

## DO NOT CIRCULATE

### In this week's issue



#### Mercury levels high in Ravena

Ward Stone announced Monday, Sept. 28, that his independent studies of the Ravena area have found mercury levels up to eight times above the norm on and in vegetation and wildlife.

See Page 25.



#### Mapping out a strategy

Maps and a love of the outdoors are the key ingredients at orienteering meets, including one slated for Saratoga Spa State Park on Columbus Day.

See Page 22.



#### Role reversal

A day after beating Shenendehowa in a Suburban Council match, the Bethlehem boys volleyball team fell to the Plainsmen in the quarterfinals of the league's mid-season tournament Saturday at Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School.

See Page 36.

**THE**

*Serving Bethlehem,  
New Scotland, Guilderland*

# Spotlight

WWW.SPOTLIGHTNEWS.COM

VOLUME LII      NUMBER 40      75¢      OCTOBER 7, 2009

## Claws out in cat fight

### Two Delmar residents launch campaign for feline containment law

By CHARLES WIFF  
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

On Pineridge Place in Delmar, you just can't pussyfoot around the issue.

At least according to Katrina Bolen and Lisa DeStaso-Jones, who are collecting petition signatures to urge the town to adopt some manner of cat containment law that would require homeowners to keep felines on their own property.

Neighbors' cats have turned the area into a giant litter box and playground this summer, Bolen

said, resulting in what she calls a health hazard and overall quality of life issue for the neighborhood.

"The whole street just stinks," she said. "You can't even walk around the circle without the scent of cat urine and feces knocking you down."

Since speaking at a Town Board meeting and publishing a letter in *The Spotlight*, the duo said that they have received 10 responses from around the area from people who are having the same problems in their neighborhoods.

Jones said that, for her, the situation came to a head when her toddler turned up with a handful of cat droppings while playing in the yard.

"I can deal with the footprints on my car and the

□ Cat Page 20



Bethlehem resident Lisa DeStaso-Jones runs a rake through her garden, which she says has become a litter box for neighborhood cats.

Charles Wiff/Spotlight



Students from Bethlehem Middle School pull some fresh produce from the school's garden.

Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight

## Garden grows on students

### BMS goes big for statewide initiative

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

The Bethlehem Middle School has taken eating local to the next step by starting a garden club that allows students to eat produce grown in the school's own backyard.

"The school garden was designed as a kitchen garden," Mark Warford, assistant principal at the middle school said.

The Bethlehem Healthy Kids Committee, in partnership with the Bethlehem Central School District, is spearheading the district's first year of participating in the state-wide Farm-to-School celebration called "Farm to You Fest."

The week is designated for Monday, Oct. 5, through Saturday, Oct. 10.

□ Garden Page 17



Lucas Maddalena, a seventh grade student, shows off hand picked carrots.

Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight

## Spotlight under new ownership

### Local publisher is now part owner

Spotlight Newspapers, the Capital District's award-winning community weeklies, was purchased Oct. 1, by Community Media Group LLC. The transaction includes the sale of *The Spotlight's* weeklies in 12 communities in the Albany market and the eight Eagle Newspapers weeklies in the Syracuse market, as well as numerous niche publications and Web sites.

The publications had previously been owned by Eagle Media LP. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Community Media Group LLC is a new company made up of three principals: John A. McIntyre Jr. of Ballston Lake, David B. Tyler Jr. of Syracuse and Daniel E. Alexan-

□ New Page 20

## Republicans step down

### Former N.S. committee members throw support behind LaGrange

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

A number of New Scotland Republican Party members have resigned from the committee, and have chosen to endorse candidate Doug LaGrange, who also recently took leave from the committee.

LaGrange issued an e-mail to party leadership stating he will remain a Republican,

□ Down Page 20

# Police Blotter

## Man arrested for allegedly entering wife's home

Guiderland Police arrested Piotr A. Skladzinski, 56, of Elmwood Street in Albany, on a felony charge of criminal contempt on Friday, Sept. 25,

according to police reports. Skladzinski was said to have entered the home of his wife, from whom he is separated, while there was

an active "stay away" order from the court. The report states he left before police arrived, but was arrested after he contacted police.

He was arraigned later that night.

### Other arrests

•Guiderland Police arrested

Damien D. Moore, 34, of 428 Duane Ave. in Schenectady, on a felony charge of possession of a forged instrument and a misdemeanor charge of petit larceny on Jan. 20, for an offense dating back to November of 2008. He was arraigned on Thursday, Sept. 24, for the offense dating back to last year.

The report states he attempted to use a fraudulent check on two separate occasions.

•Guiderland Police arrested Paul M. Pagan, 25, of 12 Hillcrest Ave. in Albany, on felony counts of criminal possession of marijuana on Sunday, Sept. 20, according to police reports.

Pagan was arraigned on Thursday, Oct. 1, according to police reports.

•Guiderland Police arrested Christina T. Genovesi, 24, of 665 Salvia Lane, on charges of DWI, on Saturday, Sept. 26, according to police reports.

Genovesi was arrested near the corner of Alvina Boulevard and Western Avenue and will be arraigned on Thursday Oct. 8.

## It's YOUR money!



How does Bethlehem compare to Guiderland, Colonie, Niskayuna, New Scotland and Coeymans?

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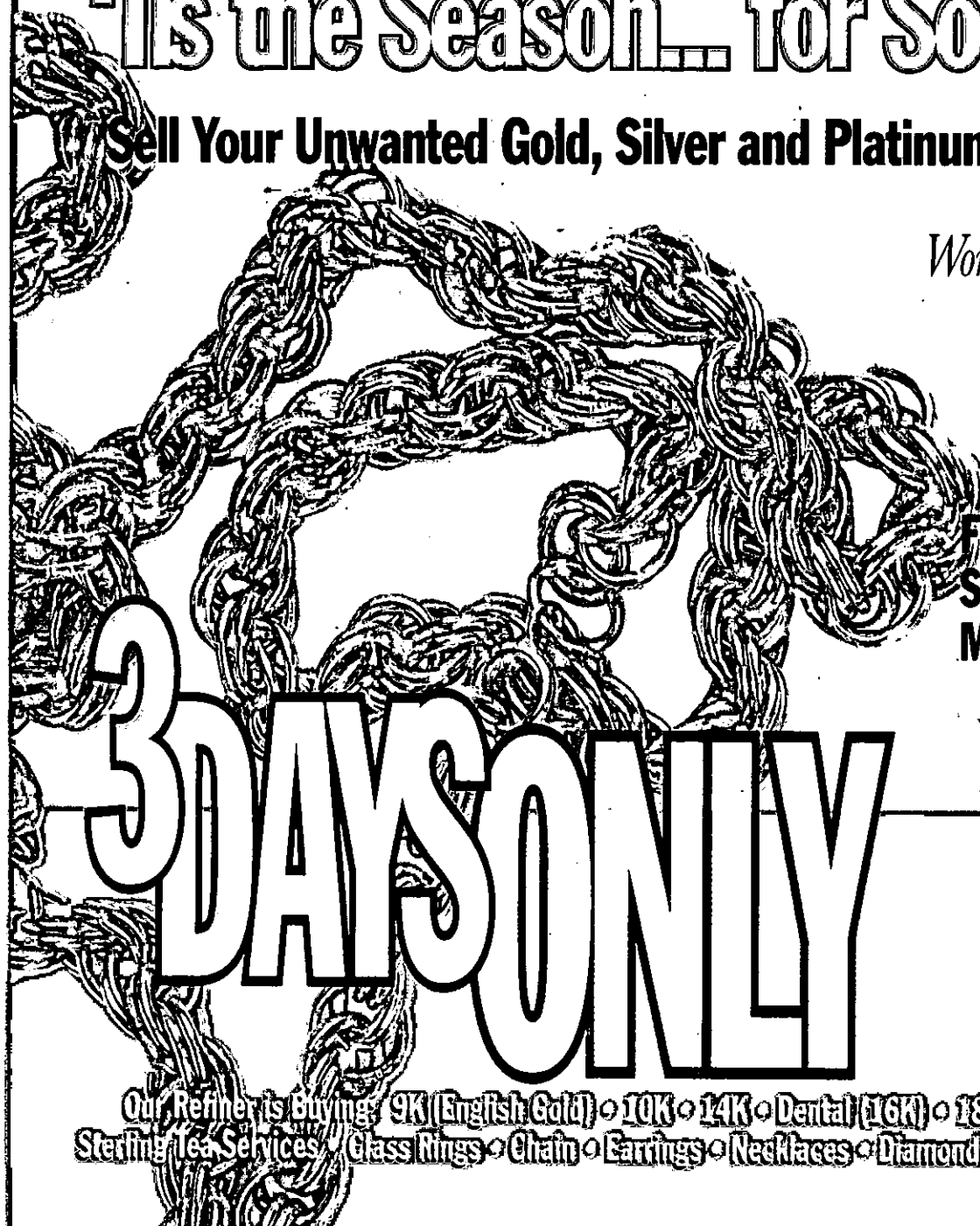
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# Art in Flux

**Show's artists will distribute pieces randomly at conclusion**

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

Art for art's sake is something many artists aspire to.

Many local artists are going to do their part to make that a reality, as they prepare for the Flux art show at the St. Joseph's Cathedral on Ten Broeck Street in Albany on Friday, Oct. 9, through Sunday, Oct. 11.

The show will feature artists from around the county, but one Guilderland artist, Sina Hickney, said there is a twist to what happens after the show. The art, which is being created on paper that can be easily distributed, will be delivered by bicycle, or other human powered means of transportation to random people throughout the city.

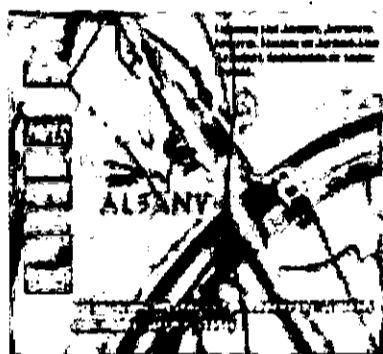
"It's all free," Hickney said. "It's art that has something to say with it."

She said she is excited the exhibit will be held at the cathedral, a landmark in the City of Albany.

The artists will go, either on the Tuesday or Friday after the show, to distribute the art, she said, and the information for the artists will be on each piece, so people can go seek other work by the artist if they like it.

The event will raise money for the Albany historical society, she said.

For 35 years Historic Albany Foundation has worked to protect Albany's unique architectural legacy. Behind Flux is a spirit of community. As you enjoy each night's show, your donation (\$5 minimum) helps continue the



Above and left are examples of artwork to be shown at the Flux Art Show, at the St. Joseph Cathedral in Albany from Oct. 9 through 11.

Submitted photos

St Joseph's restoration efforts and will directly benefit Albany's music and art community," according to the Flux Web site.

Hickney said she immediately became interested in the event when she heard that it involved a good cause and doing art that will find its way into so many people's hands.

Hickney is a University at Albany student, majoring in documentary studies.

To preview some of the work that will be displayed at the event, visit [www.FLUXevent.com](http://www.FLUXevent.com)

The viewings will be from 4-11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m. to midnight on Saturday and noon to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

# Carey Foundation walk on Saturday

**Third annual event to raise money for vulnerable children**

By CHARLES WIFF  
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

The Third Annual Jonathan Carey Foundation Walk is to step off from Bethlehem Town Park on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 10 a.m. this year, with the hopes of raising money to help protect vulnerable children.

Michael Carey and his wife, Lisa, started the foundation after their autistic child died while in the care of state workers in 2004. Last year, said Michael Carey, 300 walkers turned out and the event raised about \$25,000, an amount they hope to exceed on Saturday.

Through the foundation, the money raised will go to a number of different causes aimed at helping vulnerable children. Carey said that the foundation will be helping local orphans through various charities, fighting sex trafficking through Love 146, helping fatherless children through local charity Hearts of the Father Outreach and furthering his own work toward strengthening legal protections for disabled children and adults.

"We really want to raise the awareness of multiple groups of children who really are extremely vulnerable and really need assistance and help, not just through our foundation, but others," Carey said.

He went on to note that donation is only one way that people can help needy children, and encouraged people to consider fighting the growing

orphan population through means of sponsorship or adoption.

"We also raise the issue of the orphan crisis, and we want to encourage people to get involved in caring for orphans in any way they feel they can do that," he said.

Last year, town officials, Assemblyman Tim Gordon and Rep. Paul Tonko all made appearances at the walk, and Carey said that he expects similar involvement this year.

After the walk, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., lunch will be provided, along with music and a raffle of various donations from local businesses, including a Sony flat screen television.

Jonathan Carey was 13 when two caregivers from OD Heck Developmental Center in Schenectady improperly restrained the youth while he was on an outing from the. Both caretakers were convicted and sentenced to time in prison.

Besides continuing his efforts to have new legislation passed, Carey said he will soon be embarking on a project to add a children's and adult's shoes and clothing donation structure on the foundation's headquarters property at 90 Delaware Ave. in Delmar.

"Some of the clothing bins are actually used for rags, some of them are resold to organizations or resold locally," Carey said. "We want to collect clothing freely and distribute it freely."

All donations to the Jonathan Carey Foundation are tax deductible. To make a donation or learn more about the organization, visit [www.jonathancareyfoundation.org](http://www.jonathancareyfoundation.org).

# Town: Selkirk sewer expansion would be costly

**Resident has been campaigning for project for decades**

By CHARLES WIFF  
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If there's one thing for sure in a neighborhood off of Cottage Lane in Selkirk, it's that many of the residents there want sewer service. What's unclear is how the group of homeowners will be able to pay for it.

After receiving a petition from homeowners on Cottage Lane, Maple Avenue and Beaver Dam Road, town officials met with

**"I'm just going to keep pushing it until I get some results."**

— Cottage Lane resident Cindy Radliff

residents on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to discuss options. The bottom line? Expanding the sewer line from along Route 9 W to the area's 126 lots would cost an estimated \$6.05 million, and that would have to be absorbed by the residents.

Town Public Works Commissioner Josh Cansler explained that the cost of establishing new sewer and water districts can't be taken out of other funds.

"If we extend the district, by state law, it has to be paid for by those who benefit from the district," he said.

And those costs would be high, especially considering that not all lots are developed and some owners own multiple lots. Due to the topography of the area, the district would need three small pump stations to connect to the sewer system at a cost of \$250,000 each. The area would be broken

into three districts, with residents paying taxes of \$33.38, \$43.10 or \$27.13 per \$1,000 of assessed value annually for 20 years to pay for the extension.

By comparison, the town tax rate is now \$2.72 per \$1,000 of assessed property value (this figure includes sewer and water taxes).

Town officials said that when sewer or water expansions are made, the cost is typically assumed by developers adding new homes or supplemented by other sources of funding such as grants. But with the economic climate as it is, money is hard to come by.

Town Engineer Erik Deyoe said that despite media reports, most of the money from the federal American Reinvestment and Recovery Act has already been appropriated.

"It's really been portrayed as

if it's raining money everywhere, but that's really not the case," he said. "In reality, all these funds have already been committed."

Of the \$800 billion stimulus plan, only \$650 million was earmarked for sewer projects in New York state, and that was almost immediately appropriated to "shovel ready" projects.

The Selkirk sewer project has a long way to go before it's shovel ready, but residents could assume the estimated \$50,000 in design costs to get it to that point, which would put the project in a better position when applying for aid in the future. Still, that's no guarantee that grant money would flow in.

"Throughout the years, there have been federal dollars for these types of projects. ... It's a matter of whether we want to double down now. It's a really, really difficult situation," said Sean Shortell, who was representing Rep. Paul Tonko at the meeting.

As with the expansion, at least half of the assessed property value and 51 percent of lot owners in the area must agree to spend the money in order to continue with the design.

Cottage Lane resident Cindy Radliff has been campaigning

for a sewer extension for three decades, she said, and submitted the petition that sparked Tuesday's meeting. She and about 20 other homeowners seemed taken aback by the estimated cost of the project. No one said they would be willing to pay the price tag.

