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In this week's issue



A student perspective

Jesse Feinman is the only high school student on Guilderland's 26-member Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee.

See Page 5.



Bluegrass band finds a groove

Fairview Avenue is quickly gaining a foothold in the Capital District, with several upcoming gigs planned.

See Page 20.



High hopes for Eagles

With most of last year's starting lineup retuning, Bethlehem's boys lacrosse team is looking forward to a good season.

See Page 36.



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Spotlight

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VOLUME LII NUMBER 12 75¢ MARCH 24, 2010

BC budget by the numbers

Contingency plan could mean finding more cuts

By CHARLES WIFF
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After three weeks of budget workshops, during which the oft-maligned "Tier 3" reductions of last year have been tentatively approved, the Bethlehem Central School District is closing in on a budget it hopes voters will accept come May.

With nearly \$2 million in cuts made, the district has brought

■ For additional stories on the BC budget, see page 16.

the estimated tax levy increase down from over 7 percent to 3.81 percent. A handful of additional cuts may be approved at a March 24 meeting.

Last year, the district put forward a 2 percent tax levy increase. Voters go to the polls May 18.

Presenting a budget voters will approve is of particular importance this year, said school

□ Cuts Page 9

School district to shed 11 teachers

By CHARLES WIFF
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The Bethlehem Central Board of Education had what was likely the most difficult budgeting session to date Wednesday, March 17, and more than 100 people filled the high school cafeteria to tell the seven-member board their thoughts.

The nearly four-hour meeting saw the board tentatively approv-

ing the removal of 11 teachers and more than seven support positions, eliminating intramural sports for fourth- and fifth-graders and removing funding for several clubs at the middle and high schools.

The most sizable chunk of cuts made yet at \$1.1 million, the instructional reductions still leave the district short of a budget with no tax levy increase (see related story).

Administrators said the cuts were drafted to equalize the impact across all schools, which is

□ Shed Page 24

Island adventure



"Once on This Island," the latest production by Bethlehem Central High School's Stage 700, is a colorful, Caribbean-set musical featuring diverse music, rich themes and complex characters. The musical runs from March 25 to 28. See story on page 12.

Submitted photo

Sewer line owner stuck in the muck

Private operator wants to turn system over to the town

By RYAN MUNKS
munksr@spotlightnews.com

The owner of the last private sewer system in the Town of Guilderland appeared before the Town Board at its Tuesday, March 16, meeting to gain approval to borrow money to conduct an engineering study on the system and pay for repairs made in September. Steve Strong asked the board to approve the loan, not to exceed \$80,000, which would begin the process of transferring the system to the town's public system.

At one point during the meeting, Councilman Mark Grimm said, "So you're trying to put yourself out of business, basically?" said Grimm.

Strong said that was the goal.

Strong formed the State Farm Utility Corporation 40 years ago solely for the purpose of servicing the sewer system, which serves Heritage Village, Presidential Estates and Townhouses, Colonial Woods, the school district's offices and Farnsworth Middle School.

□ Sewer Page 24

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Police Blotter

G'land police charge TOAST teacher with sexual abuse

By RYAN MUNKS
munksr@spotlightnews.com

Wendy Daignault, a Guilderland resident, and teacher in the Albany City School District at the Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science and Technology (TOAST), was arrested by Guilderland police on Wednesday, March 10, and charged with sexual abuse in the third degree, a misdemeanor.



Wendy Daignault

According to New York State Penal Law, sexual abuse in the third degree is a class B misdemeanor.

According to Jane Briggs, a spokesperson for the New York State Education Department, a teacher can face a number of penalties, up to having their teaching certificate revoked, if convicted of sexual abuse in the third degree.

"It is a case by case basis," she said. "The range of penalties includes the imposition of a fine, continuing education, certificate suspension, certificate revocation, and the denial to be issued a certificate in the case of an applicant."

Daignault was arraigned at Guilderland Town Court on the date she was arrested, and is due back to make an appearance at the court Thursday, March 25.

into details due to the age of the victim.

Ron Lesko, communications director for the Albany City School District, said the district is aware of the allegations. "Absolutely none of the allegations in this case, according to police, happen at the school," said Lesko. He confirmed that Daignault is a teacher at TOAST, and that she has been put on paid administrative leave by the school district.

According to police, Daignault was arrested due to a complaint about an incident that occurred on July 12.

"We received a complaint; an investigation was conducted, and we determined a crime was committed," said Captain Cox of the Guilderland Police Department. Cox said the alleged crime involves inappropriate touching with an underage female victim; however, he could not go

Police fatally shoot illegal immigrant near airport

Sheriff says officer acted appropriately

By CHARLES WIFF
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

An Albany County Sheriff's Officer deputy shot and killed an illegal immigrant in the early morning hours of Saturday, March 20, near Albany International Airport.

Police say Marcus DeJesus Alvarez, 36, of 59 Central Avenue, Albany, threw a chunk of concrete at Deputy Vincent Igoe and then charged at the officer, who shot him twice in the torso.

A subsequent investigation revealed Alvarez was in the country illegally, and had a wife and five children living in

Mexico to whom he was sending money. Police informed his wife—Augustina Cruz Garcia—and family of his death by phone Sunday night.

Police interviewed three inmates at the Albany County Correctional Facility who were also illegal immigrants. They had been arrested in

☐ Shoot Page 22

Police arrest man with 14 bags of heroin

Robert Vincent Pennock, 27, of 117-2 Quilt Lane, Schoharie, was arrested by Guilderland police on Wednesday, March 17, and charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, a felony, and criminal possession of a control substance, a misdemeanor.

According to police, Pennock was observed slumped over his steering wheeling in his car while parked in Star Plaza. Police said that Pennock appeared to be nervous, avoided eye contact, and that his hands were shaking as he handed police his identification. According to police,

small white bags that are routinely used to package heroin were in plain view on the driver's side of the car. Police said that a subsequent interview revealed Pennock was in possession of 14 bags of heroin.

Pennock was arraigned at Guilderland Town Court later that day.

Other arrests

• David C. Korim, 25, of 3 Woodlake Road, Albany, was arrested by Guilderland police on Thursday, March 11, and charged with DWI. According to police, Korim was pulled over by police on Schoolhouse Road after

committing a number of traffic infractions. Police said there was a strong odor of alcohol emanating from Korim, and that he had slurred speech and glassy eyes. Korim failed subsequent sobriety tests and was arrested for DWI. He will be arraigned at Guilderland Town Court on Thursday, March 25.

• Charles A. Dougherty, 28, of 22 Woodlake Road Apt. 7, Albany, was arrested by Guilderland police on Saturday, March 13 and charged with DWI. According to police, Dougherty crossed the double solid yellow line and almost struck a police

☐ Heroin Page 22

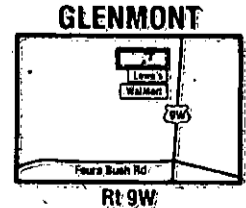
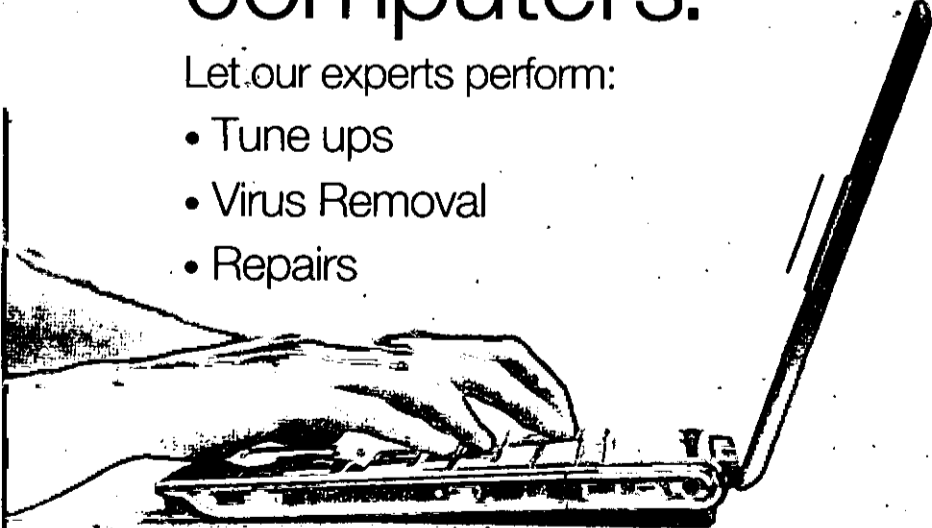


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Neighbors oppose Kendall Square

Residents say Glenmont project is too big, dense

By CHARLES WIFF
wiff@spotlightnews.com

Residents opposing a "hamlet style" apartment and commercial building development in western Glenmont flooded Bethlehem Town Hall Tuesday, March 16, to get the latest news on the Kendall Square project and tell the town's Planning Board — in no uncertain terms — they don't care for it.

The meeting did not include a public hearing, but several people took advantage of the public comment period to insist the proposal at the corner of Feura Bush Road and Elsmere Avenue is simply too big and too dense.

"We'd like the board to reject the current plan and rework it so it has greater adherence to the general hamlet atmosphere," Walden Fields resident Dave Kissinger said. He also submitted to the board a petition against the project he said had 400 signatures.

The proposal calls for a total of 112 apartment units divided into 3- and 8-unit buildings. In addition, 20,000- to 40,000-square-foot of commercial space in four buildings would be built near the intersection of Feura Bush and Elsmere. 70 percent of the 17-acre lot would be preserved as green space, but that's generally federal wetland areas.

Developer Lee Rosen said businesses have not been lined up at this early

stage, but he painted a picture of a small, outdoor café or law offices being located there.

The Rosen family was behind many of the housing developments in this part of town.

"I think we have the opportunity to do something even more creative and innovative [here]," he said.

The Kendall Square proposal is unique in that it sits in a hamlet zone. A result of the town's comprehensive plan, the hamlet zone is intended to encourage neighborhood-scale mixed-use developments. Building size and placement restrictions are among the requirements imposed.

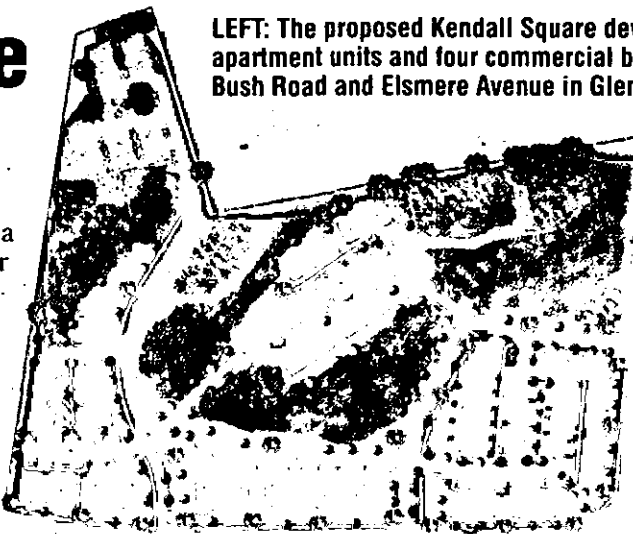
The hamlet zone also encourages a variety of housing types and uses. Some pointed out Kendall Square includes only apartments and in only two proposed configurations.

Rosen said adding single family homes was considered but it would not be economically possible, and added he feels Kendall Square would provide a type of housing not available in the immediate area.

"In a sense, this is the last piece of a hamlet that's being developed here," he said. "We're not creating a hamlet, per se, on our piece of property... we're fitting this last piece of a puzzle."

The ideal occupant would be young professionals or the elderly, he said.

Residents also expressed concern about what impact the development would have on area traffic. The intersection is a well-used thoroughfare for those



LEFT: The proposed Kendall Square development would contain 110 apartment units and four commercial buildings at the corner of Feura Bush Road and Elsmere Avenue in Glenmont. Nearby residents say it's too dense and does not conform to the intent of the relatively new hamlet zoning.

BELOW: An artist's rendering of a 3-unit apartment building in the proposed Kendall Square development.

Submitted renderings



"I think we have the opportunity to do something even more creative and innovative [here]."

— Developer Lee Rosen

traveling between Delmar and Glenmont.

Francis Bossolini of Ingalls and Associates said the applicant's traffic plan would avoid overloading the intersection by having three access points to the development along both Feura Bush and Elsmere.

"The actual impact on the intersection here is not as much as one might think," he said. "The [traffic] patterns don't go through the intersection, they go around it."

The audience did not respond favorably to many of the applicant's

statements — especially those concerning traffic — and Planning Board Chairman George Leveille on one occasion had to halt the meeting to ask audience members to be quiet.

"I know how frustrating it is to have to sit there, but that is the process," he said.

Rosen said he has spoken with concerned residents individually and in groups over the past months and would be open to further meetings. He was also clear Kendall Square is the project he

wants to build.

"There are positive suggestions that they made that we incorporated, there are other suggestions that we cannot incorporate," he said.

As the project is not a rezoning, as is common in projects of this type and scale, the town would not be compelled to hold a public hearing on the project.

Leveille said because the town has not handled many hamlet applications, it's not likely Kendall Square will move through the approval process quickly.

"This is really the first hamlet of the magnitude in front of this board. We're taking this for a test drive," he said.

The application was tabled unanimously.

Country club to reopen eatery

Normanside's restaurant to get a new chef

By CHARLES WIFF
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After suspending dining for the winter in the face of declining membership, Normanside Country Club will soon be reopening its restaurant under new management.

The club off of Salisbury Road in Elsmere will be outsourcing its restaurant operations to Panza's of Saratoga Springs, best known for its restaurant on Saratoga Lake. The decision was made as part of the club's plan to reinvigorate membership levels, which have been dealt a blow by the economy.

"We're not restaurateurs, so we thought the club would be better served," said Dan Byrnes, president of the Normanside Country Club Board of Governors. "We put out a request for proposals, we had many interested parties, and in the end it seemed like they were going to be able to provide the best package."

Despite the change in management, the cuisine at Normanside will remain largely the same, said opening Chef Anand "AJ" Jayapal.

"It's been such a Delmar staple; we want to keep with the traditions," he said.

That doesn't mean there won't be changes, however. AJ plans to bring Panza's well-known salad concoctions to Normanside, along with its sausage-making traditions. Expect to see unique items like chicken and apricot sausage burgers on the menu.

Chef AJ, who also served as opening chef at the Albany Pump Station, is the recipient of numerous culinary awards, has appeared on the Food Network and has his own sauce company based out of Delmar, Miss Sydney's Secret Family Recipes.

The Normanside dining room is operating on limited hours now, which will expand when the golf course opens. Given the early onset of nice weather, Byrnes is expecting one of the earliest openings the club has ever had, perhaps before the end of March.

The restaurant is open to the public, reservations recommended. Normanside Country Club is on the Web at www.normanside.com.

G'land zoning panel drafts changes

Group outlines rules regarding home business and mixed-use buildings

By RYAN MUNKS
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The Zoning Review Committee in Guilderland has recently completed

work on a draft of a local law to be considered by the Town Board that, according to Chairman Ken Brownell, "brings the town into the 21st century" and provides more flexibility with mixed-use development and home businesses.

Brownell said the first part of the draft would allow for a residence to be located above a retail location, similar to what was proposed in the Glassworks Village development that went before the Planning Board in December.

"Right now you can't put residential with commercial," said Brownell.

The second part of

the proposal deals with home occupations, which are small-scale, owner-occupied businesses located within residential or rural areas. The proposed law creates three levels of home occupation: permitted home occupation, in which a special use permit would not be required, and home occupation I and II, which would be permitted by special use permit.

Each category of home occupation has specific requirements, with a permitted home occupation having the least effect on the surrounding community, and home occupation II having the most effect

on the surrounding community. The proposed law also includes a number of prohibited home occupations.

"These improvements, if adopted by the Town Board, will make the permit process for businesses much more efficient for residents, business owners, and the town," said Kathy Burbank, executive director of the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Zoning Review Committee.

The proposed law is the culmination of the committee's work since it first met in August. In January, when Brownell was made chairman, he described the mission of the committee "to review

the Town of Guilderland zoning law and come up with some recommendations, and bring it into the 21st century."

Since its inception, the committee has worked on the law and reviewing the 25 pages of definitions in the town's zoning code.

"As somebody with a lot of real estate experience, I think there's a lot of credibility to the changes we made," said Brownell.

Ultimately, the proposed law is subject to the review and approval of the Town Board. The Zoning Review Committee will hold a public meeting concerning the proposed law at Guilderland Town Hall on Wednesday, March 31, at 7 p.m.

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Money for nothing and brushing for free

By WILLIAM R. DEVOE
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My son wants an allowance. He's proposed doing all sorts of chores around the house for varying fees. And though I should be proud that he understands the concept of working, his proposal runs contrary to my desire for him to sit still and be quiet.

This whole allowance thing has struck up some disagreement between my wife and I, because we're trying to decide which of my son's responsibilities should fall into the "chore" category and which should be things he does just because he should.

