



Happy New Year



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Area News



Developer puts project on hold

The Bethlehem Planning Board has granted Brewer Engineering, P.C., its second 180-day extension for environmental review on an 88-unit proposed development off Fisher Boulevard in Bethlehem.

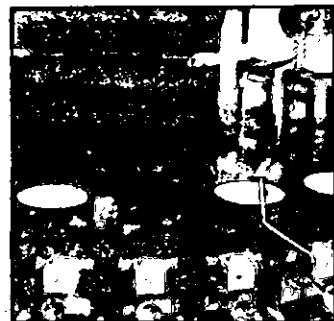
See story on Page 5.



Snow activities in full swing

As winter's snow brings with it shoveling and ice scraping, so too does it bring seasonal outdoor sports and good times in Guiderland. The Western Turnpike Golf Course opened for cross-country skiing Monday, Dec. 22.

See story on Page 8.



A note of whimsy

As a furniture maker, Peter Leue is exacting and precise. As a sculptor, he's a little more relaxed. One of his most elaborate toys will be on display at the Albany Center Gallery beginning Friday, Jan. 2, when the exhibit "Then and Now" opens.

See story on Page 15.

THE Spotlight

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem & New Scotland

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VOLUME LI

NUMBER 53

75¢

DECEMBER 31, 2008



Year winds down

Economy, environment top Bethlehem priorities

Editor's Note: The following is a recap of news in the town of Bethlehem from the last six months of 2008. A recap of the first half of 2008 appeared in last week's issue, Dec. 24.

July

• At its first meeting of the new school year, the Bethlehem Board of Education unanimously votes to reinstate James Lytle as its president and James Dering as its vice president. The meeting is also the first for Michael Tebbano as the district's new superintendent.

Tebbano was the district's assistant superintendent and took over the spot from longtime superintendent Les Loomis, which in turn created an opportunity for several Bethlehem administrators to move up the ranks. The district names former Middle School Principal Jody Monroe as assistant superintendent to fill Tebbano's vacancy and Assistant Middle School Principal Sandy Morley to fill Monroe's.

Newly elected board of education members Laura Ladd Bierman and Matt Downey were sworn in and introduced at the meeting as well.

• Lafarge North America, Inc. announced major plans to upgrade its cement plant in Ravena in order to "modernize" its upstate facility.

The announcement, made on Wednesday, July 9, came on the heels of a federal Toxic Release Inventory report released in February that stated the Route 9W plant across from the Ravena-Coymans-Selkirk school released 400 pounds of mercury in 2006.

It was the first of many steps Lafarge is taking in the New York regulatory permitting process that could result in an investment to modernize the Ravena cement plant.

The plans proposed included a modernization project that replaces the existing 46-year-old cement plant's equipment with state-of-the-art cement manufacturing technology.

See Year Page 10

Upheaval in schools as area struggles with growth

Editor's Note: The following is a recap of news in the towns of New Scotland and Guiderland from the last six months of 2008. A recap of the first half of 2008 appeared in last week's issue, Dec. 24.

July

• The Guiderland Board of Education met on July 1 and saw hundreds of supporters rally for high school teachers Ann Marie McManus and Matt Nelligan.

After the district conducted what has been called a "culture climate inquiry," they decided to move the teachers to Farnsworth Middle School for allegedly creating a negative environment in the high school. McManus still teaches at the middle school, and Nelligan has taken a position in the state Senate.

• The First National Bank in Scotia was held up at 3:32 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, according to reports from the Guiderland Police Department.

According to the report, a woman entered the bank and demanded money. The teller complied, and witnesses said the suspect left the bank and took refuge behind a nearby Walgreen's store.

• The Guiderland Police Department investigated another bank robbery in the area, the second in 10 days.

Pioneer Savings Bank, located at 1873 Western Ave., was held up at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 19.

• On Wednesday, July 23, the public discussed a draft of a law that would turn the Town of New Scotland's share of the Vista Technology Park development into a mixed economic development district.

Development of the tech park could not begin until New Scotland changed the zoning regulations on the piece of land, which is currently zoned residential/agricultural.

The law eventually passed.

• Guiderland High School Principal Michael Paolino was placed on paid administrative leave effective Monday, July 28.

See 2008 Page 9

SABIC looks at Selkirk

By JARRETT CARROLL
Spotlight Newspapers
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As SABIC begins to restructure its organization, the company has announced they are considering its plant in Selkirk as a possible site for some regional consolidation.

Officials at SABIC, also known as Saudi Basic Industries Corp., said they are currently considering moving a polymer laboratory from its current location in Pittsfield, Mass., to the SABIC Innovative Plastics plant in Bethlehem, which the company bought from General Electric last year for nearly \$12 billion.

The laboratory is described as a research and development site for SABIC.

However, any move is very preliminary at this point, and those involved, including town officials, are saying very little in terms of detail as a possible deal is hashed out.

"There are two separate things that we're looking at," said SABIC spokeswoman Jodi Kennedy. "We're trying to reduce operational

SABIC Page 14

Winter storms stretch budgets

By JARRETT CARROLL
and DAN SABBITINO
Spotlight Newspapers
news@spotlightnews.com

Although winter storms pack a wallop on residents and budgets alike, local town and county officials say they are prepared for the worst.

On the heels of an ice storm that struck Thursday, Dec. 11, Albany County was hit with several inches of snow the weekend of Friday, Dec. 19. The effects of the ice storm subsided only days before the snow cascaded down.

In the wake of those storms, the towns of Bethlehem and Guiderland are both paying for police and highway overtime, as well as

See Winter Page 14



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Police Blotter

Women arrested on drug charges *Wet wallop*

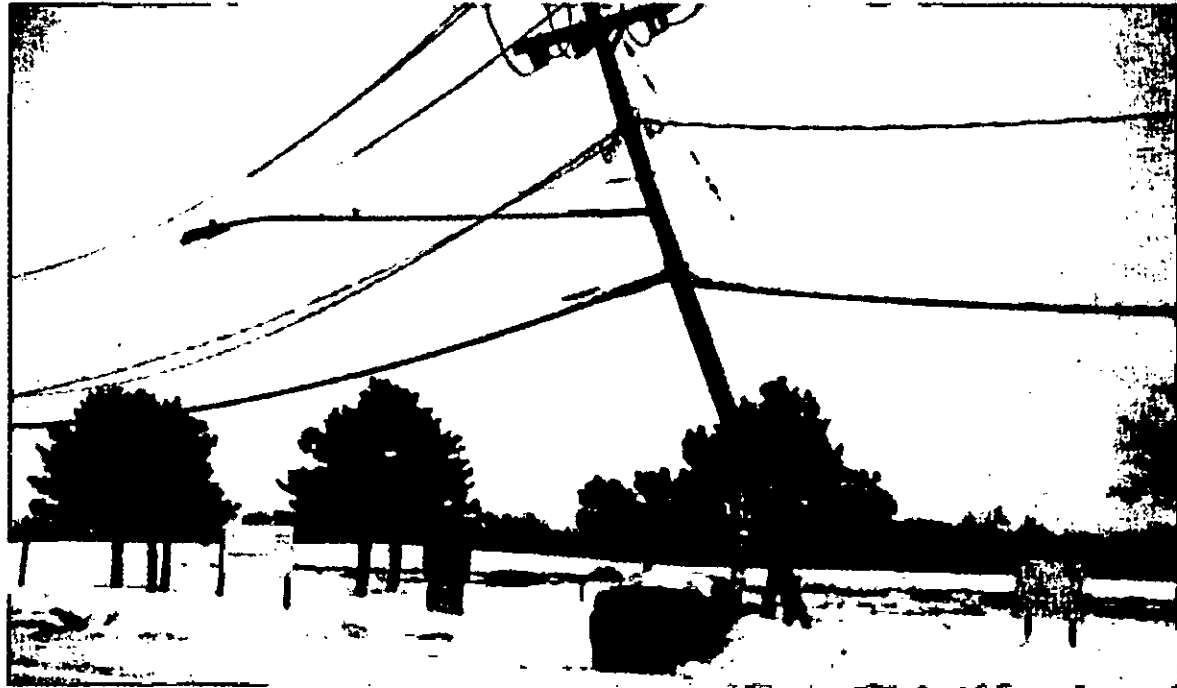
Guilderland police arrested Crystal Garcia, 46, who police described as homeless, on felony charges of criminal possession of a controlled substance in the third degree, according to police reports.

Garcia was arrested near the CVS located at 2040 Western Ave. on Thursday, Dec. 18, and was arraigned later that day. She was arrested on allegations dating back to April 17, the report states.

Other arrests

Bethlehem police arrested Anthony Harrell Jr., 18, of 5 Robin St., on Albany for a bench warrant, according to police reports. Harrell was arrested on Tuesday, Dec. 16, and will reappear in court on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

The charges are from July 7, the report states. Bail is set at \$2,500 cash, and Harrell was sent to Albany County jail.



A car accident took place at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, on route 32, in Feura Bush, near the entrance to Sabic. The driver was transported to Albany Mdical Center.

Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight

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Clothing

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- Olympia Sports
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Beauty

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ABOVE: A young girl meets a new friend at the Altamont Fair in August.

Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight; Submitted photo



LEFT: A home on the Helderberg Parkway in Slingerlands is crushed by a fallen tree during a severe thunderstorm in July. ABOVE: The Guilderland Center Fire Department hangs an American flag at the end of a ladder on one of its department trucks Thursday, Sept. 11, as a memorial to all the firefighters who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight; Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight



ABOVE: Students head into Guilderland's Farnsworth Middle School for their first day of school in September. RIGHT: The Rev. Darius Mojallali, rector at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Delmar for 20 years, gave his last Mass on Sunday, Sept. 28.

Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight; Submitted photo



Year In Review 2008

THE YEAR IN PICTURES



ABOVE: Guilderland student Elijah Sharma recites a written response to the Guilderland Board of Education's move of Guilderland High School teachers to Farnsworth Middle School in July. LEFT: A sign on the corner of Route 85 and 85A illustrates the discontent felt by some of New Scotland's residents in September regarding the possible construction of a 137,000-square-foot Target.

Photos by Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight

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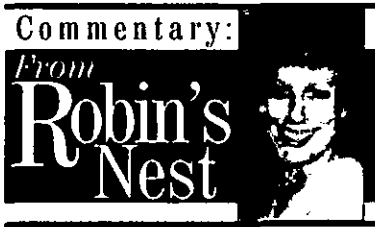
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The Spotlight (USPS 396-630) is published each Wednesday by Spotlight LLC, 125 Adams St., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Periodicals postage paid at Delmar, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices.. Postmaster: send address changes to The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Subscription rates: Albany County, one year \$26, two years \$50, elsewhere, one year \$35. Subscriptions are not refundable.

The joy of microwaves, family and music

By ROBIN SHRAGER SUITOR
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Three days after the recent ice storm, I had a mini celebration. I had just finished cleaning and disinfecting the upstairs bathroom sink and toilet. Feeling accomplished, and not wanting to spoil the day with any additional housework, I set out to rejoice. Imagine my delight when I noticed a beautiful sunbeam in the living room. It ran from a front window and stopped just short of the couch. I rolled a desk chair from the den into the living room and set it within the ray of light. Then I set myself within the chair.

I sat in that chair in the middle of the room and I looked out the window. Mostly what I could see was shrubbery and sky, but it was still lovely. And I thought to myself how lucky we were that our house still had electricity when thousands of others throughout the region had been without power for days.