Radliff is calling her efforts the SOS campaign, not only an acronym for Sewer on Selkirk but also an indicator that the residents there need help with the project. Many residents at the meeting said that getting sewer is a top priority for them, as their homes are located in a low-lying area that floods easily. Many, including Radliff, fear this will have adverse effects on their septic systems.

"These are low-lying areas," she said. "The water's there, and we need help. ... We need sewer now because it's a necessity."

Radliff also submitted a petition to extend sewer to just Cottage Lane in 2005, but a majority of the residents were not in favor of the extension, also because of high cost. Despite the roadblocks, she said she would continue her campaign.

"I'm just going to keep pushing it until I get some results," she said.

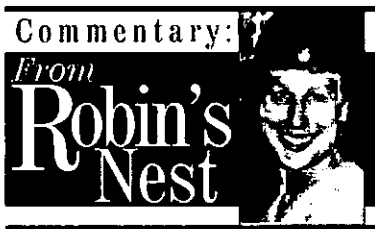
## Index

Editorial Pages .....	6-7
Sports .....	35-36
Milestones .....	25-26
Library events .....	28-29
Family Entertainment .....	22
Calendar of Events .....	23-24
Classified .....	30-33
Crossword .....	23
Legals .....	34-35
Real Estate .....	33
At Your Service .....	30-31

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# Forgive me if my watched pot never boils

By ROBIN SHRAGER SUITOR  
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My plan was to serve dinner at 4 o'clock. If we were eating at 4 o'clock, I reasoned, we'd have time for a leisurely meal before leaving for synagogue.

The menu consisted of chicken soup with kreplach, beef brisket, roasted vegetables, mashed potatoes and tossed salad. There'd be homemade rugelach for dessert.

This wasn't just any dinner; it was a holiday meal preceding the solemn observance of Yom Kippur, a 26-hour period of fasting, prayer and repentance.

I was happy that the holiday began on a Sunday evening. That meant I wouldn't be rushing home from work. There would be plenty of time to get dinner on the table early. It would be possible for me to prepare the meal and even have time to relax before bringing the food from oven to table.

Really, it all seemed possible. After all, I had precooked the brisket the night before; it simply needed an hour back in the oven to reheat. The chicken soup, also made in advance, only needed to be returned to the soup pot and dressed up with some fresh carrots and celery.

That morning I had chopped vegetables, tossed them with olive oil, salt and pepper, and distributed them between two roasting pans. I had peeled and quartered potatoes and covered them with cold water in a Dutch oven.

Everything was running smoothly until the stove stopped working.

It took awhile for me to notice that something was amiss.

The potatoes were on the back left burner. At last glance they had been boiling and I turned the heat down to allow them to simmer.

On the front left burner I had loaded a saucepan with eggs and set it to boil. This would become egg salad to be eaten the next night when the fast ended.

On the front right burner, I set a large pot of water to boil. This would be used to cook the kreplach.

The vegetables had finished roasting. I took them from the oven and transferred them to

a casserole dish. Then I had turned the oven temperature down to 350 degrees for the reheating of the brisket.

Next I turned my attention to the kreplach production. My daughter, Rachel, is a pro at making these meat-filled dough pockets (similar to wontons.) I mixed the ground beef with chopped onions, garlic, matzah meal and an egg, as Rachel mixed and rolled out the dough.

I went to check on the potatoes and noticed no action in the pot. Did I turn the heat down too low, I pondered? I moved the dial up to number five and ambled back to the kreplach.

By now Rachel had the dough rolled out and was cutting out small circles. The next step is to spoon on some meat, fold the circle in half and crimp the edges with a fork to seal.

"Mom, you're putting in too much meat," my 13-year old admonished.

"I like it to be filled," I said, "Otherwise it's just a pasta noodle with a dash of meat."

"It's not going to seal," she said, as she continued cutting out dough circles.

"Yes, it will. And if it doesn't, I'll know to use less the next time."

I pinched the kreplach sealed and then began crimping with the fork.

"Mom, you have to press harder with the fork or it won't stay sealed," said my child. Then she made her way around the counter and said, "Let me do it."

I stepped out of her way and watched her re-crimp my kreplach.

"You know, I was able to make kreplach all by myself for years before you were born."

She ignored me, focusing instead on the task at hand.

Truth be told, Rachel is better at assembling the kreplach. Even as a 5-year-old she had a knack for it, making uniform lovely creations, while I struggled with my dough.

"We've got to work faster," I told her, "They need to boil for 20 minutes and we're making two batches."

I checked on my eggs and noticed they had not come to a boil. Then I lifted the lid off the potatoes and saw there was still no action there either.

Uh-oh.

I decided the burners on the left side of the stove were broken. I moved the eggs to the right back burner. Then I checked the big pot on the front right burner, the one heating the water for the kreplach. The water was still lukewarm.

Double uh-oh.

My husband had gone to the grocery store for a loaf of challah. I called him on his cell.

"Uh, the stove burners aren't working," I told him.

"What do you mean?"

"What I mean is that the burners on the top of the oven, the ones we use to cook food on, aren't working. I thought it was just the ones on the left, but it's all four. Nothing is boiling."

I hung up the phone and stared at the stove. That's when I noticed the oven was still preheating.

How could the oven not have reached 350 degrees by now? It had been set to 450 degrees when I roasted the vegetables. It shouldn't take long for an oven to drop 10 degrees.

Triple uh-oh.

I called my husband again.

"I hope you are almost home, because I've just discovered that the oven isn't working either."

I glanced over at my dad, who was sitting in the family room watching football. I decided against telling him that we might be ordering pizza for dinner. Rachel was still busy with the kreplach.

I considered calling a neighbor, but figured it would be a logistical nightmare to transport all of these pots and roasting pans to another house.

I decided I would just use the microwave oven to heat up individual plates of food and bowls of soup. Not an ideal way to finish cooking the brisket, but the soup would surely survive the microwave. The potatoes too could be transferred to the microwave. But we wouldn't be able to make the kreplach, and there'd be no egg salad for the break-the-fast meal.

I felt oddly calm, not at all like myself. I thought, "Oh well, the stove's not working. We'll have to make do."

What was wrong with me? Why wasn't I freaking out?

The spiritual mood of the holiday had eclipsed my normal panic reaction: I was so glad my dad was celebrating with us that the particulars of the meal seemed secondary. And I knew Dad wouldn't care if we ended up eating sandwiches or pizza.

It's a good thing I didn't waste time getting upset. Jeff came home and flipped a switch in that fuse box thingy in the basement. The stove came back to life and I had dinner on the table by 4:30.

I am truly blessed!



## WEEKLY WEATHER

Chief Meteorologist Mike Bono



TIME WARNER CABLE

### Albany Almanac

#### Record high/low/year

Day	AVERAGE HIGH 62°	AVERAGE LOW 40°
	High/Year	Low/Year
Wednesday, October 7	89°/1963	27°/1986
Thursday, October 8	79°/1993	21°/1964
Friday, October 9	83°/1949	27°/2001
Saturday, October 10	89°/1939	25°/1980
Sunday, October 11	86°/1949	22°/1943
Monday, October 12	85°/1954	22°/1964
Tuesday, October 13	81°/1930	24°/1981

**ANNUAL PRECIPITATION**  
31.33 inches as of Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>  
1.92 inches above average

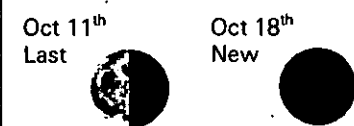
#### This week in weather

October 9, 1988 Ten cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Hartford, CT with a reading of 28 degrees. Snow continued in the northern New England through the morning hours. Mt Washington NH reported 5" of snow.

#### Sun & Moon

Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Wednesday	6:59am	6:26pm
Thursday	7:00am	6:24pm
Friday	7:02am	6:22pm
Saturday	7:03am	6:21pm
Sunday	7:04am	6:19pm
Monday	7:05am	6:17pm
Tuesday	7:06am	6:16pm

#### Moon Phases



Planets	When	Where
Venus	Dawn	Low, East
Mercury	Dawn	V Low, East
Mars	Dawn	Dim, High E
Jupiter	Evening	Bright, SE/S

### Rivers & Recreation

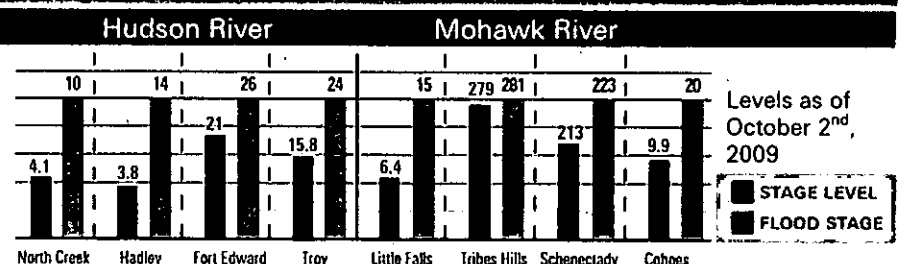
#### Fall foliage outlook for Oct. 10, 2009

Capital Region	Berkshires
50% to 75%. Near peak in hills.	75% to peak. Past peak higher elevations north.
Adirondacks	Vermont
Past peak mountains. Some leaf drop.	Peak color valleys. Past peak mountains.
Catskills	New Hampshire
75% to peak. Just past peak higher elevations.	Past peak White Mtns. Some leaf drop.

#### Factoid

Raindrops do not really look like the traditional tear-shaped pictures. They actually flatten out as they fall, forming more of a pancake shape instead.

#### River Levels



# Town gets souped up

## Guilderland event features food and car show

By DAN SABBATINO  
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Guilderland restaurants will heat up the town with their best bowls of soup in a competition sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

This year, the third annual Souped Up on Guilderland event will take place at Altamont Orchards, Saturday, Oct. 10. The event showcases area eateries' best soups, and lets the public pick the top soup in town.

A car show will be hosted on the grounds as well, and will feature cars, trucks and motorcycles.

Souped Up on Guilderland will feature restaurants from throughout the town, including Aromi d'Italia, BFS Restaurant, Orchard Creek Golf Club, Hana Japanese Steak House, The Highlands Restaurant and Tavern, Tesoro, Londonderry and the Township Tavern.

Joe Abbruzzese, proprietor of Altamont Orchards, said the event was conceived to showcase Guilderland's business community.

"A little over three years ago, Kathy Burbank, Roger Lipura, and myself were trying to come up with an event that would spotlight the chamber and its work with and for the business community," he said. "I had done car shows, festivals in the past, and Kathy, I believe, had the idea of a soup or chili contest among restaurants in town to highlight their establishment and to show the community the talent of our local chefs and what was available to them at their restaurants. Roger tied the two events together with the Souped Up on Guilderland name."

Abbruzzese said his own business has gained from the experience, as well.

"The benefit to the orchard has also be great as it gives us a chance to show off what we have to offer both at the farm and the golf course. It has also been great getting to know many of the chamber members who volunteer at this event. I believe the event has helped give the chamber and our businesses added exposure to the general community by providing a true family event," Abbruzzese said.

Michael Ermides, owner of

Aromi d'Italia, said he is hopeful to repeat last year's success – best stew and most creative soup – but he acknowledged that the event will be fun regardless of the outcome.

"We're taking it all in good fun," he said. "I'm letting my chefs get creative."

He said the opportunity to come out and meet the residents and other competitors is another reason the restaurant will be participating, and he is excited for the event.

The judging will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. by the event's attendees. There will be apple picking, live music, an inflatable bounce house and a crate maze, according to information from the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce.

Carmine Spiro, a local chef and television personality, will also be on hand to help judge the soups.

It is \$5 per person entry for soup sampling, and spectators can enter the car show free. There will be a \$10 fee to enter a vehicle. The gates will open at 10 a.m., and the contest starts at 11 a.m. The first 50 entrants will receive a dash plaque and swag bag, and all vehicles entered receive a ticket for Souped Up. The awards presentation will be at 2 p.m.

## GOOD NEWS, THE MARKET IS UP!



Local, organic and natural farm products, baked goods, local and fair trade crafts, and music.

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# MDA to hold 'monster' event

## Teams to walk around mall's lower level

By ARIANA COHN  
cohn@spotlightnews.com

The Muscular Dystrophy Association will be holding its first Monster Stride and Ride event this year at Colonie Center on Sunday, Oct. 25.

An announcement was made to introduce the event on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at Colonie Center, where families of those suffering from neuromuscular diseases urged all members of the community to get together, form teams and get involved.

"You do not need to have [muscular dystrophy] to get involved," said Kat Brown, fundraising coordinator for MDA. "You do not need to know somebody who has MD."

During the event, sponsored teams will walk, in strides, around the lower-level perimeter of Colonie Center. The reason it is called Monster Stride and Ride is because those who participate are encouraged to dress in costume, as it will be a Halloween-themed event.

"It's not a walk. We're taking monster strides," said Piper Allport, a fundraising coordinator for MDA.

According to Allport, MDA decided to host this event to raise money for the local families which the MDA services and assists. These services include support groups both for those suffering from a neuromuscular disease, as well as their family members, wheelchair and other device usage, equipment loans, camp programs and more.

Seventy-eight percent of the services MDA provides are funded through donations and fundraising events.

With this event, Allport said MDA is hoping to raise about \$30,000, and as for what this money will go toward, Allport said the group is really hoping to focus the money toward finding a cure.

"What we hope for just is a cure for the diseases," said Dave Unverhaul, whose 11-year-old son, Josh, receives support from MDA. "[We're] working for better treatments for the diseases."

Unverhaul told the crowd that by supporting a team, they could truly be making a difference in the life of someone who utilizes MDA services.

"We'd be happy to have your help," he said.

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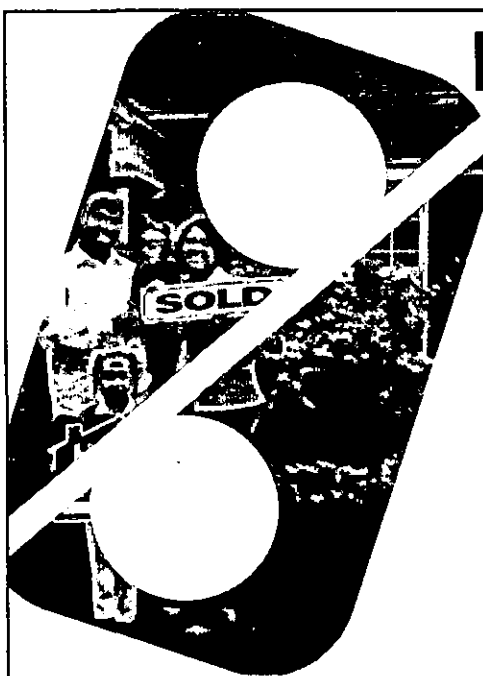
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# Matters of Opinion *in the* Spotlight

## Whose party is this anyway?

*"I didn't leave the Democratic Party. The party left me."  
Ronald Reagan, 1962.*

Doug LaGrange is not Ronald Reagan. Nor are Kurt Anderson, Chuck Voss, Joe Defronzo, Susan Defronzo, Janna Shillinglaw or Jason Windsor.

But the aforementioned New Scotland Republicans would have you think they are leaving the Republican Committee for the same reasons Reagan left the Democrats — that the party, and not them, has shifted ideology so far that it no longer resembles the one they had endeared themselves to.

The crux of this ideological shift in the New Scotland Republican Party is, of course, the debate over a size cap and the possible development of a big-box store in town.

"It has become apparent that the very different views of the candidates regarding the future direction of our town in relation to commercial and industrial development has opened a deep schism within the local Republican Committee that cannot be healed," the Republican Committee members, sans LaGrange, wrote to Albany County Republican Chairman John Graziano and New Scotland Republican Chairman Lance Luther. The letter piggy-backed on LaGrange's resignation, submitted a week earlier.