It's been a long debate, as I believe everything falls into the latter category.

We were making breakfast Sunday morning when my son, Kevin, started pitching ideas for chores.

"I'll make my own lunches for \$2 a week."

"Are you serious?" I ask. "You're 7 years old, you should do that already. Two dollars? We could buy seven lunches with that money and cut the middleman. You know, you're lucky we don't make you hunt your own food."

His mother interrupts and has the audacity to be



levelheaded: "Kevin, I don't think making your lunch is a reasonable chore. Why don't you think of something else?"

Kevin starts walking away, then turns to me. "How do you hunt peanut butter and jelly?"

A couple of minutes later, he's back with another idea.

"I'll brush the dog for a dollar and feed her for 50 cents."

Again, I felt this fell into the realm of things he should do anyway. "Brush the dog? You're kidding me right? Do you know what I got for brushing the dog when I was your age? Socks."

Kevin and my wife look at me. "Socks?" they ask, nearly in unison.

"Sure," I say. "What do you think we did with all that hair?"

After my wife gently placed her elbow in my ribcage, I came around to the idea of Kevin brushing and feeding the dog for an allowance.

"All right," I say, "but I want you to do it as soon as you

wake up, and I shouldn't have to remind you."

"Wait. You want me to do these things every day?"

Truth to be told, I never had it so bad as a kid when it came to doing chores around the house. I learned very early that incompetence is the easiest way out of doing something you don't want to.

The summer I was 11 years old, my parents had the ill-timed notion that they would give me a list of chores to do every weekday when they were at work. Ill-timed because the pizza place down the road from my house had just gotten in a new arcade game called "Rolling Thunder."

Rolling Thunder was an 11-year-old's dream. For only 25 cents a play, you could control a secret agent named Albatross as you tried to save a damsel in distress from masked hoodlums from some terrorist organization called Geldra. The girl's name was Leila Blitz, which in and of itself is cool, but the arcade game also pushed the limits of technology back then. Not only could you move and shoot in this game, but you also had the ability to — wait for it — jump over things! Marvelous and worth every quarter.

So, the first part of my

summer went something like this: I would do my chores for a week and collect my allowance. The next week, I would shrug off my chores and spend every day blowing the previous week's allowance at the pizza place playing Rolling Thunder. I would get nothing but admonished for that week's lack of work, so I'd have to work the following week for more money to play that video game. And so it went.

After a few weeks, my father noticed the swing in quality and gave me a stern talking to. Not willing to miss out on my chance to save Mrs. Leila Blitz from the evil Geldra leader Maboo, I did what any self-respecting, arcade-faring 11-year-old would do:

I subcontracted.

Among my circle of friends at the time was an anomaly of a human being by the name of Russell. He didn't care for baseball cards, G.I. Joe action figures or, most importantly, arcade games.

What Russell did care for was money, and though it cut drastically into my Rolling Thunder funds, I offered him half of my allowance to pick up the slack on my chores while I was at the pizza place. I'd go play video games, he'd do the chores and get out before my parents came home and no one would be the wiser.

He agreed, but asked for two-thirds. Now, I haven't seen Russell in over 20 years, but based on that exchange alone, I'm inclined to believe he's a successful businessman somewhere with better weather than Upstate New York.

We had a pretty sweet arrangement, so much so that even well after I had rescued the fair maiden from certain doom in Rolling Thunder, I continued my daily excursions to this baseball game or that bike ride while Russell vacuumed my

parents' living room or folded kitchen towels.

All was well until I came home one day to find Russell and my father sitting at the kitchen table. My father was balling his fists until his knuckles were white and Russell was staring blankly into his lap with tears welling in his eyes. They hadn't hit it off as well as I thought they would, considering they both seemed to have a decent work ethic and all.

I tried to play it like everything was normal. "Hello Russell. Hello Dad."

"Do you mind telling me just what in Sam Hill is going on here?!"

After explaining the arrangement I had with Russell my father said two things: "Tell me where this boy lives so I can bring him home." and "You're fired."

I was honestly hurt. The towels looked great. And Russell vacuumed the carpet in such a way that it was crosshatched, like the infield of a baseball diamond.

Back to my kitchen.

"What if I brush my teeth?" Kevin asks after we've had our breakfast.

"No way," I say. "You should brush your teeth every morning, anyway."

My wife pipes in. "I'll give you two bucks a week if you brush them every morning and every night before you go to bed."

"But Jess," I say, "he should be."

"But sometimes he doesn't," she says. "And if this will get him to do it, I'm more comfortable giving him \$2 a week now, than paying thousands for orthodontics later."

I thought about it. "OK. Just as long as he doesn't get someone else to do it for him."



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WEEKLY WEATHER

Chief Meteorologist Mike Bono



Albany Almanac

Record high/low/year		
AVERAGE HIGH	49°	
AVERAGE LOW	29°	
Day	High/Year	Low/Year
Wednesday, March 24	69°/1976	0°/1875
Thursday, March 25	74°/1910	0°/1875
Friday, March 26	74°/1886	2°/1960
Saturday, March 27	78°/1998	11°/1975
Sunday, March 28	85°/1945	3°/1923
Monday, March 29	85°/1946	0°/1823
Tuesday, March 30	86°/1986	7°/1970

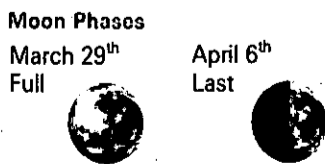
SEASONAL SNOWFALL TO DATE
45.2 inches as of Friday, March 19th
11.2 inches below average

This week in weather

March 30th 1823 - A great Northeast storm with hurricane force winds raged from Pennsylvania to Maine. The storm was most severe over New Jersey with high tides, uprooted trees, and heavy snow inland.

Sun. & Moon

Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Wednesday	6:52am	7:12pm
Thursday	6:50am	7:13pm
Friday	6:48am	7:14pm
Saturday	6:46am	7:15pm
Sunday	6:45am	7:17pm
Monday	6:43am	7:18pm
Tuesday	6:41am	7:19pm



Planets	When	Where
Mars	Evening	Vy High SE/S
Saturn	Evening	Climbing E/SE
Venus	Dusk	V Low West
Mercury	Dusk	V Low West

Area Ski Conditions

Resort	Base Depth	Lifts	Trails
Gore Mtn.	25" - 46"	10	69
Whiteface	21" - 33"	9	78
Bromley	33" - 48"	5	45
Mt. Snow	36" - 50"	10	80
Okemo	34" - 42"	13	119
Belleayre	45" - 92"	6	50
Stowe	32" - 56"	11	112
Killington	42" - 54"	17	135

Factoid

Until 1751, March 25th marked the beginning of the calendar year in England and the Colonies. In 1752, they adopted the 'New Style' or Gregorian calendar and the year began on January 1st.

Tides at Albany

Day	High	Low
Wednesday	12:32pm	6:48am, 7:39pm
Thursday	1:06am, 1:37pm	7:49am, 8:35pm
Friday	2:12am, 2:38pm	8:49am, 9:29pm
Saturday	3:13am, 3:35pm	9:46am, 10:20pm
Sunday	4:09am, 4:30pm	10:41am, 11:09pm
Monday	5:01am, 5:21pm	11:34am, 11:57pm
Tuesday	5:51am, 6:10pm	12:25pm

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Across U.S., it's Census time

Residents urged to promptly return 10-question form

By CHARLES WIFF
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

If the year ends in a zero, there is one thing that can be counted on within the borders of the U.S.: It's Census time.

Across the nation, Census questionnaires have started arriving in mailboxes, and officials both locally and nationally are urging Americans to return their forms quickly.

The 2010 Census form has been pared down to one of the shortest surveys in the history of the institution. Ten questions long, it forgoes questions about income, occupation or level of education, questions that used to be on the now-eliminated "long form." That information is still collected through the American Community Survey, said Mary Ruth Sweet, an area manager for upstate New York for the Census Bureau.

"We collect that information in another way now, so no one has to be troubled by spending 40 minutes filling out their Census," she said. "It's back to being about as short as it was in 1790."

Population data is of great importance to government operations, however. Information from the Census will be used to figure districts for state and federal representation and in the distribution of about \$400 billion in annual federal funding. These funds go to programs ranging from education to healthcare to road repair.

Supervisor Sam Messina said he'd like

"It's just the sort of thing that can't be taken any way other than very seriously."

Supervisor Sam Messina

to offer a challenge to Bethlehem to have as high a response rate as possible, which will hopefully translate into federal support for area needs.

"It's a challenge to ourselves in terms of how well we can do," Messina said. "We want to maximize benefits for Bethlehem in those considerations. Being accurate does that."

In 2000, Bethlehem's final response rate was 84 percent, well above the national rate of 67 percent and also an improvement over 1990's return rate of 78 percent.

Mail-in return rates are not measured below the county level, but in 2000, Albany County saw a 76 percent mail-in return versus the national average of 72 percent.

This year, the Census Bureau will be updating regional returns as they come in at www.2010.census.gov.

For every 1 percent of the population that returns a mail-in form, the government will save \$85 million by avoiding having workers going door-to-door, according to the Census Bureau. The bureau expects to hire 635,000 temporary workers to conduct these follow-up interviews, which will begin in May.

The Census Bureau is also trying to increase return rates through an aggressive advertising campaign. While some might view this as wasteful, Sweet said mailing out a notice

before sending the questionnaire increases the mail-in return rate by 6 to 12 percent.

"Research has definitely shown that it's effective," she said. "The biggest cost is in chasing down the households we don't get a questionnaire back from."

Improving local returns might seem like a difficult task, but Messina said he's taking every opportunity to speak about the Census in the media and will be making information about the Census and help filling it out available through the Town Clerk's office.

"It's just the sort of thing that can't be taken any way other than very seriously," Messina said. "These things all have a direct impact on us."

Census figures show the population of Bethlehem growing from 1990 to 2000, and the official estimated town population for 2008 was 33,095.

Those figures show the town's population to be older than the national average and (according to the 2000 Census) 95 percent white and fairly affluent in terms of average income and poverty levels.

Messina said he is not expecting significant growth in this year's population figures.

"I think things have been very stable, and they've been stable because the economy has been as such that there hasn't been a lot of new homes," he said.



Jesse Feinman is the only high school student on Guilderland's 26-member Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee.

Submitted photo

Student brings perspective to G'land budget committee

Youngest member of panel says district's budget constraints an eye-opener

By RYAN MUNKS
mlnksr@spotlightnews.com

When Guilderland's School Board discussed diversifying representation on the district's Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee, they were talking about expanding the committee to include senior citizens and members of the business community. Tech Valley High School senior Jesse Feinman decided to expand representation on the committee to another segment of the community — students.

Jesse Feinman,

currently the only high school student on the 26-member committee, originally planned to run for public office as part of a senior project. Those plans were halted when he found out that because his 18th birthday falls two weeks after Election Day, he is ineligible to run.

Feinman then decided to be involved in public service by becoming part of CBAC, which does not have requirements for membership.

Initially, Feinman said his goal was to urge the district to keep sending students to Tech Valley High School. Currently, the district has three students attending the school; however, it does not plan to send additional

students next year.

Feinman said those priorities changed when he looked at the dire financial circumstances facing the district.

"Initially I thought that [sending more students to Tech Valley] would be a good idea, although I can not ethically suggest that, knowing that they had millions of dollars taken away," he said.

Feinman said that seeing the budget cuts that would affect teachers and programs in the district changed his perspective.

"If the board said they were going to take the three students out, I would have the same dilemma," he said. "I've notice a majority of people there

Student Page 7.

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Matters of Opinion *in the* Spotlight

Take it under advisement

Tech Valley High School senior Jesse Feinman, a member of the Guilderland School District's Citizen Budget Advisory Committee, seems like a good kid who is doing what he thinks he should to make his school district that much better. (See Ryan Munks' story on Feinman on page 7.)

Unfortunately, he is also part of what is wrong with citizen advisory groups, especially one with an open enrollment like Guilderland's.

Guilderland's CBAC is a stellar example of organized appeasement. All are welcome, no idea too trivial, and though the participants will feel better for having been part of the process, it won't amount to a hill of beans.

Pretty cynical, but think about a few things in regard to Guilderland's CBAC and other budget advisory groups:

Volunteer budget advisory groups, much like school board meetings and school boards themselves, are populated with people who have a specific interest, a single issue that they care about above all others. Very rarely do you get a concerned citizen, let alone 26 of them, that are willing to put the needs of the district above their own agenda. Imagine a tug-of-war with 26 people, each pulling in opposite directions when they're pulling at all, and every one of them thinking they're moving forward.

To his credit, we should note, Feinman seems to have the leap that many involved in the process do not — he tells *The Spotlight* that although he joined the CBAC to try to preserve the district's involvement in Tech Valley High School, he realized it may not be feasible, considering a shortfall of \$7 million in the district's proposed budget.

The other aspects of the committee that make us at *The Spotlight* think it was established to pay lip service to a group of concerned citizens are the structure of the group and the timing of its meetings.

Twenty-six people? How do you realistically take all of those views into account? We understand the district touted open enrollment in the committee as a means to promote participation, but at some point someone should have taken a look at the logistics of getting useful information out a group of this size (or possibly larger, the school board should be happy only 26 people showed up) and realized the law of diminishing returns kicks into high gear when you're dealing with peoples' opinions.

The timing could be a bit better, too. The CBAC holds its last meeting at the end of March, days before the state — optimistically — will have a final version of its budget. So all of the advisement, conjecture and rhetoric up to that point will have been based on information that is far from final or reliable.

We at *The Spotlight* think advisory committees should be limited in size, meet with regularity, be purposeful and be populated with people elected to represent large swatches of taxpayers. School districts have them already — they're called boards of education.

Editorial

When a family visit means a trip to Siberia

By SCOTT MATHIAS
mathiass@spotlightnews.com

The writer works at The Spotlight in the advertising department.

A trip to see my in-laws is not a simple thing, and does not happen for me as often as it does for my wife and daughter. You see, my wife's family lives 5,093 miles from Albany, the farthest you can travel east in Eastern Europe, in a remote city in Western Siberia called Ekaterinburg. This is where all of my wife's family is, but now, more importantly, this is where my daughter's grandparents, great-grandmother, aunts and uncles, first and second cousins all live.

After an entire day of traveling (and I mean a solid 24 hours), I finally arrive at the childhood home of my wife, Ekaterina. I remove my boots and goose-down jacket and immediately settle into my spot at the kitchen table with my daughter in my lap, my wife across from me, her dad at the table head, her mom at her post in front of the stove and Great-Grandma in her comfy-cushioned chair by the window where the light is best for knitting. This is where I will spend 80 percent of my time for the next seven days ... in the kitchen; eating and toasting just being together.

For me, this is paradise. Gone is the cell phone and the laptop, along with the e-mails, text messages, notifications, status updates and tweets. Internet service, much less wireless signals, are few and far between here and despite having what is called a "world phone," it still costs me five bucks a minute to use it. So I don't. There is absolutely nothing else to do in this place but relax and get to know more about my wife's family and absorb a little culture. I also get to know more about their country and the way they live.

For the most part, Russians and Americans lead similar lives. It's some of the most subtle differences that fascinate me, but also makes me appreciate much of what we enjoy in this country. It used to be that in Russia, there were only two classes: the rich and the poor. Now, especially on this second visit, I am realizing that a middle class is forming out of the

Point of View

previously poor who have worked hard, and actually tried to get ahead. The years following the breakup of the Soviet Union were very difficult for the vast majority of Russians. They worked for weeks and months with no pay, they survived food shortages and endured endless lines for a shred of government assistance.

Now, nearly 20 years after the end of socialism and in the infancy of democracy, Russians are catching up with, and perhaps surpassing, their fellow industrialized nations in many ways. Even in the three years since I was here last, the positive changes in the city are evident. The marked increase in Japanese and American vehicles was immediately obvious. Traffic has become borderline ridiculous, as the Soviet-era roads are inundated with new drivers. Twenty years ago, a small portion of the 3 million Sverdlovskis owned cars.

Downtown Ekaterinburg looks surprisingly different, with many buildings and even entire city blocks having recent facelifts, presumably for a G8 summit meeting that was held there recently. The continued resurgence of the Orthodox faith since being outlawed for seven decades was evidenced in the construction of at least two new churches. Even Madison Avenue could be envious of the downtown's assortment of retailers like Louis Vuitton and Ralph Lauren.

Going out in this city goes so far beyond what I would call a tourist experience. You become totally immersed into this society that is still catching up with technology, excited about it, but still love the old ways of family sticking together through good times and bad, sharing meals and stories and just doing what needs to be done.

Going grocery shopping is one of my favorite "tourist" activities. Supermarkets are much more compact but still have every possible thing you could need. Every time we went, they were packed with people shopping and talking ... in a language I am far from mastering. If

I keep my mouth shut, most people don't notice me. Some peg my height as being a dead giveaway that I'm not from here.