And then I heard a high-pitched tone. So I rose from the chair to investigate, beginning with trying to switch on a lamp in the living room. That's when I found that I had been a bit hasty in counting my electric blessings. OK, so we had lost

power, but I still didn't know the origin of that tone.

I ran upstairs toward the carbon monoxide detector, but the tone got fainter when I reached the second floor. Back downstairs I checked out the kitchen and found the tone was strongest by the refrigerator. Perhaps it's that quirky icemaker sending me a message, I thought, but when I stuck my head in the freezer there was nothing unusual happening.

Next, I called my husband on his cell phone. He was out running errands, one of which was stopping for groceries. "Are you at the supermarket yet?" I asked him. He said he had just walked into the store. I told him that he should just walk out of the store because we had no power. There'd be no need to load up the refrigerator. I also told him about the weird tone. He said he'd be home soon.

But I wasn't going to wait. I decided the tone must be something in the basement,

maybe the sump pump or the dehumidifier. I retrieved my handy battery-operated lantern and headed down to the basement. I didn't hear the tone any more, but I walked around anyway, shining my light in various spots: the floor, the ping-pong table, my husband's workbench, and finally on that mysterious object I keep meaning to understand: the fuse box.

Back upstairs I called my husband again. "I've looked all over the house," I told him, "but I don't know where the tone is coming from." I half-expected him to tell me that perhaps it was coming from inside my head. He didn't say that. He said that it must be the telephone battery alarm located on the white box inside the garage. "The what?" I said. He said he'd be home in five minutes.

I picked up my keys and headed out to the garage. As soon as I stepped outside the house I could no longer hear the tone, but I went and peaked inside the garage anyways. All quiet in there.

I went back inside, checking once again inside the darkened refrigerator and freezer compartments. Darn, I thought, I'm not going to be able to heat up that yummy leftover vegetable soup for

lunch. Jeff arrived and he retraced my steps. He ventured upstairs. He checked out the basement. He had probably started by looking at the mysterious "white box alarm" in the garage, but we didn't talk about that.

We were both standing in front of the refrigerator, where the sound was the loudest. "Where the heck is that coming from?" said Jeff. "I don't know," I told him, "but to be safe, I turned the power strip off by the television." "Good idea," he said. "Should I unplug the microwave?" I asked. "I already did," he said, then, "Oh wait, I guess I didn't." He pulled the plug. The noise stopped.

"That explains why the noise was loudest over here," I said, staring at the microwave on the counter immediately adjacent to the refrigerator. In 20 years, I've never heard that microwave complain when we've lost power. Still, I was grateful that the source of the tone wasn't something more sinister, and this itself was another reason to celebrate, if only for a nanosecond. Still, I couldn't heat up my soup.

And so, I packed a container of the soup and some leftover pasta in a small cooler, put my daughter's cello and backpack into the car, and drove out to get her from Hebrew School. I told her we had no power and we needed to find a place with a microwave oven. Rachel said, "Everyone has a microwave." I said, "Yeah, but I want to do some writing and you have to practice cello and finish your math. We can't just call someone and tell them we need a microwave and a quiet place to work." Or, can we?

I didn't just call "someone." I called my brother. Not only

did we use his microwave to heat up lunch, we also stayed for dinner and then spent two nights sleeping over. With my nieces still at college, there were plenty of open beds available.

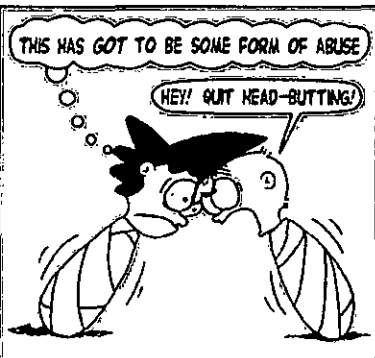
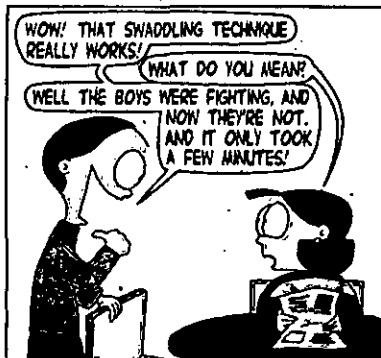
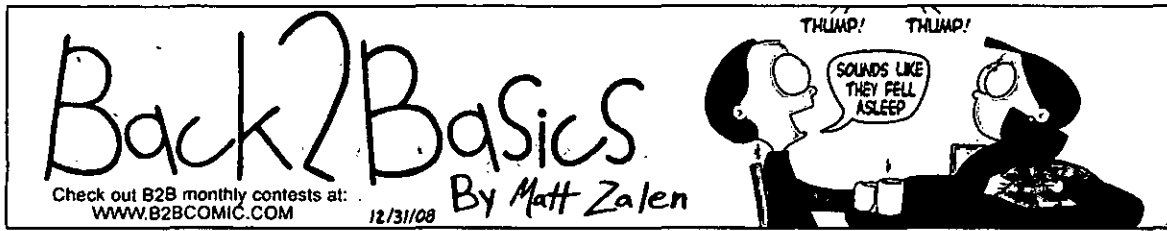
My sister-in-law maintains a clutter-free, nicely decorated home. I felt like we were staying at a fancy bed and breakfast. Sunday night she made chocolate chip cookies. Monday night she brought out chips and salsa. My bed in the guest room had a cozy thought of my own dark, cold house overflowing with papers and laundry.

On Tuesday, I left work and headed home to pick up a change of clothes to bring to my brother's that evening. Our neighborhood was dark, except for a burst of lights shining from the row of National Grid trucks parked on the final crossroad before my block.

I pulled into my driveway and began searching inside my car for a flashlight. I wasn't sure I'd be able to locate the keyhole in the darkened doorway of my house. Of course, it was so dark that I couldn't see inside my car either. As I was pulling junk out of the glove compartment, the bright motion sensor lights on my garage came on. "Now I can see what's in here," I thought to myself, then realized, "Hey, don't those run on electricity?"

I celebrated by going inside and cranking up the heat, then headed over to the middle school and enjoyed Rachel's choir concert.

That night my life was filled with warmth, light, music and love. I hope the entire community's new year will be filled with the same.



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WEEKLY WEATHER

Chief Meteorologist Mike Bono



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Record high/low/year

Day	AVERAGE HIGH 32°		AVERAGE LOW 15°	
	High/Year	Low/Year	High/Year	Low/Year
Wednesday, December 31	61°/1895	-17°/1917		
Thursday, January 1	57°/1966	-18°/1970		
Friday, January 2	61°/1913	-20°/1970		
Saturday, January 3	64°/1950	-14°/1970		
Sunday, January 4	64°/1950	-15°/1904		
Monday, January 5	71°/2007	-24°/1904		
Tuesday, January 6	56°/1915	-19°/1996		

SEASONAL SNOWFALL TO DATE
20.6 inches as of Wednesday, December 24th
6.5 inches above average

This week in weather

January 4, 1981 following a frigid Christmas, another cold snap brought temps of -13 to Albany, -27 to Burlington and -42 to Old Forge. January 6, 2007 Albany soared to 71 degrees, tying the all-time record for January, previously set in 1932

Sun & Moon

Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Wednesday	7:25am	4:32pm
Thursday	7:25am	4:33pm
Friday	7:25am	4:33pm
Saturday	7:25am	4:34pm
Sunday	7:25am	4:35pm
Monday	7:25am	4:36pm
Tuesday	7:25am	4:37pm

Moon Phases

December 4 th	January 10 th
First	Full

Planets	When	Where
Jupiter	Dusk	V Low SW
Mercury	Dusk	V Low SW
Venus	Dusk	Bright SW
Saturn	Dawn	High South

Area Ski Conditions

Resort	Base Depth	Lifts	Trails	Resort	Base Depth	Lifts	Trails
Gore Mtn.	21" - 38"	5	48	Stratton Mt.	24" - 42"	6	84
Whiteface	26" - 30"	4	57	Sugarbush	20" - 56"	10	111
Bromley	16" - 34"	4	28	Hunter Mtn.	25" - 70"	4	42
Mt. Snow	34" - 58"	6	81	Jay Peak	12" - 36"	8	60
Okemo	30" - 36"	12	116	Jiminy Peak	18" - 40"	6	35
Belleayre	20" - 48"	6	47	Windham	28" - 47"	5	39
Stowe	34" - 60"	8	106	Smugglers'	20" - 44"	6	62
Killington	36" - 48"	7	121	Bousquet	12" - 28"	4	18

Factoid

The latest sunrise of the winter, to the nearest minute, actually lasts for 14 days. From December 28th through January 9th, the sun rises at 7:25 am, EST.

Tides at Albany

Day	High	Low
Wednesday	7:16am, 7:29pm	1:52am, 1:57pm
Thursday	7:53am, 8:01pm	2:30am, 2:43pm
Friday	8:37am, 8:44pm	3:12am, 3:34pm
Saturday	9:27am, 9:33pm	3:57am, 4:31pm
Sunday	10:23am, 10:31pm	4:46am, 5:30pm
Monday	11:22am, 11:37pm	5:38am, 6:30pm
Tuesday	-----, 12:24pm	6:34am, 7:29pm

G'land library will host tax prep assistance

Hot on the heels of all those New Year's resolutions comes a flurry of W-2 forms and 1099 statements, which means it's almost tax season.

Starting Monday, Feb. 2, and continuing until Monday, April 13, the all-volunteer AARP Taxaide Program will provide free tax preparation and e-filing services on Mondays and Saturdays at the Guilderland Public Library.

Taxaide volunteers are trained and certified in cooperation with the IRS. They prepare personal federal and New York state tax returns for taxpayers of all ages who have low and moderate incomes.

Appointments are necessary, and separate appointments are required for each taxpayer. Please bring a copy of last year's return and all 2008 W-2s, 1099 statements, the purchase date and costs basis for any investments you sold, and supporting documentation, if you plan to itemize.

If filing a joint return; both taxpayers need to be present, except in cases of illness or infirmity.

Please note: Taxaide volunteers cannot do returns with rental income or returns requiring Schedule C (business returns with a net loss, inventory, employees, or expenses over \$5,000).

GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.guilpl.org

To make an appointment, call 456-2400, ext. 7, starting Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m.

New Year's hours

The library will close at 2 p.m. on New Year's Eve, and be closed all day New Year's Day. The library will open at its regular time of 10 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 2. We wish you all a very happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Mark Curiale

All library events are free, except as noted. The Guilderland Public Library is located at 2228 Western Avenue, Guilderland. Call 456-2400 x 12 for more information, or visit the Library's Web site at www.guilpl.org. E-mail comments to pio@guilpl.org.

Developers ask for second extension

Firm: bad economy put Phillipin Kill Manor project on hold

By JARRETT CARROLL
Spotlight Newspaper
carrollj@spotlightnews.com

Developers of an 88-unit proposed development off Fisher Boulevard has asked for its second 180-day extension for environmental review.

Although there are some wetlands on the 130 acres of land, developers of the Phillipin Kill Manor development told the town's Planning Board that the economic environment has more to do with the hold up than the actual environment does.

At its Tuesday, Dec. 16, meeting Planning Board members unanimously granted another 180-day extension to Brewer Engineering, P.C., who is managing the project. Bethlehem Senior Planner Robert Leslie told board members the development seemed to be in a "holding pattern."

"I wish I had more, but there's not much of an update," Leslie said. "This is the only PDD (planned development district) we've extended twice. ... This isn't usual."

