate by 50 percent and raise the blood pressure dramatically.

What does this all mean? Well, this type of shock to the circulatory system can produce a warm afterglow that winter bathers say needs to be experienced to understand. Some say it lasts for days, and can stimulate mental processes, relieve stress, remove aches and pains, increase vitality and keep the skin looking

"It takes a special breed, a special kind of person."

–Bill Clark

younger.

While most of that might not be very scientific, benefits to the skin have been documented. Some doctors say drastic temperature changes and shivering skin exercise shallow sub-cutaneous muscles that actually firm the skin, not just its appearance. The Finns have known this for centuries, and often follow a trip to the sauna with a dip in icy water.

However, a shock to the circulatory system always carries with it inherent risks. Swimming is not likely to be dangerous to a healthy, fit person, but may be risky for those with underlying heart disease or hypertension. If you're unsure about the condition of your heart, or a senior citizen, it's a good idea to consult your doctor before attempting a polar bear swim. Alcohol is a no-no, as it accelerates hypothermia, and it's considered dangerous to stay in the water longer than 15 minutes. And never try it alone.

Upstate polar bears

One of the oldest documented polar bear swims in Upstate New York – although it was for a very different reason than they are usually held today – took place in 1835 in the village of Le Roy, located 20 minutes southwest of Rochester. The parishioners of the Le Roy Baptist Church cut a hole in the ice of Oatka Creek to baptize a handful of the congregation. This event marked one of the first documented winter swims in New York history and began a tradition that holds strong today.

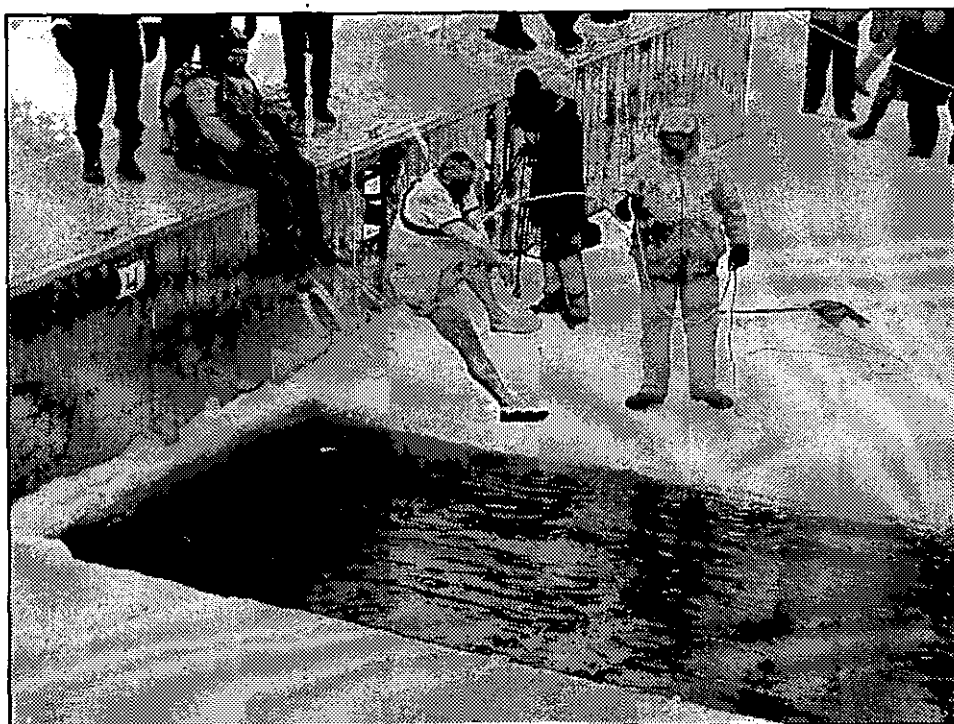
In the tiny town of Olcott, on the shore of Lake Ontario, the local Lions Club branch has held a benefit swim, the Swim for Sight, for the past 34 years straight. The event gets more than 300 swimmers, who garner pledges. About half the swimmers participate every year; the other half do it once, according to Bill Clark, one of the organizers.

"I don't actually do it myself," Clark said. "It takes a special breed, a special kind of person."

The event is held the first Sunday in March. Next year, that's March 7.

"It's still pretty wintery along Lake Ontario at that time," Clark said. "It's not too cold to go outside, but it's still pretty cold to swim. There's usually ice on the lake."

A similar fund-raiser began in 1991 in Alexandria Bay to help the financially-



A swimmer takes a running leap into icy waters – the hallmark of the polar bear tradition.



It's not unusual for some to have second thoughts, especially the first time around.

strapped E.J. Noble/Samaritan Hospital raise money to buy patient-related equipment like wheelchairs, stretchers and hospital beds. Although the hospital closed last April, a new hospital, the River Hospital, Inc., opened the same day with its own board of trustees. It wasn't just a name change – the new hospital started from scratch in nearly every way. One of the few traditions that it has continued is the Polar Bear Dip, this year set for the last Saturday in February at Bonnie Castle Manor in Alexandria Bay. Registration starts at noon and costs \$100; swimming commences at 1 p.m.

Kathy Strough, a hospital employee who chairs the fund-raiser, said organizers cut a hole in the ice of the St. Lawrence River. Swimmers swim about

20 feet through 12-foot-deep water with a safety rope around them and a scuba team and ambulance crew on hand for good measure. Then, they jump into a hot tub.

"But after the first two or three people, the hot tub isn't that hot anymore," Strough said.

The event usually raises between \$8,000 and \$10,000 through pledges and registration fees for the hospital, Strough said. Last year, a single employee of the hospital raised \$3,227, she said.

Strough said the event is a blast, although she doesn't participate herself.

"First of all, I can't swim," she said. "Secondly, there's no way in hell. But I've heard it's the most exhilarating experience ever."

Quick New York Getaways.



Amtrak® goes where the action is. The State Fair in Syracuse. The gambling casinos of Buffalo/Niagara Falls. Horse Racing in Saratoga. And the world-class theatre and shopping of New York City to name a few.



Amtrak is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

In Lake Placid, fun has gone

To the Dogs

Dog sled rides offer alternative outdoor fun

By Casey A. Smith

John Houghton took a pastime and turned it into a wintertime business. "I got started with a couple of dogs, playing around," Houghton said.

Those couple of dogs have turned into 32 Alaskan and Siberian huskies who lead his team in Thunder Mountain Dog Sled Tours on Mirror Lake in Lake Placid.

Passengers can enjoy a loop around Mirror Lake for \$5 a person, with four people on the sled on the weekends. By appointment during the week, he also offers a one-hour trip through the woods for two people, for \$100 a ride.