On its face, one would commend these former committee members for standing for their convictions and putting partisan politics aside to make room for individual issues, but, a lot like the circumstances surrounding Reagan's departure, the reasons have more to do with the members' views than the party's — or its constituents' — well being.

What these people have done is merely shifted the "you're either with us or against us" mentality from partisan politics to the big-box debate. "The other members of the Republican Committee, as well as candidates Roz Robinson and Mike Fields, have shown that they will not act to limit inappropriate, large-scale growth in our community," the former members wrote. "Those of us that support Doug LaGrange put the goal of community preservation and limited commercial retail development ahead of zealous and blind party politics."

The former committee members have turned New Scotland into a one-issue town. It doesn't matter what values and beliefs have guided you to lean toward one party or the other, it only matters if you have a big red size cap sign on your lawn.

Also note that LaGrange, while stepping down from the party's leadership, is more than happy to have the Republican Party line in the general election for Town Board. In fact, he has that line as well as a few other major party lines.

Is it possible that Doug LaGrange's stances on the issues are in line with each of these parties? It is if he can convince you that his stance on the size cap is the only one that matters.

## Editorial

## Capital District can be a model for health-care reform

By JOHN D. BENNETT, MD

*The writer is president and CEO of CDPHP.*

There can be little argument that the American health-care system is in crisis. With an ever-aging population, technological advancements and misaligned provider incentives, the American economy is strained by rising health-care costs, forcing many businesses to discontinue health coverage and causing too many people to go without health-care coverage.

As someone who has experienced the health-care system from several perspectives — as a practicing physician for 25 years, interim CEO of a large physician group practice, and now the president and CEO of a not-for-profit health plan — I firmly believe that reform and universal coverage are necessary.

### What are the critical issues?

Due to considerable inefficiencies and waste, the most critical component to fixing the health-care system is cost containment, without sacrificing quality or access to care. While reining in costs seems like a lofty objective, as you peel back the layers and look at how everyone involved in the health-care continuum can contribute, it is not an unrealistic goal.

Payment and practice reform are essential components to controlling health-care expenditures. The current fee-for-service system promotes volume over quality, causing costs to rise and declining patient satisfaction. The current model of reimbursement encourages more care, not better care, and offers no incentive for care coordination.

### Point of View

This limits innovation in care delivery and results in frustration for providers and patients by driving down the time physicians can spend with patients.

The fee-for-service system is also a significant factor in the primary care crisis. As a result, the number of primary care physicians (PCPs) is dwindling, especially in rural regions. If we increase coverage to all, but don't have enough PCPs to take care of patients, then we have an access issue. It is critical that we reinvigorate the field of primary care and develop incentives that will encourage future medical students to pursue this important post.

In addition, tort reform is desperately needed as physicians are ordering unnecessary tests to avoid malpractice suits, medical costs are rising at double-digit rates annually, and as a country, we live unhealthy lifestyles.

### Excellent care right here

While these are challenging issues to overcome, it bears repeating that in the Capital District there are ample, quality choices in health care.

This is often easily forgotten when we are bombarded daily with messages from the media and Washington regarding the issues in health care. While there is always room for improvement, and issues with cost, access and quality exist in our own backyards, this region is rich in health-care organizations that are noted for excellence in cardiac, stroke and cancer care; customer service; civic engagement; and quality.

Much of the good is derived from the presence of not-for-profit health plans, hospitals and health-care providers that are not driven by maximizing profits for shareholders, but rather providing quality health care at a reasonable cost. The numerous not-for-profit health care organizations within our region could certainly serve as models for the delivery of health-care services to the rest of the nation. Many of the region's health plans are already well equipped to handle universal care because in addition to selling commercial plans, they also participate in government-sponsored programs for the elderly, disabled, and those with low incomes.

### How can the Capital District be an example for other regions?

We are in a unique position here in the Capital District. With the abundance of not-for-profit entities, we have an opportunity to join together with businesses and develop a system that best serves the community and bends the cost curve. Some of the potential solutions for the health care crisis that are happening in our region include:

- Health information technology and interoperability. Electronic medical records (EMR) enable the medical community to improve quality, better manage the delivery of care, and ultimately improve patient outcomes. This region will continue to support the adoption of EMRs.

- In addition, together with leading hospitals, physicians' groups and health plans, the Health Information Exchange of New York (HIXNY) is committed to creating a highly secure community patient index that will enable provider access to patient health information at the point of care.

- Patient-centered medical homes. The patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model of care involves reorganizing primary care practices to deliver better outcomes and restructuring payment to be commensurate with value — not volume. The model calls for compensating physicians for their entire scope of care coordination, adoption of technology, enhanced access and superior clinical outcomes.

- Community health planning. With the quality of not-for-profit health-care organizations operating within our community, this area offers a terrific market for community health planning efforts. Together we need to sit with local employers to work out how to develop a health-care system that meets the needs of our community at a reasonable cost.

- Accountable care organizations. Accountable care organizations are integrated health-care delivery systems with PCPs, one or more hospitals, and specialists providing care to a defined patient population. Several large, not-for-profit health systems with multiple locations could pare down and offer specialized care to the community.

With a well-established health care delivery system renowned for quality, excellence, and customer service, the Capital District has much to offer to its communities, and could set a path for improving health care for the entire nation.

## THE Spotlight

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# Your Opinion *in the* Spotlight

## Another debate needed in Bethlehem ... and soon

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Though the political lawn signs are popping up everywhere, the Bethlehem town elections are still not on everyone's radar.

The coverage of town issues in *The Spotlight* can't be blamed because you've done your part admirably.

Only a lively debate between and among the candidates will up the interest. I very much appreciate that you printed my suggestion for a debate on town issues sponsored with the League of Women Voters and *The Spotlight*, but I have one concern. For the sake of informing the town's voters who don't attend the debate, *The Spotlight* should insist that it be able to report before the election on what was said at the debate.

For that reason it is vital that a debate happen the week of Oct. 19 and not later. If *The Spotlight* doesn't report on it before Election Day, an invaluable service to the community will be lost. Most of us still don't know the supervisor or his opponents, and even many would who do would still benefit from your reporter's description of each of the debates, particularly those for Town Board seats.

*The Spotlight* should tell the voters what each candidate says about property taxes, the growth in town spending, the conduct of our police department and of its leadership, the cost of water and sewer services, and the degree of openness and integrity in town government. Each of these issues matters a great deal.

Once again, in the interest of full disclosure, I still view what I know about town supervisor candidate Sam Messina's positions favorably and I think he'll make his case more convincingly than Town Supervisor Jack Cunningham, but only a debate will satisfy me that I'm on the right track and should vote for him. The same goes for Fred Di Maggio in his bid to win a seat on the board. I support him, too, but everyone benefits if political candidates are asked to discuss issues in public.

I am confident that you will do all that you can to assure that voters have all the information they need before they go into their polling place on Nov. 3 (including a copy of *The Spotlight's* report on the debate over Bethlehem's future).

Mark Alesse  
Delmar

## Cat ordinance a responsible solution

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Recent letters to *The Spotlight* regarding a proposal for a cat-containment ordinance in the Town of Bethlehem cause me to write.

It is the responsibility of local government to act to protect its residents and natural resources, and this is a perfect example. Domestic cats are nice pets, but they need to be kept under the control of their owners, just like we require of dogs. Why do we regulate dogs in Bethlehem: to protect the health and safety of our residents and prevent destruction of property and wildlife. The same rationale applies to cats.

As nice as cats can be as a house pet, they can also carry disease and spread it to the humans and animals on whose property they trespass when allowed to roam free. Cat Scratch Disease (CSD), rabies, Feline Panleukopenia Virus (FPV), Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV), Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP), and Feline Immundeficiency Virus (FIV) are all possible in that furry feline predator stalking our birdbaths, spraying our lawn furniture and using our garden as its toilet.

Just this July, the medical journal *Lancet Infectious*

Diseases identified domesticated cats as a carrier of the MRSA virus. A cat owner might be comfortable that the family pet is disease free, but how can all the neighbors have this same comfort level?

The National Audubon Society, American Bird Conservatory, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and National Geographic Society all identify American domesticated cats as being responsible for killing millions of birds weekly (estimates include 2 to 3 million killed daily to over 100 million annually). We decry the loss of our songbirds, so why ignore the connection of a scientifically-identified problem with such an obvious solution.

I know people who keep their cats indoors, and I've also seen cats on leashes. These solutions seem as reasonable to me as the Town of Bethlehem ordinance that regulates my dog's freedom and bathroom habits. I'm not arguing that dog regulations are unfair; I find them completely reasonable. I just think these regulations need to apply to cats.

And to the gentleman who wrote to say that his cat is not a problem because it "do[es] his business in the nearby woods" (*Cat-containment law ridiculous*, Sept. 30), I have news

for you, sir: your cat does "his business" in your neighbors' gardens, just like the loose cats in my neighborhood do in my gardens.

You say, "To my knowledge no one has ever found evidence otherwise." I say, your neighbors are cleaning up after your animal and keeping quiet just to be polite. Maybe your neighbors ought to now present the evidence to you on your doorstep. Why should they, as you suggest, have to call a neighborhood meeting to talk to you about this issue? You have already labeled the obvious solution, a cat-containment ordinance, as "ridiculous."

This is exactly why we have local government, and I do not think that the Town of Ravena, or any other local government that has acted to protect its citizens and environment, is acting anything but responsibly. It's just too bad citizens don't always act responsibly, and, instead, wait for a responsible government to act for them.

Richard E. Barnes  
Delmar

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## Thank you, Deer Memorial participants

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

The Guilderland YMCA would like to thank all the volunteers, participants, families and friends that attend the 7th Annual Brenda Deer Memorial 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run held Saturday, Sept. 12.

This event was named after Brenda Deer, a Guilderland resident, teacher's aide and avid runner that was killed by a drunk driver. Proceeds from the event will benefit the YMCA Reach Out For Youth Campaign and Circle of Champs Program, which is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children, ages 5 to 15, who have been touched by a life threatening illness.

Thank you to our sponsors, Upper Hudson Library Systems and Guilderland Public Library, a Fit For Life library, CDPHP and Structural Management. A special thank you to John Deer and his family for their continued support of this event in honor of Brenda.

Top Overall Male finishers were Estefan Cortez, Christopher Winslow and Anthony Bruins. Top Overall Female Finishers were Tara Joyce, Amanda Barone and Bridgette Chorbajia. Visit [www.cdyymca.org](http://www.cdyymca.org) for a list of all finishers and awards.

For more information about the Guilderland YMCA Reach Out for Youth and Circle of Champs programs please call 456-3634.

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# Your Opinion *in the* Spotlight

## The 'shocking truth' about a new sidewalk **Let's talk cell towers**

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Here is a shocking truth: Do not put a public sidewalk next to an electric farm fence.

Supervisor Jack Cunningham puts you, your children and town workers at risk.

It would seem obvious that installing a public sidewalk along a pre-existing electrified farm fence that carries a pulsing 2,400-volt charge is likely to carry risks for the general public. However, this is precisely what Supervisor Cunningham is doing by building his new sidewalk along the north side of Feura Bush Road at Wemple Road thus putting substantial foot traffic next to my electric farm fence. If in using the new sidewalk, people happen to touch my fence, they will receive a very unpleasant shock.

No one expects such a risk along a public sidewalk installed by the municipality without having the municipality provide reasonable safeguards.

An electric farm fence is an approved installation in an agricultural district. The fence is

not inherently dangerous, rather its shock occurs only when someone leaves the sidewalk and touches it, or standing on or near the sidewalk touches the fence with some metal object that will transfer the electric charge from the fence to the person in contact with it.

I have posted warning signs as required by law, but signs will give no notice of the electric fence to a person such as a small child who cannot read. Neither Supervisor Cunningham nor his staff has told me of any plans to safeguard the public from touching my fence, but I feel it is the height of irresponsibility for them to install their sidewalk along my electric farm fence without also installing some impenetrable barrier.

I have written town officials many times to tell them of my electrified farm fence and my concerns about their sidewalk but it has all been in vain. Supervisor Cunningham was fully aware of my correspondence but he has turned a blind eye to safeguarding the public, our children, and town workers. Until I saw the bulldozers

at work, I was unaware that the sidewalk installation project was proceeding despite the current economic climate and the town's much publicized budgetary woes. Supervisor Cunningham did not even have the courtesy to write me telling me that the town's bulldozers would be at work along my farm fence, to inform me to move my cows away to another pasture so that they would not wander into my neighbor's yards if the fence were inadvertently broken during the construction work. Supervisor Cunningham seems to have even less regard for town workers than for his constituents, since they were working with their equipment next to the fence until Friday when in response to public outcry Supervisor Cunningham acknowledged the risk and erected a temporary orange construction fence.

This barrier must be made permanent or the sidewalk moved.

Kindly inform your readers of this unnecessary risk, and urge them to contact Supervisor Cunningham to install an impenetrable barrier along my fence or to relocate the adjacent sidewalk to the opposite side of the road.

Jay Harold Jakovic  
Glenmont

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Few School District residents are aware that Superintendent Michael Tebbano and the Bethlehem Board of Education are proposing installation of large cellular towers at three Bethlehem schools, Hamagrael, Clarksville, and Bethlehem High.

Surprised? You should be. The superintendent and BOE have released little information regarding "Tebbano Towers" and it appears that they want to keep it that way. The only information regarding the project was a recent item on Bethlehem Central School District's Web site and one opaque reference to approval of a tower consultant to arrive in April. "At this point, we are very early on in our investigations of whether or not this is even feasible and if it is something we want to move forward with," Superintendent Tebbano is quoted. "The purpose of filing the applications is so that we can enter a process that calls for ample and appropriate scrutiny of this issue, including substantive community participation"

However, documents obtained through a recent Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) Request reveal that Tebbano Towers is far advanced from what the superintendent disingenuously refers to as "early investigation". FOIL documents disclose tower locations plus strategies to manage public outcry and opposition. Independent Towers, the consultant, has even given a primer course to the superintendent and BOE in how to ram through Tebbano Towers with little public input or scrutiny.

If the first step of "substantive community participation" is the Town's zoning process, then it is too late. In order for Independent

Towers to appear before the Town Planning Board, the superintendent and BOE will have had to have signed a consent letter for the tower company to proceed - de facto approval of the towers, their locations, access roads and use of school lands. The decision of whether this is appropriate use of school property for Tebbano Towers will already have been made by the BOE, before there is any public scrutiny as promised by the superintendent.

How has this been allowed to happen? Isn't this the age of readily available public information? Evidently not - no verbatim notes are taken at BOE meetings and only a summary is provided by district officials on the district's website. What was actually discussed often ends up with a pro BOE spin. Second, all BOE meetings are video taped, but only broadcast once, on Sundays, on the local public cable channel. You cannot see the broadcast again. No YouTube or Web-based video for public review. Access to individual BOE members is also restricted. If you want to email a member, the email goes to a central address, boe@bscd.neric.org. Who decides to pass the email on - only God knows.

I urge all Bethlehem Central School District taxpayers to attend the 7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 7, BOE meeting. Please ask questions about well-documented health issues, taxation issues (Independent Towers will be paying no school or property taxes), loss of school land for future use, and the economic harm to households near school towers.

Thomas Butler  
Delmar



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# Your Opinion *in the* Spotlight

## Cat-containment law far from ridiculous

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Pets exist for people's enjoyment. However, with pet ownership comes responsibilities.

One major responsibility is to ensure that your pet doesn't negatively impact your neighbor. This includes both incessant barking and allowing your pet to defecate/urinate on other properties. I, too, have a problem with neighborhood cats using the front of my house as a litter box.

I fully support Katrina Bolens' suggestion of a cat-containment law. This is not a ridiculous proposal. It is a no-brainer. What is ridiculous is to think that people (through neighborhood meetings) would be proactive in putting a stop to their cats' offenses. Even if all cat owners are as responsible as Mr. Carter (*Cat-containment law ridiculous,*

Sept. 30) we still would have cat problems. After all, he admits his cat rarely uses his litter box and goes mostly outside in the woods.