Leslie told *Spotlight Newspapers* that the proposal would require a re-zone from the Town Board and

that the town referred it back to the Planning Board after hearing plans for the development.

According to the site plan, Phillipin Kill Manor will be built between Fisher Boulevard and Orchard Street and is slated to have 56 single-family homes, six estate lots along Orchard Street, and 16 town homes, which would contain 32 units.

Eighty-eight units are being proposed for the 130-acre plot owned by William Cade. The property adjoins Carol Richards' property, an owner who pulled a controversial land deal to subdivide seven lots and sell 25 acres of land to the Open Space Institute.

Richards' proposal was held up over a 20-foot access point wanted by the town on Fisher Boulevard. Richards balked at that idea, because she said there was already access on New Scotland Road. She withdrew her application from the

town. Open Space Institute was supposed to transfer the deed-restricted land to the state DEC and become a part of the Five Rivers Environmental and Education Center. Leslie said Cade's property "borders that 20-foot access on Fisher Boulevard."

However, the development's project manager, Richard Tice of Brewer Engineering, said the hang up for Cade has nothing to do with Richards' withdrawn proposal and everything to do with the economy.

"It's a combination of the land owner and what's going on with the housing market," Tice said. "He [Cade] knew more than we all did," Tice added, stating that Cade predicted there would be an economic downturn before the term made national headlines.

"We have several projects that we are kind of waiting to see what happens," Tice said.

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02	FLEETWOOD MALLARD 30E	TT	\$116,532	\$12,999	\$3,004	\$10,999
06	FOREST RIVER WILLOWOOD 25BHS	TT	\$116,594	\$17,687	\$2,890	\$14,999
06	FOREST RIVER SALEM 28RBS	TT	\$116,173	\$18,999	\$2,000	\$16,999
00	R-VISION CONDOR	A	\$116,034	\$33,999	\$4,000	\$29,999
08	WICKENZIE LAKOTA 31SKD	SW	\$116,550	\$37,999	\$6,003	\$31,999
01	DAMON INTRUDER 369	C	\$116,013	\$43,999	\$6,189	\$42,799
08	COACHMEN FREEDOM EXPRESS 2600	A	\$116,015	\$62,999	\$8,003	\$54,995
05	DAMON ASTORIA 3585	AD	\$116,008	\$109,997	\$20,002	\$89,995

NEW MANAGER'S SPECIALS!

YR	MAKE/MODEL	TYPE	STK#	WAS	SAVE	NOW!
08	VIXING EPIC 1706	FD	\$105,212	\$6,484	\$1,485	\$4,999
08	SUN VALLEY XTREME 180	TT	\$105,229	\$19,616	\$4,621	\$14,999
08	KEYSTONE COUGAR 27RBS	TT	\$105,249	\$54,184	\$5,296	\$28,889
08	FOURWINDS FOURWINDS 21RD	C	\$105,353	\$57,972	\$17,973	\$39,999
08	ITASCA IMPULSE 31C	C	\$105,466	\$78,250	\$21,851	\$56,999
08	FOURWINDS FOURWINDS 31P	C	\$105,552	\$85,130	\$25,131	\$59,999
08	FOURWINDS SIESTA 288E	C	\$105,778	\$90,830	\$20,888	\$89,995
08	FOURWINDS WINDSPORT 362	A	\$105,459	\$120,102	\$40,107	\$79,999
08	ITASCA HAVIWI 24CL	B	\$105,976	\$107,170	\$17,475	\$89,995
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Matters of Opinion *in the* Spotlight

The year ahead

As one year comes to an end, another begins.

Kansas City Star columnist Bill Vaughn once wrote: "An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves."

We at Spotlight Newspapers, objective journalists that we are, like to split the difference.

The edition of *Spotlight Newspapers* you're reading contains the second half of our annual Year in Review, recapping the news that affected our readers during the months of July through December. Within these pages you will also see the second installments of our Year in Review sports and news pictorial.

While we wouldn't be doing our job very well if we asked that you read through these pieces and never look at them again, we at *Spotlight Newspapers* do ask that you — our readers, our elected officials, our educators and our business people — join us in concentrating on the year ahead.

In the upcoming year, our elected officials, much like they do every year, will experience triumphs and tribulations, wins and losses. Some of our officials are embarking on political careers for the first time this year; some are beginning new terms as well-seasoned politicians; and some will begin this year within office and find that by the end of the year they are without. Most of the officials that affect our readers' lives will make it into the pages of *Spotlight Newspapers* at some point in the upcoming year, we're sure. If a politician doesn't make the news, he is either not doing his job as he should or he is doing it too well.

Every year, as we compile the Year in Review, we are infallibly asked by a few of our officials if it is necessary to include this unfavorable news story or that one. To that end, it may be a wise decision to revisit our Year in Review from time to time, to avoid becoming an unfavorable footnote in next year's edition.

We, in return, will strive to improve upon the local coverage that you have come to expect from us. If someone were to encapsulate our performance over the past year in a 5,000-word article, we would be remiss to think that it wouldn't contain a few unfavorable mentions.

As Bill Vaughn also said: "People learn something every day, and a lot of times it's that what they learned the day before was wrong."

Let us all capitalize on the last year's successes and learn from last year's failures.

Happy New Year from *Spotlight Newspapers*.

Editorial

Some snow, a tow in this tale of woe

By DAN SABBATINO
Spotlight Newspapers
news@spotlightnews.com

The writer covers the towns of New Scotland and Guilderland for Spotlight Newspapers.

There is nothing better than the frosty chill of a snowy day to put you in the mood for the holiday festivities that will inevitably ensue; unless of course, you don't know which side of the parking lot to move your car to make way for the snow plow.

Last weekend, that of Saturday, Dec. 20, I found out the hard way the penalty for not knowing the winter rules. My tale of foolishness and bad luck begins with wonderful winter weather and ends with my bank account in a bigger deficit than the state of New York.

I will preface the story with a shorter story. Friday, I went to the mall and parked my car in a spot where I was blocking someone in. I couldn't see the lines on the ground and quickly jumped into a spot someone had just pulled out of. My car was towed, not at my expense, thank God, to another lot. All I lost was the 20 minutes of my life I spent looking for it before I realized it was moved. "Boy," I thought to myself. "I should be more careful."

The snow was coming down pretty hard the next day, and my apartment complex requires all cars be moved away from the sidewalk sides of the buildings to make room for the snow plow. My interpretation of the policy was, "Move your car where there are other cars and you will probably be OK."

I moved my car, but I was not OK.

Sunday morning rolls

Point of View

around, and I go to check the car, (which actually belonged to my fiancée, but for the purpose of this story we can call it mine since I'm the dolt who moved it), and in the spot I was sure I had parked was a brand new BMW. I thought, "Wow, this is going to be a better Christmas than I thought!" Then I snapped back to reality.

My car was safe-and-sound at the Colonie border, at my complex's favorite impound lot. I walked back to my apartment to break the news to Alyssa.

"I lost your car."

"You what?"

"Your car. It was in the lot, and now it's not anymore. I think it was towed."

She was calm about it, and I told her I would take care of it.

I asked a buddy to take me down to the lot in his SUV, an act I was extremely thankful for. It was Sunday, and he, like me, is a Jets fan and wanted to be back in time for the game. It was a really big favor considering the circumstances, even though Gang Green lost later in the day.

We got there in about 15 minutes, and he waited in the lobby with me until someone could ring out my \$235 fee. I handed over my debit card, one that is worn out from the many retail card-readers it had been through during this holiday season.

"Well," I said to myself. "It could be worse."

I found the car next to a tow truck on the side of the building. I was relieved to have it back, even after the hit to my wallet.

Unfortunately that wasn't the only hit of day. As I navigated the car out of a groove in the snow, it took off a little faster than I expected, and I found a brand new, red, tail light on my windshield. As the wiper blades went up and down, so did my stomach. Within three seconds, angry tow-truck operators and a police officer were standing by the truck demanding I present my information. I asked the officer if I could tell my friend to leave, so as not to waste anymore of his time. He offered to stay, but there was no use in wasting both of our afternoons.

We walked into the building and I sat and waited for a

Colonie police officer to come and take the report, since the responding officer was from Watervliet and could only take a primary report. At first it was awkward, but eventually I was able to open a dialogue with the officer and the vehicle owner.

He looked at the damage and said it was only a taillight. I told him I did not want to go through insurance, and that I would handle the \$150 myself. After all, it was not my car, and I did not want anyone's insurance going up.

So some quick math has me at \$385 in the hole, assuming the taillight doesn't cost more than the initial prediction. If it is, I can always sell some blood or something. I don't need all six liters. It seems like such a waste.

The drive home was a cautious one, since it was still snowing pretty hard, but I had a lot of time to think about that day.

At first I felt like I did not deserve this. It's almost Christmas! I tried really hard to buy nice presents for my family and make the season happy and cheerful. I'm a good person damn it!

But I realized that life doesn't stop for the holidays. It doesn't stop for the snow; it doesn't stop if you're broke; and it doesn't stop no matter how many DVDs you buy for Christmas. My bad luck is just that, luck.

Next time I will be more careful of where I park and how I drive. I shouldn't expect a break from my apartment complex or the tow company because they have bills to pay just like me.

What I do hope, though, is that, as we move into the new year, everyone tries to maintain the holiday spirit, even when things don't go their way. I did a bad job of keeping that spirit, and I feel bad about that now. I was guilty of going "Scrooge" on everyone that day, even though they didn't do anything wrong. I regret the tone in my voice when I told the story to my family and friends and to Alyssa. It took a lot of time to get over it. Sure, the Jets loss didn't help, but in light of all the strife we see daily, it's important to keep things in perspective.

Maybe I'm out some money, but when I got home to my heated apartment, put on my warm clothes and ate some food, I realized things really could have been worse. After all, as my mother told me, "It's only money."

THE Spotlight

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www.spotlightnews.com

Learn to use your camera

Did you receive a digital camera over the holidays and are wondering how to use it? Maybe you already had one you don't really understand? The library is hosting two camera programs with Kathy Montgomery, technology consultant and owner and operator of LTF Tech.

The first program, digital camera basics, will cover the operations of your camera, how to use the different modes and various settings, and photo composition. The program will be held Sunday, Jan. 11, at 2 p.m. with a snow date of Jan. 25.

On Sunday, March 1, at 2 p.m. in beyond the basics, Kathy will show you how to organize photos on your computer, edit images with Photoshop or Picasa, prepare photos for e-mail or the Web, and place them on a photo-sharing sites.

Bring your camera and join us in the community room. The programs are free and sponsored by the Library Friends. Sign up for either or both.

Poet scheduled to speak

Environmental educator and poet Stephen Lewandowski will discuss his bioregional and watershed interests as well as



read a selection of his poems on Sunday, Jan. 4, at 2 p.m. A question and answer session will follow. Lewandowski has worked as an environmental educator and consultant for 30 years and is the author of eight books of poetry.

Help the hungry

The month of January sees our annual push to fill the baskets at VPL for the New Scotland Food Pantry. Please give non-perishable grocery items, toiletries and paper products.

All overdue items will be accepted between Friday, Jan. 2 and Sunday, Jan. 11, with no fine.

Holiday hours

Closed New Years Day

Barbara Vink

•All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. Voorheesville Public Library is located at 51 School Road, Voorheesville.

For information, call 765-2791 or visit www.voorheesvillelibrary.org.