Houghton has had racing dogs for 20 years and he breeds and raises his own.

He has four different sleds, some of which he has made, and some of which he has bought.

He learned dog sled racing from Buster Samburgh, the man he bought his first dog from. He raced for five years and then got into giving tours.

Samburgh has been involved in dog sled racing in the Lake Placid area for 44 years. While Samburgh is mostly retired from racing, his son and daughter-in-law still race his team of 30 dogs.

He first became interested in dog sledging when there were no snowmobiles yet and little alternatives for getting out in the winter. When he first began, there were more dogs around than there are now.

Samburgh described it as a "way to get out in winter. It was either that or walk."

He said dog sled racing is still very popular in northeastern states, but it is a sport that is taught, not just picked up.

"It's a tough sport, a tough hobby to do by yourself, without being taught," Samburgh said.

Houghton said he learned what not to do in a hurry, and still finds himself a little lost from time to time.

"I'll have days when I get on the sled



John Houghton drives a pack of dogs on a tour in Lake Placid.

"I'm on the lake all the time so I know what's there." – John Houghton

and shake my head, 'what am I doing?'" Houghton said.

Luckily, his dogs never forget what they are there for. Each dog is always ready and willing to go. He can tell which of his dogs will be the best racers from the time that they are puppies. He said the puppies who race around the most usually have the most potential. The dogs race until they cannot run anymore and the oldest dog he still had racing was 15.

Each of the dogs is kept in a pen with its own doghouse. They all have names and when he breeds them, he said 95 percent of them will be super workers.

The dogs are fed less in the summer-time and more in the winter. He provides them with a high-energy food with more supplements. Their water is heated and flavored with meat so that the dogs drink a lot of it, and they finish it quickly. The dogs can reach speeds of more than 20 mph, Samburgh said.

The trail he travels on is not usually open until mid-December, and that is when he begins the sled tours.

He knows that lake very well and can tell when the day is right for a sled ride.

"I'm on the lake all the time so I know what's there," Houghton said.

Ice yachting: a family tradition, a dying art

Antique boats handed down through generations

By Jeremy Boylan

While most New Yorkers are cuddling close to their fire places each winter, they are missing out on what some call the most exhilarating sport on ice. No, it's not skiing, not ice fishing. It's ice boating.

Brian Reid, secretary of the Hudson River Ice Yachting Club, has been ice boating for 30 years.

"It's the thrill of exhilaration. The Hudson River in the middle of January is indescribable," said Reid.

There is a very important distinction to make when it comes to ice boating. There is a difference between ice yachting and boating.

Ice yachters, like the HRIYC, focus on preservation of the historic ice yacht – antiques from 50 to 100 years ago, while ice boating uses smaller boats that usually face off in short races.

According to Reid, ice yachting is a dying art. Most ice yachts are more than 50 years old. They are handed down from generation to generation.

"Some of ours have been around for 150 years," Reid said.

The average ice yacht reaches between 20 to 40 mph. The larger ones can reach 60 to 70 mph with perfect conditions.

Reid's concerns about the lack of interest in the sport are exactly what makes



John Davenport muscles off the starting line at the 1999 North American Ice Boating Championship.

it so appealing.

"Scheduling is hard. Finding the right ice location, accessibility, and wind all at the same time is very rare," Reid said. Ice yachts are left on the ice for weeks at a time because they are very hard to move. Because of the difficulty in moving them, the HRIYC usually boats with a group of 4 or 5.

"It's hard work, but it all pays off. Great settings, woods and mountains and you are in the middle of it, all alone,"

Reid said.

If you are looking for more of an extreme thrill, ice boat racing is for you. The smaller racing boats are called DNs.

The DN is the largest iceboat class in the world, so named because it was the winner of an iceboat design contest sponsored by the Detroit News in 1937. Most boats weight between 100 to 150 pounds and are only 12 feet long.

Want to go ice boating?

To learn more about the HRIYC call Brian Reid at 845-756-5075. For more information on DN racing, visit www.sailingsource.com and search for ice boats.

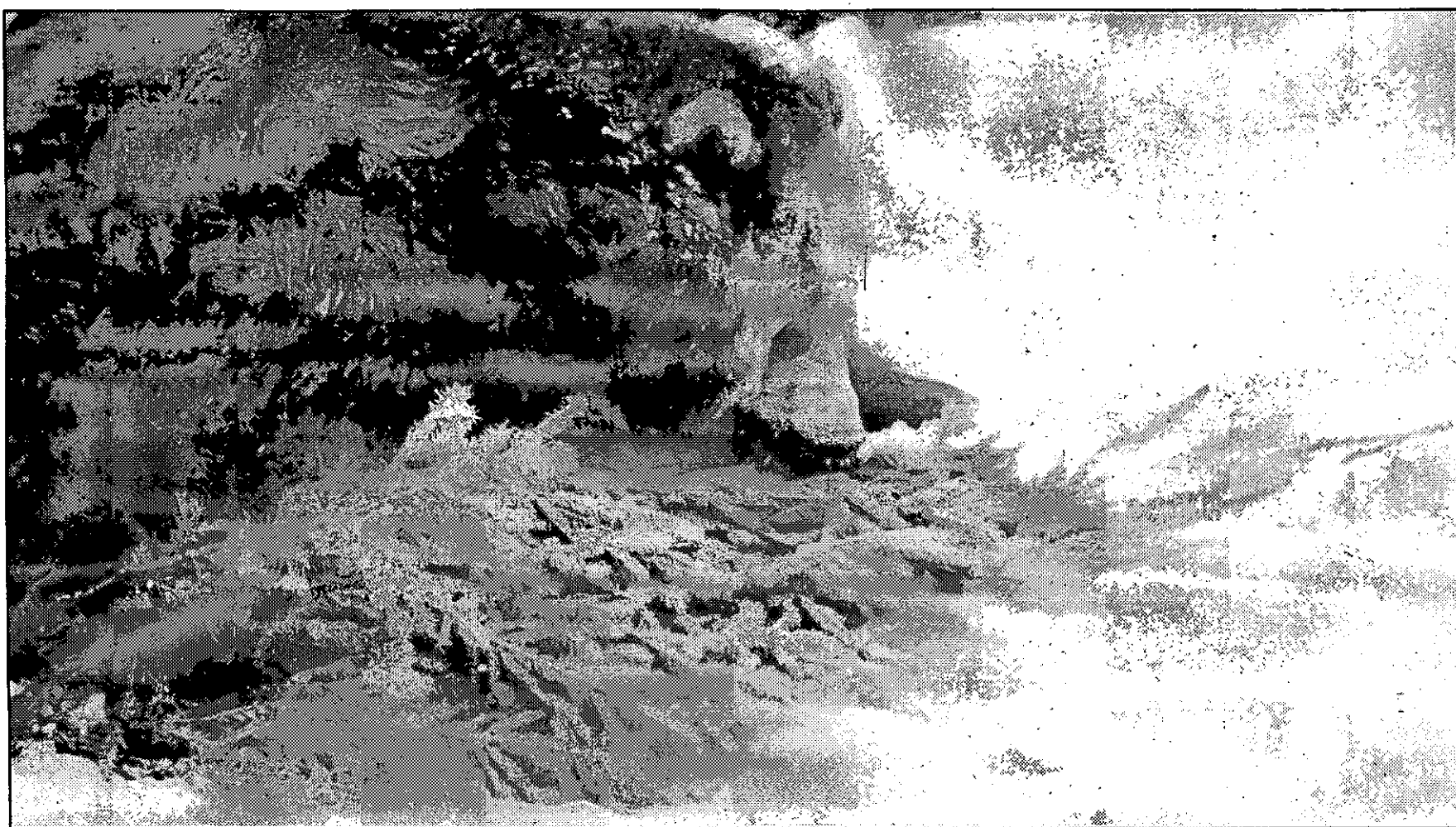
"It's the thrill of exhilaration. The Hudson River in the middle of January is indescribable."