Russian supermarkets have us beat. It's all in the variety. They carry many different items; they put fewer on display and employ a few people to help. At the checkout, the first question is how many bags you need. If you didn't bring your own, you can buy those plastic T-shirt bags for a nickel each, and then you step to the end of the line and bag your own groceries. One thing is for sure. Russians use far fewer plastic bags than we do, especially if you consider how many bags are pumped into our community's land fill and blow around in our neighborhoods. I wonder where all those nickels go?

Back at the house, at the kitchen table, casual family discussions refereed by Katerina reveal stories from the past. Her grandmother tells stories stretching back to the assassination of the Romanov Family by Lennon and the Soviets ... right downtown in a house near the river. There's an enormous cathedral there now called The Church on the Blood. They were the last of the notorious czar families that ruled the country for more than 400 years. After that, it was socialism and seclusion from the world from 1918 to 1991.

While America was emerging from The Great Depression and enjoying some of the most prosperous times our country has ever seen, my daughter's mother and family were certainly not thriving, but at least they could count on the bare necessities. Right around the time that we're engaging Iraq in the most technological war in history, the Soviet government falls and millions of Russians are plunged into a depression that economists say was twice as devastating as ours. Katerina was 8 years old.

Married to a soon-to-be first-generation American and having a beautiful child that has family on opposite sides of the earth has been an experience that has been very fulfilling for me on so many different levels. Right now, we're all hoping for a baby soon from my brother-in-law to give us another reason to visit!

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Weekly poll

Last week's poll results:

Question: "What would you like to see on the Bender Melon Farm in New Scotland?"

- Green space. We must preserve the natural beauty that places like these offer.: 26%
- Residential development. Small towns should welcome people, not big commercial development.: 4%
- Anything but a big-box retail outlet.: 28%
- Actually, I wouldn't mind a mega mart.: 40%

This week's question:

"What's the cure for Spring Fever in the Capital District?"

Log on to www.spotlightnews.com
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At To Life, the emphasis is local □ Student

Group offers support for those battling breast cancer

By LISA PETT
news@spotlightnews.com

Soon after Bethlehem resident Debra Nozik received a diagnosis of stage 4 breast cancer in 1999, she made a phone call to a local organization that she credits with being largely responsible for her current state of wellness. She called the Delmar based breast cancer education and support organization, To Life.

"I do credit To Life with helping me become well. I got profound help," Nozik said. She picked up a flyer about the organization at her doctor's office and was pleased to learn it was located in her own community.

"One of the first things Mara did was hook me up with a mentor, which is one of the unique things about To Life," Nozik stated. The mentoring program matches a local breast cancer survivor with a newly diagnosed woman. According to Nozik, this special bond "gave me a real sense of hope." After benefiting from many of the organization's programs since her diagnosis, Nozik is "giving back", as she says, by facilitating one of the current support groups.

Mara is Mara Ginsberg, the Delmar resident who founded the nonprofit organization in 1998 soon after being diagnosed with the disease herself at age 36; she currently serves as its president. Ginsberg said that Breast Cancer has been a part of her life as far back

as she can remember, having lost her mother and aunt to the disease, both at the age of 44.

She recalled sitting at her kitchen table one day in 1998 with two friends and a total of \$72 in cash. The number 72 is significant, Ginsberg said, in that it is considered a lucky number in the Jewish religion. "I had a sense of what kinds of services and programs we wanted to offer. I knew we could provide services that would touch not just the women - but their families too," she said.

Those services, provided over a 10-county region and serving approximately 800 individuals annually, include free educational forums, support groups, one-on-one mentoring, wellness activities and a boutique, located at the Delmar headquarters, where breast cancer survivors can find a variety of wigs, hats, scarves, bras and prostheses. Additionally, over 2,500 people are reached annually through Breast Health workshops and Health Fairs held several times per year at a variety of locations.

The day-to-day operation of all these services and programs is managed by a staff of seven, one of whom is Executive Director Laurie Abbott. Abbott has been at the helm since June of 2008 and is a passionate advocate of the organization's core mission, which she enthusiastically explained as "providing information and services to women so they can make informed decisions about their health." She quickly pointed out that To Life is not a medical facility, although many breast cancer survivors are referred to the organization by

medical professionals.

Abbott described the center on Kenwood Avenue as a "safe, comforting place a woman can come to" at any point during her journey with this disease and stressed that although there are many outstanding national organizations dedicated to breast cancer awareness and education, To Life is unique in its dedication to local women and families. According to Abbott, all grants and funding it receives "stay right here in our community." There is a satellite office in Saratoga Springs, where a second boutique is located as well.

Ginsberg echoes Abbott's emphasis on the significance of the local impact. "What's important is always being responsive to what our community needs," she said. When asked what she most wants local women who may have just received a breast cancer diagnosis to know about To Life, the response was immediate: "That we are here for her whatever her needs are and whenever she needs us."

Nozik knows this from experience. "This community is very fortunate to have To Life.....it's a big part of my life."

The next big event on the To Life calendar is the annual Gala in Troy on May 4 where honorees will be recognized and guests can participate in a silent auction. All community members are welcome to attend. For ticket information or to learn more about To Life's many programs and services, call the main office, located at 410 Kenwood Ave in Delmar, at 439-5975 or visit www.tolife.org.

[at CBAC meetings] have their little niches that they asked questions on," he said. "Since I've been on CBAC, I noticed a lot of other issues going on."

Feinman and the 25 other members of CBAC were tasked with coming up with recommendations on what to include and remove from the school district's budget. Currently the district expects that the \$87.5 million budget will face a shortfall of \$7 million, with more than \$3 million made up with reserves and rainy day

funds, and \$4 million made up through cuts to teaching positions and programs, and a 3.61 percent tax levy increase.

The district's budget currently reflects funding from the executive budget, however, ultimately the amount of funding the district gets for the 2010-11 school year will depend upon the enacted version of the state budget, scheduled to be voted on by Wednesday, March 31.

The board will have a budget hearing on Tuesday, March 23, after this article goes to press. The school's budget will be up for vote Tuesday, May 18.

IN BRIEF

Library to host college program

Altamont Free Library will host a college admissions seminar for high school sophomore and juniors and their parents Tuesday, March 30 at 7 p.m.

Educational consultants Mimi Hajjar and Allison Schultz will discuss how to make good decisions regarding the college admissions process.

For information, call Judith Wines at 861-7239.

Fresh Air Fund seeks families

The Delmar Fresh Air Fund, a service available for low-income children from New York City, is looking for host families to give the children an opportunity to experience suburban and rural life for two weeks.

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Town Board approves G'land Center master plan

Roundabout addition and access to parks part of study

By RYAN MUNKS
munksr@spotlightnews.com

The Town Board unanimously voted to accept the master plan for the Hamlet of Guilderland Center at its Tuesday, March 16, meeting. The master plan develops a framework to guide future development in the hamlet and marks the completion of all the master plans suggested in the town's comprehensive plan.

The plan, which focused primarily on transportation and land use, was prepared by Behan Planning and Design, in collaboration with Creighton and the Capital District Transportation Committee, along with a number of town officials and residents.

John Behan, a principle at Behan Planning and Design, presented the plan to the town.

"One of the really enjoyable things about the project is the enthusiasm it generated among

citizens of the hamlet," said Behan.

He referred to meetings held at the Guilderland Center firehouse on May 7 and Sept. 24 that were well attend by residents.

"There were two main areas discussed in the master plan recommendations: The first is transportation; the second is land use," said Behan.

While he briefly discussed land use, most notably the residents' desire to have greater access to parks and playgrounds within walking distance of their homes, the majority of the discussion at the meeting centered on transportation, specifically, the impact of trucks coming and going from the Northeast Industrial Park, buses from the school district, traffic speed and the need for a greater degree of pedestrian accessibility within the hamlet.

Currently, Guilderland Center is characterized by high speed limits and a lack of sidewalks, crosswalks and other pedestrian-friendly improvements.

"There's a discussion in the plan about working

with the Northeast Industrial Park to see about opening a second gate in the Depot Road entrance that has been closed many years ago," said Behan.

He said that although the industrial park raised security concerns about opening the second gate, they are open to the idea.

Councilman Mark Grimm would later raise concerns about residents of Depot Road being opposed to having the second gate open, which would cause more trucks to use the road.

"There are not as many folks living along Depot Road," said Behan. He also said that the road is wider than Route 146, the current location of the entrance to the park, making it better suited as a route for trucks.

He said that the recommendations within the plan are a starting point, and the implementation of any of the ideas within the plan would need further study.

"That all would have to be looked at, I think, in further detail," said Behan.

For much of the

presentation, Behan and the Town Board discussed traffic-calming measures in the hamlet.

"Route 146 and School Road was the key intersection for most folks in the hamlet," said Behan.

Behan said that there are three solutions mentioned in the study to make the intersection safer: the addition of a left turn lane to the road, a one-lane roundabout or pedestrian improvements, such as a crosswalk.

He said the addition of a roundabout would provide the most benefits; however, according to the report, it would also be the most expensive, costing between \$1 and \$1.5 million.

According to Chris O'Neill, of the Capital District Transportation Committee, the cost "depends on what kind of drainage or engineering issues you encounter when you build the roundabout."

"Unfortunately roundabouts are fantastic, but they are expensive," he said.

Redlich questioned what he thought was an unusually high cost for a roundabout.

"You don't just put down more pavement and put a circle in the middle of it?" Councilman Warren Redlich asked.

"It usually is not that simple," said O'Neill. He said the engineering work that needs to be done, along with the costs of construction, make traffic circles more expensive than they appear.

Councilman Paul Pastore would later ask whether costs associated with the traffic circle would outweigh its benefits, when weighed against other options.

Behan said that because Route 146 is a state road, and that a roundabout is a traffic-calming measure that reduces emissions, a roundabout on Route 146 would be a good candidate for federal funding.

"There are a number of reasons why the roundabout might rate higher and you would be more likely to get funding, so that would offset the cost differential," said Behan.

Behan and the Town Board went on to discuss the additions of sidewalks and pedestrian improvements along the south side of Route 146.

According to Behan, as you head north on 146 the addition of sidewalks becomes more difficult due to the fact that homes on the northern part of the road, within the hamlet, are closer to the right away.

The Town Board unanimously accepted the plan at the end of Behan's presentation.

After the meeting, Runion said that there are a number of things in the plan that can be done simply, such as working out an agreement with the industrial park to allow school buses to access the high school via traveling through the park, rather than using Route 146. He said that would mitigate the congestion on Route 146, and reduce emissions from the idling buses.

He also providing residents with more accessible connections to Roger Keenholts Park is something that can be done fairly easily by the town.

Further information, including a copy of the master plan, can be found in the Planning Department section of the town's Web site at <http://www.townofguilderland.org>.

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Breslin gets another challenger

Martland seeks Senate seat

By RYAN MUNKS
munks@spotlightnews.com



Luke Martland, right, is running for the state Senate.

Another Democratic candidate, Luke Martland, has entered the race for state senator for the 46th Senate District, which comprises all of Albany County.

Sen. Neil Breslin, the incumbent in the district, will now face two challengers for the democratic nomination.

Martland said he plans to harness support among Albany County residents that are tired of the dysfunction in state government.

"I think our government is broken, it simply isn't working," he said.

Martland, a lawyer who lives in the City of Albany, began his career in law in 1991 as a Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan, and would eventually go on to be a section chief in the New York State Attorney General's office, the Director of the Office of Sex Offender Management for the Division of Criminal Justice Services, and most recently, assistant counsel to the governor.

Martland officially resigned his position in the executive chamber, effective on March 5.

"Luke Martland resigned from state government specifically to run for office because he was disgusted with the dysfunction and incompetence in all of state government," said Larry Sombke, Martland's campaign manager.

Martland made his official announcement on Tuesday, March 9. "When we put up the Web site, that was our official announcement," said Martland. "I am officially in the race."

Martland said a whole bunch of issues motivated him to run for the office. "New York has some of the highest taxes in the country and the worst services," he said. He also said the budgetary issues and corruption in state government are other motivating factors in his decision to run. "Put that all together and I think we are in a serious crisis," he said.

Martland mentioned some specific issues he hopes to address as a State Senator. First, he said he

the first. While Carney has stated his intent to run, he has not made a formal announcement as of yet. He said he is waiting to make the announcement until he is finished shoring up support for his campaign. Like Martland, Carney plans to appeal to anti-incumbent sentiments, and people who are frustrated with the dysfunction in state government.

"They're very welcome to run, it's a democracy, and they have every right to be upset with the system," said Breslin. He also said they should not, however, be upset with people that do not have anything to do with the faults of the system.

Historically, the odds are against Martland and Carney, with elections in New York state overwhelmingly favoring the re-election of incumbents. Breslin was re-elected six times since assuming office in 1996. In 2008, Breslin won by a 10 to 1 margin over his opponent Charlie Voelker.

"This year is a year that changes. I think people are so angry and fed up," said Martland.

believes the legislature should meet year round, and he will commit to being a full time senator and not pursue a second job while in office.

He criticized Breslin for holding a second job at the law firm Hiscock & Barclay. According to information from Breslin's office, "Neil practices law as 'of counsel' to the firm of Hiscock & Barclay."

Martland also said that he believes term limits are a necessary reform that the legislature should embrace. "I will commit to term limiting myself out of office," he said.

"What's different about me is I am not only pushing for these changes, but committed to doing them myself," he said.

Martland is the second candidate to state his intentions to run for Breslin's seat, with Timothy Carney being

Cuts

(From Page 1)

officials. If voters turn down a budget the district can put another one forward, but if it's turned down again the school must adopt a contingency budget. This measure is designed to prevent runaway spending and is intended keep the previous year's program intact while adjusting for inflation, generally leading to a small budget increase.

But with the consumer price index dropping this year, a contingency budget would mean a nearly 1 percent decrease in the school budget, said district CFO Judith Kehoe.

"It's kind of an unusual budget year, in more ways than one," she said.

School officials said another \$2 million beyond

the Tier 3 cuts already tentatively approved would have to be found should a contingency budget be necessary.

There is talk at the capitol of taking measures to adjust the requirements of a contingency budget, but lately there are few guarantees when it comes to action by the state legislature.

There are additional factors at play not factored into the budget. BC is having difficulty collecting about \$900,000 in state aid promised when it expanded to full-day kindergarten. Superintendent Michael Tebbano said a recent meeting with state Sen. Neil Breslin was helpful, but the money will be coming three to four months late, at best.

"We were unable to get any clear indication of when the money might be coming to the district,"

Tebbano said. A change in the state budget would also have the district assuming greater responsibility for the cost of the extended school year program, a mandated six-week extension to the school year for severe need students. Eighty to 120 students generally participate at BC and, if the change goes through, the district could be assuming another \$339,000 in costs.

Even though the school board must adopt a budget by April 1, many pieces of the puzzle remain missing, not the least being what the state budget will do to BC's aid. Gov. David Paterson's executive budget is calling for a \$2.3 million reduction for the district that, coupled with rising costs, helped to create the \$5 million year-to-year budget gap the district is attempting to fill.

St. Peter's ALS Center to host events

The St. Peter's Hospital-ALS Regional Center will host several upcoming events to raise funds and awareness.

On Sunday, April 25, there will be a 5K Cherry

Blossom Run in Niskayuna at 10:15 a.m. sponsored by the Congregation Gates of Heaven. For information, contact racewithus@mindspring.com.

On Saturday, May 22,

Uncle Sam's Lanes in Troy will host the Knockdown ALS Bowlathon. Check in will be at 6:30 and bowling will begin at 7 p.m. Call 525-1629 for information, or for an extended schedule.



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Your Community in The Spotlight

Guiderland FD to host game night

Guiderland Fire Department will host a ham and game night on March 27 at 7 p.m. Attendees will eat ham, play games, and have chances to win prizes.

First-time home buyer class offered

On Saturday, March 27, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Coeymans Town Hall

18 Russell Ave., Ravena, there will be a free class for first-time home buyers.

Breakfast and lunch are provided, there is a \$10 non-refundable registration fee

For reservations or information, contact Susan at 765-2425.

Designer to provide finish consultation

Jeff Thomas Communities has engaged the services of Valerie DeLaCruz, LEED AP, Certified Interior Designer, to act as finishes coordinator for their clients purchasing condominiums at Brandle

Meadows in Altamont.

DeLaCruz had previously completed the design of the four model units as well as the clubhouse at the community. The State Certified Interior Designer has been a design consultant for over 25 years, and has recently specialized in condominium and hospitality projects such as the Hyatt Place in Malta, Glen Sanders/Angelo's Tavolo in Scotia, and the Homewood Suites in Port St. Lucie, FL, which has been honored by being selected for Homewood by Hilton's national ad campaign for its décor. She is also a LEED

Accredited Professional, having successfully met the criteria and testing overseen by the US Green Building Council, for sustainable building and design practices.

Chabad hosts Passover Seders

• On Monday, March 29, at 7 p.m., explore the Kabalistic insight on the number four: Four cups of wine, four sons, four questions and four types of freedom.

• Second Seder Night:

On Tuesday, March 30, at 8 p.m., experience the liberation and freedom of Passover.