Your Opinion *in the* Spotlight

Beth. Planning Department supports whole community

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

There have been articles and letters recently regarding the residential development on Fisher Boulevard in Slingerlands proposed by Carol Richards, a California resident. I personally met with Ms. Richards in both 2005 and 2006 and she seemed genuinely pleased to hear that town residents shared her strong interest in land conservation and trails.

The adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in 2005 made clear the importance of both land conservation and neighborhood connectivity. This proposal certainly had the potential to fulfill those priorities.

There have been misrepresentations of what the project entailed. Ms. Richards did not intend to donate land to the town. In fact, she independently negotiated an agreement to sell a portion of the site (approximately 24 acres) to the Open Space Institute (OSI), a private land conservation organization.

The purpose of this conveyance would be to permanently protect the land from development, to expand the land holdings of Five Rivers, and to provide appropriate pedestrian access to Five Rivers from Fisher Boulevard. In addition to the OSI conveyance, Ms. Richards proposed that six new building lots would be developed on the property.

On Nov. 18, the town Planning Board approved the six lot subdivision and made a recommendation to the Town Board that the developer fulfill its parkland set-aside requirement by providing a 20-foot by 460-foot pedestrian corridor to Five Rivers. The town has the exclusive right to select the most appropriate means of fulfilling the parkland set-aside.

In this instance, the conveyance of 0.2 acres of land was deemed preferable to a financial payment because it would provide new pedestrian access to Five Rivers. OSI was in full agreement with this requirement.

Unfortunately, Ms. Richards was unwilling to accept the Planning Board's recommendation and subsequently withdrew her subdivision application.

While it is unfortunate that the approved plan will not be advancing, the end result is that the land will remain undeveloped for the foreseeable future.

The town's approach toward any proposed project is to consider the interests of our community as a whole and not just an individual developer, project neighbors, or the land owner.

We will continue to work with developers and landowners to ensure that future development of the town is consistent with the policies and priorities that residents overwhelmingly supported in the Comprehensive Plan.

George E. Leveille

director

Economic Development

and Planning

Town Of Bethlehem

Board of Education to meet

The next meeting for the Voorheesville Board of Education will be held on Monday, Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at the high school.

New Scotland to meet Jan. 14

The next meeting for the New Scotland Town Board will be held at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall on New Scotland Road, in Slingerlands.

Friends of Music to meet

The Voorheesville Friends of Music will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 13, at the high school in Room 159 at 7 p.m.

PTA meeting set for Jan. 14

The next meeting for the Voorheesville PTA will be held at the elementary school on

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville
Betsy Glath
765-4415



Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. in the library.

FOM to hold garage sale

The Voorheesville Friends of Music will hold a band instrument garage sale on Saturday, Jan. 31. Members will accept used percussion, woodwind and brass instruments on Saturday, Jan. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Voorheesville high school.

For information call Nanette at 765-HELP or Shelly at 439-3385. Proceeds will benefit the Voorheesville Music Program.

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Warmth and wireless offered during storm

Our IT staff reports that in the first four days of the power outage earlier this month, 111 unique users took advantage of our wireless service, for a total of 388 hours of use. This is in addition to the folks who worked at our regular computer stations.

The library offered patrons an escape from cold reality and directing them to local warming stations. To all who sought refuge here, we're glad we can include "community center" as part of our service to our patrons.



January jazz

Start the New Year with the upbeat sounds of American jazz. The film version of Leonard Bernstein's musical, "On the Town," will be shown Friday, Jan. 2, at 2 p.m. "On the Town" is the story of three American sailors on leave in New York City during wartime 1944 and is part

of the New York State Center for the Performing Arts 2009 season's Jazz Dance Project. The CPA is also presenting an "informance" at the library on Sunday, Jan. 18, at 3:30 p.m. Dancer, choreographer and jazz dance historian Rusty Frank will talk about the origins of jazz dance performance, highlighting influential choreographers. She will illustrate her talk with historic film clips and demonstrations of various dance styles.

Holiday hours

The library will close at 3 p.m. on New Year's Eve and remain closed for New Year's Day.

HTML, Web design for adults

Thursdays, Jan. 15 and 22, at 7 p.m. Learn how to create a basic web page. Must attend both sessions. Call 439-9314 to sign up.

Family movie

WALL-E (G). Monday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m.

Inside a computer

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The library's IT staff will help you take a computer apart, examine the inside and learn how it's made. Grade 6 to 12. Call 439-9314 to sign up.

Louise Grieco

• All library programming is free and open to the public. The Bethlehem Public Library is located at 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar. For information, call 439-9314.

Guilderland winter sports in full swing

Ski and snowshoe rental available throughout G'land

As winter's snow brings with it shoveling and ice scraping, so, too does it bring seasonal outdoor sports and good times in Guilderland.

The Western Turnpike Golf Course opened for cross-country skiing Monday, Dec. 22, available to Guilderland residents for free.

The golf course pro shop will be open on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for ski, boot and pole rentals for \$7 per person. Those who are not Guilderland residents will be charged \$3 per person to ski but will pay the same \$7 per person for ski rentals, according to information provided by the Guilderland Office of Parks and Recreation.

"The trails are groomed right now, so it should be pretty good," said Dennis Moore, the director of the office of parks and recreation. "You walk up and down the hill. It's the old fashioned kind of fun."

Moore said the ski trails are for beginners and intermediate level skiers.

"Even if you haven't done it too much, it's fine for you. You're not going to get lost, the trails are pretty well marked," Moore said.

The cross-country ski trails are open daily, weather permitting.

Moore said Guilderland residents are also invited to snowshoe or winter-weather hike, at several locations within the town.

Tawasentha Park, Nott Road Fields and the Winter Recreation Area trails are all available for the recreational activity, and snowshoe rentals are available at the Office of Parks and Recreation.

Moore asked those renting snowshoes to go to the designated areas to hike, and not walk on the golf course where people are skiing.

"[Snowshoeing there] rips up the groomed golf course. It leaves holes in the trails," Moore said.

Snowshoe rental hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for \$5 per person at the town recreation department located at 181 Route 146 near the Tawasentha Park maintenance entrance. On weekends, a limited number of snowshoe rentals will also be available in the pro shop at the golf course, according to the recreation department.

For information call Moore at 456-3150 on weekdays and at 456-0786 on weekends.

—Dan Sabbatino

Join Mayor Gerald D. Jennings, The People of the City of Albany, & The Albany Police Athletic League (PAL) as

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2008

(From Page 1)

Communications Specialist for the District Amy Zurlo said he will remain on leave indefinitely and said she was not able to comment on the "personnel matter" further.

School officials could not confirm the reason for the action.

Local media outlets reported that Guilderland teachers have corroborated stories involving Paolino using racist and homophobic language, although these allegations have not been specifically tied to the administrative leave.

August

• The Guilderland Zoning Board of Appeals gave a massage therapy team permission to operate a home-based business at a Wednesday, Aug. 6, meeting, despite vocal dissent from neighbors at a previous meeting.

Debbieanne Vigneri and Ruth Brown, now residents of 125 Birchwood Drive, are licensed massage therapists, and applied for special permission to give massages at their home.

At a Wednesday, July 2, Zoning Board meeting, Brown and Vigneri faced opposition from neighbors over their request to operate the business out of their home. Many residents spoke out against the increased traffic the business would generate.

• The Altamont Fair finished up Sunday, Aug. 17, following a week filled with educational exhibits, calfbirthing demonstrations and musical performances.

Operations Manager Marie McMillen said attendance was down a little from the previous year, citing

bad weather, flooding and a slumping economy as possible reasons.

• The Guilderland Town Board approved a motion at its Tuesday, Aug. 19, meeting to join the Albany County Storm Water Coalition.

The coalition is a group of 11 local municipalities that provide information, research and coordination for the participating entities.

Guilderland Supervisor Ken Runion said joining the coalition is a proactive measure and will save the town of Guilderland money in the long run.

He said the town spends nearly \$100,000 to comply with federal and state regulation to manage storm water and produce a report on progress. Membership in the coalition is \$14,582 per year, and will assist with the compliance of the regulations.

• As New Scotland town officials consider an extension of the moratorium on commercial development, representatives from Syracuse-based Sphere Development LLC tell *Spotlight Newspapers* that they need an estimated 137,000-square-foot Target retail outlet to develop the 179-acre plot, formerly the Bender melon farm along Route 85A.

• Former Guilderland High School social studies teacher Ann Marie McManus said she was still trying to find a way to teach at the high school in the fall.

She said she is apprehensive about the transition, which came about as the result of a culture climate inquiry conducted earlier in the year at the high school, but would do her best to change the lives of her students.

September

• The Avila Retirement Home announced it is adding 44 units to its 152 existing units and has set a target

date for completion of the project for the beginning of 2010.

The retirement home, located on the Washington Avenue Extension west of Crossgates Mall, offers independent living for senior citizens, and is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany.

• Teacher Matt Nelligan, who was the center of a controversy during the summer involving a "culture climate inquiry," handed in his letter of resignation on Friday, Sept. 5, according to school officials.

• Guilderland Town Board member Mark Grimm said he wants to change the town's code regarding home businesses after he applies, and receives, his own permit to run a customary home occupation.

Councilman Mark Grimm will appear before the planning board on Wednesday, Sept. 10, to request a permit to operate his communications consulting business, Mark Grimm Communications, out of his home.

Grimm said he is applying for the permit even though he doesn't believe he needs one. Grimm eventually received the permit.

• After embattled teacher Matt Nelligan handed in his letter of resignation, supporters continued to rally around him.

Elijah Sharma, founder of United for McManus and Nelligan, a group formed in support of Nelligan and colleague Ann Marie McManus, said the students were saddened by the news of Nelligan's resignation. Sharma and his group are planning to protest the school board's budget in light of the board's treatment of the two teachers.

• The Guilderland Board of Education accepted high school principal Michael Paolino's resignation at a Tuesday, Sept. 16, meeting.

The board also appointed Brian

McCann as acting principal. He has served as assistant principal for 17 years, according to a district statement. He will serve as acting principal until the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

• A member of New Scotland's Commercial Zoning Advisory Committee has been asked to resign due to a prior relationship with a potential buyer of the Bender Melon Farm, a key piece of property in ongoing discussions regarding zoning laws in the town.

According to a written statement from New Scotlanders for Sound Economic Development, Liz Kormos was asked to step down because of a potential conflict of interest.

• As the Town of Guilderland prepared its final budget, one board member was asked to back away from discussions.

In a letter to Warren Redlich dated Tuesday, Sept. 30, Guilderland Supervisor Ken Runion suggests the councilman should step aside from the budget process due to a conflict of interest regarding his practice of law in the town's court.

October

• Amidst accusations of conflicts of interest and alleged reports of misinformation, New Scotlander's debated, and finally received, a six-month extension on the commercial zone moratorium.

• The Town of New Scotland set a date to hear arguments regarding a potential violation of the town ethics code by a member of the Commercial Zone Advisory Committee.

The town held a meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 29, to discuss ethics questions surrounding Commercial Zone Advisory Committee member Liz Kormos.

• A ribbon-cutting ceremony and tribute to one of the original citizen members of the Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission was held at its Discovery Center Tuesday, Oct. 21.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation held the dedication event to honor the late Margaret M. Stewart and unveil the recent expansions to the preserve.

November

• Some of Guilderland's most talented young musicians had a chance to perform at a statewide festival later this month, according to information provided by the school district.