–Brian Reid

"Most people these days are drawn to DNs these days," Reid said. "They are easier to move, build, and buy. Not to mention the competition of racing them."

If you ask Reid and his Hudson River buddies, yachting is the way to go.

"Racing is less about the art of sailing, and that is something that is missing today," he said. "The day of old technology is a lost art. We are left with simpler times in a hectic world."



The Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse shows off its bears in the winter.

The Zoo:

By Deborah West

*It's not just for
summers anymore*

Zoos and warm weather go hand in hand in New York state, but there are some advantages to suiting up and braving the cold to visit animals in the winter. The Buffalo Zoological Gardens, New York State Living Museum in Watertown, Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park in Syracuse, Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester and the Utica Zoo are open all but a few days a year.

Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park

"Animals are much more awake," said Sarah Fedele, director of public relations for the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park in Syracuse. "They get a little friskier in winter."

Visitors walking the zoo grounds can see the big cats playing, Fedele said. "Another thing that's great: it's less crowded and you can take more time to look at an exhibit."

The main attractions at Rosamond Gifford Zoo in the winter are the bison, reindeer and caribou, and red pandas.

"Our animals are chosen for the outside exhibits because their natural habitat is like ours," Fedele said. "They're used to living in Syracuse all year round."

For frequent zoo-goers, Fedele said it is interesting to come in the different seasons and see how the animals' moods change.

"It's a great time to see animals enjoy the weather," she said.

The maintenance staff at Rosamond Gifford Zoo makes sure the animals' water doesn't freeze, that the indoor displays don't host any icy spots the animals could slip on, and breaks up the ice in the outdoor ponds for the water fowl.

Zoo volunteers "go Christmas tree crazy," according to Fedele, who said they decorate the lobby for the holiday.

Families can also have breakfast and lunch with Santa on the weekends through Dec. 21. Breakfasts are held from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, and lunch is held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

A Read and Roar storytime will be held at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 13; 17 and 20 for children 3 to 5, and at 11 a.m. Dec. 13 and 20 for children 6 to 8.

Sick stuffed animals will be treated at the Teddy Bear Ball from 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 8. Pre-schoolers can bring their special stuffed animals and have them repaired by volunteer veterinarians and surgeons.

The Rosamond Gifford Zoo is located at One Conservation Place, Syracuse. For more information, call 315-435-8511 or visit rosamondgiffordzoo.org. The zoo is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.



This red panda lives at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse.

Seneca Park Zoo, Rochester

"Our biggest message is: we don't hibernate," said Shaunta Collier-Santos, public relations director at Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester.

The animals more playful in winter at Seneca Park Zoo are polar bears, wolves and Amur tigers, but Collier-Santos said the animals have all lived at the zoo for many years and have adapted to the temperature changes characteristic of Upstate New York.

Seneca Park Zoo is also the only zoo in New York that houses African elephants.

The animals that need warming up have heated rocks built into their habitats.

"It just seems to come alive a little more; the animals are more active in the winter," said Collier-Santos. "Come on out and experience what we call our winter wonderland."

A benefit to visiting the Seneca Park Zoo in the winter is avoiding large crowds and all the hustle and bustle, said Collier-Santos.

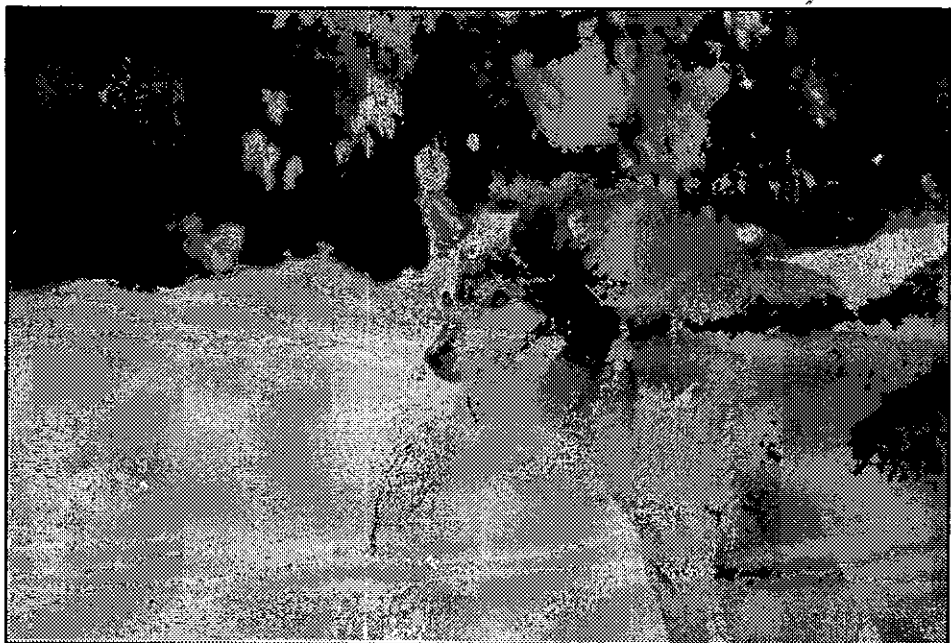
Breakfast with Santa is held in the zoo's Rocky Coast Gallery from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Dec. 13 and 14, and eat while the sea lions and polar bears swim by.

On Christmas Eve, Collier-Santos said two reindeer mysteriously disappear from the zoo and then mysteriously reappear the day after Christmas.