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Everyone is welcome, a donation is appreciated. For more information and reservations, call Rabbi Nachman or Clara Simon at: 439-8280, e-mail DelmarChabadSimon@gmail.com or visit www.

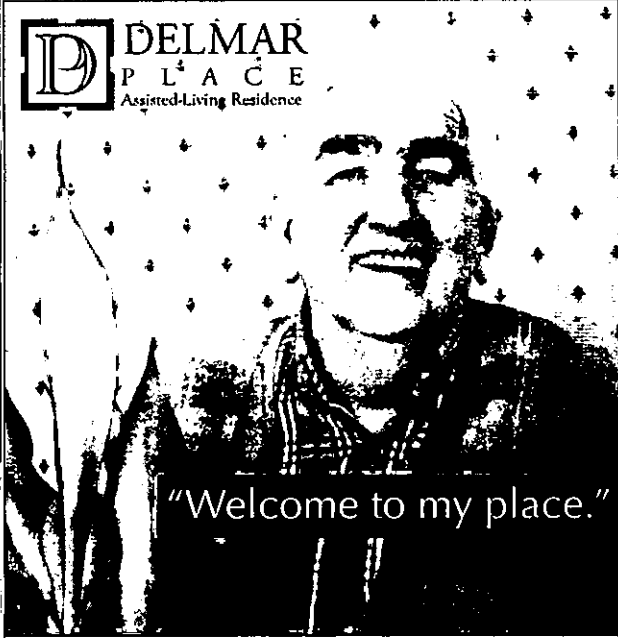
DelmarChabad.org.

St. Pius X church to host presentation

Rosemary Gavin, Coordinator for Youth Ministry and Confirmation at Our Lady of Assumption Parish will present on personal prayer and spirituality in a presentation entitled "Prayer in Pastoral Care Ministry."

A reservation is necessary.

For information, call Sr. Mary Agnes Kehoe at 459-6635 x 102.



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Your Community in The Spotlight

Search for snipe at Fiver Rivers

An outdoor search for the common snipe will be conducted on Friday, April 30 at 7:00 PM at the NYS DEC Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar.

The courtship flight of the snipe is one of the most elusive and eerie spectacles of spring, and the "snipe hunt" one of America's most celebrated forays into futility. So to many, the name "common snipe" is a contradiction in terms. On this tour through twilight, Center naturalists will scour field and fen

for a rumor of snipe, a whisper of woodcock and other things that go bump in the night.

The program is open to the public is free of charge. Participants are urged to dress for outdoor activity and bring your own "snipe trap". In the event of inclement weather, this program may be cancelled. Please call the Center at (518) 475-0291 for more information.

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center is a designated New York State Watchable Wildlife site, where wildlife viewing opportunities abound. Learn more

by visiting "Watchable Wildlife" at www.dec.ny.gov.

Church to host War Healing Ministry

On Sunday, March 28, 4 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany (FUUSA), Emerson Community Hall, 405 Washington Ave (corner of Washington and Robin Street), Albany, will host the War Healing Ministry.

PBS will be filming this event for their Religion and Ethics Newsweekly. A 4 p.m. Opening Ceremony

will be followed by a 5 p.m. Light Meal and 6 p.m. War Healing Community Circle.

For information, visit www.albanyuu.org or contact Chris Antal, FUUSA Ministerial Intern, at 463-7135.

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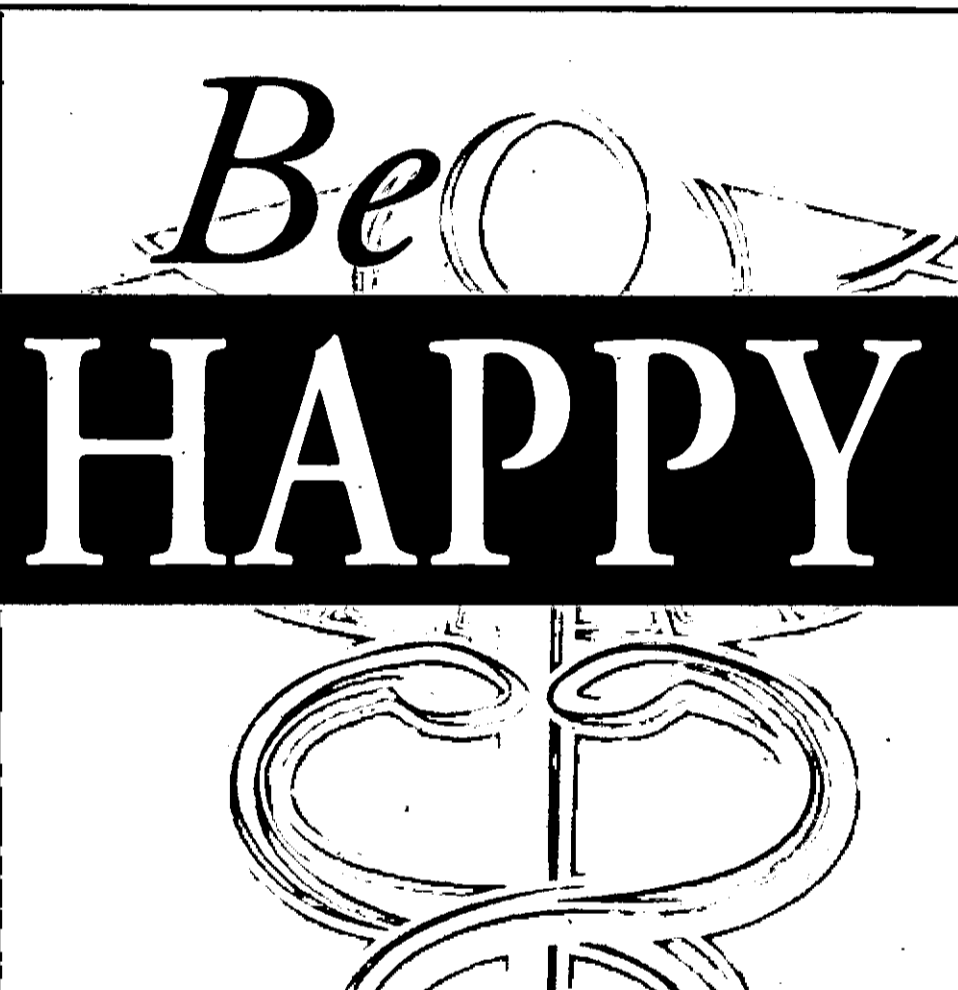
Now is the time that home gardeners begin to think about their gardening projects. Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Schenectady and Albany Counties are offering a series of classes on Gardening Basics.

Held on March 23 at the Greenhouse in Central Park, Schenectady will be Demystifying Soils, everything you ever wanted to know about soils but were afraid to ask! Also at the Greenhouse in Central Park, on April 13th, will be Backyard Composting. On April 27th, Thinking Outside the Bed; the Garden Bed, That Is! will be held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County office in Voorheesville. The Greenhouse in Central Park will host the May 11 program, Vegetable-Planting Party. Culminating the series will be Bringing the Garden

to the Table at the Albany County Extension Office on June 22nd.

Classes will be taught by Cornell Cooperative Extension Educators, Master Gardeners and local experts. Classes run from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information or to register for classes, please call Lisa Cox, 765-3512. Classes are \$15.00 each.

Individuals with special needs requiring accommodation should contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension, Schenectady County office, 372-1622 prior to the program or activity.



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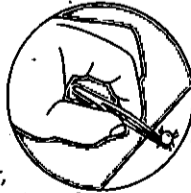
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An island adventure at BCHS

Students stage Caribbena-set musical

By ANNA MIROFF
intern@spotlightnews.com

Outside, March may be dragging on gray as ever, but inside Bethlehem Central High School, a Caribbean island is being brought to life. "Once on This Island", the latest by BCHS' Stage 700, is a colorful, Caribbean-set musical featuring diverse music, rich themes and complex characters.

The musical, which runs from March 25 to 28, is a departure from more classical Broadway fare in favor of an exotic setting. "Once on This Island," based on the book "My Love, My Love" by Rosa Guy, is set on a Caribbean island where rich beauxhommes and poor peasants live separate lives. Conflict between the two classes erupts when peasant girl Ti Moune, played by BCHS student Adi White, and Beauxhomme Daniel, played by Andrew Chambers, fall in love, breaking conventions and class boundaries.

While Ti Moune and Daniel face scrutiny from their respective classes, their relationship is also the subject of a wager

among the gods. The goddess of love Erzulie, played by Lara Smith, and god of death Papa Ge, played by Jordan Gross, orchestrate the couple's meeting to settle their debate over whether love or death is stronger. As Ti Moune undergoes a coming-of-age, she must face the obstacles set in her path by both society and gods.

The musical reflects on society at large: It is a story with a conscience. Director James Yeara calls it "one of the most political shows we've done," noting its themes of "exploitation of nature and peasants by the wealthy."

The multiple themes make for a complex tale, described by White as the "journey of a young girl."

Lauren Stricos, who plays Mother Earth Asaka, calls it "Romeo and Juliet set on an island."

A highlight of "Once on This Island" is the diverse range of musical performances, which White says "showcase the strong voices" of the cast. Yeara said the numbers include a mix of "big performance numbers and small ballads."

The music was described by all as

a refreshing change from more classical performances of previous years, a change Stricos said will show audiences a side of BCHS performers they haven't seen before. She said that hearing the auditions of her fellow students, she thought to herself, "I had no idea you had that voice."

The music is described as "bright" by Stricos, "poppy" by White, and "very different" by student director David Ernst.

The complex characters, were both challenging and exciting to portray, according to the student actors.

Although she couldn't relate to her character directly since, as Stricos admits, "I'm not a god", she said she "liked the character more" than past roles.

White focused on creating a backstory for her character's "journey," and she described the role as "a lot more complicated" than her previous characters.

Mary Allendorph, who plays a storyteller, added that her role was "very different from most of the things I've done," but she said the challenge was enjoyable, given that "I always like to pretend to be someone else."



Town of New Scotland Justice Margaret Adkins will be running for judgeship on Albany County Surrogate's Court in the November elections.

Submitted photo

Adkins to run for judgeship

Republican party endorses N.S. justice

By RYAN MUNKS
munksr@spotlightnews.com

On Thursday, March 18, Town of New Scotland Justice Margaret Adkins announced that she will be running for judgeship on Albany County Surrogate Court in the upcoming November elections.

Adkins, a New Scotland resident, has been endorsed for the position by the Albany County Republican Party.

According to New York State's Unified Court System, "In New York State, the administration of a deceased person's estate comes under the jurisdiction of Surrogate's Court. The Court oversees the proceedings in order to ensure that the assets of the estate are managed and distributed in accordance with New York State law and/or the decedent's wishes. Surrogate's Court also has jurisdiction in adoption proceedings, and guardianship proceedings for persons under age 18 or persons under a disability which occurred prior to age 18."

"Surrogate's Court is the place where our loved ones' last wishes are heard, where families

grow through adoption and where guardians are appointed, and I take these responsibilities seriously," said Adkins in a release. "I would very much look forward to the position, and treat it with respect."

Adkins is serving in the third year of her second term as a town justice in New Scotland. She has also served as an acting judge in the Cities of Albany, Rensselaer and Troy, and the Village of Voorheesville.

According to Adkins, an acting judge serves when a full-time judge is unavailable to preside. "I enjoy that as well, I always come back with something," she said.

Adkins, a Republican since moving to New York state in 1983, said last year she was approached to run for a county-wide judgeship by the Albany County Republican Party, however, at that time she could not commit. She said that now, with her daughter heading to college, and her son entering his junior year of high school, she will more able to take on the commitment.

"While I love serving as New Scotland town justice, I look forward to using

my judicial, legal and life experience to serve the people of Albany County as Surrogate's Court Judge with dedication, compassion and integrity," she said in a release.

According to John A. Graziano, chairman of the Albany County Republican Committee, Adkins' experience and integrity qualify her for the Surrogate position.

"She's wonderful," said Graziano. "I know of her experience, she is a high quality person, with high integrity."

"We've discussed her, and we think she's got all the credentials a Surrogate has," he said.

Adkins will face a number of Democratic challengers for the position, including the sitting judge on the court, Cathryn M. Doyle.

Graziano said that although there are other candidates for the position he does not believe any are as good as Adkins.

"I think she's got a built in constituency, and people have good experiences with her in New Scotland," said Graziano.

If elected in November, Adkins will serve a 10-year term as the only judge on Albany County's Surrogate Court.

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BC lifts ban on foreign travel

Group of students and teachers to spend spring break in China

By CHARLES WIFF
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

Nearly a decade after the Bethlehem Central School District put a hold on overseas travel, a group of high school students will be making a foray halfway around the world during the upcoming spring break.

Forty-three BC students will depart April 1 to spend nine days in China. The trip will include visits not only to sites of historical significance like the famous terra cotta soldier army near Xian and the Great Wall near Beijing, but a visit to the modern city of Shanghai, where China's financial district is found.

Global studies teacher

"You can't really talk about what's happening in the world today without talking about China."

Teacher Marsha Buanno-Mackey

Marsha Buanno-Mackey said it should be an eye-opening experience not only for the students, but for the six teacher chaperones, as well. This is to be the district's first China trip.

"You can't really talk about what's happening in the world today without talking about China," she said. "As global teachers, we're as excited as the kids."

In addition to taking in the sights in three cities, the group will visit a school and apartment complex and sit down to dinner with a Chinese family.

"We'll hopefully have

that experience of what life is like for the average citizen," Buanno said.

The trip to China will be the first overseas excursion since the district imposed a moratorium on such travel in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The Board of Education authorized the trip several months ago.

"We felt in the last year or so the climate had changed, and perhaps we could go back to the school board," Buanno said. "This is something that we as a school can offer that a family perhaps cannot on their own."

Also over spring break,

a contingent of French language students will visit that country as part of an immersion program.

BC offers Mandarin Chinese language classes starting at the middle school level, but the trip to China is being organized through the social studies department, where the country plays a role in the two-year global studies course all students take.

Though the students traveling to China have to carry a visa issued by the government in addition to their passports, many of the restrictions formerly imposed on visitors have been lifted in recent years. Many parts of country are now hotspots for western tourists.

Students will pay about \$2,900 for the entire trip, including room and board. There is no impact on the district's budget.

IN BRIEF

Pine Bush plans prescribed fires

The Albany Pine Bush Preserve plans to use prescribed fire as a tool to reduce potential for severe uncontrolled wildfires within the preserve.

The controlled fires will take place between April 1 and Nov. 30, overseen by Fire Management Specialist Craig Kostrewski.

For information, call 456-0655 x 1220.

Exchange seeks host families

The World Heritage Student Exchange Programs is seeking local families to host boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 18 from a variety of countries around the world.

To get involved contact the Head Office at info@

worldheritage.org.

Steamer No. 10 plans free play

Steamer No. 10 Theatre on Western Ave in Albany will perform a staged reading of Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers."

The performances will be Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 27, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, at 3 p.m.

Admission is free.

French film to be screened

The 1939 French film, "Daybreak" will be screened on Friday April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Page Hall on the University at Albany's downtown campus.

The film will be shown in French with English subtitles, and the event is free and open to the public.

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Church, neighbors spar over tower

Town hears concerns about structure to be owned by Verizon

By DAN SABBATINO
sabbatino@spotlightnews.com

A Loudonville church and its neighbors clashed over the health risks of a planned cell-phone tower at a Thursday, March 11, Colonie Town Board meeting.

Neighbors say the proposed location is too close to Loudonville Elementary School, while Loudonville Presbyterian Church officials contend the tower falls well within town, FCC and health guidelines.

The completed tower will be 60 feet high and 1,200 feet from the school and will be owned by Verizon.

"We're skeptical of what these government guidelines are," said Loudonville resident Gary Mittleman. "Our government does not have a great track record [of setting safety standards]."

He cited past guidelines dealing with cigarettes, asbestos and PCBs among some of the failures.

Mittleman said he is worried the cell tower

will pose serious health risks to the students, that could include a heightened risk of breast cancer, leukemia and sleeping disorders.

Pastor Elaine Woroby, of Loudonville Presbyterian Church, where the proposed cell tower will be built, said the decision to allow the tower was not made lightly.

"We talked about the health concern because people raised them," she said. "We truly felt like this was the perfect project for our church."

She said the income would raise money for the mission and service of the church and provide cell service for area residents.

She said after studying the risks and looking at the science, the church maintains that the health risks are nominal.

Amy Fox, who spoke against the project, said the radiation associated with cell towers is undeniable. She said parents in the district are concerned, and the Parent-Teacher Association was scheduled to discuss the issue at its Tuesday, March 16, meeting.

Part of the plan for

□ Spar Page 15

Airport opens room for traveling military

Albany International anticipates opening of the Capt. John J. McKenna Military Courtesy Room

By MALLORY BULMAN
intern@spotlightnews.com

The scene is familiar to all frequent flyers - traveling military personnel lobbies, waiting for their next deployment. This situation is one that John McKenna of Clifton Park and Albany International Airport hope to change.