There were 21 Guilderland High School students selected to perform in the Area All-State Music Festival on Friday, Nov. 21, and Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Saratoga Springs High School. They were selected based on a solo evaluation held in the spring, the release states.

• The Guilderland Town Board adopted a budget at its Thursday, Nov. 6, meeting, which lasted more than seven hours.

Board members adopted a \$30,604,448 spending plan that passed in a 4-to-1 vote. Councilman Mark Grimm was the lone dissenter.

The town will see a 4.68 percent increase on the town tax levy, and it raised the tax rate from 25 cents per \$1,000 to 26 cents per \$1,000.

• The New Scotland Town Board unanimously passed a resolution to not take any further action against Commercial Zone Advisory Committee member Liz Kormos after meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 12. At the same meeting, the board voted unanimously to extend a building moratorium that has been in place since May.

Kormos had been at the heart of a potential conflict of interest concerns raised by committee chairwoman Roz Robinson, but the board decided

to drop the issue after much debate. Robinson raised questions about the nature of the relationship between Kormos and a potential buyer of the Bender melon farm property.

• Sen. Neil D. Breslin, D-Delmar, successfully defended his seat against challenger Charlie Voelker, a first-time candidate, in the 46th Senate District.

On Election Day, Breslin said he had three things on his mind: First, was winning his election; second, was Barack Obama's victory in the White House; and third, was waking up in the morning to a state Senate controlled by Democrats.

• Longtime incumbent Jack McEnery will keep his seat in the 104th Assembly District for at least one more term, and said his win comes at a special time in American politics, with President-elect Barack Obama taking the White House.

McEnery, D-Albany, defeated Republican challenger Terry O'Neill for the 104th Assembly District seat.

• Three members of the New Scotland Commercial Zone Advisory Committee resigned as of Friday, Nov. 21, according to town Supervisor Tom Dolin.

Dolin said Roz Robinson, the committee chair, Cynthia Elliott and John Biscone handed in letters of resignation from the committee amid controversy with Liz Kormos and a potential conflict of interest with a potential bidder for a key property in the commercial zone.

• Guilderland police are investigating an armed robbery that took place at 11 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, when a Zales Jewelry employee was making a night deposit at a Western Avenue bank.

According to the police report, the employee, who works at the Crossgates Mall jewelry store, said he was attempting to make the deposit at the Citizens Bank at 1516 Western Ave. when he was approached by a man holding a gun.

December

• Albany Mayor Gerald Jennings said he is hoping for a "win-win" situation as local officials sparred over the implications of expanding the Rapp Road Landfill at a public hearing on Wednesday, Dec. 3.

The city's plan includes expanding the landfill, and in exchange for infringing on a portion of Pine Bush Preserve land, it will restore other parts of the preserve.

Elected officials, environmental advocates and the public met at the Polish Community Center at the Washington Avenue extension to discuss the possibility of expanding the landfill eastward into the Pine Bush Preserve in Guilderland. The landfill has already expanded several times, the last time in February 1999.

• The Youmans Road railroad crossing, the location of a collision between an SUV and two locomotives, will be closed within a year, according to New Scotland Town Supervisor Tom Dolin.

Dolin met with Department of Transportation officials on Friday, Dec. 5, to discuss how to proceed funding a solution to the crossing, which doesn't have gates or flashers.

No one was seriously injured in the crash.

• The New Scotland Town Board asked town attorney Mike Mackey to draft a six-month extension to the existing moratorium on commercial zone development at its Wednesday, Nov. 10, meeting.

At that same meeting, founder of the advocacy group New Scotlanders for Sound Economic Development, Daniel Mackay, announced he will run for a seat on the town's Planning Board, and encouraged others in support of change to do the same.

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Year

(From Page 1)

- Bethlehem Comptroller Judith Kehoe announces she is leaving Town Hall and moving down the road to work at the Bethlehem School District as treasurer/school business administrator starting Sept. 1.

- The task force created to assess Bethlehem's need for a noise ordinance unanimously votes to recommend a new noise law to the Town Board.

- Albany County Comptroller Michael Conners releases the findings of an audit on the Albany County District Attorney's Office and states there are several financial discrepancies involving the office's petty cash fund, as well as other bookkeeping errors.

In response District Attorney David Soares said he "emphatically disagree(s)" that his office has misused or misappropriated any of its funds.

August

- Former Republican challenger Roger Cusick announces that he will seek a rematch against District Attorney David Soares in November.

He says he will run on a newly formed third-party line called the Integrity Party line, as long as he gets the needed 1,500 signatures by Tuesday, Aug. 19, which he does.

Cusick, 58, an attorney and political science professor who ran against Soares in 2004, states that Soares has not made good on his vow to fight public corruption.

- The Bethlehem Police Department holds a swearing-in ceremony at Town Hall on Monday, Aug. 18, for its newest police officer Michael Malatino and the promotions of his fellow officers.

Police Master Sgt. James Kerr was promoted to the position of first sergeant; Officer Regina Cocchiara was promoted to patrol sergeant; the town's first female police sergeant; and school resource and DARE Officer Chad Rice was promoted to police detective.

- Former Feura Bush resident and 1960 Bethlehem Central graduate Dan Dryden was killed on Lake Izabal in Guatemala on Sunday, Aug. 10, while defending his wife and his sailboat from four machete-wielding assailants.

The Dryden family reported that on Saturday, Aug. 9, at around 9:30 p.m., they received a call from a woman in Guatemala informing them that Nancy Dryden was in the hospital and that Dan Dryden, 66, was dead.

- A packed Bethlehem Town Hall plays host to the final Democratic candidate debate for the 21st Congressional District before the Sept. 9 primary.

Four out of five of the Democrats vying for the seat of retiring Congressman Michael McNulty, D-Green Island, attended the debate.

- Town officials confirm that Bethlehem Court Clerk Patricia Parsons has left her position and returned to her job with Albany County after less than two months at the post.

Longtime Court Clerk Barbara Hodom, who recently retired and was training Parsons as her replacement, continues working for the town until a new replacement is chosen. Supervisor Jack Cunningham did not specify the details surrounding Parsons' departure.

The town's two judges, Bethlehem Justice Ryan Donovan and Justice Paul Dwyer, are the ones who appoint the town's court clerk, a post with pay that starts at \$58,000 a year.

- Albany County Executive Michael Breslin announces the county is seeking approval to buy the Canadian Pacific Railway property and turn it into a 9-mile pedestrian pathway from Voorheesville to the Port of Albany.

- Bethlehem fires Albany County Sheriff's deputy Gary Fish after he served 12 years as a part-time patrolman for the town's water supply.

Fish claims he was fired after he spoke out about the mercury spill at the town's water plant, but town officials said he was fired because of repeated scheduling conflicts and would not comment further because the incident is a "personnel matter."

Fish alleges he was terminated after talking to Town Attorney James Potter about what he called inaccuracies in the report given to the public by Public Works Commissioner Josh Cansler in February regarding the mercury spills.

Fish said more mercury was released inside of the water plant than what was reported and that workers were constantly put at risk by "having to track through mercury for two years."

Fish also said that mercury-tainted sludge was routinely "hosed down" past the plant's clear well and into a "sludge pit." The clear well contains treated water that is pumped directly into the town's water system.

"We're in full compliance with the DEC," responded Cunningham. "DEC has been out there, and they looked at the entire situation and they issued a report and they have given us a letter of requirements... and we're working very closely with them."

Cunningham reiterated there was no wrongdoing on the town's part in Fish's termination, but said he is legally unable to respond to the accusations.

- A group of Selkirk residents appear at Town Hall and submit a petition with 440 signatures against a proposed Selkirk By-pass.

September

- Van Dyke Spinney developers drop its original Dutch design and opt for a "Craftsman look" for their proposed 216-unit retirement community.

Updated plans for the project, which is slated for construction off of Van Dyke Road and Meads Lane, are presented to the Bethlehem Planning Board on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

- The Bethlehem School District opens the doors to its newest building, Eagle Elementary, on Sept. 2 to hundreds of gathered parents and students.

Local lawmakers and school officials help commemorate the district's first new building since the 1950s.

- The Albany County Legislature approves a proposal to purchase a 9.2-mile former railway from Voorheesville to the Port of Albany. The legislature unanimously supports the request to enter into a contract on Sept. 8.

- The Bethlehem Town Board unanimously appoint Suzanne E. Traylor as the town's new comptroller during on Sept. 10. Traylor replaces former comptroller Judi Kehoe who took a job with the Bethlehem School District.

- As recommended at a previous town board meeting, the

Noise Ordinance Task Force was expanded from five members to nine by the town board as the group prepares to start drafting a noise law.

The board unanimously approved the addition of one town board member, and three residents. Councilman Mark Hennessey was the board member added to the task force, which is headed by fellow Councilman Sam Messina.

- Democrat Paul Tonko and Republican Jim Buhmaster win their respective primary elections on Nov. 4 for the 21st Congressional District.

Former assemblyman and New York State Energy Research and Development CEO Tonko beat out four other Democratic contenders for the Democratic nod, including Tracey Brooks, Phil Steck, Darius Shahinfar and Joseph Sullivan. Tonko took the race with 14,827 votes.

Buhmaster, a two-term Schenectady County legislator and businessman, won with 7,673 votes over Steven Vasquez, who received 3,404 votes.

- A small eight-lot subdivision near Five Rivers State Preserve gets stalled in the Planning Board because of concerns of having "landlocked property" transferred to the town.

In April, Carol Richards proposed to divide her property off of Fisher Boulevard into seven lots next to the Five Rivers State Preserve. The board asks to have a 20-foot access point off of Fisher Boulevard but Richards states there is access on New Scotland Road.

- The biggest development deal in both Bethlehem and New Scotland announces it's ready to break ground, after plans from the developers of the Vista Technology Park in Slingerlands are revealed.

Developers said they pieced together a plan for the first phase of construction after three years of preparation.

Representatives of the tech park told the planning board on Sept. 16 that construction on Vista Boulevard would begin this fall and ground breaking could commence in the spring.

- The Bethlehem Central School District said it would change the way it does business.

Superintendent Michael Tebbano said the district will begin the budget process in January and will hold a series "town hall"-style meetings to allow residents to ask specific questions about academic programs, district spending and the tax rate.

- Bethlehem agrees to pay more than \$22,000 to Clough Harbor and Associates to help replace all of its mercury flow meters at the town's Voorheesville water plant, following a consent order signed with the state's Department of Environmental Conservation earlier in the year.

- The Town of Bethlehem unveils a \$38.67 million spending plan for next year during its Wednesday, Sept. 24, meeting.

October

- The Jonathan Carey Foundation held its second Jonathan Carey Walk at the Elm Avenue Park on the warm and sunny fall morning of Saturday, Oct. 4.

Carey, who was autistic, was 13 years old when he died in 2007 while being restrained by O.D. Heck employees in Colonie. His parents, Michael and Lisa Carey attend the event along with area politicians and residents.

- Albany County Comptroller Michael Conners and District Attorney David Soares are at odds over what Soares calls a politically motivated audit of the District Attorney's office.

On Oct. 6, Conners releases a scathing audit of Soares' accounting practices, stating money was missing and that his office lacked "proper documentation and internal controls for expenditures."

- The Bethlehem Town Board unanimously votes to amend the language to the town's zoning law and subdivision regulations, and made some key changes and amendments to amateur radio communication tower regulations Oct. 8.

Also included in the vote was the prohibition of all temporary advertising banners in town.