A Teddy Bear Clinic will be held Feb. 21 and 22 for children to bring their gently worn stuffed animals and have them cared for by medical professionals. There is a fee for the clinic. "Health insurance costs are rising you know," Collier-Santos said.

On March 22, children can participate in the Critter Challenge. They can compare themselves with animals in an educational event. For example, if the children see a chameleon laying on the ground, they can lay on the ground and compare their length to the chameleon. They can also compare their vertebrae with other animals.

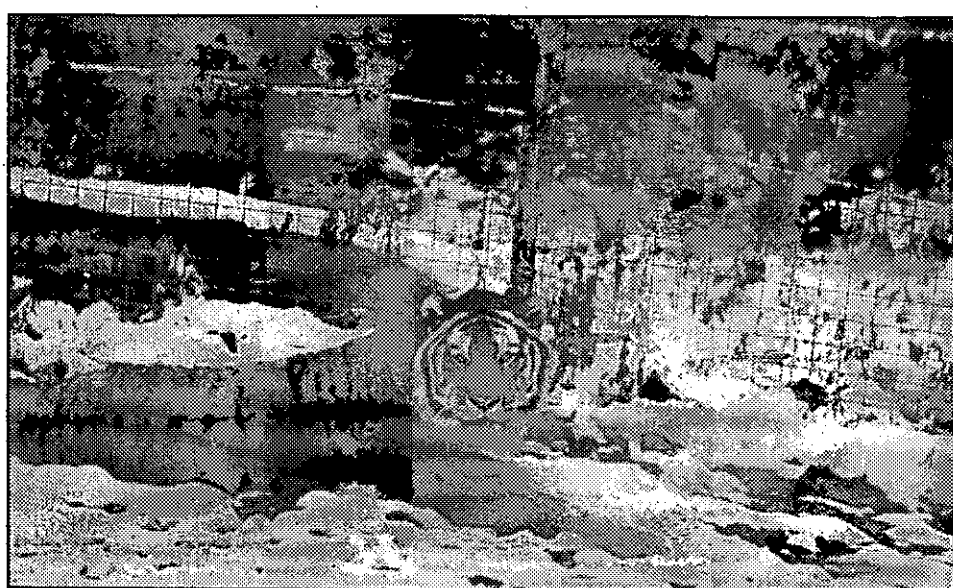
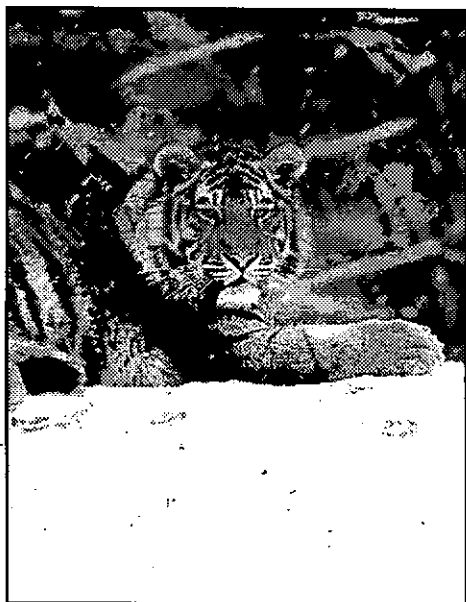
The Seneca Park Zoo has recently broken ground on a new animal health and education complex, where the public will be able to walk through and witness veterinary surgical procedures. In the lobby of the building, which is anticipated to open by the end of May or beginning of June, there will be an



LEFT: A wolf at Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park. RIGHT: A polar bear from the Buffalo Zoo.



Rosamond Gifford Zoo photos taken by Lynne Panebianco



ABOVE LEFT: Rosamond Gifford Zoo's swan. Above: Gifford Zoo's tiger. LEFT: A tiger from the Buffalo Zoo.

interactive play area for children.

The Seneca Park Zoo is located at 2222 Saint Paul St., Rochester. For more information, call 585-336-7200 or visit senecaparkzoo.org. The zoo is closed the first Saturday of June for Zoobilation.

Utica Zoo

The Utica Zoo mostly features cold, hearty species which can handle the cold weather, but does have to move the American alligators and Australian black swans indoors, according to Elizabeth Irons, Utica Zoo public relations and development director.

In the winter, visitors like watching the Siberian tigers, the grizzly bears, reindeer, Rocky Mountain goats and the Bachtrian camels, according to Irons.

"When the weather turns bad, going to the zoo isn't something people think about doing," Irons said. "We're trying to let people know we're up here."

The zoo takes on a different life in the winter. Animals are more active, the barren trees provide a better vantage point and for those interested in photography, the feisty animals playing in the snow provide great pictures, Irons said.

"There's nothing like this place after a

good snowfall - it's like walking through a postcard," Irons said.

Visitors can rent snowshoes for a wintry walk through the zoo and take a little more time looking at the signs.

Utica Zoo staff puts in a lot of effort to make sure heating units are operational so watering dishes and troughs don't freeze and makes sure heat works for the indoor animals who need it a little warmer.

A Snowfari will be held for the ninth year Feb. 7. A celebration of winter and winter sports, the Snowfari will be held at the ski chalet next to the Utica Zoo and serve as a qualifying event for people competing in the Empire State Games. Athletes cross country ski, snowshoe, snowboard, downhill ski and do extreme biking. Local musicians provide the music and the Utica Fire Department has a food tent. The proceeds benefit the Utica Zoo.

Other activities held on zoo grounds

"There's nothing like this place after a good snowfall. It's like walking through a postcard." - Elizabeth Irons

include Wild Sundays and Zoo Adventures. On the second and fourth Sunday of each month, the zoo has arts and crafts and environmental education. Zoo Adventures is a pre-school program held on the fourth Tuesday or Wednesday of every month where kids can listen to stories and make crafts.

The Utica Zoo is located at 99 Steele Hill Road, Utica. For more information, call 315-738-0472 or visit www.uticazoo.org. The Utica Zoo is open daily except when there is a heavy snowfall or ice storm and there is no admission in the winter.

Buffalo Zoological Gardens

You'll feel like you have the whole zoo to yourself if you visit the Buffalo Zoo in the winter, said Public Relations Coordinator Mary Rudwicz.

All the animals at the Buffalo Zoo have access to the inside if the weather becomes too harsh, but most have acclimated to the weather. Occasionally, the outdoors will be closed off to the animals if the weather is really bad, Rudwicz said.

The polar bears really draw attention in the winter because they love the weather and are most active this time of

year. The snow monkeys, which are from the Himalayan Mountains, also come out a lot in the winter.