McKenna, whose son, Captain John J. McKenna IV, died while serving with the Marines in 2006, wanted to give back to the servicemen and women who depart and return through Albany Airport. Slated to open in mid-April, Albany Airport's Capt. John J. McKenna Military Courtesy Room will offer a place for military personnel to relax while waiting for their flights.

"We can do something to offer them a few minutes of rest and relaxation," said McKenna. The room will provide a place for military personnel to wait for flights, relax, have computer and phone access, refreshments, and most importantly, escape from the chaos.



John McKenna of Clifton Park at the unveiling of Albany Airport's Capt. John J. McKenna Military Courtesy Room.

Submitted photo

The room will be staffed by community volunteers who will offer an inviting atmosphere and a well-deserved thank you.

"Most people don't understand the sacrifice that not only the soldiers make, but their families make as well," McKenna said.

The Military Courtesy room will depend on families and communities in order to operate. According to Joseph Pollicino, of Tri-County Council Vietnam Veterans, the project has involved about 80 volunteers. The Tri-County Council Vietnam Veterans serve as the "umbrella

organization" which insures and sponsors the initiative. However, many local volunteer groups such as Blue and Gold Star Mothers and several American Legions as well as the Tri-County Council Vietnam Veterans will donate their time and effort. The volunteers will staff the room and have donated everything from electronics to furniture.

"It's an awesome project," said Kay Moody of Blue Star Mothers. Moody, whose son served in the Army, said that Albany Airport previously had less services for military personnel than most other airports, so the addition of the military

courtesy room will be a much-needed change. Moody said she expects the room to be "a fantastic place for military to rest as they come through." Volunteers will play an integral part in the room's operation; offering a warm and inviting community atmosphere to the room's patrons, and the assistance with travel, as needed. The volunteers took part in a training course to prepare them for the upcoming opening of the room and their responsibilities. "The volunteers are very patriotic and appreciate Capital Region residents," said Moody.

Capt. John J. McKenna IV, for whom the room was named, was called for service in February 2005 for deployment in Iraq. Capt. McKenna was killed in a sniper attack in Fallujah, Iraq while trying to drag an injured Marine to safety. McKenna received various military medals and awards, including Silver Star, Purple Heart, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Global War on Terror Medal, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, and Sea Service Deployment Medal. McKenna also served as a New York State Trooper, and during his employment in Troop G, he patrolled the Albany International Airport.

The room will occupy a space formerly used as an airport training room. Construction is underway, and will consist of the movement of one wall, and the installation of electric and plumbing fixtures. The project has been completely funded by donation. Monetary donations are still encouraged, as the room will depend on them to continue operation. Checks are accepted through the mail at 737 Albany Shaker Road, 12211. Visit www.jmckennamilitarycourtesyroom.org for information.

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Spar
(From Page 14)

the structure includes the addition of a bell, but Fox said that won't change the fact that she and others believe a cell tower is a liability.

"A cell tower is not a bell tower. It's a cell tower," she said.

Anne Marie Growney, clerk of session for the church, defended the project.

She said it provides a number of benefits for the church, including a working bell tower and revenue for mission projects.

She said the exposure levels of the tower will be well below FCC regulation, and the church welcomes neighbors to a "process that is public and open to all," she said.

"We are very open to a conversation about this project," she said.

The church will host a meeting on Tuesday, March 23, at 7 p.m. to discuss the tower.

According to information from the church Web site, "the

impact of the proposed cell tower on the exposure of users of church property and residents of nearby areas to radio emissions is similar to those of commonly used household devices, such as wireless Internet routers, cordless telephones and microwave ovens, and substantially less than that of cell-phone use.

We are not experts on all the studies, but we believe we are working with the best information available to us today as we make our decision about this bell/cell tower project."

The Web site directs users to a number of health organizations include the American Cancer Society, the World Health Organization, Health Canada, the FCC and the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology.

Mittleman said that fact that the tower needed a variance, paired with the location of the tower so close to the school spells trouble.

Town Supervisor Paula Mahan said variances are granted for a number of reasons but are not malicious.

"They're not meant to hurt anybody or cover anything up," Mahan said.

Mittleman and Fox said they could not recall the initial application for the tower.

"I had no idea," Mittleman said. "How could the town let this happen?"

Worobysaid the church was first approached with the idea in 2006.

Mike Rosch, director of the building department, said notice was given after the 2008 hearing when the application was first brought to the town, and it was included in the town's designated newspaper The Spotlight, posted in Town Hall and at the church.

The Town of Colonie Zoning Board passed

a variance to allow a Verizon cell phone tower at the Loudonville Presbyterian Church in June 2009.

Town attorney Mike Magguilli said the town adopted a telecommunications law in October that limits applications to town property and would have prevented the tower from going up at the church, but it does not apply to this project since the application was made before the law was adopted.

"The wireless community fought us tooth and nail on this," he said.

The planning board will have final site approval, and the plan will not go before the Town Board, Magguilli said.



Shown here is an artist's representation of what the bell tower that will house a potential cell tower will look like at the Loudonville Presbyterian Church if approved by the Town Planning Board. Parents and church officials debated the health risks the tower poses to area residents and the students of the Loudonville Elementary School that is 1,200 feet away.

Submitted photo

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Indoor track team cut tabled

Bethlehem BOE to look at matter again on March 24

The BC Board of Education tabled a proposal to eliminate the indoor track team for a savings of \$44,000 at its Wednesday, March 17, meeting. The issue will be reexamined on March 24.

Cutting the team was put forward as the lion's share of proposed cuts to the athletic department. The board unanimously approved making cheerleading a club activity for a savings of \$6,640, which will still allow the group to participate in cheerleading competitions.

Assistant Superintendent Jody Monroe said administrators came up with eliminating the indoor track team after an examination of the entire athletic program, and noted it is one of the few sports with a spring counterpart (outdoor track) and a similar fall activity (cross country).

"We don't have a lot of extra funding for the individual sports as it is," she said. "We felt this was the most reasonable [cut]."

The cost of indoor track includes six coach stipends, transportation and tournament entry fees. The district eliminated much of the nonessential costs from the athletic program last year, including uniform replacement and night games, and the budget is now largely made up of coaching stipends, Monroe said.

More than a dozen parents and student athletes stood to speak against cutting the team, talking — sometimes heatedly — about the benefits the indoor track program brings to the more than 200 participating students.

Some students said while there are other opportunities for track participation, remaining truly competitive with other area schools — and

getting a shot at college scholarships — means training through the winter.

"It's a great medium for getting into competitive schools," said Paul Buehler, a track athlete.

Others objected to cutting one team when the district had previously said reductions should be a shared burden.

Officials said removing a team is the only remaining way to cut the athletic budget.

"There has to be some perspective here," said school board President James Dering. "There's nowhere to cut but stipends, but that unfortunately means cutting a sport. ... People are going to be disappointed."

The decision to table the proposition was met with applause from the audience. School officials will reexamine the proposal and return with more information and recommendations for the board.

— Charles Wiff

Walking distance proposition to be put to voters in referendum

The BC Board of Education in a split vote approved a resolution to put voters a public referendum on increasing the walking distance from the middle and high schools.

In what will be two separate votes, the district will aim to double the walking distance from one half mile to a full mile. Cost savings for each increase were estimated at \$10,600, for a total of \$21,200.

The district is only required to bus student living more than 1.5 miles from the school, and it receives state aid for every student it serves beyond that radius. The board discussed making the walking distance 1.5 miles for double the savings, but there were concerns about student safety, especially during the winter months.

"We live in a community where many of our roads don't have sidewalks," Superintendent Michael Tebbano said.

• For additional budget stories, see page 1.

Board member Matt Downey said students of middle and high school age should be able to handle walking to school safely, and characterized busing students below the 1.5-mile state guideline as a "self imposed mandate."

In the end, board members Downey, Charmaine Wijeyesinghe, Diana Giaccone Stever and Laura Ladd Bierman voted in favor of putting forward the 1-mile propositions. James Dering, Lisa Allendorph and Lynne Lenhardt dissented.

The district will continue to offer bus service to all elementary students, and if the propositions pass, the district will investigate reinstating bus service on roads where it might be dangerous for students to walk.

— Charles Wiff

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 Easter Sunday April 4 10:00 a.m.

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 10:30 AM Worship with Palm Procession and Presentation of the Passion Narrative

Mundy Thursday - April 1 **Good Friday - April 2**
 7:30 PM Celebration of the Lord's Supper and Tenebrae
 12:00 Noon Worship at the Cross

Easter Sunday - April 4
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Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 28th
 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Mundy Thursday, April 1st
 Holy Communion 7:30 pm

Good Friday, April 2nd
 Mid-Day Service 12:00 noon
 Tenebrae Service 7:30 pm
 (a service of light and darkness)

Easter Sunday, April 4th
 8:00 am & 10:30 am

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MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1st
6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall
Shared Middle Eastern Meal
7:15 PM Service with Communion, Labryinth

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2nd
Noon - 3:00 PM in Hummel Chapel
Open for Individual Prayer
5:00 PM Time for Prayerful Reflections and Silence

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4th
10:30 AM Celebratory service in Sanctuary
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Holy Thursday, April 1st, 7:30 PM
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Liturgy Schedule for the Triduum and Easter

HOLY THURSDAY	<i>April 1st</i>
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
7:30 PM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration at the Repository
10:45 PM	Night Prayer
GOOD FRIDAY	<i>April 2nd</i>
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
3:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
7:30 PM	Celebration of the Passion
HOLY SATURDAY	<i>April 3rd</i>
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
8:00 PM	Celebration of the Easter Vigil
EASTER SUNDAY	<i>April 4th</i>
MASSES:	7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM and 12:00 PM

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Through Holy Week to Easter**

Palm Sunday March 28th Services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday 6 p.m. "From Seder to Holy Eucharist"
Scripture, Foot Washing, Seder Dinner, Communion, The Watch
Please call for reservations.

Good Friday 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Holy Saturday 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:00 p.m. **The Great Vigil of Easter with Baptism**

Easter Day April 4th
8 a.m. The Holy Eucharist followed by Easter Breakfast
10:15 a.m.-12:00 noon Childcare and youth activities
10:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist followed by Festive Coffee Hour

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Cooking up tradition

Marrello family celebrates 50 years of owning, operating restaurants

By CHARLES WIFF
wiffc@spotlightnews.com

With several busy restaurants, a catering business and a new eatery prepping for an opening, Joe Marrello has a lot on his plate. But if you ask the Guilderland resident what got him into his line of work, the answer comes quickly: family.

Marrello's father, Anthony, went to work in the kitchen of Keeler's in Albany when he emigrated from Sicily in 1955, and shortly thereafter he opened his own 20-seat diner on Delaware Avenue in Albany. This year, the Marrellos are celebrating the 50th anniversary of that opening.

"For as long as he's been in this country, he's been in the restaurant business," said Marrello of his father. "My father still cooks every night, and now he has three grandsons to feed."

Joe Marrello said he has his father to thank for learning the ropes of the restaurant business. He worked in his dad's restaurant and, after graduating from college, jumped right back into the industry. Now, a half century after his father cut the ribbon on his Italian-American diner, his Marrello Management Group owns and operates a number of restaurants, including Bellini's Italian Eatery, with locations in Slingerlands, Clifton Park and South Windsor, Conn.

He opened the Slingerlands location in 2002, not far from where he grew up in Albany.

"It's a lot of the folks I grew up knowing who come to visit," the Guilderland resident said. "It's a neighborhood place

at the end of the day"

Bellini's recently wrapped up a 50 Reasons to Celebrate promotion that was so successful some deals like Dinner Table Tuesdays will be continued. On that day, \$19.95 will get you a to-go order capable of feeding the entire family.

Marrello is shooting for a summer opening for his Jacob & Anthony's American Grille at the 38 High Rock condominiums in downtown Saratoga Springs. Offering American fare as well as traditional Italian dishes, the restaurant bears the names of Joe Marrello's father and son.

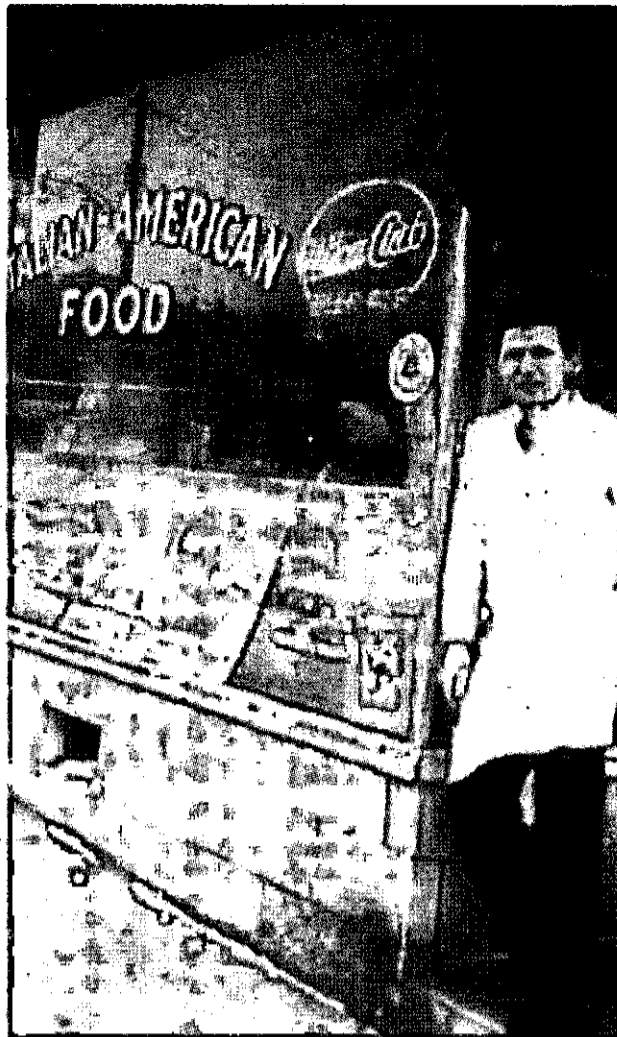
Despite having acquired several new locations since getting into the business, Marrello isn't interested in pushing a rapid expansion.

"We only expand on the basis of success for each restaurant... we don't have a growth schedule," he said. "It's like a staircase. If the foundation's good, you can always grow."

With the opening of Jacob & Anthony's, Marrello Management Group is poised to employ about 300 workers. Marrello said a grand opening of the Saratoga restaurant will likely benefit the Epilepsy Foundation and Saratoga Bridges, and Bellini's has been donating to the Livestrong Foundation this year.

Despite a slumping economy that has impacted many luxury industries, Marrello said his restaurants are doing well, and not just because of promotions. He still adheres to the recipes, ingredients and overall philosophy his father brought from Sicily years ago.

"We're holding our own with positive sales," he said. "Our food is thought of as comfort food, in a way."



ABOVE: Anthony Marrello standing in front of his first restaurant in Albany. He lends not only his recipes to Marrello restaurants today, but is often on hand to ply his trade experience.

TOP RIGHT: Bellini's Owner Joe Marrello with Chef Mohammad Nasri next to the wood fired oven at Bellini's Italian Eatery in Slingerlands. The Marrello family is celebrating 50 years in the restaurant business this year.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Joe Marrello along with his sister, Lisa, and father, Anthony.

Charles Wiff/Spotlight and submitted photos

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The deadline for all announcements is noon Thursday prior to publication.

Entertainment in the Spotlight

Bluegrass Beginnings

Fairview Avenue lines up gigs as its members bring a variety of musical styles to the table



Fairview Avenue features, from left, Tony Califano on mandolin, Liz Hopkins on bass, Morrie Safford on guitar and Scott Hopkins on banjo.



Fairview Avenue will be busy at outdoor venues this summer, including concert series in Altamont and Clifton Park.

By JACQUELINE M. DOMIN
dominj@spotlightnews.com

For more than a decade, Scott Hopkins has belonged to one bluegrass band or another. So when he moved to the Capital District about four years ago, he decided to start his own band.

Hopkins' wife, Liz, is a classically trained pianist, but she didn't have a bluegrass background. Still, she asked Scott if she could be in his band.

"I used to listen to him, and I always wanted to play," she said. "I really

liked the music."

Scott agreed, so long as Liz was open to learning a new instrument. She was, and Scott, a music teacher, taught her how to play the bass.

They placed an ad on Craigslist and found their next member, Tony Califano. Then, through a mutual friend, they brought Morrie Safford on board.

The result was Fairview Avenue, a bluegrass band that's beginning to find a foothold in the region. Liz Hopkins has been busy lining up gigs for the group, including a show at the Schenectady County Library on Sunday, March

28. Fairview Avenue will play at 2:30 p.m. as part of the "Beat the Snow" concert series.

All four members of the band say the group's chemistry was noticeable from the start.

"Things just happened really quickly and smoothly," Califano said.