Really? He's the only cat owner I have heard of that keeps a visual watch of his cat's whereabouts while outside.

The reason society has any laws at all is because people will not do the right thing when left to themselves.

How many cats are running loose in town right now spraying and pooping wherever they want?

How is it that dog ownership in this town is regulated but not cats? After all, poop is poop and I don't want it left on my property, period.

Stephen Lambert  
Bethlehem

## Dreams won't address county's elder-care needs

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

I am writing in response to Mr. Baackes letter to the editor regarding Albany County Executive Mike Breslin's elder care plan (*Breslin's plan a step in the right direction,* Sept. 23).

Maybe Mr. Baackes can tell me what plan that is? I attended the presentation made to the New Nursing Home Committee and legislators made by Mr. Breslin on Sept. 22.

There was no plan.

Mr. Breslin presented several ideas but all hypothetical ideas with no substance and no facts. Unfortunately, ideas and dreams are just that. They don't provide any services or care for the people who need it. It seems our county legislators have a much better plan of action

and it's actually a plan that will help the people and something they can work from.

Now as far as Erin Mitchell, Associate State Director of AARP (*Building a new model of aging in Albany County,* Sept. 23), she needs to see the residents of Albany County Nursing Home and tell me that these people don't need skilled nursing home care in a nursing facility. While the other programs idealized by Mr. Breslin are fine, they will take another five to 10 years to try to

implement.

What happens to our residents until then? They probably wouldn't be state residents any longer so they don't count as they'd be moved out of state.

Ideas and dreams are wonderful, but they don't get the job done.

Steve Layne  
Albany County Nursing Home  
Core Family Council member

### IN BRIEF

#### Tour highlights Dutch barns

Dutch barns in the town of Knox will be the focal point of the annual leaf-peeping driving tour sponsored by the Knox Historical Society on Saturday, Oct. 10.

Maps will be available at the Saddlemere Homestead, 2190 Berne-Altamont Road (Route 156) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., during which time the museum will be open for tours, as well.

The driving tour will conclude with a visit to the newly restored Knox School No. 5, where refreshments will be served.

The Highlands Restaurant (872-1938) is offering a discount of 20 percent to dinner patrons with a Knox driving tour map.

For information, call 872-1199.

#### Two Heart Walks planned in region

Colonie and Saratoga Springs will host walks next month for those interested in helping the fight against heart disease and stroke.

The Capital Region Start! Heart Walk is set for Saturday, Oct. 17, at The Crossings of Colonie. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 1- or 3-mile walk begins at 10 a.m.

The North Country Start! Heart Walk is set for Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the 1 or 3-mile walk starts at 10:45 a.m.

Both walks offer breakfast and lunch, a kids zone with a bounce house, and music and activities along the walk route.

To participate in either walk, call Meredith Cohn at 869-4042, or visit [www.capitalregionheartwalk.org](http://www.capitalregionheartwalk.org) or [saratogaglensfallsheartwalk.org](http://saratogaglensfallsheartwalk.org).

### Got sports news?

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes articles on community sports events and updates on athletes in college.

E-mail Sports Editor Rob Jonas [sports@spotlightnews.com](mailto:sports@spotlightnews.com) or fax information to 439-0609.

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# Judge hears arguments in Bethlehem election case

## Validity of WFP primary votes at issue in lawsuit brought by candidate for supervisor

By CHARLES WIFF  
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

A state Supreme Court judge on Thursday, Oct. 1, withheld judgment in a lawsuit filed by Bethlehem supervisor hopeful Sam Messina against incumbent Jack Cunningham over votes that could decide who will appear on the Working Families Party line in November.

Judge Kimberly O'Connor

asked for supplemental briefs from both sides after five hours in court on Thursday, and will likely deliver a decision sometime this week.

Republican-endorsed Messina — who is a member of the Independence Party — is alleging that 11 voters who registered with the Working Families Party on the eve of the cutoff to vote in the primary election did not properly verify their identities; and thus the absentee ballots they submitted for the September election should be invalidated.

He also contends that the registrations were an effort by

Cunningham to seize control of the WFP in Bethlehem. Including the last-minute registrants, there are approximately 28 WFP voters in the town, and the party endorsed Messina.

According to Albany County Republican Election Commissioner John Graziano, a third party entered the Board of Elections offices on Aug. 20 and asked for Democratic Commissioner Matthew Clyne, who accepted the registration and absentee ballot applications.

"The intent of the people who brought these applications in was to walk out with ballots that people could vote on, which would essentially amount to same-day voting," Graziano said.

Clyne, said that the identity of the voters was indeed verified through the application process, and they were fine to cast votes.

"There's no question that they were in fact validated," Clyne said. "All of their identities were confirmed. ... These are authentic voters."

New voters are required to provide the last four digits of their social security number or their driver's license number. If these are not confirmed through the statewide voter database, they will be flagged on the voter rolls and required to provide

identification at the polling place, but since these voters were voting by absentee ballot, that rule does not apply, said Clyne.

"The whole issue of producing identification doesn't even apply," he said.

Graziano and Messina both said that identity would have to be provided through the mail for a first-time voter using an absentee ballot.

The absentee ballots were objected to by Messina's attorney, James Walsh, and have remained sealed in anticipation of a judge's ruling.

"I think there was an orchestrated effort to register voters to control the party," Messina said. "It just does not seem to be right in the spirit of the law to have so many people registered and absentee ballots used by new voters all at once."

Cunningham, a Democrat who will also appear on the Independence line in November, said that his campaign efforts have been legitimate.

"Whenever I run for office, I work to register people to vote, and encourage them to enroll in parties," he said. "That's no different in this election."

Clyne said that signing new voters up to the WFP is simply politics.

"The effort was to beat

him [Messina] in the primary election, because people went out and did campaign work, which he apparently elected not to do," Clyne said. "Not only isn't it illegal, but that's the name of the game."

O'Connor's decision could well swing the outcome of the primary. Messina received 10 votes on Sept. 15 and Cunningham, who staged a write-in campaign, was the recipient of four votes. Two absentee ballots left the vote at 11-5.

Including August's registrants, there are approximately 28 WFP members registered in the Town of Bethlehem, said the party's Capital Region Organizer Karen Scharff. She said the party is dedicated to a clean election process and is thus behind Messina's effort.

"In general, county boards of elections don't pay enough attention to the absentee ballot process," she said. "We want to make sure our registrants have their votes cast accurately."

Messina's lawsuit comes while a full-scale investigation into allegations of Democrat-perpetrated voter fraud on the WFP line in Troy is under way. Messina said the two instances are not alike.

"No one is alleging fraud in this case," he said.

## Got News?

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes announcements of programs or events occurring in our coverage area.

All events must be open to the public and announcements should contain the date, time, location and cost (if any) of the event, along with contact information. Announcements are published space and time permitting.

Submissions can be e-mailed to news@spotlightnews.com, faxed to 439-0609, or mailed to *Spotlight*, P.O. Box 100, 125 Adams St., Delmar 12054.

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## Scam suspect injures officers while fleeing

### Police still searching for accomplice following arrest of Brooklyn woman

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

Police are searching for a suspect in a credit card scam, following an incident on Tuesday, Sept. 29, in which the man fled Crossgates mall with an accomplice.

Officers arrested of the man's alleged accomplice, Ina Bonilla, 33, of Brooklyn, after she called and the Guilderland Police

Department lined Interstate 90 westbound toward the exit 24 tollbooth in search of her vehicle. Bonilla faces multiple vehicle and fraud charges.

Capt. Curtis Cox, of the Guilderland Police Department, said Bonilla was being tracked at Crossgates for allegedly using "manufactured" credit cards, and in her attempt to flee, she struck two officers were hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

Crossgates security officers alerted police to the suspected fraudulent credit card activity, Cox said.

According to the arrest report, Bonilla and the other suspect allegedly threw merchandise at the officers and fled the mall by way of the Dick's Sporting Good's parking lot.

When Guilderland police arrived and began to pursue the suspects, Cox said, the two went off in different directions.

"While she [Bonilla] was pulling away, she struck our officers," Cox said.

Officers in a marked patrol car nearby at an unrelated rollover on Ring Road responded to the scene and pursued for a "short period of time with emergency lights on," the report states.

Bonilla did not stop, according to police.

"It's a fairly significant investigation," Cox said. "It's a significant arrest."

According to the arrest report, Bonilla has been charged with a felony count of assault with intent to cause physical injury to an officer, misdemeanor charges of obstruction of governmental administration, reckless endangerment, reckless fleeing of a police officer, possession of burglar tools, aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle, operator leaving the scene of a personal injury and reckless driving, along with a myriad of traffic infractions.

Cox said the car was seized at the I-90 tollbooth, and Bonilla was taken into custody.

She was sent to the Albany County jail, after her arraignment on Tuesday night.

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# Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy receives two grants totaling \$70K

**Money will help agency coordinate its stewardship efforts**

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, serving Albany, Schenectady, and Montgomery counties, has received two grants totaling \$70,000 that will help the organization achieve its goal of organizing special places in the Capital District. The awards were announced Oct. 1 by members of the Department of Environmental Conservation and leaders of the Land Trust Alliance.

"We are extremely pleased to have received both of these grants," said MHL Executive Director Jill Knapp. "The Conservancy's napp of land protection as accelerated in recent years and these grants will give us needed resources to continue our expanding land protection efforts. We deeply appreciate the effort and support of Gov. [David] Paterson, the state legislature, and state agency leaders for making these grants

possible."

MHLC received a two-year \$55,000 Professional Development Grant to hire a development/outreach coordinator. This part-time individual will be responsible for coordinating a comprehensive development/outreach program to secure the financial resources needed to support the Conservancy's increasing amount of conservation work in Albany, Schenectady and Montgomery counties.

In addition, MHLC received a \$10,000 Stewardship Grant, which will allow the Conservancy to update the property records at its Winn Preserve in the town of Knox and develop plans for the management of its properties. MHLC owns 10 preserves open to the public in Albany, Schenectady and Montgomery counties.

These grants are administered through the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP), a pioneering public-

private partnership managed by the Land Trust Alliance and overseen by DEC. The NYSCPP is funded by the State Environmental Protection Fund and this year awarded \$1.4 million to 47 land trusts. Since 2002 the program has invested in more than 275 projects benefiting 67 different land trusts across the state.

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy is a private, not-for-profit organization, dedicated to preserving the distinct natural, scenic, agricultural, and cultural landscapes of the Mohawk and Hudson valleys. Since its founding in 1992, the Conservancy has preserved over 1,700 acres.

It accomplishes these goals by owning and managing land, and by working with landowners to develop preservation agreements that assure their lands are protected for future generations. Of particular importance are areas protecting wildlife habitat, watersheds, scenic vistas, hiking trails, working farms, and cultural lands.

# Supervisor proposes 5 percent budget cut

**Plan shows close to \$3.9 million in spending**

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

New Scotland Supervisor Tom Dolin filed his tentative budget Wednesday, Sept. 30, and is including a 5 percent tax cut in his proposal.

The budget calls for \$3,909,843 in appropriations, and \$1,387,516 in taxes to be levied, according to the budget summary now on file at the town clerk's office. The town is expecting \$2,522,327 in other revenue, such as sales tax.

Dolin said the town will not need to use the reserve fund for its general budget line, but will use \$86,747 for the several special districts.

Real property taxes are projected to make up the majority of that levy at \$1,079,862.

Dolin said that last year's gains will help alleviate next year's burdens.

"Building on the surpluses that I expect will be realized from this year's operations, I am recommending a 5 percent tax cut for the 2010 year," Dolin said. Sales and mortgage tax receipts are expected to be below historical figures but slightly improved from the current year's projections.

Dolin said by deferring certain "equipment and software, lowered expenses in engineering services," and "a deferral of the hiring of a part-time planner pending completion of the re-staffing of [the] Building Department," will help make the cuts possible.

He also said the board is considering a 1 percent cost of living adjustment, totaling \$17,350.

Town Board member Rich

**"We have to prudently represent the town over the long-term. We need to be careful we are not setting ourselves up for bigger problems in the long-term."**

Town Board member Rich Reilly

Reilly said he is looking forward to fully diving into the budget as the process moves along, and said as with all budgets, the town must be prudent with its spending.

"The devil is in the details," Reilly said.

He said short-term priorities are important, but the long-term well being of the town is also something that the budget should address.

"We have to prudently represent the town over the long-term," he said. "We need to be careful we are not setting ourselves up for bigger problems in the long-term."

He said there are many conversations that go into the budget process, including those with the supervisor and the department heads who have a number of needs.

Dolin did not propose budget raises for elected officials including himself and the rest of the town board, and Reilly agreed that it might be appropriate, noting furloughs on the county level and layoffs on the state.

"All of us need to be prepared to be frugal, particularly with respect to the Town Board decisions," he said.

He said, though, a more in depth conversation is warranted about other town employees who rely solely on their salary from New Scotland.

Workshop to discuss the supervisor's proposed budget are scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 15, and Wednesday, Oct. 21 and 28.




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## Teacher from Delmar receives award

Alisha Taylor, formerly of Delmar, was awarded the Phillip B Swain Excellence in Teaching Award for Seattle, Wash.

Taylor teaches and chairs the science department at Madison Middle School in West Seattle. She is the daughter of Laura Taylor of North Greenbush and Clint Hegeman of Bethlehem. She completed her undergraduate degree in science at Hampshire College, and her master's in science and teaching from Antioch.

Alisha lives in Seattle with her husband, Erik Bishop.

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All announcements should include the date, time, location and cost (if any) of the event, along with contact information. Announcements are published space and time permitting.

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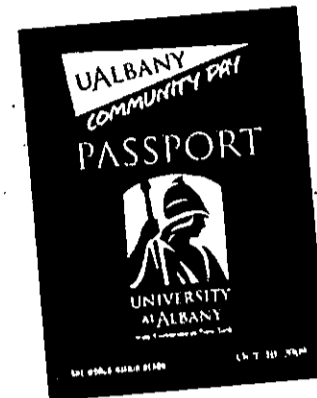
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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 8:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

### CHECK IN & PASSPORT PICK-UP

The World Within Reach begins here!

**8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Welcome Tent, University Hall

Grab your Passports for the full day's schedule and your ticket to gifts and prizes. Damien the Dane and the UAlbany Cheerleaders will be on hand to wish you "Bon Voyage!" Coffee and cinnamon rolls courtesy of Holiday Inn Express.

### SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

**9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**The Farmer's Market** Podium

Part of the "UAlbany Green Scene", the Farmer's Market offers products from local farms. Choose from fruits, vegetables, pasture-raised beef, fresh baked goods, sausages, hamburgers, cider, doughnuts, homemade jams, and more!

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Bianca the University Police Dog K-9** Collins Circle

UAlbany Police Officers Ed Meyers and John McGuire show how Bianca, a 4-year-old Belgian Malinois, and Rogan, a 1 1/2-year old German Shepherd, sniff out evidence and apprehend criminals.

**11:00 a.m. and Noon**

**Shepherding Demonstrations** Collins Circle

Professor Gary Kleppel of Biology has a working farm with sustainable agriculture and has mastered the art of shepherding. Aided by Tory, his 7-year-old Border Collie, this 20-minute demonstration features a herd of ewes.

**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Learn how to Dance**  
**UAlbany Students Perform and Teach** Campus Center

### Small Fountain

- Earth Tones and Serendipity: UAlbany's a cappella singers
- UAlbany Mixed Martial Arts Club
- Knemesis
- Salsa Dancing
- Belly Dancing

**11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Exploration Physics** Physics Building

Find out the latest in physics research, as UAlbany students and professors show what happens to materials subjected to liquid nitrogen or strong electric and magnetic fields. Meet the robots of Cyberphysics Lab as they autonomously explore the Physics Building hallways.

### TABLING FOR HEALTH, WEALTH AND FUN

**9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Think Pink: Breast Cancer Awareness** Campus Center Small Fountain

The Coca-Cola FUZE pink tent for Breast Cancer Awareness features information, games and giveaways.