"People really enjoy the animals playing in the snow," Rudwicz said. "It's really not when there are not a lot of people around and you can enjoy them more. It's real peaceful and real quiet and you can see how the animals would act in their natural habitat."

Visitors can get holiday photos taken with the elephants at the Buffalo Zoo. Families can have Breakfast with Santa at 9 and 11 a.m. Dec. 13, 14, 20 and 21. Wild Ice, held Jan. 18, invites people to go into the exhibits and build snow creatures, then allowing the animals to interact with the snow creatures provides enrichment for the animals.

On Feb. 19, Polar Bites provides food, wine and brew for adults at the Rich Atrium, with proceeds benefiting the zoo.

The Buffalo Zoological Gardens, the nation's third oldest zoo, is located at 300 Parkside Ave., Buffalo. For more information, call 716-837-3900 or visit www.buffalozoo.org.

Please see Zoo on Page 9

Mayville uses an ice palace to end cabin fever

Volunteers build a castle of frozen lake water

By Ann E. Weidman

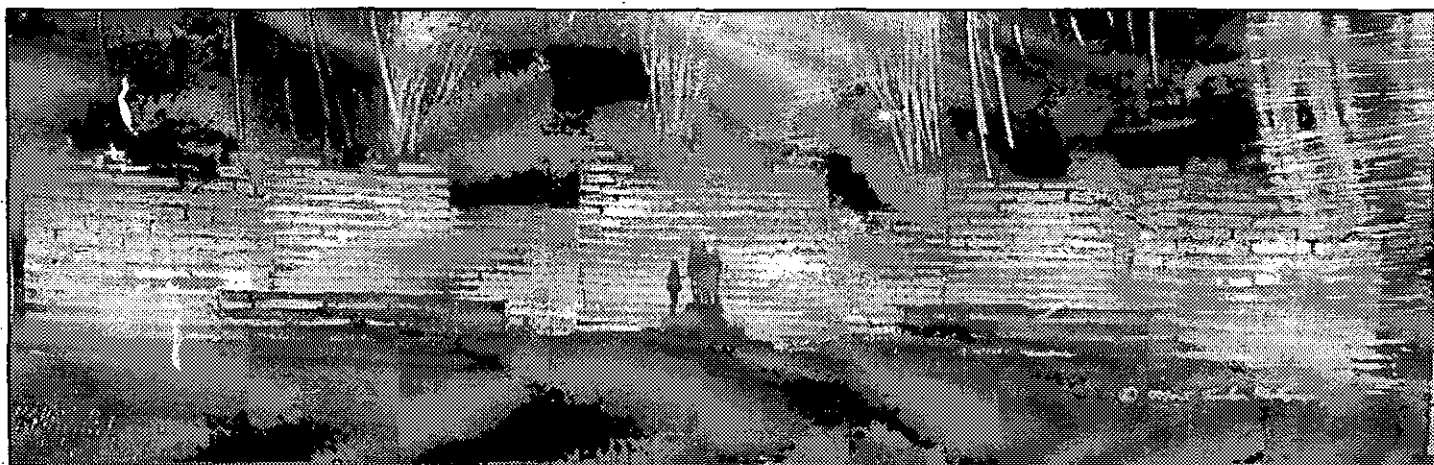
The day was Feb. 21, 1987. The weather was clear and cold, but invigorating. The event was a first for Chautauqua County: The Ice Castle Extravaganza. That first castle, built entirely by volunteers, was 50 feet long and 25 feet high. Inside were 82 colored spotlights illuminating 750 blocks of ice cut from frozen Chautauqua Lake, each weighing between 400 and 500 pounds.

Mayville cured "Cabin Fever" that year and has been doing it ever since. The ICE in 1987 was part of the Chautauqua-Allegheny Region "I Love New York Victorian Winter Festival" and was advertised as a one-day event.

Those involved were stunned when 25,000 people came to Mayville that Saturday – and during the next few days – to see this grand palace.

It was such an unusual feat that it gained worldwide attention with photos published in The New York Times, the U.S. military publication "Stars and Stripes", England edition and on the photo page of The New Zealand Herald. After all, it was – and is – the southernmost ice structure in the United States. After the first year, and with no more New York winter festival designations or financial help for the region, ICE was expanded to a long weekend – now Presidents Weekend – to include many snow-related activities and depends on sponsors to help defray expenses.

It hasn't always gone smoothly.



MORT TUCKER PHOTOGRAPHY

Mayville's Ice Castle Extravaganza is 230 tons of frozen lake water.

Castles have been built and early thaws have caused melt-downs; castles have been half-way completed when they had to be wrapped in tarp until the temperatures dropped enough to preserve them; and in 1993 Chautauqua Lake never froze. No castle that year.

There were no castles in 1998 and 1999 because the ice was not thick enough to cut. Even the snow-related activities couldn't be held because of the lack of the white stuff.

Undaunted, though, every year a committee of volunteers has planned the weekend, thinking that Mother Nature will help out.

To illustrate how far ICE has come since that first castle, the 1996 castle was 20 feet high and 120 feet long and consisted of 1,150 blocks, or 230 tons, of ice, each block weighing 400 pounds. It took 25 men 1,280 hours over eight days to construct the castle. And the castles are

still built by volunteers at about the same dimensions.

Although there is no admission charge and parking is free, donation barrels are placed inside the entrance for those who would like to support the annual event.

All activities also are free, including snowmobile rides given by the Chautauqua Lake Snowmobile Club, horse-drawn sleigh rides, pony rides, a petting zoo and a giant kids' slide (be sure to bring along a small plastic sled for this). Music is provided by a DJ in the park's gazebo and next to that is a tent for food and crafts vendors. A trackless train gives the children a ride around the park and Rainbow the Clown makes fancy balloon figures. Saturday's activities begin at 10 a.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m.

An extra treat near the park are the Chautauqua Township Historical Museum and a Rails-to-Trails office housed

For more information

Write to the Mayville/Chautauqua Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 22, Mayville, NY 14757, or phone 716/753-3113.

To get there

Take the New York State Thruway to Exit 60. Turn left onto Route 394, eight miles to Lakeside Park.

in the old railroad depot, both open to the public.

This season's ICE is scheduled for Feb. 13 to 15.

Saturday's activities include a bonfire at 6:30 p.m., snowmobile flare parade at 7 p.m., giant fireworks display at 8 p.m. and a Snowball Dance at 8:30 p.m.



good impressions last forever

This winter take a vacation to remember in Stowe, Vermont. You'll be impressed with our majestic mountains, intimate village, and pure winter fun for the whole family. For a Winter Vacation Planner click www.gostowe.com, or call toll-free 1-800-24-STOWE



alpine skiing, cross country skiing, dog-sledding, ice skating, massage, outdoor hot tubs, recreation path

saunas, ski-joring, sledding, sleigh ride, snow boarding, snowshoeing, telemarking, winter carnival

Gracing the Upstate stage

By Matthew Craver

Winter theatre season is here and while it may not be the Great White Way, several Broadway-caliber performances are only a trip on the Thruway away.