- Bringing the Five Rivers State Preserve into the town of Bethlehem and connecting to it with a pedestrian access is the goal that was discussed at the town's Tuesday, Oct. 7, planning board meeting.

However, a 20-foot strip of land continues to hold up the deal.

- The Bethlehem Central School District announces that it would be initiating a "non-essential spending freeze" and the elimination the majority of field trips in the district.

Superintendent Michael Tebbano said the school would take a series of precautionary measures to limit spending and identify areas of savings and cost avoidance because of economic woes.

Tebbano said the district is putting a freeze on additional hiring and certain supply requests, as well as discontinuing professional programs outside of the district and holding other professional programs after school hours so that substitutes will not have to be used.

- The Bethlehem Police Department announces it has arrested an Albany man in connection with a Saturday, Oct. 11, robbery that occurred at the Delaware Plaza Key Bank.

Police charge James L. Eleby Jr., 40, of Wellington Avenue, Albany, with first-degree robbery, third-degree criminal possession of a weapon and fourth-degree grand larceny—all felonies.

- The community presents Parker Mathusa with a heartfelt thanks and a bench in his honor for his years of dedicated service to the town of Bethlehem.

During a special presentation at Town Hall, residents and town staff filled the auditorium and took a few moments to honor Mathusa, the town's planning board chairman and go-to guy on everything Bethlehem.

He was given a proclamation and a bench with a placard dedicated to him that was placed in the Henry Hudson Park.

November

- Sen. Neil D. Breslin, D-Delmar, handily defeated challenger Charlie Voelker, a first-time candidate, in the 46th Senate District.

- Democrats continue to hold onto the 21st Congressional Seat after 50 years. Paul Tonko defeated Republican Jim Buhmaster by a large margin in the race to replace retiring Congressman Michael McNulty, D-Green Island. Tonko came in with 149,377 votes, versus Jim Buhmaster's 89,502 votes.

- After a contentious campaign against a former opponent, Albany County District Attorney David Soares scored a big win in Albany and was overwhelmingly

re-elected to another four-year term.

Challenger Republican Roger Cusick ran on the Integrity line against the Democrat and netted several big endorsements by the local service unions but ultimately lost the race by 29,128 votes to 80,441 votes.

- Tim Gordon goes back to the state Assembly for another two years after besting his Republican challenger Steve McLaughlin on Election Day.

Gordon, who is the state's only Independence Party assemblyman and Bethlehem's Independence Party chairman, got 34,289 votes to McLaughlin's 22,610 votes. Gordon, who is finishing up his first term in office, campaigned on his record and said there was more work to be done with his Democratic caucus.

- Parker D. Mathusa, a friend, mentor and community leader to many, dies after losing his battle with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, on Sunday, Nov. 16, at his Delmar home.

- Gov. David Paterson proposes a series of measures on Wednesday, Nov. 12, to close the state's projected budget deficits, including an across-the-board cut in aid for school districts. After inaction during a special legislative session, the mid-term cuts are not acted upon.

- The Bethlehem Town Board unanimously approves its proposed 6.89 percent town tax increase on Wednesday, Nov. 12, which worked out to a tax increase of \$17.45 per \$1,000 of assessed home value.

- Debate over a 20-foot access on Carol Richards' property ended in a planning board vote on Nov. 18, of 6-to-1, with board member Katherine McCarthy the sole dissenter. According to Richards' lawyer, Terresa Bakner, the vote effectively killed the proposal because of Richards' frustration over the matter.

December

- Bethlehem holds its second holiday parade on Dec. 5. Starting at Town Hall, the parade went up Delaware Avenue to the Kenwood Avenue intersection where there was a tree-lighting ceremony.

- National Grid lists Albany County as one of the hardest-hit areas in New York, as residents deal with power outages and snow removal issues after the Thursday, Dec. 11, and Friday, Dec. 12, storm that brought sheets of freezing rain.

"It is clear that full power may not be restored for several days," National Grid Representative Steve Brady said on Saturday, Dec. 13.

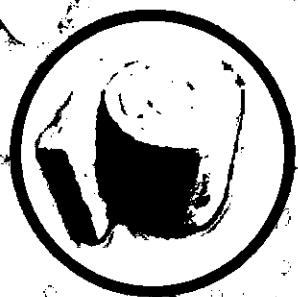
- Gov. David Paterson releases his budget plan for the 2009-2010 fiscal year on Wednesday, Dec. 17, which included some layoffs of the state work force and about \$698 million in cuts to school aid statewide.

Bethlehem Superintendent Michael Tebbano said that under the proposed budget, the district would have a significant loss of state funding that could reach close to \$2.2 million. That figure is more than 9 percent of the district's total state aid package in the current year.

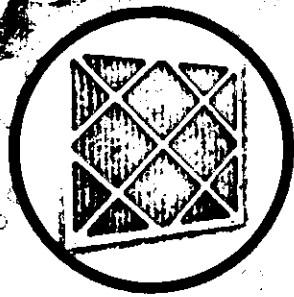
- SABIC, the company that bought the GE Plastics plant in Selkirk, announces it is considering moving a polymer lab to Selkirk from its Pittsfield, Mass., location. The company is currently in talks with both Bethlehem and Pittsfield officials.

Take the Chill Out of Your Winter Energy Bills.

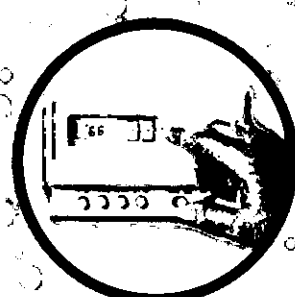
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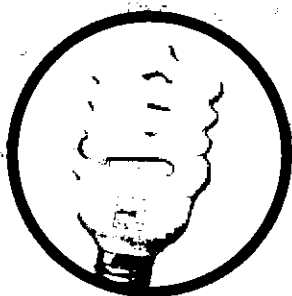
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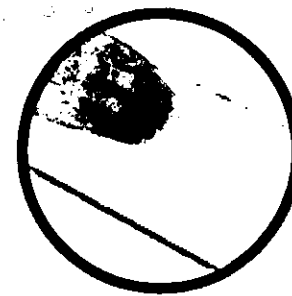
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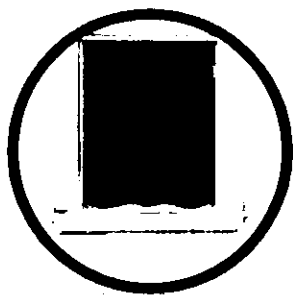
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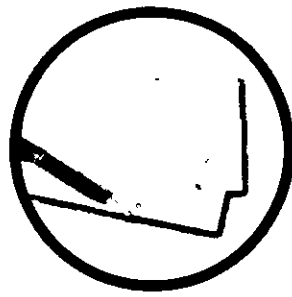
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Obituaries *in the* Spotlight

Henry P. Kiernan

Henry P. Kiernan, 94, of Delmar died Thursday, Dec. 18.

Born in Albany, he was the son of the late Henry J. and Mary Kiernan. A World War II veteran, Mr. Kiernan volunteered for the Army and attended officers training. He supervised the postal operations in England, France and Germany and was appointed captain adjutant general in the Army by the president of the United States.

Following his military service, Mr. Kiernan worked for the U.S. Postal Service for many years before retiring. Mr. Kiernan was a communicant of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

He was the husband of the late Eileen M. Kiernan.

Survivors include a brother, Charles Kiernan, and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Arrangements were by the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar and services were from the St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar.

Burial was in St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands.

Jean A. Rissacher

Dr. Jean Anthony Rissacher, 81, of Voorheesville, died Thursday, Dec. 18.

Born in Hempstead, he was the son of the late Joseph and Jeanne Rissacher. Mr. Rissacher was a graduate of Altamont High School and served in the Navy during World War II.

Survivors include five daughters, Nancy (Bob) Rissacher, Linda (Glenn) Ashline, Lori (Bill) Charash, Chris (Jim) Terry and Jan Rissacher; three sons, Joe Rissacher, Jim Rissacher and Dan (Patty) Rissacher; 14 grandchildren; a brother, Bob Rissacher; a sister,

Mary Anne (Mark) Markowski; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were from St. Lucy's Church in Altamont and arrangements were by the Fredendall Funeral Home in Altamont.

Interment was in the Fairview Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to the Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society, 3 Oakland Ave., Menands 12204.

George W. Hayner

George W. Hayner, 95, of Glenmont, died Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Born in Schaghticoke, he was the son of the late William and Carrie Hayner. Mr. Hayner was a driver for the Freihofer Company for many years before his retirement.

He was the husband of the late Erma Hayner.

Survivors include his wife, Hazel Hayner; two stepdaughters, Shirley (Harold) Matott and Egeria Wood; a stepson, Douglas Snyder; a brother, Clifford (Betty) Hayner; and a niece.

Services were from the New Corner-Cannon Funeral Home in Colonie and interment will be in the spring in the Elmwood Cemetery in Schaghticoke.

Contributions may be made to Pineview Community Church, 251 Washington Avenue Ext., Albany 12205.

Scott Hempstead

Scott Hempstead, 44, of Delmar, died Thursday, Dec. 18, at the St. Peter's Hospice Inn in Albany.

He graduated from Maple Hill High School in 1982 and was the operations manager at the New York State Taxation and Finance Bureau in Green Island. He was the husband of the late Dawn Hempstead.

Survivors include a son, Jeremy; his parents, Donald and Eileen Hempstead of Castleton; a brother, Kevin (Marilyn) of North Adams, Mass.; his fiancée, Maria Anzalone and her daughters, Dana and Sara; a nephew; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Arrangements were from Ray Funeral Home in Castleton and a private funeral service will be held

at the convenience of the family.

Contributions may be made to the Jeremy Scott Hempstead Education Fund c/o Schodack Key Center, 1817 Columbia Turnpike, Castleton 12033.

Jay I. Kramer

Jay Irving Kramer, 87, of Altamont, died, Wednesday Dec. 17.

Mr. Kramer owned and operated Kingman Laundry and Dry Cleaners in Rensselaer. Mr. Kramer spent many years showing and parading his antique automobiles.

He was the husband of the late Evelyn P. Kramer.

Survivors include two sons, Stephen (Frances) Kramer of Clifton Park and Robert (Harriet) Kramer of Ormond Beach, Fla.; a daughter, Linda (Bernard) Cohen of Linwood, N.J.; seven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

A graveside service was held at the Independent Benevolent Society Cemetery on Fuller Road in Guilderland and arrangements were by the Meyers Funeral Home in Delmar.

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Winter

(From Page 1)

debris removal and roadway clearing and maintenance.

But it's nothing that wasn't expected. "We've got the highway and police overtime to pay from January 2008 until now," said Bethlehem Supervisor Jack Cunningham. "Running out of salt was an issue last year because there was a shortage, but I haven't heard it was an issue this year."

Cunningham said the scarcity of salt last year caused the price to rise, but the problem then was not actually having enough to make it through the winter. Towns lock into prices for salt through state contracts, according to Cunningham.

Guilford Highway Superintendent Todd Gifford said department employees racked up

an average of 20 hours overtime for Friday, Dec. 19, through Sunday, Dec. 21, cleaning up after the storm.

There are 38 employees in the highway department.

"The winds continue to howl," Gifford said as clean-up efforts lingered. There were still three or four town vehicles on the road on Monday, Dec. 22, cleaning up the after effects.

He said the department allots for 100 hours of overtime each year, and it is just about at that threshold.

"We're backed up quite a few hours," Gifford said.