In fact, Califano, like Liz Hopkins, gladly learned a new instrument for the band. A natural guitarist, "I played in rock bands forever," he said. But when Safford joined the band, Califano and the others realized his bluegrass background made him a better fit to be the guitarist,

so Califano volunteered to take up the mandolin.

"I figured it would be easy to learn, and it has been," he said.

Despite his rock background, there were a couple of things that drew Califano to the Hopkinses' ad on Craigslist. First, he was a huge Grateful Dead fan, and that band's Jerry Garcia played banjo in a bluegrass band, so the genre had always interested Califano. Plus, when he saw a link on the ad to some of Hopkins' music, he was seriously impressed.

"I thought, I can't really pass that up," Califano said.

He said he and the Hopkinses had an instant rapport. He got along especially well with Scott, the group's banjo player, because Califano is studying to become a music teacher — he has a bachelor's degree in recording, but when he dated a music teacher, he realized "that's a sweet gig."

"Scott and I are very similar in a lot of ways," he said. "We both tend to take a little bit of an intellectual approach to things."

Safford, meanwhile, acknowledges that he's not as "studied in music" as his bandmates. Califano said Safford is "such a straight-up bluegrass player, and we need that."

Like Scott Hopkins, Safford grew up around bluegrass music.

"My dad played banjo as far back as I can remember," he said.

Safford was only about 12 when he started playing in his first band, the Bluegrass Upstarts. Later, he played in a group with his dad before joining the service. Eventually, he moved back to the Capital District and was looking for a "band I could grow with" when he hooked up with Fairview Avenue.

That the band has been growing is a testament in large part to the work of Liz Hopkins, who describes herself as a full-time mom, part-time nurse and part-time band member. In recent weeks, she's sent e-mails anywhere and everywhere, hoping a few people might bite and sign Fairview Avenue to play. The response has stunned her.

"I probably get an e-mail back everyday from someone I've contacted," she said. "People in general really do like bluegrass."

Starting in May, Fairview Avenue will regularly perform at Emack and Bolio's ice cream parlor. Other gigs include LT's Grill in Niskayuna and the Moon and River Cafe in Schenectady. It's also slated to play concert series in

Clifton Park and Altamont this summer.

Scott and Liz Hopkins are Altamont residents; the band's name is a nod to the street where they live. Scott said the couple shared a goal to have music in their home, which is one of the reasons he was more than happy to have his wife join his band.

Her voice, he added, is folksy and appealing, while Safford brings an "iconic bluegrass style" to the band and Califano's rock background distinguishes Fairview Avenue from other bluegrass bands.

"Tony's style adds another dimension to our sound," he said.

Whatever their styles, all of the members of the band are bound by their simple love of music. Califano said that a rock band that he belonged to not long ago was made up of "weekend warriors" who weren't necessarily as serious about music as he was. That's different in Fairview Avenue, which also challenges him with the new instrument and a new style of singing.

"When I leave a gig or rehearsal, my ears don't hurt," he said. "It's nice to just hear the instruments and hear the voices."

For information, visit the band's Web site, www.fairviewavenuebluegrass.com.

Pet of the Week



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Heroin

(From Page 2)

car while traveling southbound on Schoolhouse Road. Police said Dougherty continued southbound on Schoolhouse Road, and turned into the Woodlake apartment complex before coming to a stop.

According to police, Dougherty admitted to drinking beer before driving home. Police said that after failing the first field sobriety test Dougherty refused to take additional tests, and said "Just take me to jail and let's get this over with."

Dougherty refused to be fingerprinted and to take a breathalyzer test, said police. Dougherty was arraigned at Guilderland Town Court later that day and issued an appearance ticket for Thursday, March 25.

The Bethlehem Police Department arrested a Rensselaer man Wednesday, March 10, and charged him with multiple crimes in connection with three past incidents.

Detectives apprehended Kevin P. Gervasio, 24, of 1348 Second Avenue, Rensselaer, at his home via a signed felony complaint.

At the Bethlehem Police station, he allegedly made statements implicating himself in crimes occurring on Feb. 21 and Feb. 11 of 2010, and Dec. 13 of 2009.

In connection with two separate incidents occurring at the Price Chopper on Glenmont Road in Glenmont, Gervasio was charged with grand larceny in the fourth degree, three

counts of performing a scheme to defraud and two counts of fraudulent accosting.

In connection with a Feb 11 incident at 163 Delaware Avenue, he was charged with fraudulent accosting and attempted petit larceny.

Town Justice Paul Dwyer arraigned Gervasio, who was remanded to Albany County jail in lieu of \$15,000 bail. He was scheduled to appear in court on Tuesday, April 6.

The Bethlehem police Department arrested Andrew R. Zinzow, 23, of 14 Currey Avenue, Selkirk, and charged him with DWAI-Drugs, following a traffic stop Thursday, March 11.

Police stopped Zinzow on Beaver Dam Road in Selkirk for speeding and failing to keep right, for which he was also charged.

He was allegedly unable to produce a valid insurance identification card when asked, but police later confirmed proof of insurance. Police noticed an odor of marijuana when interviewing Zinzow, according to arrest reports.

The department's drug recognition expert was called to the scene to interview Zinzow, who allegedly admitted to use of multiple narcotics, including heroin, valium, suboxone and marijuana. Police noticed multiple fresh track marks on his left arm, according to arrest reports.

Zinzow was placed under arrest and agreed to have a blood sample drawn at Albany County Medical Center for a chemical test.

The Bethlehem Police Department arrested Raymond W. Moore Jr., 65, of 45 Jericho Road, Selkirk, and charged him with felony DWI and criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree following a traffic stop on Friday, March 12.

Police allegedly observed Moore's vehicle in violation of multiple traffic laws, and stopped him on Delaware Avenue in Delmar.

He could not produce registration or proof of insurance when asked, and police noticed a strong odor of alcohol when interviewing him, according to police. Moore allegedly admitted to consuming two beers.

Moore was placed under arrest after sobriety tests and a breath prescreen test. When he was asked to report what was in his vehicle, he told police he had a .22 short hammerless pistol seated in the driver's seat and center console, according to arrest reports.

Police recovered the weapon, which was in a holster and not loaded, and Moore confirmed he did not have a license or permit to carry the weapon, according to police.

A chemical test at the station showed Moore's BAC to be 0.17 percent, police said. The DWI charge was elevated to felony level in light of a 2003 DWI conviction through Bethlehem Justice Court. Judge Paul Dwyer remanded Moore to Albany County jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail.

The Bethlehem Police Department arrested April M. Therrien, 22, of 123

Old Alcove Road, Alcove, and charged her with aggravated DWI following a traffic stop at 217 Route 9W in Glenmont on Saturday, March 13.

A police unit observed Therrien's vehicle swerving from its lane on Route 9W several times, according to police.

When stopped and interviewed, she had alcohol on her breath and glassy, bloodshot eyes, and also stumbled towards the roadway when asked to exit her car, according to arrest reports.

Therrien allegedly failed three field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest. A chemical test at the station showed her BAC to be 0.20, well over twice the legal limit, according to police.

She was given tickets to appear in court on Tuesday, April 6, and transported to her residence by police.

Guilderland police arrested Dennis M. Ellis, 27, of 3 Gordon Court, Rensselaer, on Monday, March 8, for DWI.

According to police, Ellis was pulled over after police observed him cross over into the shoulder a number of times while traveling westbound on Western Avenue.

Police observed a strong odor of alcohol emanating from the vehicle, and said Ellis had watery/glassy eyes. Upon failing subsequent field sobriety tests, Ellis was arrested for DWI. A chemical test would reveal a BAC of 0.12. Ellis will be arraigned at Guilderland Town Court on Thursday, March 25.

Shoot

(From Page 2)

connection with a stabbing in the Latham Village apartments about a quarter mile from where the shooting took place.

"We were thinking all along that there had to be something to do with immigration," said Undersheriff Craig Apple at a Monday press conference.

Through a translator, the inmates led police to 59 Central Avenue, where "fictitious documents" with Alvarez's name on them were located.

Police are continuing an investigation in hopes of finding the source of these documents.

The apartment on Central Avenue was described as a sort of flophouse filled with empty beer cans that persons would apparently stay at for a few days before moving on.

It is still not clear what Alvarez was doing walking down the unlighted stretch of Watervliet-Shaker Road, where Deputy Igoe stopped to check on his status. Though an autopsy was performed Saturday, toxicology reports will not be available for a few weeks.

"We're still trying to piece it together, we're missing a few hours," Apple said.

Sheriff James Campbell said that road does lead to an airport park and fly area.

"It would warrant a deputy to challenge one of the individuals they came across who was walking on that road at 12:30 in the morning walking towards the

airport," Campbell said. "He was doing his job."

Campbell said it's the first time during his 20 years in office a deputy has discharged a weapon at a person. In the Sheriff's Office, only shift supervisors carry Taser stun guns.

"There were no incidents over the past years that warranted going out and getting them," Campbell said.

If the officereviews that policy, Saturday's incident will weigh into a decision, he continued.

Police are also armed with pepper spray, batons and .40-caliber Glock pistols. Apple said the fact Alvarez had thrown an object at the officer, was charging him and reaching into his pocket warranted Igoe's response.

"I don't think the Taser would have even had an opportunity to be engaged at that time," Apple said. "He took the proper course of action."

Igoe was uniformed, driving a marked patrol car and identified himself as a police officer, including saying "policia." He's an 11-year veteran of the department.

Police said Alvarez worked sporadically for Maddelone & Associates, a property management company in the City of Schenectady. He was last seen on Friday, March 19, at the company and was told to come back to pick up his paycheck at 3 p.m. He never returned.

A grand jury investigation is common in police shootings.

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**Seniors
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The Capital District Retired Senior Volunteer Program has a mission to link all adults 55+ to rewarding and meaningful volunteer opportunities in their local communities. Learn more by attending a program on Thursday, April 8, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. p.m. at Guilderland Town Hall. No registration is necessary.

**Mammography
screening**

Amobile mammography screening, co-sponsored by the Town of Guilderland and Bellevue Hospital, will take place on Thursday, May 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Town Hall. Call Mary Ann at 356-1980, ext. 1095, to schedule an appointment. Transportation service is available upon request.

**Fashion show
and luncheon**

Please plan to join us at the Fashion Show and Luncheon at The Crossgates Restaurant, Washington Avenue Extension in Albany, on Tuesday, May 4, at noon. Fashions by Ann Taylor, with modeling by senior ladies.

Tickets are available in the Senior Office March 30 to April 27. The cost is \$17 per person.

Monday, March 29
Scheduled Shopping
9 a.m. Aerobics
10:30 a.m. Strong Bones +
10:30 a.m. Sr. Fitness
1:30 p.m. Strong Bones +

Tuesday, March 30
9 a.m. Strong Bones +
11:30 a.m. Luncheon:
Chicken a la King or Cold Plate
12:30 p.m. Bingo/
Games/Billiards

Wednesday, March 31
Scheduled Shopping
9 a.m. Line Dancing
10:30 a.m. Strong Bones +
10:30 a.m. Bridge
11:45 a.m. Sr. Fitness
1 p.m. Needlecraft
1:30 p.m. Strong Bones +

Thursday, April 1
Scheduled Shopping
9 a.m. Strong Bones
1 p.m. Pinochle/
Mahjongg

Friday, April 2
Scheduled Shopping
10 a.m. Painting
12:30 p.m. Town Hall
Closing

Course will help with a healthy action plan

Are you living with an ongoing health condition such as obesity, heart disease, arthritis or diabetes? Join us for the Living Healthy Workshop Series, a six-week course that will help you build an action plan for maximum health.

Topics include: physical activity, medications, managing fatigue, breathing, healthy eating, pain, communication, problem solving and working with health professionals. Living Healthy is the local implementation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program developed by the Stanford Patient Education Research Center. The six week program will be at the Bethlehem Town Hall on Mondays, starting March 29, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Reservations are a must and can be made by calling 439-4955.



Town of Bethlehem

Upcoming social events during April include "The Orphan Train" at NYSTI on April 20, dinner at the SCCC Culinary Arts Program on April 13, "Gypsy" at the Cohoes Music Hall on April 17 and "Harvey" at the Curtain Call Theater on April 25. Call Elizabeth at 439-4955, ext. 1176, for reservations (or to be placed on a waiting list) and to arrange transportation. Home pick-up is available on a pre-arranged basis. Suggested van donation is \$5.

**Program
highlights**

Monday, March 29
• Living Healthy series

See above for details.

Tuesday, March 30
• Seniors in Motion
A low level fun aerobic exercise class to music. Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 9 to 10 a.m. No registration is necessary. \$3 fee per class.

• A.A.R.P. Income Tax Assistance Program, Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments are needed and you should bring various tax documents, including your 2008 return, your W-2 and 1099 forms, and receipts for contributions, medical bills, and property/school taxes. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176.

Wednesday, March 31
• Senior grocery

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

Thursday, April 1

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

• Bethlehem Senior Citizens Club meets for an enjoyable social afternoon of games, entertainment, and dessert at the Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, at noon. All residents are welcome. Bring a sandwich and

join others for lunch if you wish.

**Friday, April 2,
Good Friday**

• No transportation. Seniors in Motion will not meet. Town Hall is open regular business hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

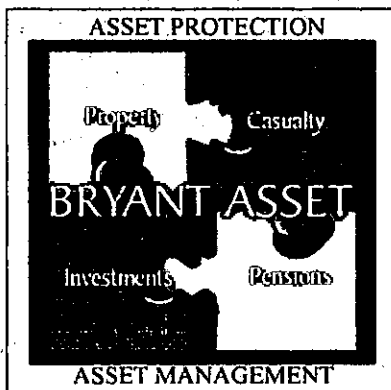
• Seniors in Motion will not meet the week of April 5 to 9, Spring Recess. For information on the above or a list of additional activities, call the Bethlehem Senior Services Office at 439-4955, #1176

*Wilma DeLucco,
Bethlehem Senior
Projects, Inc.
Board Member*

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Submit registration form and non-refundable payment to: HMRRC, c/o MARCIA ADAMS, 1009 TOLLGATE LANE, SCHENECTADY, NY 12303

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SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (if under 18)

Sewer

(From Page 1)

"Some of the pipes have shown they are beginning to deteriorate at the present time," said Supervisor Ken Runion.

He said in September 2009 one of the pipes collapsed, allowing sand to get in and causing backflow into one of the homes on Presidential Way.

"That brought about conversations between the town and the State Farm Utility Corporation about conducting an engineering study to bring the sewer pipes up to town specifications, and eventually turning the system over to the town," said Runion.

Strong described the series of circumstances that led to his ownership

of the sewer system. He said his father acquired the system and the sewer plant when he was one of the developers of Heritage Village. After his father's subsequent bankruptcy, the bank that owned the system asked Strong to take it over.

"Key Corp, the bank, called me and said, 'Would you come over here and take this thing over because we don't want to own it,'" said Strong. "I got Town Board approval to take over the contract thinking the only thing I was doing was taking over the sewer plant."

Strong would go on to say he was under the impression that the plant's debt would be paid off after 11 years, however, when the sewer plant that serviced the lines was shut down in the early 1980s and the lines were diverted into the town's

sewage treatment system, Strong found out he also owned the sewer lines.

Reluctantly, Strong continued to operate the sewer lines, bringing in about \$60,000 per year, most of which was spent in operating costs. Strong said that the corporation was able to operate the lines under budget for a number of years, but the savings never amounted to much.

"As the corporation saved money, it got taxed, so 50 cents of every dollar went to the tax man and the fund never built up to be very much," he said.

After 10 years, the fund built up to \$100,000, an amount that was spent repairing two major breaks in the line.

"What's happening right now is the corporation is paying the contractor who did the emergency

repairs and not paying the other operating costs," Strong said. "What's really happening is I'm loaning it money,"

"So it's been limping along ever since and I've had conversations with [Department of Waste and Wastewater Superintendent] Bill West almost annually, saying 'How do we get rid of this thing?'" he said.

Runion said that the residents of the sewer district are currently getting a favorable rate of \$125 per year for the private sewer service, and if transferred over to the town, they will be brought up to the town's rate of about \$300 per year.

The residents of Presidential Estates were on hand at the meeting to voice their support for the transfer of the

sewer system. David Freedman, vice president of Presidential Estate's Homeowners Association, said switching to the public system is a welcomed switch that will help avoid backups like the one that occurred in 2009.

"It's a positive thing going forward. I think the backups we have seen, the problems with the subsystem and the infrastructure will be at an end," he said. "None of us are immune to this, so we are looking for the Town Board support now, and in the future."

He also said the homeowners support the switch and that it's "OK to pay our fair share."

Councilman Warren Redlich said that he was concerned the residents of Heritage Village, who pay 50 percent of the operating costs of the sewers, and

other residents of the district were not notified that the process to transfer ownership to the town is being put in place.

However, the entire Town Board, including Redlich, voted in favor of allowing the corporation to borrow money to pay for the repairs and conduct the study to determine how to bring the sewers up to town code before the eventual transfer to the town.