Capital Repertory Theatre

The Capital Repertory Theatre in Albany features three winter shows.

In association with Urban Stages, "The Sweepers" by John Picardi is running through Dec. 14. The off-Broadway comedy is set in Boston near the end of World War II. It tells the story of three Italian-American women whose families have been friends and neighbors since childhood.

"The Sweepers" runs approximately two hours, including a 15-minute intermission.

One of off-Broadway's longest running shows, "Jacques Brel is Alive & Well & Living in Paris" by Jacques Brel Eric Blau and Mort Shuman, is playing from Jan. 9 to Feb. 8.

Critics describe the show as a unique, intimate, cabaret Parisian bistro-style musical featuring the music of the legendary Belgian singer/composer Jacques Brel.

The music covers a range of emotions, from the tragic to the outrageously funny. Judy Collins, David Bowie, Sting and Celine Dion have recorded many of the play's featured songs.

Opening night, Jan. 14, includes pre-show entertainment and a champagne/dessert reception to meet the cast after the performance.

For show times and ticket information call 518-445-SHOW. Group rates are available.

Syracuse Stage

From Dec. 4 to Jan. 11 there's no place

like Syracuse Stage for the Syracuse University Drama Department production of L. Frank Baum's musical classic "The Wizard of Oz."

Director Robert Moss and choreographer Anthony Salatino stage one of America's most loved musicals, using a combination of the original Oz books and the unforgettable score for the original 1939 film.

From Jan. 20 to Feb. 15, take a walk on the wild side with the rock musical "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" by John Cameron Mitchell.

The story centers on Hedwig, the victim of a sex change gone wrong. She suffers for love as no one ever has. Rolling Stone magazine said "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" is the first musical that really rocks.

From Feb. 11 to 29, Syracuse Stage wraps up the winter season with "Stones in his Pockets" by Marie Jones.

This award-winning comedy features two actors who portray more than 15 characters as an American film crew sets up in rural Ireland.

For show times and ticket information, call 315-443-3275.

Syracuse Symphony Orchestra

Since 1961 the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra has been a staple in the Upstate New York performing community.

On Dec. 14, Handel's "Messiah," conducted by Miriam Burns, is a journey through the beauty of Handel's magnificent musical masterpiece, including "The Great Amen" and, of course, "Hallelujah Chorus."

From Dec. 15 to 22, "Holiday Pops," conducted by Grant Cooper, is a joyous holiday musical tradition. Enjoy the sounds of the season including "Sleigh

Please see Performance on Page 12

Zoo

Ross Park Zoo

The Ross Park Zoo in Binghamton is closed for the season, but there are still a few winter events which can bring people in the area closer to animals.

"Unlike Rosamond Gifford Zoo for example, we are a very hilly zoo," said Steven Contento, Ross Park Zoo acting director.

The topography of the Binghamton zoo creates weather conditions worse than other areas and highway maintenance and public safety becomes a main concern.

"We could spend hours making sure walkways are clear for only a dozen visitors," Contento said.

The Ross Park Zoo is closed at the end of October and reopens in March, with the exception of a few holiday events. And when the forecast looks good, the zoo may open for a weekend and feature a special animal such as its male Amur leopard.

The newly arrived female leopard is now in quarantine, but will soon be reunited with her mate.

Closing the zoo to the public also provides the chance for construction to be done.

For those really pining to see the animals in the off-season, the Zoomobile books off site year round.

Also, a Winter Zooschool will be held at 9 a.m. Feb. 14, with the theme The Hiss-Story of Snakes. Students can participate in educational activities focused on reptiles, with some guest appearances from some of the zoo's slithering serpents.

The Lion Sleeps Tonight Benefit Concert will be held at 6 p.m. March 7 at the Touch of Texas, located on Harry L. Drive, Johnson City. The event features Jay Siegel and The Tokens, with opening band The Hurricanes, and a dinner. Proceeds benefit the zoo.

The Ross Park Zoo is located at 60 Morgan Road, Binghamton. For more information, call 607-724-5461 or visit www.rossparkzoo.com.

New York State Living Museum (Watertown)

"Animals in the winter are more active, not as lethargic as they would be in the summer," said Ann Marie Carey, director of marketing and special events for the New York State Living Museum in Watertown.

In addition to seeing the animals in a more active state, visitors can get inside and view the café, gift shop, aquarium and discovery center.

Animals that might draw more attention in the winter would be the caribou, elks, mountain lions, wolves and bobcats. When the animals want to get out of the cold, they all have den



Rosamond Gifford Zoo's baby elephant frolics in the snow.

"Animals in the winter are more active, not as lethargic as they would be in the summer."

—Ann Marie Carey

boxes.

The New York State Living Museum hosts story hour for nursery school age children at 11 a.m. Dec. 19, Jan. 16 and Feb. 20.

A WinterFest is planned for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 15. Festivities include horse-drawn carriage rides, snowsculpting, dogsled demonstrations, children's animal Olympics and a cross-country ski poker run.

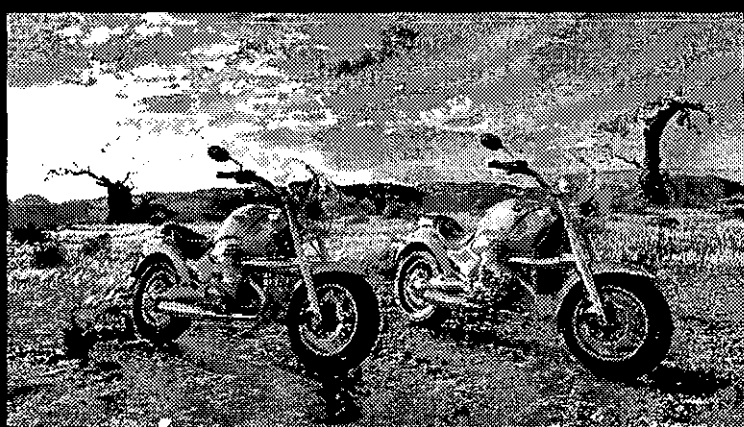
The New York State Living Museum is located at Thompson Park Conservancy, One Thompson Park, Watertown. For more information, call (315) 782-6180 or visit www.nyslivingmuseum.org.

The facility is open year round as weather permits, closed on Christmas, New Year's Day and Thanksgiving.