However, funding begins anew on Thursday, Jan. 1, and the rest of the financial effects of the winter weather will come out of the 2009 budgets.

Guilford Supervisor Ken Runion also said the town was well prepared for the snow.

"We anticipate a number of storms. We anticipate overtime," said Runion.

Albany County Department of Public Works Commissioner Michael Franchini added that the county has performed a sizable number of snow and ice operations since Dec. 11. It handles 290 county roads and the 114 state roads that it is contracted to clean for the Department of Transportation. However, he said, they have not reached their budgeted cap on overtime.

Officials also noted that President George Bush declared New York in a state of emergency, making it eligible for federal funds to help pay for the damage resulting from the Dec. 11 ice storm that left many people without power.

Capt. John Layton, Albany County Sheriff's commissioner of the critical incident emergency management unit, said his department is helping coordinate efforts between local municipalities and the federal government.

"We are working with the state's emergency management office," Layton said. "We have reached

out to the local municipalities ... to coordinate with FEMA."

Layton said only specific expenses will apply, such as debris removal and response efforts by local police and fire and highway departments, and that eligible local municipalities could get up to 75 percent of their costs reimbursed from the ice storm.

There are 16 counties in New

York, including Albany, Schenectady and Saratoga counties, which are eligible for FEMA funding. Layton said the last major emergency disaster eligible for FEMA was the April flooding in 2007 that was extensive around the state.

"We're very lucky to be eligible for this federal funding," Layton said. "Especially during these times of economic crisis."

SABIC

(From Page 1)

costs, and we're looking to relocate our lab and find a new site for our headquarters within Pittsfield."

Kennedy said the polymer lab could either be moved to Selkirk or to a new location in Pittsfield and that more won't be known until after the New Year.

"We probably wouldn't have more information until early 2009," Kennedy said.

SABIC decided to cut 1,000 jobs worldwide after a nine-month operational study, out of which locally about 40 positions were eliminated at the Pittsfield headquarters, as well as one position in Selkirk. The cuts are part of a restructuring plan for the company in order to meet SABIC's future growth and expansion, according to Kennedy.

Bethlehem's outgoing director of economic development, George Levielle, said town officials are talking with SABIC, but could comment on little else.

"We've been working a lot with SABIC and on their initiatives," Levielle said. "We can't publicly talk about our negotiations ... but it would be a

very positive, positive investment for the community."

When asked how many jobs would come with the polymer laboratory, Levielle responded, "If you want to put a number on it ... at least 50 is a good starting point."

SABIC currently employs nearly 500 workers at the Selkirk plant near Feura Bush.

In addition to paying local property taxes, Levielle pointed out the number of workers at the plant who buy from local stores in town during their daily commutes and even some who live and pay taxes in Bethlehem.

With the Vista Tech Park breaking ground in the spring and plenty of warehouse space near the SABIC plant in the industrial zone, Levielle said he hopes other will follow suit.

"We're really trying to ramp up the community as a key location to businesses being so close to the CSX rail yards and the state Thruway," he said.

SABIC Innovative Plastics manufactures thermoplastics and resins to be used for the manufacturing of goods of nearly any product that is made of plastic.

The Selkirk plant mainly produces Noryl resins, an alloy of polyphenylene oxide and polystyrene.

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Entertainment *in the* Spotlight

By JACQUELINE M. DOMIN
Spotlight Newspapers
dominj@spotlightnews.com

As a furniture maker, Peter Leue is exacting and precise.

As a sculptor, he's a little more relaxed, creating whimsical and fun pieces.

"They're kind of my toys," said Leue, of Albany.

One of Leue's most elaborate toys will be on display at the Albany Center Gallery beginning Friday, Jan. 2. That's when the exhibit "Then and Now" opens. It includes "Musical Chairs," Leue's sculpture consisting of 20 stools attached to a reed organ. Each stool is painted white or black, representing a note. When someone sits on one, the organ plays the corresponding note.

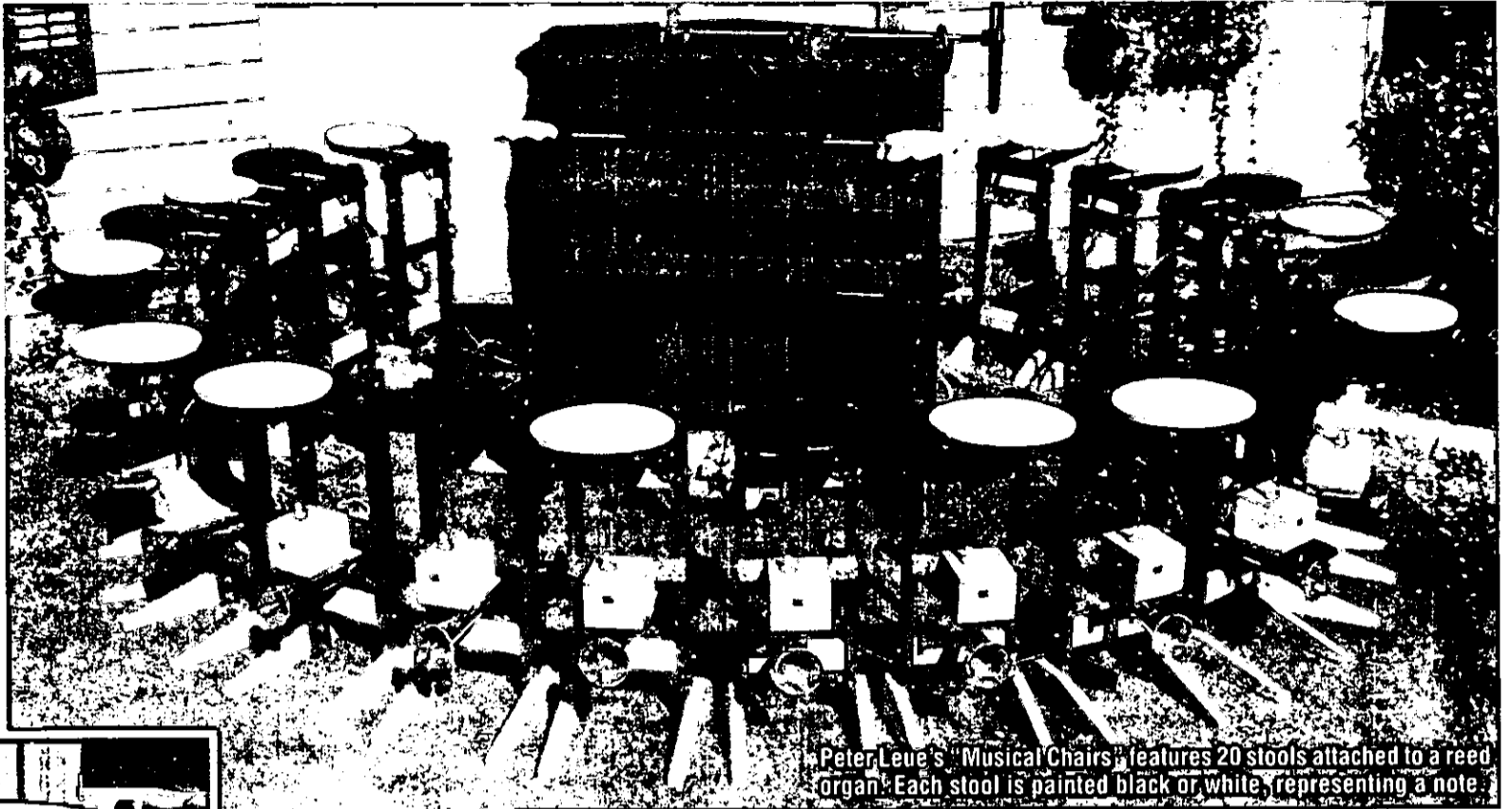
Years ago, Leue got parts and pieces of two reed organs with no real idea of what he was going to do with them. Around the same time, he helped do some work on the organ at his church, and he was inspired to put together "Musical Chairs."

"It just kind of came to me all of a sudden," he said, noting that chairs are "inviting."

The piece didn't come together quite as quickly. In fact, Leue has spent about eight years working on it.

"It's the largest sculpture I've ever done," he said.

Leue envisions one day having 10 people, representing 10 fingers, sitting and standing to play a real song on Musical Chairs. He would have loved to do it at the "Then and Now" opening reception, but he figured it would be a little too chaotic.



Peter Leue's "Musical Chairs" features 20 stools attached to a reed organ. Each stool is painted black or white, representing a note.



A note of whimsy

The artists of 'Then and Now' keep the mood light at Albany Center Gallery

"It simply won't be heard," he said with a laugh.

But he's working with a friend through his

church to compose a piece that he hopes to have performed on "Musical Chairs." Then he'll have a video to post on the Internet, which he hopes might someday attract the attention of a buyer.

In the meantime, anyone who visits "Musical Chairs" at the Albany Center Gallery is invited to take a seat and see what happens. The show runs through Feb. 7.

In addition to Leue, "Then and Now" features artists Channing Lefebvre and Terry Slade. Like

Leue, Lefebvre's work in the show, "Associations," was shaped by whimsy. He'll exhibit about 20 large-format drawings that "aren't based on anything in particular."

Instead, Lefebvre simply sat down in front of a blank canvas and started to draw. It's a concept that he first tried when he needed to submit a print for a show and wasn't sure what to exhibit. His wife suggested that he just put pen to paper and see what happens.

"I've always been just sort of drawing and doodling," Lefebvre, of Latham, said. "She said, 'Why

don't you just start drawing?'"

It might sound daunting, but Lefebvre said there's a "large intuitive element" that guides the pieces.

"The drawing will tell me which way to go," he said.

In the span of about a year, he created roughly 100 of the drawings. Some are in ballpoint pen; some are in gel pen.

They're open to interpretation, he said. It's not uncommon for people to look at one of his drawings and tell him "it looks like this or that."

That's fine with Lefebvre. "I'm not trying to tell people what they are," he said.

He typically doesn't frame his drawings. Those in the "Then and Now" show will simply hang from clips on the wall, which Lefebvre thinks creates a certain intimacy despite the drawings' size - some are as large as 38-by-50 inches.

"Then and Now" runs from Jan. 2 to Feb. 7 at the Albany Center Gallery, 39 Columbia St., Albany. The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday or by appointment. Call 462-4775 for information.

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Notice of Qualification of EDGEWATER TECHNICAL ASSOCIATES, LLC, Appl of Auth filed with the SSNY on 11/04/08.

State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Royal Virgin LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/10/08.

Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/14/08.

formed in New Jersey (NJ) on 03/17/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served.

For any lawful purpose. LD-20067 (December 31, 2008)

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12207. The street address of the principal business location is 54 State Street, 8th Floor, Albany, NY 12207.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: INRS LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/10/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: MZNA CONSULTING LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/03/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Mondovini LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/06/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 9824 4th AVENUE REALTY LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/12/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Qualification of THE COMPASS COMPANY CONSULTANTS, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 10/7/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of formation of Devine Driscoll LLC filed with Secy of State of NY on 10/13/2008.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of SO-LARIS MANAGEMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 03/31/08.