**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Environmental Sustainability for Kids Academic Podium**  
Arts and crafts activities geared to children age 6 - 12 and for the young at heart! Crafts-making includes: bottle cap magnets, button bracelets, boxes from recycled greeting cards and artwork from magazines and cardboard. Materials all donated by UAlbany faculty, staff and students.

**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Connect with UAlbany Student Interns Academic Podium**  
Learn how UAlbany student interns are boosting businesses, non-profit organizations and the work of government agencies. Find out how to connect with interns to meet your staffing needs ([www.albany.edu/cdc/employer/empserv.htm](http://www.albany.edu/cdc/employer/empserv.htm)).

### Small Business Development Center

UAlbany's SBDC supplies information on its no-cost market research, financial analysis, counseling and training programs to help start and expand a small business.

### GUIDED TOURS

**10:00 a.m.**

**Art Museum Tour** UAlbany Art Museum

Join Museum Director Janet Riker for an informal tour of the exhibition *Uncharted*, featuring works of contemporary artists who consider the perils of navigating unfamiliar waters, imagining a world of discovery and adventure. Part of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial celebration.

**1:00 p.m.**

**The Weather Center** ES 333

UAlbany meteorologist Ross Lazar's Weather Center tour shows how radar, satellite, and forecast models provide weather data — including current weather and forecasts for the Capital Region

### SELF-GUIDED TOURS

**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

- The Signature Architecture of Edward Durrell Stone: UAlbany's Uptown Campus, University Hall.
- UAlbany Libraries: ranked among the top 100 research libraries in the nation.
- The Art Museum: View current exhibitions *Uncharted*, and *Carroll Dunham Prints: A Survey*.

### FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

**11:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Meet UAlbany Faculty** UNH 110

Meet, greet and get previews of the day's faculty presentations from the presenters themselves.

### FACULTY PRESENTATIONS I

**Noon – 12:45 p.m.**

**Saratoga: A World-Changing Battle** ES 241

History Professor Warren Roberts considers the historical importance, the key players, and absurd aspects of what has been called the most important battle of the last 1,000 years.

### Reforming New York's Legislature

**FA 126**

Professor Joseph Zimmerman of public policy attempts to sort out New York's legislative disorder and considers all possible constitutional remedies.

### Robotics at UAlbany

**ES 245**

Professor George Berg of the College of Computing and Information reveals how programmed electro-mechanical marvels are playing an integral role in many campus courses and research projects.

### The Auditor-Investor Expectation Gap

**AS 13**

External auditors' understand one thing about their roles and responsibilities but the general public often demands another, as in the recent financial crisis where investors rebuked auditors' for failure to warn of imminent collapse of major firms. Students of Ingrid Fisher of Accounting and Law present their research results into relevant risks.

### A "Virtual Exchange" with France

**HU 354**

Hop aboard as you, the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures and the Center for Language and International Communication teleconference with Professor Woestelandt of the Université de Haute Alsace.

### FACULTY PRESENTATIONS II

**1:00 – 1:45 p.m.**

**NASA's Search for Life in Space** FA 126

Distinguished Teaching Professor John Delano details how NASA is actively looking for life not only in our own solar system, but also on the several hundred other planets found orbiting stars.

### Meeting the Needs of the Special Needs Child: What Every Parent Should Know

**ES 241**

Parents, family members and school districts are especially vital partners in the education of children with disabilities. Specialist Lisa Grippo-Gardner provides vital information to parents and guardians about laws, regulations and policies that affect special education programs and services.

### H1, N-1, B-Ready

**ES 242**

Professor Ed Waltz of the School of Public Health points out what is mostly hype on the H1N1 pandemic and lets us know what to tune in, and what to tune out; what you need to know to protect yourself and family; and what public health issues really should be getting our attention.

### Urban Landscapes: Scene and Unseen

**AS 14**

Follow Distinguished Service Professor John Pipkin, of Geography & Planning to observe some local urban scenes. Beneath the forms and styles you might uncover what is revealed and concealed about our culture and ourselves.

### FACULTY PRESENTATIONS III

**2:00 – 2:45 p.m.**

**The Writers Institute: 25 Years** FA 126

Founder Bill Kennedy and Director Don Faulkner provide video highlights of a quarter century of prize-winning authors, poets and filmmakers-visiting UAlbany.

### Nanotechnology's Broadening Reach

**ES 245**

Faculty-researchers from UAlbany's world-renowned College of Nanoscale Sciences and Engineering provide an insider's view of this emerging science, now revolutionizing the fields of medicine, electronics, and energy production.

### Adolescent Employment and Crime

**AS 14**

Bob Apel of the School of Criminal Justice describes the contemporary youth labor market experience and its relationship to deviant and delinquent behavior in adolescence, and criminal and non-criminal behavior in older years.

### Tough Mix: Mental Health Treatment and Adolescent Drug Use

**ES 241**

Medication is normal treatment for people with emotional and behavioral problems, but with a child or adolescent who may be using alcohol or other drugs, the decision becomes challenging. Associate Professor Lynn Warner of the School of Social Welfare looks at the ethical, clinical and policy considerations involved in such intervention strategies.

### Forensic Science: The CSI Effect

**Biology 248 A&B**

John W. Hicks, interim director of UAlbany's Northeast Regional Forensics Institute, outlines recent advances in forensic science, with case examples of how DNA technology solves crimes and exonerates innocent suspects.

### FOOD, SNACKS AND JUST NIBBLES

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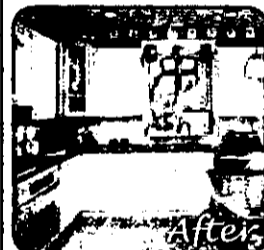
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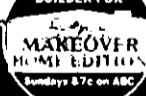
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# Route 20 work to run through summer 2010

## Construction to improve pothole-riddled section of road using stimulus funds

By DAN SABBATINO  
sabbatinod@spotlightnews.com

Construction projects on Route 20 in Guilderland are expected to last through the summer of 2010, according to the state Department of Transportation.

The highway resurfacing project is funded by federal stimulus money, and will smooth out areas of the state-run road while also fixing potholes and making other repairs.

Town Supervisor Ken Runion said construction has been kept to night and off hours, so as not to disrupt the commute to and from work, and so far, residents have not made a note of any inconvenience.

"If the paving and construction were during peak hours, I

suspect we'd hear about it," he said.

Runion said that, as the weather worsens, people often complain about the road to the town, although the town does is not responsible for maintaining the state road.

He said one area of particular trouble is the stretch between Route 146 and Willow Street, where a number of potholes have been an issue.

Callanan Industries, of Schenectady, has been awarded the contract, and began work in September. The resurfacing is part of a larger project spanning the Capital District, according to DOT.

DOT Acting Commissioner Stanley Gee and Capital Region Regional Director Mary E. Ivey announced in a written statement last month that the resurfacing project will span four counties - Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady - and is expected

to cost \$8 million.

New York state has been awarded close to \$1.1 billion for highway and bridge work, and \$98 million will be invested into the Capital District, according to information from the DOT.

On Route 20, 21.4 highway lane miles will undergo the construction. In addition, 2.4 highway lane miles on Route 155 in Colonie, will receive work, rounding up the projects in Albany County.

In Saratoga County, work will be done on 57.6 highway lane

miles on Route 9 in Halfmoon, Clifton Park and Malta and 2.2 highway lane miles on Route 50 in Ballston and Ballston Spa. In Schenectady County, 1.25 highway lane miles on Route 914D in will undergo construction. Areas of North and East Greenbush are also undergoing construction.

"This highway resurfacing work is one of many DOT projects that will improve our transportation system and bring jobs to communities across the state," Acting Commissioner Gee said in

a statement. "I thank Gov. David Paterson for certifying this important infrastructure project and our Congressional Delegation for bringing critical economic-recovery funding to New York state."

"This project will improve the travel surface on several portions of area state highways

that accommodate a large volume of traffic," said Ivey. "They not only carry commuter traffic, but also transit services and significant truck traffic."



## Town to raise money for ailing child

Members of the Guilderland community will gather for a fundraiser to help a young boy, Evan Kimmerer, who recently diagnosed with a tumor, according to Troy Miller, who helped organize the a past fundraiser for the family.

Miller, owner of CM FOX Real Estate said he was able to use some of his business contacts to help arrange a fundraiser at Orcini Park in Altamont, on Friday, Sept. 25. He said Hannaford was able to bring food, and close to 400 people came out to donate money to the family.

Another fundraiser is set for Thursday, Oct 8.

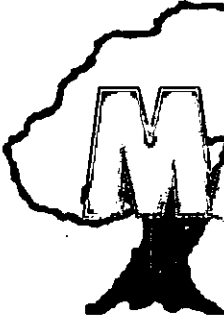
On the night Kimmerer, of Guilderland, was scheduled to undergo his surgery, Miller was with the Kimmerer's close family friends, the Hale's.

He was along side Kevin Hale helping him paint, awaiting news of Evan.

"We have a mutual friend that connected the dots there. Miller said, "I just really got brought into the situation."


Miller has a 9-year-old of his own and said he was able to immediately connect with the fear that comes with having a child in trouble.

—Dan Sabbatino



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# Croatian pianist to perform

Javor Bracic will perform as part of the Young Musicians Forum at the Niskayuna branch of the Schenectady County public library on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m. Admission is free.

The pianist was born in 1985 in Zagreb, Croatia, where he started his musical education. He studied at the University of Mozarteum in Salzburg for six years under Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, and is continuing his studies at Mannes College in New York, under Pavlina Dokovska.

Apart from his regular studies, Javor Bracic attended many piano master courses, travelling throughout Europe. He worked with professors Dag Achatz, Peter Eicher and Diane Andersen.

As a chamber musician he also worked with renowned teachers such as Thomas Riebl, Irena Grafenauer, Rainer Schmidt, Imre Rohmann and Cordelia Höfer-Teutsch.

He was invited to hold recitals in Zagreb, Osijek, Rijeka, Dubrovnik Summer Festival, and other Croatian cities. He participated on two EPTA conferences (Norway 1999, Hungary 2000), the VIII

International festival "Music. Youth. Hope" (Petrozavodsk, Russia 2002) and the International Youth Orchestra Festival in Wattwil, Switzerland, in 2003. He held recitals as a soloist and in piano duo in France, Germany and Austria. Most recently he was admitted in the humanitarian organization Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now.

As a chamber musician he is active in many forms of ensemble. In the piano quartet category he won the first prize and a special EMCY award on the Croatian national Chamber Music Competition, Zagreb 2002. In a duo with the German viola player Antonia Loges, he won the first prize in an international competition in Italy in 2006, and at the Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben in Germany in 2007.



Javor Bracic

# Local officials weigh in on Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**Equinox official: most Albany County domestic violence is in urban areas, but rural areas need more outreach**

By CHARLES WIFF  
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

It's a crime that occurs behind closed doors, rarely makes the news but still affects thousands every year. Advocates and social workers are hoping that the month of October is the time to make the public aware about domestic violence, though.

Nationwide, October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and those who deal with the problem daily are reminding others that it's an ongoing issue.

"Every month is almost domestic violence month here, because we see it day in and day out," Albany County District Attorney spokeswoman Heather Orth said. "It's everyone's problem, it's everyone's business at this point."

According to a report released by the state Division of Criminal Justice Services Wednesday, Sept. 30, instances of domestic violence-related homicides rose 7.2 percent in 2008, while the rate of other homicides increased 2.6 percent.

The report also states that domestic violence was involved in almost 18 percent of homicides statewide in 2008. Of the year's 91 "intimate partner homicides," 68 of the victims were female.

While these sobering statistics demonstrate what the end result

of domestic violence can be, the crime is more complicated today, according to Orth.

"Most people think that domestic violence is a man hitting a woman, but the reality is that's really not the case anymore," she said. Oftentimes, domestic violence is a factor in other crimes such as arson or robbery.

"It's not just the typical crimes, but it's also

harassment, it's the administration of power over someone else," Orth continued.

Still, by far the most often seen form of domestic violence is a man abusing a woman, said Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center Director Karen Ziegler.

"It's a small percentage of female-on-male in a heterosexual relationship," she said.

In the Criminal Justice report, it is stated that in 2008 50 percent of females over the age of 16 who were murdered were killed by their intimate other, as opposed to 4 percent of men. Still, this figure among male victims was up markedly from 2007.

According to Ziegler, the CVSVC, which provides social and legal support services for victims of domestic violence, assisted 1,200 victims in 2008, 66 of which were in the Town of Bethlehem and 20 of which were in the nearby surrounding communities such as New Scotland, Ravena, Coeymans and Selkirk.

Ziegler went on to say that in Albany County, the majority of domestic violence incidents occur in a 14-block radius in downtown Albany. That does not mean that it's solely an urban issue, however.

"We do see people in the outlying and rural areas, but we don't see them enough," said Alicia Borns, Outreach Services Director for Equinox Inc, which offers free counseling and emergency shelter for victims in Albany County. "We need to

get more outreach there."

Equinox runs a 30-bed shelter facility in Albany and provides legal support through courtroom advocates. In November, Equinox will also be opening a transitional housing program to help victims make the transition out of an abusive situation.

**"Every month is almost domestic violence month here, because we see it day in and day out."**

Albany County District Attorney spokeswoman Heather Orth

In 2008, said Borns, Equinox fielded 3,417 calls to its domestic violence hotline, drafted 748 safety plans and provided emergency shelter to 221 adults and 118 children.

Experts agree that statistics can be misleading when it comes to the reality of domestic violence, though, because it is a crime that so often goes unreported.

"Although the stats are going up, we know that there are people out there who are not reporting," said Orth.

"It's important that we remember that very few victims ever enter the criminal justice system," said Borns. "People would prefer to go to family court instead of criminal court," or fail to make the abuse known entirely, she continued.

For those who do come forward, there are resources available. Other than the CVSVC and the DA's office and Equinox, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence sponsors education and policy development efforts and runs a 24-hour hotline.

New York is featuring a "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" campaign in which landmarks across the state will be illuminated purple, the color of domestic violence awareness. Here in the Capital District, Albany Law School has agreed to be lit up.

Services and information can be obtained by calling the following organizations:

- NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline: 1-800-942-6906
- Albany County Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center Hotline: 447-7716
- Equinox Domestic Violence Hotline: 432-7865
- Bethlehem Police Department Family Services Unit: 439-3373

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Indian corn is among the vegetables being grown in the Bethlehem Middle School garden.

Dan Sabbatino/Spotlight

## Garden

(From Page 1)

It's a week-long series of classroom and community activities that gets kids thinking about the connection between the food on their plates, local farms and good nutrition, according to the Bethlehem Central School District.

Warford said getting kids to eat right and be aware of local agriculture is a great idea, and supports the Farm to You Fest.

"Anytime that you can raise awareness about supporting local agriculture its a good thing," Warford said.

The club has been harvesting its work from the summer, and has been using the vegetables from the garden in the school's cafeteria.

Robin Van Ness, the head chef in the middle school's cafeteria, said cooking with the vegetables has gotten the kids interested in healthy food and also makes for a much more flavorful meal. Van Ness said she indicates on the menu which items are fresh from the garden, to make the kids aware of what they are eating.

"The green beans in the spaghetti sauce was their favorite, she said. "They also like the green leaf lettuce."

She said she can try different things using the fresh produce, and since it doesn't cost anything for the district, can make the food available for seconds.

"The kids are really interested in it," said Van Ness. "I'm looking forward to more next year."

The students met on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to do some harvesting.

Warford said just from pulling carrots and lettuce on one day, the garden club produced more than 100 pounds of produce.

Many of the products are donated to local food pantries, said Beverly Hulse, a seventh grade math teacher.

His mantra for the day they harvested last week, was "Pull a carrot, wash a carrot, then eat a carrot."

Olivia Lukasiewicz, a seventh-grader, was picking some green beans and getting them out of the ground before the first frost.