Country Road
Motoworks
286 Rt. 31F
Fairport, NY 14450
585-421-0480
www.countryroad.com



2004
R1200C Montauk
MSRP \$14,990



Masters the mountains. Rolls on the range.

2004 R1200C Montauk. Look for us at The Syracuse Auto Show, Feb. 4-8, 2004

MSRP includes destination and handling charges but excludes license, registration, taxes, title, insurance and options. Actual price is determined by retailer. © 2003 BMW Motor of a division of BMW of North America, LLC. The BMW name and trademark are registered trademarks.



Celebrating the best
Upstate New York
has to offer!

Look for these exciting Empire Media
Publications coming in 2004:

Empire Business

Carrying in-depth interviews on NYS newsmakers, historical features, business briefs, investment suggestions, upstate economic activity and inside looks at the legislative process. In addition to over 60,000 subscribers, Empire Business will be distributed to over 6,000 CEOs, decision makers and Chamber Members throughout upstate in the Syracuse, Albany, Binghamton, Rochester and Buffalo markets.

Publication:

March 17, 2004	March 3, 2004
June 23, 2004	June 9, 2004
September 15, 2004	September 1, 2004
November 19, 2004	October 27, 2004

Deadline:

Empire Education

Packed with timely news for students and parents, an online directory and a calendar of college admission dates, exam and prep courses and news every student and parent will use. In addition to over 60,000 subscribers that will receive this supplement, 6,000 copies will be distributed to area high schools colleges and government agencies covered by Empire Media.

Publication:

April 7, 2004	March 24, 2004
October 6, 2004	September 22, 2004

Deadline:

Empire Fun

A family guide to travel, recreation and tourism in New York State. Over 5,000 copies will be distributed through travel and tourism outlets throughout New York State in addition to over 60,000 subscribers of the weekly newspapers in the Syracuse, Albany and Binghamton markets.

Publication:

April 28, 2004	April 14, 2004
June 9, 2004	May 26, 2004
September 1, 2004	August 18, 2004
December 15, 2004	December 1, 2004

Deadline:

For Advertising Information:

Paula Picciotto
Advertising Representative
315.434.8889 Ext. 314

For Editorial Suggestions:

Daniel Lovell
Editor
315.434.8889 Ext. 330
dlovell@cnylink.com

David B. Tyler
General Manager, Empire Media
315.434.8889 Ext. 340

Village celebrates the Dickens out of the holiday season

Skaneateles rings in the season with Victorian style

By Brittney Jerred

After Thanksgiving, shoppers and visitors can't walk down Genesee Street in Skaneateles without noticing someone straight out of a Dickens novel.

Bob Cratchit can be found with shoulders slumped, hiding away from Ebenezer Scrooge. Tiny Tim is along the street side, looking optimistic despite his garb and the typical female citizen of London can be found browsing the shops donned in bonnet and shawl. Nearly 60 actors populate the village on weekends during the Christmas shopping season dressed in 19th Century costume. Every Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. through Dec. 21, the characters can be found roaming the streets, striking up Christmas carols and playing live music.

The tradition began 10 years ago and was the brainchild of a few local businesspeople who wanted to give something back to the community and have a little fun in the process. Today more than 100 businesses support Dickens Christmas.

Scrooge can be found giving out "Scrooge certificates," often good for a free glass of wine at an area restaurant. Carriage rides, which begin in front of the Masonic Temple on 13 E. Genesee St., are free but are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. At 2 p.m. there's a big gathering where the characters sing Christmas carols on the steps of the Masonic Temple and encourage audi-



Curtis Greene, center, plays the Artful Dodger.

ence participation.

"It gives people the experience of stepping back in time to enjoy Christmas the old fashioned way," said Sue Dove,

Skaneateles Area Chamber of Commerce executive director.

Special events are planned throughout the weekends. At 1 and 3 p.m. every-

Dickens Christmas schedule

Dec. 13:

The Masterworks Chorale, a local chorus, presents the "Sounds of Christmas" at St. Mary's of the Lake Catholic Church at 7 p.m. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$6 for seniors. Children 12 and under are free.

Dec. 14:

From noon to 5 p.m., nearby Auburn will host its Holiday Traditions where all museums and theaters are open free of charge.

A Christmas sing-a-long with guitarist Donna Minnoe is planned at Skaneateles Library at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Skaneateles Schools Holiday string concert at the High School Auditorium is at 2 p.m.

Dec. 21

The last full day of Dickens, but on Dec. 24, there is a mini-version of Dickens planned with limited characters from noon to 3 p.m.

CHARLIE CROWTHER

Don't get caught in the slow lane of the information superhighway.

Eagle takes the headache out of website design. There are no consultant fees, no page count fees, no hourly rates. We build your site for a one-time setup fee of just \$1500, plus the web hosting agreement of your choice. Many comparable services charge twice as much and lack the personal attention we'll give you.

Call today! (315) 434-8889, ext. 320

Your customers want

access to your business

24 hours a day, seven

days a week.

With Eagle Newspaper's

professional website

design service, your

business will be

accessible to thousands

of potential customers.

EAGLE
NEWSPAPERS

Let
Eagle put you
online!

New York's trails take snowmobilers

Into the WILD

By Darrin Youker

Hal Fleischman has been snowmobiling for 30 years and he's still hooked on the sense of exhilaration.

Fleischman, president of the New York State Snowmobile Association, says snowmobiling takes riders to winter scenes often unseen. It also makes the snowmobiling enthusiast look forward to winter.

"It's different from every activity because it gives you a sense of freedom," Fleischman said. "You get to be outside when everyone else is inside. You get to see the good side of winter."

When the snow flies this winter, thousands of New Yorkers will take to their sleds on the more than 9,000 miles of club-maintained trails around the state. More than 80 clubs, boasting thousands of members, hold rides around the state. Enthusiasts say it is an easy sport to get involved in.

Fleischman, who lives in Buffalo, recommends finding a rider to talk with before starting in the sport. That person, Fleischman said, will be able to tell which features to look for in a snowmobile.

The question then becomes which kind of snowmobile to buy.

For most beginning-adult riders Skip Albanese, owner of Old Forge Powersports, recommends buying a snowmobile with a 500cc engine or bigger. A snowmobile with a smaller engine would move slower and adult riders would tire of it quickly, Albanese said. But a smaller sled, such as one with a 380cc engine, would be perfect for a youth to start on, he said.

"It depends on where and how they ride, along with prior riding experience," Albanese said. "It wouldn't be good for anyone to buy the biggest and fastest. It's good they purchase something they are comfortable with."

A brand new snowmobile with a 600cc engine and reverse option usually costs \$6,000, while a used snowmobile can cost around \$1,000, Albanese said. A new 380cc snowmobile can cost around \$4,000 he said.