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Notice of formation of DRRMNY, LLC a NYS LLC Formation filed with SSNY on 09/15/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: LION GATE AGAMI CAB LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/07/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: I DONT CARE EITHER, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/05/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 11 N. BROADWAY ASSOC., LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/12/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: BISTRO CROSSING LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with NY Secretary of State, November 19, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CARLEEN'S A HAIR RETREAT, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/30/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Las Ramblas Restaurant LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/24/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Qualification of BLUE JAY CONSULTING, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/07/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: FOLISI REALTY LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/06/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of NEW WORLD MEDIA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/27/2008.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CAPS-CAR LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/12/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: PRESSBURG HOSPITALITY GROUP LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/19/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CIAO ANDIAMO, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/17/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of DGT INTERNATIONAL LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 04/24/02.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Cath-ann Collyer, OT, LMT, PLLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/28/07.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Paragon Die Cutting and Finishing, LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/23/07.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF ILMH, LLC On August 25, 2008, ILMH, LLC (the "LLC") filed Articles of Organization with the New York State Department of State.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: VIRGINIA DAVIS DESIGN LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/20/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: MID-WOODE DENTAL ASSOCIATES, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/28/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: HARPEQUITIES, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/18/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of MIR-OQ LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/21/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: ODYSSEY ENERGY SOLUTIONS LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/12/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Paragon Die Cutting and Finishing, LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/23/07.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: BRIDGESTONE PROPERTIES LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/19/08.

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Notice of Formation of CHARLEASE, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/19/08.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 1512 WESTERN AVENUE ASSOC., LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/03/08.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: KEVIN RAFFERTY PRODUCTIONS, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/18/08.

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Notice of Formation of 346 Lounge LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/24/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) The name of the LLC is Kim Rocky Point V LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on November 12, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: WESTERBEE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on November 18, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Qualification of TALISAM, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/19/08.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Qualification of TALISAM, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/19/08.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: WESTERBEE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on November 18, 2008.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: WESTERBEE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on November 18, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Formation of LET-MIA LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/21/08.

UAlbany hoops, Jordan Stevens and other items

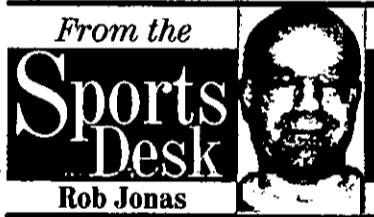
Some random thoughts as we careen into 2009:

- If the University at Albany men's basketball team plays as well against America East competition as it has against its non-league opponents, the Great Danes could join Siena in the NCAA Tournament come March.

UAlbany has some scoring depth with Tim Ambrose, Anthony Raffa and Virginia transfer Will Harris, and coach Will Brown's teams are typically good at playing defense. Plus, the list of top contenders in America East comes down to Boston University and Vermont. If UAlbany can handle those teams, its chances of winning the league are very good.

One other factor working in the Great Danes' favor: the America East Tournament is in Albany this year. As long as the Great Danes enter the tournament with some momentum, I think they can go far.

- Saratoga Springs' Jordan Stevens recently scored his 1,500th career point in a Suburban Council



boys basketball victory over Shenendehowa. Given how many injuries Stevens has suffered in his five-year career, one has to wonder if he'd have been closer to 2,000 points by now given how he's dominated league opponents when he's been healthy.

- Congratulations to the Christian Brothers Academy hockey team for beating Shenendehowa for the first time in the program's 14-year history. The Brothers had come close to knocking off the Plainsmen several times in recent years, so to get over the hump with last week's 2-1 win is a huge confidence boost. Now, the trick will be to beat Shen in the Section II playoffs – something no team has done in the last six years.

- The Albany Patroons were undefeated entering last weekend's games. I only bring this up because I wasn't aware that they had played any games. Then again, I doubt many area sports fans knew that.

- How's this for irony? The Albany Firebirds are back, but Arena Football is gone. Of course, the reverse could be true in 2010 if fans don't flock back to see the Firebirds at the Times Union Center.

- Finally, I'd love to see Chad Pennington lead the Miami Dolphins to the playoffs each of the next five years, while the New York Jets go through another five quarterbacks as they try to find a replacement for one-year rental Brett Favre. Short-sightedness can come back to bite you.

Sports Spotlight *in the*

Area athletes make noise

By ROB JONAS

jonasr@spotlightnews.com

The Capital District sports scene provided plenty of storylines in 2008.

From Siena's NCAA basketball tournament run to the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake football team's trip to Syracuse's Carrier Dome, there was something interesting happening every season.

Here are the 2008 highlights:

Winter

- The Siena Saints took the national stage by storm in their fourth trip to the NCAA men's basketball tournament. The 13th-seeded Saints defeated No. 4 Vanderbilt 82-61 in the opening round to reach the second round for only the second time in the program's history. Even though Siena lost to Villanova in the next round, it's dominating performance against a Vanderbilt team that was briefly ranked No. 1 in the nation will be the enduring memory.

- In high school boys basketball, Bishop Maginn joined a select group of Section II teams to win a state title when it defeated Niagara Falls in the Class AA finals in Glens Falls. Along the way, the Golden Griffins knocked off Christian Brothers Academy in the Sectional final, though the Brothers made their own bit of history by reaching the championship game for the sixth consecutive year.

Guilderland nearly prevented CBA from getting to the Sectional finals. The Dutchmen – who won the Suburban Council title with an undefeated record – rallied several times before losing to the Brothers 56-55 in the Class AA semifinals.

Colonie also had an opportunity to get to the Sectional finals. The Garnet Raiders led Bishop Maginn by 10 points at halftime, only to be blown away 39-19 in the second half and fall to the Golden Griffins 60-50.

In other Sectional results, Voorheesville reached the Class CC finals before losing to Mechanicville, while Mohonasen and Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake got to the Class A semifinals before falling to Albany Academy and Bishop Maginn, respectively.

- In girls basketball, Shenendehowa returned to the top of the Section II heap by beating Bethlehem 36-29 in the Class AA finals. The Plainsmen rallied from a three-point deficit in the fourth quarter by closing the game on a 10-0 run to win their first title in four years.

Shen coach Ken Strube earned two personal honors following the season. He was named his district's coach of the year by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, and he was elected into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame. Strube entered the 2008-09 season with 512 career victories, the most for any Section II girls basketball coach.

Meanwhile, Mohonasen continued its rise through the Class A ranks by reaching the Sectional final before losing to

Averill Park.

- Shen's Meys brothers picked up their second state wrestling titles in March. Hunter Meys won the 189-pound championship by beating Josh Peters 7-3 in the finals, while Austin Meys pinned Collin Toney in the first period to claim the 171-pound title. Hunter won back-to-back state titles, while Austin picked up his first championship in three years.

The state title was one of

Bison upset second-seeded Guilderland and No. 3 Shen to reach the finals.

- The Guilderland and Niskayuna girls lacrosse teams reached the state final four in their respective classes for the first time. Guilderland defeated Shaker in the Class A Sectional finals and Kingston in the regionals before losing to eventual state champion Farmingdale 16-10 in the state

a 9-2 victory. Pitcher Josh Ingham led the Riders by driving in five runs and limiting the Mighty Warriors to four hits.

Bethlehem reached the Sectional semifinals in Class AA before losing to eventual champion LaSalle 6-1. The Eagles were a team on a mission as they were playing for ailing assistant coach Pete Dorwaldt, who was diagnosed with terminal cancer earlier this year.



two major accomplishments for Hunter Meys. The senior set a new national record for pins when he earned a first-period fall against Ian Morgan. It gave Hunter his 189th pin, which surpassed Steve Mocco's record of 188 that Mocco set in 2001.

- The Shen hockey team extended its Sectional title streak to six years with a 3-0 victory over LaSalle in the Division I finals. The Plainsmen fell shy of the state final four, though, with a 3-2 triple overtime loss to West Genesee.

- Four Shen swimmers had success at the state level. Michael Christine, Troy Nichols, Jacob Johnson and Ryan Brauer won the 400-yard freestyle relay at the state meet with a time of 3:10.90. Johnson and Brauer also earned individual titles. Johnson won the 50 and 100 freestyles, while Brauer finished first in the 200 individual medley. Shaker's Frankie Dyer, Brian Maloy, Steve Maxwell and David Rowley claimed the 200 medley relay title with a time of 1:37.40.

- Other Section II athletes that won state titles in individual sports included Colonie's James Kehrer and 800-meter relay team, Shen's Michelle Quimby and Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake's Meaghan Gregory (indoor track and field), as well as Holy Names' Paige Chardevoyne (alpine skiing).

Spring

- The Niskayuna boys lacrosse team kept its string of Section II titles going by beating Shaker 8-4 in the Class A finals. It was the Silver Warriors' fifth consecutive Sectional championship, and it completed an unbeaten run through the region.

While Niskayuna maintained its reputation as the Section's premier boys lacrosse program, Shaker became the Cinderella story of the spring sports season. After winning just four games in the regular season, the Blue

semis, while Niskayuna cruised past its Sectional and regional competition before falling to Long Island power Garden City 17-4 in the Class B semis.

- Bethlehem Central High School alumni Mike Leveille and Katie Rowan made their mark on the collegiate lacrosse world. Leveille helped the Syracuse University men's lacrosse team win the NCAA title with a six-goal, two-assist performance in the Final Four, while Rowan guided Syracuse's women's team to the Final Four with a school-record 73 goals and 69 assists.

Leveille picked up several honors for his efforts. The senior won the Tewaaron Trophy as the nation's top collegiate player, along with the NCAA Tournament's Most Outstanding Player award, and he was picked third overall in the Major League Lacrosse's draft. Rowan was a Tewaaron Trophy finalist on the women's lacrosse side and a first-team All-American along with Syracuse teammate and fellow Bethlehem graduate Halley Quillinan.

Elsewhere at the collegiate level, Guilderland High School graduate Nicole Tetreault helped Hamilton win the NCAA Division III women's title with a goal and an assist in the championship game.

- The Shen softball team equaled the school's hockey team's total for consecutive Sectional titles when it claimed its sixth consecutive championship by beating Colonie 4-1 in the Class AA finals. The Plainsmen finished the season with a 24-3 record.

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake came close to winning the Class A Sectional title, but it fell to top-seeded South Glens Falls 3-0 in the finals.

- The Mohonasen baseball team reached its first Sectional final in two decades, but it couldn't break its title drought as Ichabod Crane pulled away for

- Several area athletes won individual titles at the state outdoor track and field championships including Saratoga's Madalayne Smith (100-meter high hurdles), Shen's Michelle Quimby (pole vault) and Zac Suriano (800 meters), and Guilderland's Briana Delbene (discus) and Liz Schwennker (400 dash).

Summer

- The New York Giants had some added buzz about them when they returned to the University at Albany for training camp, courtesy of their 17-14 Super Bowl victory over the New England Patriots nearly six months earlier in Phoenix. Nearly 3,000 spectators showed up for the first day of training camp, making it one of the largest opening days in the 12 years that "Big Blue" has worked out in the Capital District.

- Rain dampened the first half of the Saratoga Race Course season, but the sun shone brightly on the venerable track for the final three weeks to prevent a dramatic decline in attendance and on-track handle. Curlin also helped, as he brought the crowds in to see him win the Aug. 30 Woodward Stakes.

- The Adirondack region had one of its most successful years at the Empire State Games in Binghamton. Adirondack placed third out of six regions with 165 total medals, and it tied Long Island for the second-highest gold medal haul with 66. Teams that won gold medals included the open women's basketball team, the open women's softball team, the master women's volleyball team and the masters men's rugby team.

Individuals that won multiple gold medals included Delmar's Beth Miller (cycling), Molly Quirk (gymnastics) and Andrew Loux (wrestling); Slingerlands' Wolfgang Wittkowski (masters swimming); Latham's Ezekiel