"If we left them in, it wouldn't be any good," she said.

## District plans Farm to You Fest activities

Here are some examples of district-wide and individual school activities for the week:

- "Squash Hunger Produce Drive" for the hungry (in partnership with Capital District Community Gardens and the Bethlehem Food Pantry). All Bethlehem Schools collect and bring to central pick up location at McCarroll's Delmar Marketplace on Delaware

Avenue from Monday to Friday from approximately 4:30 to 6 p.m.

- "Farmers Market Scavenger Hunt" at the Delmar Saturday Farmers Market located at Bethlehem Middle School, Sat., Oct. 10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

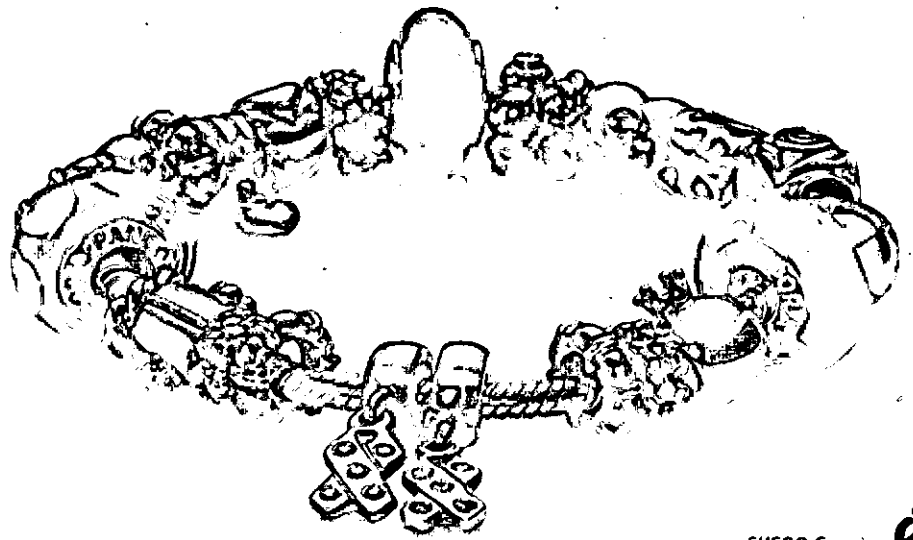
- Students will welcome visiting farmers teaching in their classrooms at Hamagrael Elementary, Friday, Oct. 9, from

9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- At 9:30 a.m. each day, students from Eagle Elementary will walk to a neighboring dairy farm, Sunnyside Farm, for a tour. For details, contact Amy Conway at 439-4667.

- Students at Bethlehem Middle School will sample salads with vegetables freshly harvested from their own Organic School Kitchen Garden.

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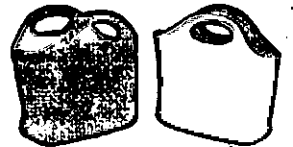
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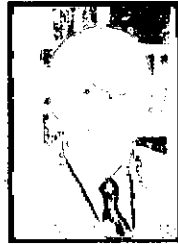
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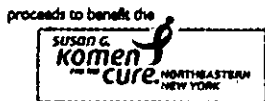
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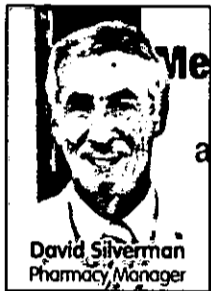
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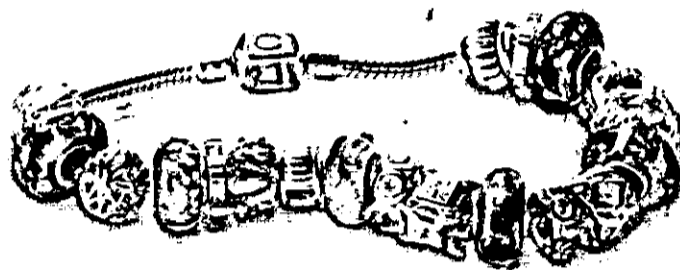
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## Down

(From Page 1)

but will not be an active member of the committee beginning Tuesday, Sept. 22.

Six members joined him Friday, Oct. 2: Kurt Anderson, Chuck Voss, Joe Defronzo, Susan Defronzo, Janna Shillinglaw and Jason Windsor.

The resigning members said there is a "schism within the local Republican Committee that cannot be healed."

"The other members of the Republican Committee, as well as candidates Roz Robinson and Mike Fields, have shown that they will not act to limit inappropriate, large-scale growth in our community," the letter reads.

Robinson, a Republican who won one of two GOP lines on the ballot after a primary election, said the committee had pledged to back the candidates who won the line after the primary, but many committee members are now stepping down.

LaGrange also won a spot on the Republican ticket, but he and Robinson differ over commercial zoning regulations.

Robinson said LaGrange, who is cross-endorsed by Democrats, has been planning to join with the Democratic candidates for months.

LaGrange said he is working with Democratic Supervisor Tom Dolin and candidate Daniel Mackay on a non-partisan team, and said he maintains that local politics should not be about party, but about what is best for the town.

"I hope this doesn't cause problems with either party," he said.

LaGrange said he wants to leave emotions out of the decision-making process. He said he is glad to have the support of the committee members who have stepped down.

Robinson said that accusations that she supports "unchecked" retail development is "an absolute bold-faced lie."

She is campaigning with Tim Stanton and Mike Fields. Fields has the Republican line, and Stanton, along with Robinson, is awaiting a ruling on an independent nominating petition - the New Scotland First line.

Lance Luther, the town Republican Party chairman, said he was hopeful after the primary that

Fields, LaGrange and Robinson could run as a team, but that is unlikely now.

"[LaGrange] has made too many promises," Luther said. "He's made his choice. If you pledge your loyalty to everyone, you're not loyal to anyone except yourself."

Luther wrote a response to the letter sent by the members of the former Republican committee members, noting as of Thursday, Oct. 1, the committee is withdrawing support for LaGrange.

"This action was taken as a direct result of Mr. LaGrange's negative actions and his recent decision to resign from the New Scotland Republican Committee. Over the course of the past several months, Doug has engaged in conduct that created a divide between himself and the long-standing members of the committee. And now, he cites that division for the basis to separate from the Republican Party," the letter states.

Luther's letter addressed the "big-box" issue as well, and said a size cap is not the only means to control growth in town.

"Mike, Roz and Tim believe that there are less restrictive ways to prevent unwanted development, while also promoting responsible economic growth. Their respective positions are far more similar than different," Luther said.

"However, rather than work together and reach a shared, common goal, Doug has chosen to mischaracterize the beliefs of the Republican candidates for supervisor and town board," he continued. "It is absolutely unfair to label candidates as either 'pro-big box' or 'anti-big box' when that is simply not true."

Luther noted that all of the members that left had not been in the party for more than a year, except Voss, and many had resigned prior to the letter's date.

The former committee members said they will remain Republicans and will back LaGrange in the election.

"Those of us that support Doug LaGrange, put the goal of community preservation and limited commercial retail development ahead of zealotry and blind party politics. Just like Doug LaGrange, we are all long-time loyal Republicans who have worked hard to promote the conservative principles of our party, and build the Republican Party in New Scotland," the resignation letter states.

## Cat

(From Page 1)

spray. It was when they started using my property as a litter box," she said. "I want my child to be able to play outside in the dirt, but she can't because the outside is a litter box."

Both residents said they have tried feline deterrents, including sprays that smell of garlic, fencing and metal grates over flowerbeds, but it doesn't make a dent in the problem. Today, cleanup has become part of the daily chores.

Both Bolen and Jones are dog owners and said that they would prefer cat owners be held to the same standards as canine lovers.

"I'm not a cat hater, don't get me wrong, but we have to contain our dogs," argued Bolen. "I wouldn't dream of letting them do anything on anyone else's property. We shouldn't have to deal with the cats."

On the town's Web site, under "animal control," the following advice appears:

"Cats belong inside your house ... outside cats average lifespan 3 years, inside at average lifespan 15 years."

Town Animal Control Officer Richard Watt says that is just advice, however; neither Bethlehem nor New York state have laws on the books pertaining to

**"I'm not a cat hater, don't get me wrong, but we have to contain our dogs. I wouldn't dream of letting them do anything on anyone else's property. We shouldn't have to deal with the cats."**

Delmar resident Katrina Bolen

cats "running at large."

"The only time I really can really pick them up is if the cat bites someone and I can't find the owner," said Watt.

Still, he said, he estimated he responds to just as many complaints regarding cats as dogs, most of which involve cats near bird feeders, cat feces or cat bites. He also said he picks up far more cats that have been killed by cars than dogs.

"Any animal that's let outside, running on its own, stands a really good chance of getting into trouble," he said.

Bolen and Jones said that they'd like to see Bethlehem adopt a law along the lines of what exists in the nearby Village of Ravena, which adopted a cat control law in January.

Under the Ravena statute, cat owners who let their cats outside are compelled to keep their cats on their own property and identify them through tags or other means, though there is no licensing required. According to Mayor John Bruno, the local law was adopted to control the feral

cat population and not domesticated pets.

"We had such a problem that they were starting to destroy property," he said of the village's feral cats.

Now, an animal control officer traps roaming cats. If it's owned the cat is released, but strays are turned over to the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, which puts all but seriously ill felines up for adoption. Bruno said the law has been a success.

"It has worked. We have not had one complaint that we have picked up a resident's pet or anything like that," he said.

Those who violate the Ravena law are subject to fines ranging from \$125 for the first offense to \$375 for the third and subsequent offenses.

Bethlehem Supervisor Jack Cunningham said that the town will investigate requests for a cat law, but declined comment until he has studied the issue further.

Bolen is asking those with similar concerns or contact her at kkskids@yahoo.com.

## New

(From Page 1)

der of Elizabethtown. Alexander also is owner of Denton Publications, based in Elizabethtown, and principal owner of New Market Press, based in Vermont.

McIntyre will continue in the role of publisher of the weeklies in the Albany market, which he has managed since it was purchased by Eagle Media LP in 1998. Tyler will remain in the role of publisher of the Syracuse group, a position he has held for the past eight months.

"These newspapers are important staples in the communities we serve, and we believe this new ownership arrangement will allow us to enhance the quality of

the editorial product and create efficiencies that weren't available to us previously," McIntyre said. "Dan Alexander has a long history of running community newspaper companies and his expertise as well as the technological and printing resources Denton Publications bring to the table makes this a win-win."

"It is very clear that the previous owners had a strong affinity for these newspapers and the employees," McIntyre said. "When it became apparent that they were prepared to sell, they sought out an arrangement that put the publications and the employees in the best position to succeed. I can't speak highly enough about the way Eagle Media LP handled this transaction."

Denton Publications has served as the commercial

printer for all Eagle newspapers since April and had been printing Spotlight Newspapers since 2007. With the change in ownership, Eagle Newspapers will achieve additional production and purchasing efficiencies. The bottom line is readers and advertisers will reap the benefits generated by the synergies of the new partnership.

"In the current economic landscape, it makes tremendous sense to develop close relationships between organizations like Eagle, Spotlight and Denton," McIntyre said. "Spotlight will maintain editorial and advertising independence here in the Capital District while improving our technological infrastructure through Denton. It's simply the best thing to do for the communities we serve."

Community Media Group LLC will continue to use the trade names Spotlight Newspapers and Eagle Newspapers and readers can expect the same commitment to community journalism they have become accustomed to over the years.

"This should be an easy transition for our readers, advertisers and employees," McIntyre said. "Our staff includes some of the best community journalists in New York state. This new arrangement will only enhance what we can do."

Capital District publications owned and operated by Community Media Group LLC include the weekly newspapers *The Spotlight* (Delmar, Guilderland), *Colonie Spotlight*, *Loudonville Spotlight*, *Niskayuna Spotlight*, *Rotterdam Spotlight*, and *Scotia-Glenville Spotlight* and *The Spotlight - Saratoga County* (Clifton Park-Halfmoon, Burnt Hills, Malta, Milton and Saratoga Springs); monthly publications *Capital District Parent Pages* and *Capital District Senior Spotlight*; and Web properties [www.spotlightnews.com](http://www.spotlightnews.com), [www.cdparentpages.com](http://www.cdparentpages.com) and [www.capitaldistrictyardsale.com](http://www.capitaldistrictyardsale.com).

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# Entertainment *in the* Spotlight

By JACQUELINE M. DOMIN  
dominj@spotlightnews.com

**O**rienteering didn't exactly captivate Janet Tryson the first time she heard about it.

Tryson's brother was a Boy Scout, and when he talked about orienteering, it meant using technical terms to decipher maps.

Years later, Tryson was home with her two young sons when the PBS show "3-2-1-Contact" did a segment about orienteering. It showed a couple of youngsters examining a map to see where to go next to find a special flag marking their checkpoint, and "that sounded more fun," Tryson said.

Soon, Tryson was searching for her own flags as a member of the Empire Orienteering Club, or EMPO. Made up of residents throughout the Capital District, the club regularly holds orienteering "meets," including one at Saratoga Spa State Park on Monday, Oct. 11. The public is always invited.

Sue Hawkes-Teeter, a longtime EMPO member, explained that at each meet, participants are given highly detailed maps. "They show every large boulder, every cliff, vegetation, that kind of thing," she said.

In addition, the maps show the checkpoints where flags have been planted by meet organizers. In the old days, each checkpoint had a unique stamp or hole punch that orienteers would use to mark a card indicating they'd been to the checkpoint. Nowadays, though, the checkpoints have largely gone electronic.

"People have a little device with a scanner that they can swipe at each checkpoint," said Frank Boscoe, EMPO's vice president.

Boscoe will be in charge of setting up the checkpoints at the Saratoga meet, arriving at the park not long after the sun rises to place the flags and electronic boxes. He'll have already charted the course on paper and done a



## Orienteering is where it's at

### Local club holds meet at Saratoga Spa State Park



Top, Will Dixon nears the finish line at Five Rivers. Inset, people register for an EMPO meet at Five Rivers Center in Delmar last month.

dry run at the park to make sure everything on the map of the area is still there.

He will mark different courses, since orienteering meets are geared to people of all abilities. There's a white course, which generally attracts kids to about age 12, Boscoe said. The yellow course is good for young teens or newcomers to orienteering. The orange course is intermediate, and red is advanced.

Participants can travel alone or in groups, running or walking. Some larger meets are races with prizes for those who finish the course in the shortest amount of time, but smaller meets, like the Saratoga one, are primarily aimed at just having a good time in the outdoors.

Boscoe has been orienteering only about three years, but he quickly took to the sport. Boscoe is a long-time runner and he teaches geographic information systems at the University at Albany, so

orienteering "kind of merges two things that I do," he said, noting that he finds the sport "more interesting than running itself."

Hawkes-Teeter, meanwhile, has never been much of a runner, so "the whole idea of running through the woods didn't really appeal to me," she said.

But people can enjoy orienteering without putting an emphasis on speed. Hawkes-Teeter likes that orienteering offers both a physical and a mental challenge. "It's kind of like

solving a puzzle," she said.

Tryson also cited the way orienteering engages both the body and the brain as one of the reasons the sport has become a favorite hobby for her family.

"The combination of physical exertion and mental stimulation has made it an attractive pastime for us for almost 20 years and gives us motivation to stay in shape," she said.

Boscoe expects about 50 people at the Saratoga meet, including some from as far away as

Massachusetts and Connecticut. "It's not like a running race where you can find one every weekend," he said.

People of all skill levels are invited and encouraged to wear comfortable clothes, including long pants to keep their legs from getting scratched. No equipment is necessary, although compasses can certainly come in handy. Compasses will be available to rent.

The start/finish for the Saratoga meet will be at the Geyser picnic area. People will have to pay a \$6 park entrance fee to park at the picnic area, or they can park free at the southern end of the SPAC lot off Route 50 and walk to the picnic area. Entry fees are \$5 for EMPO members and \$8 for nonmembers, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Registration runs from 10 a.m. to noon.