KEVIN BAMEKICK

Steven Soliday of Warners takes a spin on his new 440 Pro X Polaris sled.

A reputable dealership will allow riders to try out snowmobiles before they buy them, and will teach people the ins and outs of the machine, Albanese said. After that, riders need to pick up insurance and clothing. There have been recent advances in clothing for snowmobiling, such as helmets with heated face shields and less bulky coats, Albanese said.

Fleischman recommends riders find a club in their area to ride with. Most clubs will offer safety courses, and will also teach new riders about trail etiquette, he said.

"Joining a club is one of the most important things you can do for the sport," Fleischman said. "You can learn safety, you can learn where to ride. The camaraderie also becomes the most important part of the sport."

Joining a club also gives riders the chance to use club-maintained trails. Many snowmobiling clubs around the state have trail groomers, which clear pathways through the snow for riders to use.

Gene Merlino, executive board member of the South Warren Snowmobile Club, in Warren County, says his 400-member organization has two snow groomers. The club has \$250,000 invested in trail maintenance equipment, he said. Members of the organization go



NANCIE BATTAGLIA

Snowmobiling in the Adirondack Park, near Saranac.

out at night, after work, to maintain club trails around Lake George and Queensbury, Merlino said.

Along with use of the trail, club members can also join club-sponsored rides, poker runs and off-season parties, Merlino said. His club charges a \$25 yearly fee. Like many clubs around the state, Merlino and the rest of the members of the South Warren Snowmobile Club are waiting for snow.

"We had a great snow last year," Merlino said. "We can groom the trails, but we can only do 50 percent of the battle. Mother Nature has to give us the snow."

"You get to be outside when everyone else is inside. You get to see the good side of winter."

—Hal Fleischman

For more information, visit
www.nysnowassoc.org

DISCOVER COOL THINGS TO DO

Cold rush

ROCHESTER
JANUARY - MARCH

WINTER FUN PACKAGES,
PROMOTIONS AND SPECIAL OFFERS

WWW.GOFORTHECOLD.COM*
800-677-7282

*after January 9th

I ♥ NY

GREATER ROCHESTER VISITORS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Rochester
Made for living™

Performance

Ride," "White Christmas" and Calvin Custer's famous arrangement of "Little Drummer Boy."

Jan. 23 and Jan. 24, the orchestra teams up with Upstate NY Ballet for two performances of "Swan Lake" at the Mulroy Civic Center.

For show times and ticket information, call 315-424-8222.

Shea's Performing Arts Center

Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo features several winter performances.

From Dec. 2 to 7, Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" is a story of hope and love, filled with thrills, stunts and roller-racing action. Dubbed a "triumphant musical," "Starlight Express" is like nothing you've seen before. Light years ahead of the rest, it's two hours of speed, spectacle, excitement and energy.

On Dec. 9, Anthony Kearns, Finbar Wright and Ronan Tynan will visit Shea's for an Irish Tenor Christmas.

Dec. 19, Harry Connick Jr. moves into the holiday season with his big band and orchestra. He is famous for performing classics such as "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town," "Silent Night," "Silver Bells" and "I'll Be Home For Christmas."

For show times and ticket information call 717-847-0850.

Broadway Theatre League

Rochester's Broadway Theatre League presents "Les Miserables" from Feb. 24 to 29.

Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, "Les Miserables" is the epic musical story of the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted



Syracuse Symphony and Upstate NY Ballet team up for "Swan Lake."

against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong struggle to evade capture. The winner of over 50 international theatre awards, International Herald Tribune called "Les Miserables" "The musical of the century."

For show times and ticket information call 585-222-5000.

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra features several winter musicals including the Dec. 12 and 13 performances of "Hansel and Gretel," conducted and directed by Ron Spigelman. This famous Grimm fairytale is a Buffalo family tradition.

Dec. 19 to 21 is HSBC Holiday Pops. For show times and ticket information call 716-885-5000.

Skiing

Stony Pond State Forest

A little further off the beaten path in Madison County, cross country enthusiasts can try Stony Pond State Forest near Nelson. The 1,470 acre forest offers more than 20 km of ungroomed trails, where skiers will find a wide range of terrain.

Parking off of Jones Road, skiers have two options. The high side of the road offers some significant climbs into a beautiful hilltop pine forest. The low side of the road provides a series of trails around the pond that gives the state forest its name. Either way, those who venture to Stony Pond will get a good workout and a nice ride through some beautiful terrain.

But don't expect a red carpet when you arrive. Skiing at Stony Pond is free and the forest and campgrounds are largely unstaffed during the winter.

If skiing in solitude is to your liking, Stony Pond might just be for you. About 50 skiers pass through the forest each weekend, according to the logbook that greets visitors to the forest.

Highland Forest County Park

Highland Forest County Park, located off Route 80 in Fabius, offers 20 trails, more than 35 km in all, of various difficulties. Some incorporate challenging downhill.

"It may be difficult, but we suggest beginners go out and give it a shot," said Senior Recreational Leader Brent MacPherson. Highland Forest, part of

the Onondaga County parks system, provides some of the best-maintained trails in Central New York and a tremendous variety of terrain. Although the park is well used, many of the trails are separated so skiers can often glide through the forest without seeing a soul.

A ski patrol team monitors trails and gives pointers, and the community lodge offers a pick-me-up of soups, chili, cider and other warm goodies for hungry skiers on weekends.

The park has skis for rent for both children and adults and also offers snowshoes. There is a nominal parking fee.

Mendon Ponds County Park

Mendon Ponds may be the grandest jewel in the Monroe County Parks system. As such, it also gets a lot of traffic. But for those who don't mind being joined by others as they glide through the forest, Mendon Ponds offers some of the most interesting terrain around.

A loop more than eight miles in length meanders past ponds, through forests and over a series of hills high enough to get anyone's blood pumping. Skiers all go in the same direction around the loop, so although there is a lot of visitors, you can make your way around in relative peace. And the deer at Mendon Ponds are so used to visitors they'll often just stand there and watch you go by.

Mendon Ponds is located in Honeoye Falls, south of Rochester and just a short jaunt off the Thruway.

Plainville Farms...

The Pride of New York



Our Pride Is Inside

Why buy the rest, when the BEST is produced on a family owned farm here in Plainville, New York.

Thank you for enjoying Plainville Farms goodness during the holidays and all year long! ~ Happy Holidays!

No Antibiotics
Heart Lite Veggie Grown™
Animal Friendly™
All Natural Ingredients



Ask for Plainville Farms at your favorite grocery store.

PLAINVILLE FARMS • PLAINVILLE, NY • (315) 638-0226 • WWW.PLAINVILLEFARMS.COM