The study, which includes having an engineering firm observe the system over time by installing cameras to record the operation of the system, is only the beginning of the process to transfer the system to the town and is expected to take a number of months. The eventual transfer is expected to take a number of years.

Shed

(From Page 1)

roughly reflected in dollars amounts.

"Last year, when we were looking at budget reductions, we really tried to spread it out," said Assistant Superintendent Jody Monroe. "We think that these [reductions] will work. Certainly they're not ideal, but we're not in an ideal situation."

If the school board adopts the cuts as tentatively approved, a single teacher would be removed at Clarksville, Eagle and Hamagrael elementaries; the middle

school would lose two sixth-grade teachers; and the high school would lose an English, social studies and science teacher in addition to a teaching assistant and a 0.2 full-time equivalency reduction in a world languages teacher. Each level would also suffer the loss of a reading teacher.

Several teachers and parents spoke out against the removal of reading teachers, who work with struggling students in groups and one-on-one. Dropping the number of elementary reading teachers from nine to eight will mean the end of one-on-one time, said Glenmont

reading specialist Linda Seymour.

"It's impacting 318 kids right now," she said of the reading program.

The removal of intramural sports will impact 555 fourth- and fifth-grade students at a savings of \$27,800, according to the district. Teachers could, in some instances, volunteer their time to continue instruction, but parents could not take over the task due to certification requirements.

At the middle school, funding for the Art Club, Drama Club and Extramurals were tentatively cut, though if clubs can find a way to fund themselves or teachers volunteer time, they may remain open. At the high school, Environmental Club, Future Business Leaders of America club (which did not run this year) were cut.

Adoption possible at next board meeting

It is possible the BC Board of Education will adopt a 2010-11 budget Wednesday, March 24.

But before they do, school board members will address several topics that have been tabled during the budgeting process, including a new fee structure for facility rentals, increasing the price of school lunches and addressing the removal of the indoor track team, which was tabled March 17 after a steady procession of speakers

decried the proposed action.

The meeting will be held at the High School cafeteria. The board will review the nearly \$2 million in cuts it has tentatively approved before making a final decision on the budget. If a consensus cannot be reached or issues are left outstanding, the board will meet March 31 to adopt a budget.

Look to the next edition of *The Spotlight* for further coverage of the budgeting process.

Administrators also recommended cutting funding for the Speech and Debate Club and "The Talon" newspaper, but several students and parents came forward to protest these reductions.

"Not everyone can play a sport or play an instrument, but each and every member of the school community can read 'The Talon,'" said Talon co-Editor in Chief Rachel Bluth. "This is students informing

students about what matters to us most."

Bluth also mentioned that journalism would no longer be offered as a class in the fall, leaving students with fewer options to gain experience in that field.

The quarterly publication receives about \$3,000 in funding. Bluth said the paper's staff would endeavor to offset costs with more advertising.

Administrators said they worked to identify

clubs that had low interest levels, but supporters of the Speech and Debate Club said that after falling into relative obscurity, the group is experiencing a revival.


Club member Jason Wong said the club fosters research, critical and analytical thinking and public speaking skills.

"Speech and debate is really our one outlet to do this in a competitive scenario where we can get feedback," he said.


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Healthy Kids Week to kick off

The library joins Bethlehem Central School District in celebrating Healthy Kids Week next week. Promoting healthy minds and bodies can be fun! Here's the library lineup:

• Tuesday, March 30, at 7 p.m. — Let's Chicken-Dance! (ages 3 to 10 and families).

Join in on the fowl play and learn this energetic dance. Then listen to some fine-feathered tales.

• Friday April 2, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. — School's Out Craft: an Apple a Day (all ages). Drop in anytime to make and take the craft of the day.

• Friday, April 2, at 11 a.m. — Hip Dips (grade K-5). There's something about dips that helps fruits and veggies go down easy. Small groups will each make a different dip to share. The Honest Weight Food Coop will guide you to the goodies.

• Friday, April 2, 2 to 4 p.m. — Fit Kids Decathlon (grade K-5). Contestants can stop in anytime between 2 and 4 p.m. to tackle 10 challenges that exercise the body and mind: physical feats, brain teasers and healthy decision-making. Prizes for all who complete the course!

Help for health

Adult services librarian Alissa Jones is certified by the Medical Library Association as a consumer health information specialist. Her research expertise can help



you find answers to your health questions and concerns. She has specialized knowledge of print and online resources, including specialized medical databases.

Contact Alissa directly with your medical or health reference questions by calling 439-9314, ext. 3029, or e-mailing jonesa@uhls.lib.ny.us.

All communication and research is confidential. Please note that information provided by the library is not to be interpreted as medical or professional advice. All health information should be reviewed with your physician or other health care professional.

Parent workshops continue

"It Takes a Village," our series for parents, teachers and caregivers, presents "Reading at Home" tomorrow, March 25, at 7 p.m. The library's youth services head, Chris McGinty, will talk about early literacy and the

importance of reading to children. She will also provide "the inside scoop" on storytime techniques employed by our youth services team. Preschool children are welcome to attend with their parents. Call 439-9314 to sign up.

Live turtles

Thursday, April 8, 6 p.m.
Dee Strnisa of Five Rivers Environmental Education Center talks about local turtle rescue and rehab.

The changes of the world changing

Thursday, April 8, 7 p.m.
Documentary by Eric Daniel Metzgar and Nell Carden Grey, presented in collaboration with P.O.V., the award-winning nonfiction film series from PBS.

Eating Alaska

Saturday, April 10, 1 p.m.
Documentary by Ellen Frankenstein about balancing processed and locally grown foods.

Eating locally

Saturday, April 10, 2 p.m.
Conversation with Mariah Dahl of Honest Weight Food Coop about eating locally and sustainably.

Food, Inc.

Saturday, April 10, 3 p.m.
Documentary by Robert Kenner about the industry that underlies the nation's food supply.

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.

Vacation fun on tap at V'ville library



Kids should be rushing to sign up at the reference desk for these fun programs being offered during April vacation.

As our feathered friends are returning to their northern homes, join us for "Birds of a Feather," a morning of bird-themed stories and activities. We will be making

edible bird nests and a bird feeder for you to take as a welcome-home treat for the birds. For preschoolers through grade two on Tuesday, April 6, at 10:15 a.m.

This one is for all ages with no registration: "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs."

Watch this funny movie and munch on snacks on Wednesday, April 7, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. (rated PG for brief, mild language)

Calling all future engineers, Lego lovers, and kids who love to build for a "Construction Challenge" with Lego Bricks. We'll supply bins of bricks, specific building challenges and some timed projects for anyone interested from grades 3 to 7. You do not need to bring your own Legos. Sign up for Thursday, April 8, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Teen Book Club meets

April 15 from 2:30 to 3:25 p.m. in the high school library to discuss "Beastly" by Alex Finn, a modern retelling of Beauty and the Beast set in New York City.

Teen Writers Club meets April 1 and 29 from 2:30 to 3:25 p.m. in Mrs. Podgorski's room at the high school. Everyone should be turning in work for the final project and getting ready for the May reading.

Philosophers

Philosophers also meet on April 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the director's office.

Tango and More

Hope to see you all on Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m. for Tango and More with the Broken Reed Saxophone Quartet-free and handicapped accessible.

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.

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Library contest aims to capture a day in the life

Teens and tweens: What can you capture artistically with a digital camera? During April, photographers in grades four through 12 are welcome to take part in the library's "Day in the Life" photo contest and follow in the footsteps of Dorothea Lange, who documented the daily lives of many people during the Depression of the 1930s.

To enter, come to the Youth Services or Teen Services desks for a form, which will need to be signed by the photographer and anyone in the photos. We will display these pictures on the glass windows in the Youth Services area and library Web site.

Don't have a camera? No problem. Two digital cameras are available for checkout at Teen Services. Deadline for submitting photographs is Friday, April 30. Contest winners will be honored at a reception for all participants and their families on Thursday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Partridge profiles Dorothea Lange in "Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange." This book is

GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.guilpl.org

featured in the 2009 "We the People" Bookshelf Books, which was granted to Guilderland Public Library in January 2009. Through the We the People program, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) seeks to reinvigorate the teaching, study and understanding of American history, culture and principles.

The Poet Tree in the Children's Room

April is National Poetry Month, and there's no better way to celebrate than to grow a Poet Tree.

We want poems written by children, tweens and teens so we can decorate our Poet Tree. Please bring your poems to the Youth Services Desk during April. We will place them on the Poet Tree and on our Web site (with the poet's written permission). Each poet will receive special thanks.

Walt Whitman loved words and showed his artistry in his poem, one of which is entitled "A Song of Myself." It's our hope that our young poets will be inspired to write poems about their lives, adventures and thoughts, and post them on the Poet Tree. "Walt Whitman: Words for America," by Barbara Kerley, is also a featured 2009 "We the People" Bookshelf Book.

Mark Curiale

All library programs are free, unless otherwise noted. The Guilderland Public Library is at 2228 Western Ave., Guilderland. For more information on these programs, or any matter pertaining to the library, contact the library's Public Information Office at 456-2400, ext. 12, or email pio@guilpl.org. To see all the programs that are coming up, visit www.guilpl.org. Become a fan of the library on Facebook and follow the library on twitter: @GuilderlandLib.



Join Sara Milonovich's band Daisycutter with guest Brian Melick on Saturday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. The concert is at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Church Road, Selkirk. Tickets in the RCS Community Library's Acoustic Doorways series are \$8 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and children. For information, call the library at 756-2053.

Principals to read stories

What do elementary school principals do on Saturdays? Come to the library on Saturday, March 27, at 1:30 p.m. to find out. Pieter B Coeymans Principal Hakim Jones and A.W. Becker Principal Claudia Verga will be at the library to read their favorite stories to school age children. Will they be reading your favorite story - or will you find a new favorite that day? No registration is required.

Watch 'Coraline' with us

RCS School District kids are off from school on March 26 for Superintendents Day. If you're a middle school student who has always secretly dreamed of writing movie reviews, we've got your ticket. The library will screen "Coraline" with our new, multi-purpose projector.

RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

"Coraline" is a stop-motion animation made from the novel by Neil Gaiman, who also wrote "The Graveyard Book" (movie to be released next year).

At a special Time 4 Teens program that day, we'll discuss the book, eat lunch, and watch the movie. The program will run from noon to 2:30 p.m. Admission is by ticket only.

Spring vacation programs

For upper-elementary and middle school students, we'll hold a drawing extravaganza (that may involve some paint) on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3 to 5.

The School-Age Construction Zone for younger school kids will reopen on Thursday morning, April 8, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. These programs are in the library annex.

Manage your digital photos

Wouldn't it be great to finally get all of those photos organized? Our beginning computer classes continue on Mondays, April 5 and 12, with instruction on how to organize and edit photographs.

On April 19 and 26, class members will learn to import, download and save personal videos. All computer classes run from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Mondays. Registration is required. Call the library at 756-2053.



New York Library Association presents the

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Your Community in The Spotlight

Neighbors for Peace to host screening

On Thursday, April 1, from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m., The Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace will host a screening of "Capitalism: A Love Story" at Bethlehem Public Library, 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

The movie runs 127 minutes. Michael Moore takes on capitalism's roots, the floundering U.S. economy, and 2008's global financial meltdown and subsequent bank bailout in this documentary. Michael Morre interviews those who have suffered most from the Wall Street bailout. Discussion to follow.

Patrons are asked to arrive early as this is a long film and needs to start promptly. For information, call 466-1192.

Guilderhaven seeks donations

Guilderhaven animal rescue, a not-for-profit entity, is seeking 100 generous donors at \$10 each. A sponsor will then match the \$1,000 for a total of \$2,000 toward the spay/neuter of pets belonging to HIV/AIDS patients (PAWS program of the Damien Society).

Please send tax deductible donations to Guilderhaven, inc. 6655 Route 158, Altamont, 12009. For more information, contact Sue at)861-6861, or Georgia at guilderhaven@mac.com.

Fresh Air Fund seeks volunteers

The Fresh Air Fund's Delmar area committee is currently preparing for summer 2010 and eagerly awaiting the arrival of their New York City visitors.

To ensure that this summer is special for Fresh Air children, The Fund is seeking volunteer committee members and host families to sign up now.

Each summer, close to 5,000 New York City children, ages six to 18, enjoy two week vacations with volunteer host families in suburban and rural communities across 13 Northeastern states and Canada. Local Fresh Air Fund volunteers recruit and interview host

Art on the plaza



Office of General Services Commissioner John Egan (left) and First Deputy Commissioner Paul Larrabee with students from Bethlehem, Guilderland, Mohonasen, North Colonia, Niskayuna, and Shenendehowa central school districts whose artwork was on display at the Empire State Plaza. The 300 pieces of art were on display from March 8 to 12 on the South Concourse.

Submitted photo

families, arrange travel and coordinate fun activities in their communities.

For more information on how you can join your local Fresh Air volunteer team, call Hedy Lowenheim at 439-8658 or The Fresh Air Fund at 800-367-0003. Y

You can also learn more about the Friendly Town program by visiting The Fund's Web site at www.freshair.org.

Voorheesville HS to perform 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Voorheesville High School will perform "Bye Bye Birdie" on March 26 at 7:15 a.m., March 27 at 7:15, March 28 at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students. Tickets are available at the door, and the show will be presented at the Voorheesville High School Performing Arts Center.

Lions Club to host pancake breakfast

The Guilderland Lions Club will host a pancake breakfast on March 28 at the Evans Public House in Guilderland.

There will be an all-you-can-eat breakfast of pancakes and syrup,

eggs, sausage, and ham. Beverages will be milk, coffee, and juice. The breakfast will run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 13, and free for children under 4. The Evans Public House is located off of Route 20 in Guilderland. For more information, call the Evans Public House at 356-1116.

Hall of Fame committee seeks noms

The Bethlehem Central Hall of Fame Committee has posted an online nomination form on the district's Web site to allow alumni and community members a way to submit candidates for possible induction in the Hall's Class of 2010. The online nomination form is available on the district's Web site, bcsd.k12.ny.us/alumni/.

The induction will take place at this year's BCHS commencement ceremonies on June 25.

Five Rivers holds maple sugar open houses

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar will hold maple sugar open houses

on March 20, 21, 27, 28, and April 3. There will be interactive demonstrations of the maple sugaring process conducted by Five Rivers naturalists.

The free programs are open to the public. Scouting and youth groups should register in advance. All participants should dress for outdoor activity. Five Rivers Environmental Education Center is located at 56 Game Farm Road in Delmar.

For more information, call the Center at 475-0291.

St. Thomas School to hold fundraiser

St. Thomas School will hold a fundraising "Night on Broadway" at Normanside Country Club in Delmar on April 17, to which community members, business professionals and St. Thomas parishioners are invited to attend.

The evening will feature silent and live auctions, food, and entertainment. All proceeds will benefit St. Thomas School. Attendees may use a donation form to sponsor the event, pledge an item for donation or purchase tickets to the event.

For information, call Pamela Seward at 439-4851.

Five Rivers to hold search for spring birds

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar will hold a search for spring birds on April 3 at 10 a.m. The outdoor study will focus on spring birds like robins and bluebirds, and will be led by Five Rivers naturalists. There will be readings of passages by late Castkill Naturalist John Burroughs to accompany the study. The free program is open to the public. Participants should dress for outdoor activity. Five Rivers Environmental Education Center is located at 56 Game Farm Road in Delmar. For more information, call the Center at 475-0291.

Women's Network offers scholarship

The Capital region Women's Network is offering the Cornelia A. Bregman Scholarship for Women Returning to Education. The \$2,000 is available to women ages 25 or older, who permanently reside in Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Greene or Washington County.

The deadline is April 15, and a personal interview is required of all finalists. To obtain a copy of the application form, visit www.capitalregionwomen.com.

Hook and Ladder hosts Palm Sunday Breakfast

The Annual Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company, will be held on Sunday, March 28, at the New Baltimore Firehouse located on Gill Road in New Baltimore.

The all-you-can-eat breakfast will be served between the hours of 8:00 am and 1:00pm. Our menu will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, toast, sausage gravy, orange juice, milk, coffee, and tea.

The cost is \$8 for Adults, \$7 for Senior Citizens, \$6 for Children 5-12 years old and Children 4 and under are free.

Delmar Place hosts healthy workshop

Delmar Place Assisted Living residence at 467 Delaware Ave, Delmar will be the host site of a 6-week course entitled "Healthy Choices NY, Living Healthy Workshop."

The course is open to adults with chronic conditions and/or their caregivers. Each workshop within the six-week series focuses on strategies to improve self management of chronic conditions like arthritis, heart disease, osteoporosis and diabetes.

The course is free, open to the public and takes place for 6 Fridays from 9-11:30 am starting April 16.

To register, please call the Welcome Desk at Delmar Place 434-4663 by Wednesday 4/14.

Button Club to meet at BPL

The Halfmoon Button Club of the Capital District will hold their next meeting on Wednesday April 14 at the Bethlehem Public Library in Delmar. There will be a lunch at noon and a presentation.