For information on EMPO, visit [empou.us.orienteering.org](http://empou.us.orienteering.org).

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Adam and Marc Bailey consult their map at the Five Rivers meet.







# Study finds high mercury levels

**Researcher suspects Lafarge cement plant to blame**

By CHARLES WIFF  
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

Department of Ecological Conservation Wildlife Pathologist Ward Stone announced Monday, Sept. 28, that his independent studies of the Ravena area have found mercury levels up to eight times above the norm on and in vegetation and wildlife.

Stone suspects that the nearby Lafarge cement plant is largely responsible for increased levels of mercury, as well as other heavy metals like lead, barium, vanadium and cadmium that his tests also found.

"We found a wide range of elements that are elevated," Stone said. He noted that in many cases other factors could be to blame (like disintegrating paint causing higher lead levels), "but a lot of these things can be pinned to the long operation of the cement plant."

Stone's work—which he plans to continue—was conducted with assistance from the Community Advocates for Safe Emissions group. CASE co-founder Elyse Kunz said the group has raised \$3,000 for Stone's testing, but that he donated his time spent collecting samples and analyzing data.

Starting in April, Stone began collecting samples in the area to be tested for heavy metal levels. He said that he's run about 80 tests so far, 20 on wildlife, with all of them returning higher than normal levels of mercury.

In some instances, Stone said he found 400 mercury parts per billion, or eight times the base level he observed in other areas like Five Rivers in Delmar. The tests are inexpensive, but in light of the new results, Stone and CASE are calling for more intensive and costly testing, including an independent look at rates of certain diseases in the area.

"We've been asking the Health Department, and we haven't really gotten any clear statistics out of them," Kunz said.

While the Ravena area is at risk, according to Stone, areas to the east and southeast, including Rensselaer and Columbia counties and the Berkshires, will also have had pollution from the plant swept on to them. Stone noted that many lakes and ponds in these areas are on the fish consumption warning list because of mercury risks.

A representative for Lafarge, which purchased the plant in 2001, questioned the accuracy of Stone's research.

"We haven't been able to review any findings, so we can't comment specifically on that," said Lafarge Environmental Manager John Reagan. He added that the plant is routinely examined by the DEC and state Department of Health.

"Their analyses have stated that our plant is safe," he said. "The work that they've done to date is that they've analyzed emissions from our plant and compared that to guidelines for human health...our plant complies with some of the most strict regulations in the world."



DEC Wildlife Pathologist Ward Stone talks about an independent study of heavy metal levels in the Ravena area. Stone said that local levels of mercury could be attributed to a nearby Lafarge cement plant.

Charles Wiff/Spotlight

DEC spokeswoman Maureen Wren said that the agency is in the process of revising Lafarge's air permit to include a mercury emissions cap. While Stone worked independently of the DEC in his studies, Wren said that the agency is monitoring Lafarge.

"The range of mercury levels cited today are in fact within the range of what's already known about the soil in New York state," she said. "Previous studies have found that the mercury content of soils in New York can be as high as 280 to 690 parts per billion."

Lafarge is embarking on an effort to build a modernized plant that would greatly reduce pollutants, said Regan. The company is in the permitting process and he hopes the plant

will be operational in 2013.

Until then, Stone advised that nearby residents do not need to alter their lifestyle considerably, but should probably think twice about eating fish from the Hudson or nearby bodies of water.

"Every animal that we've looked at in this area have had mercury in them, even the grasshoppers," he said.

For CASE, the focus now shifts to the future and raising money to test for the presence of hydrochloric acid, particulates and carcinogens, said Kunz. Their intent is to make the area safer, not to destroy industry, she said.

"It's not our goal to shut Lafarge down, we're acutely aware of the economic role they play in this community," Kunz said.

# Milestones



Patrick Powers and Courtney Iacovissi

## Iacovissi, Powers to wed

Rick and Debra Iacovissi of Rome, NY are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Courtney, to Patrick Powers, son of Stephen and Juanita Powers of Scotia, NY.

The future bride graduated from Rome Free Academy. She went on to earn a BSEd and MSEd from SUNY Geneseo. Courtney is currently a student at Ellis Hospital School of Nursing in Schenectady, NY.

The future groom is a graduate

of Scotia-Glenville High School. He then attended Albany College of Pharmacy where he earned a Doctorate in Pharmacy. Patrick is a Pharmacist in the Capital District.

The couple will marry on October 8, 2010. The Wedding will take place at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Rome, NY. Father Phillip Hearn will officiate. The Reception will follow at Shenandoan Clubhouse at Turning Stone Resort & Casino in Verona, NY.

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# Milestones *in the* Spotlight



Rebecca and Tyler Kramer

## Cortesi, Kramer marry

Rebecca Lynn Cortesi and Tyler Christian Kramer were married June 20, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown in Yorktown Hts, NY. The Rev. Russ Feroe officiated. A reception followed at the bride's grandparents' farm - Wilkens Fruit and Fir Farm in Yorktown, NY.

The bride is the daughter of Guy and Susan Cortesi of Latham, NY. The groom is the son of Curtis and Delores Kramer of Reinholds, PA.

The Maid of Honor was Rachel Cortesi (bride's sister). Bridesmaids were Suzi Brander, Rachel Frey and Kristamarie Pratt (bride's cousin). The Best Man was Chad Kramer (groom's brother). The Groomsmen were Jesse Manning and Nate Ritter.

Rebecca is a graduate of Shaker High School. She went on to the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY where she graduated in 2005 with a BS degree in Optics Engineering, and continued on at the UofR to earn her MS in Optics Engineering in 2006. She works as a Senior Member - Technical Staff at Aerospace Corporation in Chantilly, VA.

Tyler is a graduate of Conrad Weiser High School in Pennsylvania. He earned both his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. Tyler is a Member - Technical Staff at Aerospace Corporation as well.

The couple honeymooned at the Ti-Kaye resort in St. Lucia and now reside in Sterling, VA.



Jennifer and Robert C. Adams II

## Macri, Adams marry

Jennifer Macri and Robert C. Adams II were married on July 25, 2009. The wedding ceremony took place at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar, NY. Father Berberian officiated. A reception followed at Normanside Country Club in Delmar, NY.

The bride is the daughter of Carl and Maureen Macri of Selkirk, NY. The groom is the son of Robert and Diane Adams of Bayshore, NY.

The Maid of Honor was Jessica Rarick. Bridesmaids were Cathryn McNeile, Sara-Melissa Conklin, Renee Koutsaradis, Crystal Adams, Jessica Robertson, Cassandra Auth, Kim Pollack, and Amy Pollack. The Best Man was Pheonix Adams (brother of the groom). The Groomsmen were Dan Kohler, Steve Clement, Matt Macri, Tim Macri, Chris Stevens,

Shawn Bayer, Rich D'Alsace, and James Melton.

Jennifer is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at SUNY Oneonta and went on to SUNY Albany Graduate School. She is currently a substitute teacher in NY.

Robert graduated from Bayshore High School. He attended SUNY Oneonta where he received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. He then went on to SUNY Albany Graduate School. Robert is a computer teacher at New Covenant Charter School in Albany, NY.

Jennifer and Robert honeymooned in Hawaii, where they spent a week in Maui and a week in Oahu. The couple reside in Delmar.

Stuart I. Erner, M.D., Capital Region Progressive Medicine & Longevity Practice

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Elect *Melanie* Calzone

**TOWN CLERK**

[www.melaniecalzone.com](http://www.melaniecalzone.com)

**Putting Bethlehem Citizens FIRST!**

Endorsed by the Bethlehem Republican Committee

Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd  
Polls Open 6am to 9pm

Paid for by the Friends to Elect Melanie Calzone

# Transportation available for Bethlehem seniors

As a cooperative effort, Bethlehem Senior Services and Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. provide transportation for independently living town residents, age 60 and over, to medical, dental, therapy and clinic appointments, local supermarkets and a variety of social and recreational programs.

This service, which is strictly "curb to curb," includes cars, vans and handicapped accessible vehicles with hydraulic wheelchair lifts. Reservations can be made up to a year in advance by calling 439-5770, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; however, appointments should not be scheduled after 2 p.m. For information, call 439-4955, ext. 1176.

## Program highlights Saturday, Oct. 10

• Delmar Farmers, Market, Bethlehem Middle School, 322 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Interesting variety of vendors.

## Monday, Oct. 12

Columbus Day  
• Town Hall closed and no senior transportation available.

## Tuesday, Oct. 13

• Seniors in Motion - a low-level aerobic exercise class to music, Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 9 to 10 a.m. No



registration necessary. \$3 fee per class.

## Wednesday, Oct. 14

• Seniors grocery shopping for residents of Elsmere, Delmar, Slingerlands, North Bethlehem and Marie Rose Manor. For reservations, call 439-5770.

## Thursday, Oct. 15

• Bethlehem Senior Citizens Club meets for an enjoyable social afternoon of games and entertainment, Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 11:30 a.m. All seniors welcome. For information, call 439-4955, ext. 1176.

• Seniors age 62+ can play at Colonial Acres Golf Course for \$11 (greens fee for nine or 18 holes). Special senior rates on non-holiday Mondays and Thursdays. For more information, call 439-2089.

• Seniors grocery shopping for residents of Glenmont, Selkirk and South Bethlehem. For reservations, call 439-5770.

## Friday, Oct. 16

• "Until it's Over, Over There: Honoring the Tradition of World

War II Radio," presented by Gary Ferris, at the Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 1 p.m. after lunch out at the Windowbox Café, Slingerlands (lunch cost on your own). Donations for the program appreciated. No reservations needed for just the program; but, for lunch and the program reservations, call 439-4955, ext. 1176. Bethlehem senior transportation leaves Town Hall at 10:30 a.m. with home pickup available on a pre-arranged basis. Suggested van donation \$3.

• Loretta LaRoche and Company in "Women in Comedy," for an evening of laughter and fun, at the Palace Theater, Albany, 7:30 p.m., \$32. Bethlehem senior transportation leaves Town Hall at 6 p.m. with home pick-up available on a pre-arranged basis. Suggested van donation \$5. For reservations, call 439-4955, ext. 1176.

• Seniors in Motion (see Tuesday's activities for details)

• Seniors grocery shopping for residents of Good Samaritan Senior Housing and Van Allen Senior Apartments. For reservations, call 439-5770.

For information on the above or a list of additional activities, call the Bethlehem Senior Services Office at 439-4955, ext. 1176.

Doris Davis  
Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc.  
board member

# Equinox prepping for dinner delivery

Equinox, Inc. is preparing for its 40th Annual Equinox Thanksgiving Day Dinner. In order to get home delivery, we need to update our list of dinner recipients, so please contact the Senior Office, 356-1980, ext. 1095, to make your reservation as soon as possible.

## Town of Guilderland SENIOR CALENDAR

@Italian American Community Center

### Wednesday, Oct. 14

Scheduled Shopping  
No Line Dancing  
10:30 a.m. Strong Bones +  
10:30 a.m. Bridge  
No Sr. Fitness  
1 p.m. Needlecraft  
1:30 p.m. Strong Bones +

### Thursday, Oct. 15

Scheduled Shopping  
9 a.m. Strong Bones +  
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Medicaid, Legal Help & Blood Pressure  
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Food Stamps  
1 p.m. Pinochle/Games

### Friday, Oct. 16

Scheduled Shopping  
10 a.m. Painting  
1 p.m. Quilting

## Transportation available

The Town of Guilderland provides transportation service to medical appointments, grocery stores, pharmacies and area shopping centers such as Wal-Mart. Bus service is also given to those who attend the Tuesday Luncheon Program, special events, and selected trips. To register, please make an appointment with the Senior Office.

## Monday, Oct. 12

Columbus Day  
Town Hall Closed

## Tuesday, Oct. 13

9 a.m. Strong Bones +  
Noon Cluster II Luncheon



# Glenmont Academy holds open house

As part of "National Job Corps Day: 45 years of Building Lives and Launching Careers," the Glenmont Academy held an open house with Town of Bethlehem Supervisor Jack Cunningham, Albany Mayor Gerald Jennings, Sen. Neil Breslin, Assemblyman Tim Gordon, Albany County Executive Michael Breslin and dozens of local business leaders and community organizations, as well as Glenmont Job Corps graduates.

The U.S. Congress passed a resolution declaring September 23, 2009 "National Job Corps Day" to acknowledge Job Corps' 45 years of training over three million of America's youth.

On the Glenmont campus, the day began with a short program that included a welcome by Deputy Director Mary Ann Harvey, remarks and declarations offered by local representatives, and a presentation on the history and longevity of Job Corps.

Justina Peterson, a former Glenmont student, also gave a speech.

"When her speech was over, she received a standing ovation and I think there were only a few dry eyes in the audience," said Ramona Smith, Glenmont's Business and Community Liaison. "We indeed have an impact on the lives of our students, and every now and then there is a student that can have a real impact on our lives. Justina was that student

for me. She modeled the ability to forgive in spite of painful circumstances".

The program concluded with a musical selection performed by students.

## BINGO

**Wednesday Night At 7:30PM**  
(doors open at 6:00PM)

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### TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

### WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM 2009

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Slingerlands, North Bethlehem,  
Town of New Scotland

**AREA #2 - 10/5 to 10/20**  
Delmar, Elsmere

**AREA #3 - 10/19 to 10/27**  
Glenmont, Selkirk

*Some discoloration may be seen during this flushing program, which could result in staining of laundry.*

**Run water until it clears before doing laundry**  
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# Library's refit teen space taking shape



Bethlehem Library Director Nancy Pieri sits at the new laptop station in the library's teen area.

Our expanded, refit teen space is really taking shape. A sleek new high-rise computer station features two laptops with Internet connection for teen use. Special furniture has been ordered and should arrive in late fall. Additional shelves accommodate an expanded collection of materials for teens.

Several teen activities are scheduled in this space during Teen Read Week. Great Gaming on Monday, Oct. 19, features Twilight, HP and more; Get Animated on Tuesday, Oct. 20, lets teens create their own avatars; teens cast their vote for their favorite book on Thursday, Oct. 22, and create maps of their favorite fictional worlds for prizes on Friday, Oct. 23.

### Adult volunteers needed

If you're computer-savvy and would like to help those who aren't, consider volunteering for Computer Partners, the library's computer-partners program for adult beginners.

Students are matched with tutors according to students' interests and levels of proficiency. Tutors are trained by library staff, and all student instruction takes place at the library, on library laptops.

Tutors help their students navigate the desktop, manage a mouse, set up and use an e-mail account, surf the Web or do basic word processing. We hope to expand our offerings if student interest and tutor expertise allow.

All you need is patience, good communication skills, and a willingness to commit a few hours



a month. If you are interested in being a Computer Partners tutor, call Michele Giuffre at 439-9314 ext.3018, or email her at giuffrem@uhls.lib.ny.us.

### Self-esteem for kids

Monday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Parent workshop with Ellen Cooper of Cornell Cooperative Extension offers techniques for responding to children in a respectful, positive and consistent manner that will promote self-esteem, strong character and self-control.

### Halloween party

Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 11 a.m.

Come in your Halloween costume. Make your own goodie bag for a trick-or-treat walk through the library. Pre-K with family and friends.

### Which craft?

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6:30 p.m.

Make origami werewolves, duct tape skulls, ghoulish gravestones and mini-coffins. Grades six and 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.

## Enjoy some books, bites

Need an afterschool snack? Great snacks can be yours at the school library at Books and Bites Teen Book Club. YS Librarian Joyce Laiosa not only brings the snacks, but she loves to talk about books. The book we'll be discussing on Oct. 8 is big, fat and a page-turner! The first of a trilogy, "Uglies" by Scott Westerfield is an edge-of-your-seat thriller, strong social commentary and richly characterized story, all rolled into one. Join the Book Club for fun and good reading, prizes and games. The club meets on the second Thursday of each month from 2:35 to 3:30 p.m. Pick up a copy of the book at the school or public library.

### Teen Read Week

We are celebrating Teen Read Week Oct. 18 to 23 with "READ BEYOND REALITY," a festival of films that originated from books. We'll look at clips and discuss the good, the bad, and the ugly, from CGI to black and white classics. There will be Jeopardy-like quizzes with prizes, too. Join us on Friday, Oct. 23, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the VPL community room. Sign up please - grade 6 and older.

### 'Fantastic Mr. Fox'

Fourth- and fifth-graders should love reading and discussing "Fantastic Mr. Fox" by Roald Dahl on Friday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. A team of three criminal-minded farmers, each one meaner than the other, plots to exterminate the noble and clever Mr. Fox. Register at the reference desk and pick up a copy of the book. The library will be closed except for the book discussion.

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](http://www.voorheesvillelibrary.org).

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# Research your family history at Guilderland library program

In celebration of Family History Month, on Monday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m., the library is holding a special program on how to start documenting and preserving your family's history. This basic program is about what to save, how to organize what you are saving and how to preserve your family treasures for the future. The emphasis will be on papers, documents and photographs. Amateur genealogist Barbara Nichols Randall, director of the library, will present the program.

GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
www.guilpl.org

and social climate during campus visits. No registration is required. For information, call Jill Rifkin at 439-1843.

## Lego. Stop. Motion. Movies.

Tween Lego Meetings are back! Kids ages 8 to 12 are invited to join us Friday, Oct. 16, at 6:30, in the Normanskill Room for our next Tween Lego Club.

This is going to be an exciting meeting as we're going to learn about something new and fun: Lego Stop Motion Movies. An 11-year-old who has been doing this for some time - we'll have some YouTube videos of his work - will show us how to do it. His name's Luke and he will bring the equipment he uses: camera, Legos and his parents' laptop. He'll do a short demonstration, explain the challenges and fun of Lego stop-motion animation and talk about the things he's done. Luke enjoys playing with Legos just about everyday, building, making movies and robotics.

We'll have library Legos for you to play with. There will be separate tables provided if you'd like to bring your Legos, too.

Registration is not required.

## Better books? Better buy!

There will be a Better Books Sale at the library on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, this Better Books Sale offers quality books at bargain prices ranging from \$2 to \$5.

Proceeds from this sale help support everything from the Library's Summer Reading Club to a wealth of fun and educational activities that are not funded by your tax dollars (think Family Fun Day). So every time you buy a book at a Friends' sale, everybody wins: You get a great book for far, far less than you'd pay in a store or on eBay; the library gets to present some innovative programs; and library patrons get to enjoy programs that would not exist without the Friends' support.

## 'Saber in a Rock'

There's a great mouthful of a quote that summarizes our Oct. 9 Disney Family Friday movie: "Who so pulleth out this sword from this stone and anvil, is rightwise King Born of England." It's the story of young King Arthur who quite unwittingly demonstrates his destiny by pulling a sword out of a stone. The movie features great animation, as well as the incomparable voice of Sebastian Cabot. This movie starts at 7 p.m. and will probably be in the Helderberg Room (now that it's movie-dark out at 7 p.m., we're just waiting for a warm evening to have the movie out in the Community Literary Garden).

Mark Curiale

Note: All library events are free unless otherwise noted. The Guilderland Public Library is located at 2228 Western Ave., Guilderland. Call 456-2400, ext. 12, for information, or visit the library's Web site at www.guilpl.org.

# Mascot, hockey player coming to story time

Join Rowdy, the Albany River Rats' mascot, and a River Rats player for a special story time at the library on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 4 to 5 p.m.

## RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The library and the hockey club are teaming up to introduce "Reading with Rowdy," a program that allows kids to track their reading minutes to earn tickets to a River Rats game.

Kids of all ages are invited to join the action and bring photos or memorabilia for autographs. Pick up your Reading with Rowdy reading chart and check out our collection of sports books and movies.

## Book group forming

Do you like to talk about books? The library is forming a book group, and we'd like to add your name to our growing list of members. The first meeting will be in October, with the time of day yet to be decided. Call the library (756-2053) to sign up and let us know if you would prefer a day or evening meeting time.

## Book delivery service

The leaves are beginning to

change and before you know it, we will see snow fly. The library offers book delivery to homebound community members in the RCS School District. If you don't have a library card, we will bring a registration form to you on our first visit.

## What's new

- Adult fiction
  - "Ladies of the Lake" by Haywood Smith
  - "Price of Malice" by Archer Mayer
- Nonfiction
  - "True Compass; a Memoir" by Ted Kennedy
  - "Murder of King Tut" by James Patterson
- All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. RCS Community Library is located at 15 Mountain Road, Ravena. For information, call 756-2053 or visit www.uhls.org/RCSCL/.

## College financial planning workshop

A college financial planning workshop will be presented on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 10 a.m., by Pierce Mahar of Education Funding Specialists, Inc. Parents will learn strategies for helping their student apply to college, how to position finances to get merit aid, techniques for balancing the cost of education v. the value of a degree earned and minimizing out-of-pocket expenses. Call Adult Reference at 456-2400, ext. 7, to register.

## Selecting the right college

On Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m., Jill Rifkin of College Options will present a program entitled "It's a Match - How to Select The College that's Right for You!" for high school students and their parents. Rifkin has been an independent college counselor for over 15 years and made in-depth visits to more than 500 colleges. The discussion will focus on distinguishing the characteristics of the different colleges and how they relate to the student's needs, zeroing in on a range of appropriate schools and assessing the academic

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Sports *in the* Spotlight

## Indians fall short again

## Two big plays help Schalmont edge Ravena

By ROB JONAS  
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

The Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk football team can't seem to catch a break.

One week after losing to Cohoes by seven points, the Indians (1-4) couldn't hold on to a

fourth quarter lead in a 13-12 loss at Schalmont last Friday.

"They're playing great," said R-C-S coach Gary VanDerzee. "We [as coaches] just have to put them in a position where they can make a play late."

The Indians took a 12-7 lead on quarterback Tyler Swart's 17-yard touchdown pass to Matt Garza in the third quarter. The score stayed that way until late in the fourth quarter when Schalmont quarterback Vince Gallo took off

on a 40-yard run to set the Sabres up deep in R-C-S territory. Gallo capped the series with a 4-yard touchdown run to put Schalmont (2-3) ahead for good.

Gallo finished with 177 rushing yards and two touchdowns, despite the best efforts of R-C-S's defense.

"We shut him down really well," said VanDerzee. "We just missed an assignment on his 31-yard run early on [that set up Schalmont's first touchdown], and we missed

a couple of tackles on his 40-yard run on the last series."

In other weekend football action, Bethlehem (2-3) ended a three-game losing streak with a 20-13 victory over Shaker last Friday. Devin Stampley's 85-yard touchdown run in the third quarter proved to be the difference.

Guiderland (1-4) lost to Saratoga 48-6, while Voorheesville defeated Coxsackie-Athens 36-15 to improve its record to 4-1.

## Eagles learn lesson

By ROB JONAS  
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

The Bethlehem boys volleyball team learned that fortunes can change in a heartbeat.

One day after beating Shenendehowa in a Suburban Council match, the Eagles fell to the Plainsmen in the quarterfinals of the league's mid-season tournament Saturday at Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School.

Shen defeated Bethlehem 25-20 and 25-19 in the best-of-three quarterfinal match. In both games, the Plainsmen built sizeable leads that the Eagles couldn't come back from.

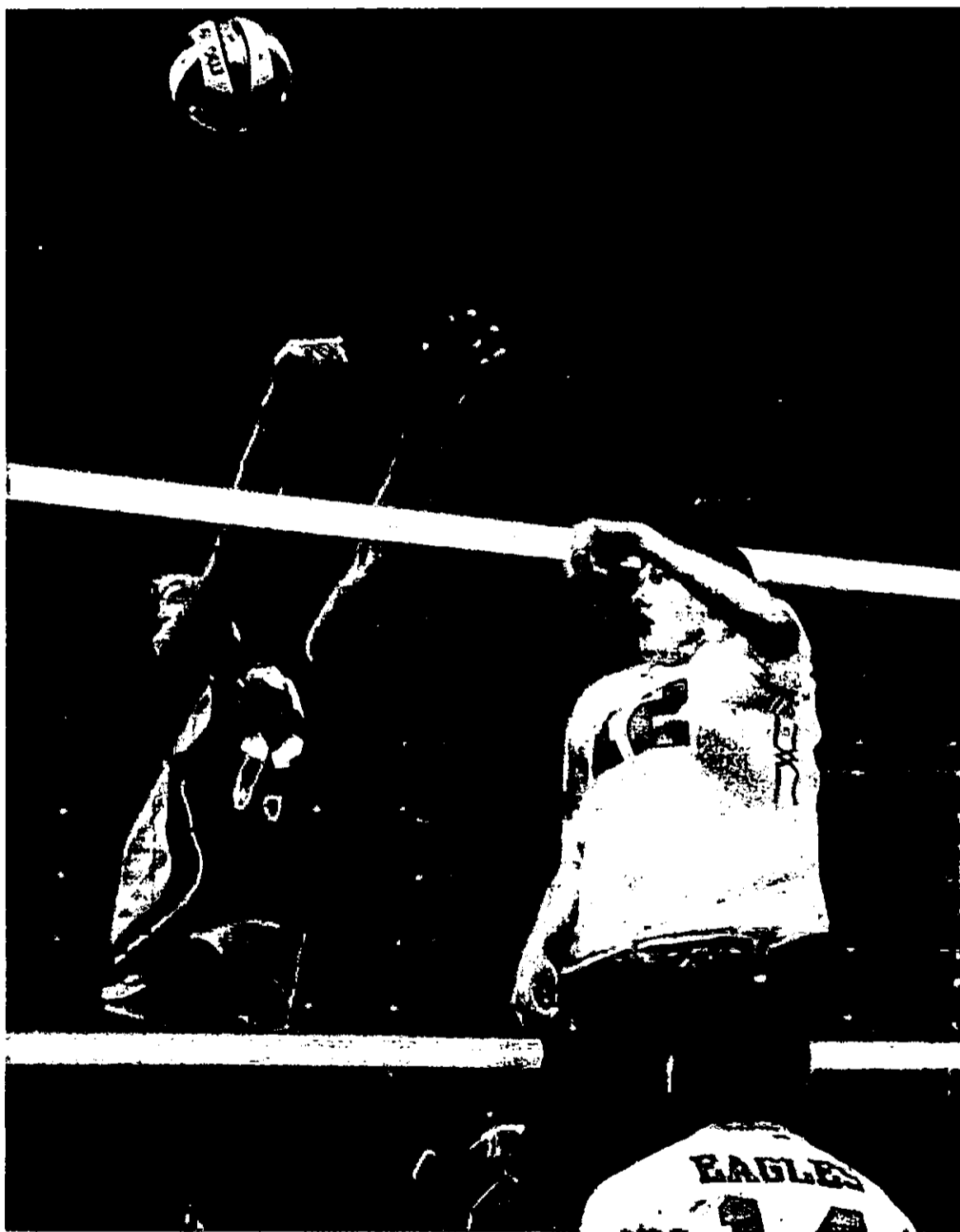
"To beat any team three times is difficult," said Bethlehem coach Rick Arket. "We just didn't bring our A game today."

The Eagles got off to a slow start in pool play when they dropped two games to Colonie by identical 26-24 scores. They bounced back to defeat Mohonasen 25-20 and 25-15 before struggling past Columbia 28-26 and 26-24 to advance to the playoff round.

"I think we lost focus a little bit [against Colonie]," said Arket. "They're a good team, too, but we were just inconsistent."

The good news for Bethlehem is that it still sits in second place in the Suburban Council standings, one game behind undefeated Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake. Equally

□ Eagles Page 35



Bethlehem's Kyle Landrigan (12) sends the ball over the head of Shenendehowa's Greg Redling during a quarterfinal match at Saturday's Suburban Council Mid-season Tournament in Burnt Hills.

Rob Jonas/Spotlight

## A mid-season spin around Section II

Let's span the world of Section II sports outside of football as we hit the midway point of the fall sports season.

Let's start with cross country, where the Saratoga Springs girls team looks like it regained its national swagger following a first-place finish at last weekend's Great American Cross Country Festival in North Carolina. The Blue Streaks dominated the Race of Champions field, winning by 69 points over Blacksburg, Va.



Saratoga had five runners place in the top 20 out of 127 runners, led by Keelin Hollowood's seventh-place finish in a time of 18:06. Sydney King wasn't far behind Hollowood in ninth place with a

time of 18:17, while Cassie Goutos (13<sup>th</sup>), Amanda Borroughs (15<sup>th</sup>) and Brianna Bellon (17<sup>th</sup>) rounded out the top five.

A victory like the one Saratoga Springs had over a national field should serve notice to the rest of Section II that the Blue Streaks will be hard to beat come Sectional time.

Over in the boys soccer world, Shenendehowa coach Mike Campisi won his 500<sup>th</sup> career game last Friday when his Plainsmen

defeated Bethlehem 2-0. Campisi became only the second Section II coach to reach the 500-win mark, with Maple Hill's Dan Gillespie being the other.

Campisi had to wait an extra game to get win No. 500 after Saratoga tied Shen 1-1 last Tuesday. But once David Clemens scored his second goal of last Friday's game on a second-half penalty kick, Campisi's place in

□ Spin Page 35

## Varsity schedule

## Wednesday, Oct. 7

## FIELD HOCKEY

Glens Falls at Bethlehem, 4:30 p.m.

## GOLF

Colonie at Guiderland, 4 p.m.

Mohonasen at Bethlehem, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS SOCCER

Holy Names at Voorheesville, 4 p.m.

R-C-S at Cohoes, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS SWIMMING

Emma Willard at R-C-S, 4:30 p.m.

## BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Bethlehem at Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake, 4 p.m.

Guiderland at Mohonasen, 5:30 p.m.

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Voorheesville at Holy Names, 4 p.m.

## Thursday, Oct. 8

## GOLF

Bethlehem, Guiderland at Class AA Sectionals, 10 a.m.

## BOYS SOCCER

Albany Academy at Voorheesville, 4 p.m.

Guiderland at Mohonasen, 4 p.m.

Bethlehem at Averill Park, 7 p.m.

## GIRLS SOCCER

Averill Park at Bethlehem, 4 p.m.

Mohonasen at Guiderland, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Averill Park at Bethlehem, 4 p.m.

Voorheesville at Mechanicville, 5:30 p.m.

Guiderland at Mohonasen, 6 p.m.

## Friday, Oct. 9

## FIELD HOCKEY

Guiderland at Columbia, 3:30 p.m.

Bethlehem at Saratoga Springs, 4:15 p.m.

## FOOTBALL

Albany at Guiderland, 7 p.m.

R-C-S at Hudson, 7 p.m.

Voorheesville at Canajoharie, 7 p.m.

## GOLF

Bethlehem at Guiderland, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS SOCCER

Cohoes at Voorheesville, 4 p.m.

Lansingburgh at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk, 4:15 p.m.

## GIRLS SWIMMING

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk at Amsterdam, 4:30 p.m.

## BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Shaker at Guiderland, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Guiderland at Niskayuna, 4 p.m.

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk at Schalmont, 5 p.m.

## Saturday, Oct. 10

## CROSS COUNTRY

Voorheesville at Maple Hill Invitational, 9 a.m.

Guiderland at Manhattan Invitational, TBA

## FOOTBALL

LaSalle at Bethlehem, 2 p.m.

## BOYS SOCCER

Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk at Cobleskill, 6 p.m.

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Bethlehem, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk at Shen. Invitational, 8 a.m.

## Tuesday, Oct. 13

## BOYS SOCCER

Colonie at Guiderland, 4 p.m.

Mohonasen at Bethlehem, 4 p.m.

## GIRLS SOCCER

Bethlehem at Mohonasen, 4 p.m.

Guiderland at Colonie, 4 p.m.

Schalmont at Voorheesville, 4 p.m.

Holy Names at R-C-S, 4:15 p.m.