For information, call Jane McCormick at 495-0324.

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PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God. Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to answer me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.(3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands:(3x). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal, you who

gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days, after 3 days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. C.G.

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F	A	L	S	E	S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E		
A	D	S	I	R	E	N	I	C	H	E	S			
S	E	T	H	R	O	M	A	S	H	O	N	E		
H	E	R	E	C	O	M	E	S	T	H	E	S	U	N
E	R	A	S	E	A	N	K	A	W	E	R	T		
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P	A	T	E	P	E	G	S	E	V	E	N	T		
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3	1	9	8	5	2	7	4	6
8	7	5	4	6	3	1	2	9
6	2	4	7	1	9	8	5	3
2	6	7	5	8	1	9	3	4
4	5	8	3	9	7	6	1	2
9	3	1	2	4	6	5	8	7
1	9	3	6	2	8	4	7	5
5	8	2	9	7	4	3	6	1
7	4	6	1	3	5	2	9	8

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Milestones

Fleszar, Schulz to marry

Mark and Susan Fleszar of Troy, NY are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Aubrey Kristen Fleszar, to Kenneth William Schulz, son of Donald and MaryLou Schulz of Delmar, NY.

The couple will marry on October 30, 2010. The wedding ceremony and reception will take place at the Appel Inn in Altamont, NY. The Maid of Honor will be Sara Fleszar, Sister of the Bride. The Bridesmaid will be Marie Matthews. The Best Man will be Douglas Schulz, Brother of the Groom. The Groomsman will be Matt Welsch.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Troy High School. She earned a Bachelor of Science from Siena College and a Masters in Teaching from Union College. She is a Fitness Professional at Health Fitness in Hartford, CT.

The future groom graduated from Bethlehem Central High School. He earned a BS from Marist College and an MBA from University of Connecticut. He is an Information Engineer at Travelers Insurance in Hartford, CT.

The couple plan to reside in Farmington, CT.



Aubrey Fleszar and Kenneth Schulz

Loughlin, Taylor to wed

John and Debra Loughlin of Scotia are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Sean, to Brittani Taylor, daughter of Tim and Laurie Taylor of Hutto, TX.

The future bride is a graduate of Hutto High School in Hutto, TX, and received a bachelor of arts degree from SUNY Albany. She is a Management Trainee with First National Bank of Scotia at the Guilderland Branch Office.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Scotia-Glenville High School. He is presently employed as a Branch Operations Officer with First National Bank of Scotia at the Scotia Branch Office.



Sean Loughlin and Brittani Taylor

Doody, Taylor engaged to wed

Tom and Carole Doody of Glenmont, N.Y. are pleased to announce that their daughter, Kate Doody will marry Brian Taylor, son of Bill Taylor (Maggie) of Ogden, Utah and Linda Phillips (Mike) of League City, Texas. The wedding ceremony and reception will be held at The Pryun House in Latham N.Y. on Saturday, June 26, 2010.

Kate is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Alfred University, and received her Master of Fine Arts degree from The School of The Art Institute of Chicago. Brian is a graduate of Bonneville High School in Ogden, Utah, Utah State University, and will receive his Master of Fine Arts degree from Alfred University in May, 2010. Kate and Brian are ceramic artists currently living in Alfred, N.Y.



Brian Taylor and Kate Doody

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LEGAL NOTICE

The name of the limited liability company (LLC) is: 69 NPS OPERATING, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed on July 16, 2009 with the Secretary of State (SS). The office of the LLC is in Albany County, NY. The LLC shall dissolve on December 31, 2009. The SS of NY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SS shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him or her is the LLC, 109 Ontario Street, Albany, New York 12206. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be formed, both within and without NY state. LD-22281 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING OF THE ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF 69 NPS REALTY, LLC UNDER LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW SECTION 206. The name of the limited liability company (LLC) is: 69 NPS REALTY, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed on July 16, 2009 with the Secretary of State (SS). The office of the LLC is in Albany County, NY. The LLC shall dissolve on December 31, 2009. The SS of NY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SS shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him or her is the LLC, 109 Ontario Street, Albany, New York 12206.

LEGAL NOTICE

The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be formed, both within and without NY state. LD-22281 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation ADAN REAL ESTATE, LLC Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/17/2010 Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 545-547 Central Avenue, Albany, NY, 12206. Purpose: any lawful purpose. Latest date to dissolve 12/31/2095. LD-22283 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Ironbridge Insurance Agency, LLC was filed with the SSNY on 2-17-2010. Office: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The P.O. address which SSNY shall mail any process against the LLC served upon him: Marvin J. Kline, Manager Member 1405 Panther Road Wyncote, PA 02864 Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose LD-22284 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Addison & Grace Holdings LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on

LEGAL NOTICE

01/22/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Registered Agent upon whom process may be served: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-22285 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Bronx Podiatry Associates, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/22/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Albert Tucker and Associates, LLC, 295 Madison Ave., Ste. 1010, NY, NY 10017. Registered Agent upon whom process may be served: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-22286 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of GCST Fealty LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/07/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008,

LEGAL NOTICE

Albany NY 12260. Registered Agent upon whom process may be served: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-22287 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 1116 Myrtle Ave Realty LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/04/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Registered Agent upon whom process may be served: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-22288 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 7901 Myrtle Ave LLC. Arts Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/04/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Registered Agent upon whom process may be served: Allstate Corp. Svcs., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Purpose: any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

LD-22289 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of BLUE DOLPHIN GROUP LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/1/09. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-22291 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of LAFFEY REAL ESTATE NYC, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/22/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-22292 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of DON GILMORE CONSTRUCTION LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/25/10. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process

LEGAL NOTICE

to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-22293 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CROSSMARK Home Improvement Services, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/22/10. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 2/20/07. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Capitol Services, Inc., 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. TX address of LLC: 5100 Legacy Drive, Plano, TX 75024. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, 1019 Brazos, Austin, TX 78701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. LD-22294 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

Name of For. LLC: GREY LADY PROPERTY, LLC. App. for Auth. filed NY Dept. of State: 2/18/2010. Jurisd. and date of org.: DE 2/10/2010. City off. loc.: Albany Cty. Sec. of State designated as agent of foreign LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The Sec. of State shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 293 Country Club Way, Kingston, MA 02364. Addr. of foreign LLC in DE is: National Corporate Research, Ltd., 615 S. DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901.

LEGAL NOTICE

Auth. officer in DE where Cert. of Form. filed: DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-22295 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: 1056 TROY SCHENECTADY ROAD LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, February 24, 2010. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: in Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to 1222 Troy Schenectady Road, Niskayuna, New York 12309. LD-22296 (March 24, 2010)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: SVR Ventures, LLCs. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 23, 2010. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served: SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC: 108 Woods Lane, Menands, NY 12204. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. LD-22297 (March 24, 2010)



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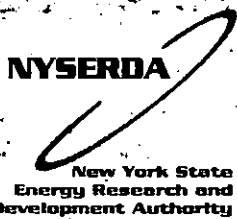
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CBA

(From Page 36)

the Brothers are capable of dealing with whatever comes their way.

• Side note from state boys basketball tournament: I know it can be frustrating to lose in a state title game, but there was no excuse for Half Hollow Hills West senior Tobias Harris' behavior during the second half of the CBA game and the post-game awards ceremony.

When Harris was called for his fourth personal foul in the third quarter, he got so upset that he sat on the floor in frustration and was called for a technical foul that disqualified him from the game. Then during the awards ceremony, he didn't let the runner-up medal be hung around his neck. Instead, he took it and then flung it to the ground. Fortunately, the person who was named the state's top Class AA player composed himself enough to accept his all-tournament team plaque.

I know Harris probably didn't expect his team to get beat by CBA or that he'd wind up fouling out in the third quarter, but he should have left that frustration at the bench and accepted his medal like a gentleman. Of course, me saying that makes me sound like some old-fashioned sportswriter, but I do believe in sportsmanship in the face of adversity. Hopefully, that's something Harris will learn in college.

• Congratulations also go out to the Shenendehowa girls basketball team for reaching the state finals. Unfortunately for the

Plainsmen, they had a couple of bad stretches in the second half that led to Section XI's Sagem East (nickname: the Flaming Arrows?) to come back and win 50-44. Still, it was a great effort by a Shen team that will return four starters next season.

• Side note from state girls basketball tournament: the Averill Park crowd at Saturday night's Class A final was so big, I thought for certain there wasn't a soul left in the Rensselaer County town. Seriously, I nearly had to park behind the Hudson Valley Community College football field because most of the parking near the gymnasium was filled.

• Side note from both basketball tournaments: What is up with all the fans bearing huge head shots of players and coaches? Who came up with this concept? And why is it that Section II fans are the only ones doing this? I didn't see Half Hollow Hills West or Sagem East fans holding up likenesses of their teams. Either we're trendsetters, or we're the only ones who think it's a good idea.

• I'm certain that a lot of words have been written about Siena's first-round loss to Purdue in the NCAA Tournament, but perhaps not these words:

BLAME IT ON THE JIMMY FALLON CURSE!

When Fallon named the Saints his official pick to win the NCAA Tournament on his late night talk show last Wednesday, it was kind of cute. But what Siena fans should have realized was that it was a one-way ticket to a first-round exit. That's because Fallon picked the 16th-seeded University of Tennessee-Chattanooga last year, and

the Moccasins lost in the first round.

Of course, maybe the fact that Purdue was ticked off about all the other national pundits picking Siena led to the Boilermakers beating the Saints 72-66. But I still think it's better to blame Jimmy Fallon, illogical as it may seem.

• In all seriousness, I hope all of you Siena fans enjoyed the last three years because it may take the Saints a while to get back to the NCAA Tournament. No Ronald Moore + no Edwin Ubiles + no Alex Franklin = real trouble, especially in an improving Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. Unless Fran McCaffery finds some suitable replacements (and who knows if McCaffery will be around to find those replacements), Siena is going to fall back toward the pack in a big way.

• Remember how I said Union needed to win last weekend's ECAC hockey tournament to go to the NCAA Tournament? Well, I wasn't wrong. Union got shut out by Cornell in Saturday's final, and the NCAA Tournament committee shut the Dutchmen out of the 16-team field Sunday.

Still, it was a great season for the guys from Schenectady. And if coach Nate Leaman is still around next year (he, like McCaffery, could take a bigger job), the Dutchmen could be in line for another strong season.

• Now that Portland is officially staying in Portland, all the talk I hear about regarding the Albany River Rats is that they'll be affiliated with New Jersey next season. So begrudgingly, I looked at the AHL standings and

saw that the Rats and the Lowell Devils have similar records going into the final three weeks of the season.

That's a little reassuring, I suppose, but I still don't trust the Devils to give Albany a competitive team.

• Finally, the spring sports season is about to begin, but I wish it had already begun last week. The weather would have been perfect for a baseball game. Instead, I'm still stuck indoors with basketball. And the cruel irony is that by the time we get to the beginning of the regular season, it will be cold and rainy. How is that fair?

That's all for this week, folks. Remember, I do check my e-mail for comments about these columns. So feel free to send me a comment at jonasr@spotlightnews.com. Thank you.

Delmar Dolphins slate new swimmer clinic

The Delmar Dolphins Swim Club is holding a clinic for new swimmers March 29 through April 1 at the Bethlehem Central High School pool on Delaware Avenue in Delmar.

The club is reaching out to Capital District children age 7-11 who want to learn the four competitive strokes (front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly), starts, turns and drills. The clinic is run

by the Dolphins coaching staff.

Swimmers must be able to swim the front crawl 25 yards to participate, and they should bring their own swimsuits, towels and goggles.

The fee for the weekend clinic is \$30 per swimmer. Participants must pre-register with head coach Doug Gross.

For information, call 369-9733 or e-mail doug.gross@nycap.rr.com.

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Morris wins youth tourney

Delmar resident Matthew Morris won his weight class at last month's Section 2 USA/New York State Youth Wrestling Tournament at LaSalle Institute.

Morris, an eighth grader at Bethlehem Central Middle School, qualified for the state tournament in Binghamton.

Morris compiled a 24-5 record wrestling for Bethlehem's junior varsity and varsity teams this season.

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Sports ^{in the} Spotlight

Experience helps

BC looking to move up in league

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

Inexperience is no longer a factor with the Bethlehem boys lacrosse team.

With most of last year's starting lineup retuning, the Eagles are looking forward to a good season.

"I would expect us to be a top four seed in Class A [for the Section II playoffs]," said Bethlehem coach Dave Rounds. "We have the experience, and we have the talent."

The Eagles' success will be based in their backfield. The entire starting defense is back from last year, anchored by goaltender Theo Ferguson and aided by defensemen Alex Cooper, Max Wagner and Shane Cosakowski.

"Our defense will be the heart of our team," said Rounds. "We'll keep teams under 10 goals, and if we do that, I know our offense can score enough goals for us to win."

Bethlehem's offense will be led by veteran attackers Mike Rondinaro, Eric Halek, Griffin Blanchard and Andy Conroy. Midfielders Steve Russo, Liam Christiansen and Pat John-



Bethlehem goaltender Theo Ferguson makes a save during Sunday's scrimmage at Shenendehowa High School. Ferguson is one of several veterans that the Eagles are hoping will carry them to the top of the Suburban Council South Division. Rob Jonas/Spotlight

son will also be key contributors.

The Eagles' first task will be to win the Suburban Council South Division — a new division since the league switched its alignments from strength of program to geography. Bethlehem's division mates include Shaker,

Colonie, Columbia and defending Section II Class A champion Guilderland.

"It's not that big of a difference," said Rounds, whose team played in a division last year with Columbia, Colonie, Ballston Spa and Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake. "You have to play those teams

anyway. We just get to play Guilderland and Shaker twice instead of once, now."

Bethlehem opens its season with a pair of non-league games. The Eagles visit Schenectady Friday and Christian Brothers Academy April 6 before hosting Columbia April 8.

Dutchmen reload

Defending champs replace their offense

By ROB JONAS
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On paper, it would seem that the Guilderland boys lacrosse team is headed for a downturn.

Most of the offensive unit that led the Dutchmen to last year's Section II, Class A title graduated, including Rory Nunamacher, Travis Moore and Dan Lee.

Despite that, Guilderland coach Sean McConaghy said his team can still contend for the Sectional title.

"We expect to compete and get ourselves to a place by the end of the season where we can do the same thing," said McConaghy.

Guilderland's defense will have to carry the day in the early going to keep the Dutchmen in contention for a top-four seed. Goaltender Christian DePersis and defenseman Cody Futia are back to anchor the backfield, while several players contend for the other two starting defensive positions.

Offensively, the Dutchmen welcome back attackers Paul Jones and

Brian Dyer. But which midfielders will wind up setting up Jones and Dyer to take shots on goal remains to be seen.

"Last year, everything started with the midfield," said McConaghy. "So, the next group will have to step it up."

Playing in the revamped Suburban Council won't give Guilderland much of a break. The Dutchmen are in the South Division with Bethlehem, Colonie, Columbia and Shaker. And though they won't have to play traditional powers Niskayuna and Shenendehowa twice a season like they did back when they were in the Blue Division, McConaghy said they have plenty to worry about.

"I know that Shaker is always good, and they've got their goalie back," said McConaghy. "Colonie, their coaching staff always does a good job of preparing their players, as evidenced by the number of close games we've played against them. And Bethlehem coach [Dave] Rounds has some new guys helping his program, so they're on the up and up."

Guilderland's first game is against Mercer Island (Wash.) April 3.

Nice job by CBA, but what's with the heads?

I apologize in advance for the random nature of this column. It's not always a good idea to write at 12:30 in the morning while on cold medicine. Too much information? OK, moving on...



• Congratulations to Christian Brothers Academy for bringing home its first state Class AA boys basketball title with Sunday's 71-53 victory over Half Hollow Hills West (now, there's a name for you) from Section XI (that would be Long Island for those of you playing the home game).

This has been a long time coming for CBA. After five Section II titles and eight consecutive Sectional final appearances, there had to be a point where the Brothers were going to have their breakthrough.

Fortunately, it came while their big three — Kameron Ritter, Galal Cancer and Max Weaver — were still together. It would have been a shame if they couldn't pull it off before Ritter graduated. Few players are as smooth on the court or as clutch as Ritter is, especially at the free throw line (9-for-9 in the championship game).

Cancer and Weaver still have a year to go, and if the supporting cast steps up next year, there's little doubt in my mind that the Brothers won't have another excellent shot at going to states.

Of course, there's still the matter of the Federation Tournament this weekend — an event usually dominated by the New York City teams. But after handling the speed and athleticism of Newburgh Free Academy and Half Hollow Hills West last weekend, I think



Christian Brothers Academy fans hold cardboard cutout likenesses of several of the boys basketball team's players, along with one of coach Dave Doemel, during Sunday's state Class AA championship game at the Glens Falls Civic Center. The question is, why are they doing it? Rob Jonas/Spotlight