

Inside

Clarkson gets rolling

2012 Transition Committee already busy
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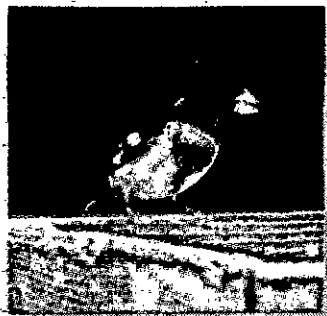
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Selkirk home burns

A fire ripped through a Selkirk home Wednesday, Dec. 21, leaving the house with significant damage.

See Page 4.



Keeping count

Members of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club and other enthusiasts help keep a detailed record of the birds that populate this area.

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A good year

The Section II Class AA Bethlehem softball team was one of the highlights of the 2011 sports season.

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the year in review
2011

Taking a look back

Town, school district saw a lot of changes

This week, The Spotlight looks back on the first six months of 2011. We will look back at the second half of the year next week.

January

• Bethlehem Supervisor Sam Messina gives his second, and last, State of the Town address. He reflects on positives such as approval of a number of housing projects and the expansion of service from the Clapper Road Water Treatment Plant during his first year in office.

• The public hears about a Harvard University School of Public Health study indicating high levels of mercury were found in people living near the Lafarge Cement Plant in Ravena. The study of 172 people showed high levels of mercury in blood and hair samples.

• A DEC-sponsored hearing regarding a modernization plan for the Lafarge Cement Plant brings mostly positive comments. Politicians and business leaders speak in favor of the project, while environmental groups say they'll continue to analyze plans and submit comments at a later date.

• Developers of the Vista Technology Campus off Route 85 in Slingerlands make their



See more pictures from the past year on Page 3.

pitch to the Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency for \$5.7 million in tax-exempt bonds for the construction of Vista Boulevard, the main road running through the park. Joe Nicolla, president of Columbia Development, confirms ShopRite, SEFCU and Berkshire Bank as the first tenants for the park.

• Bethlehem Central School District Superintendent Michael Tebbano introduces an \$8 million plan to expand access to technology for students. The plan would put a personal computer in the hands of every high school student and would greatly increase access to laptops

for younger students.

• The Board of Education at BCSD directs Tebbano to examine the idea of closing Clarksville Elementary School. The move is based on declining enrollment numbers and a looming budget crisis. The Board also directs Tebbano to consider the idea of closing the district offices in Delmar.

• By a vote of 3-2, the Bethlehem Zoning Board of Appeals approves final variances needed for a cell phone tower off Van Dyke Road. Despite uncertainty about the merits of the project, the plan moves to the town's Planning

Look Page 9

Messina reflects on term

Outgoing supervisor recaps two years atop Bethlehem government

By GREG FRY
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After one term highlighted by clashes with the Town Board, a lively debate over a golf course and progress on the town's largest economic development project in years, Bethlehem Supervisor Sam Messina can still remember the reasons why he ran for the town's top spot in the first place.

Messina, who defeated incumbent Jack Cunningham in 2009, said he wanted to focus on fiscal accountability, the quality of life in Bethlehem and the way town officials carried themselves, with the mission of doing what's best for the town.



Sam Messina

"I don't really think I had a plan on how it would go," Messina said while sitting in his Town Hall office. "I did have a plan on my vision of what I would try to do in government here in Bethlehem and where I wanted to try to guide the town."

A tough retirement call

Messina said the toughest decision he made as supervisor was to bow out of a reelection bid in 2011. A member of the Independence Party, Messina

Term Page 25

Details of Clarksville proposal unveiled

District would collect \$210k over five-year agreement with Sheriff's Office

By GREG FRY
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Bethlehem Central School District officials are moving forward with a proposed agreement to lease the shuttered Clarksville Elementary School to the Albany County Sheriff's Office, but an agreement has yet to be adopted by the Board of Education.

Under the terms of a proposed agreement unveiled at a Dec. 21 meeting of the Board of Education, the district would collect \$210,000 from the county over the life of a five-year agreement. The payments would increase by \$6,000 each year, starting at \$30,000 for the first year of use, or \$2,500 per month.

Judith Kehoe, the district's chief business and financial officer, gave the board a brief presentation about the proposed terms of the deal, including a stipulation that would guarantee the first three years of the contract and allow

either the district or the sheriff to terminate the agreement, with notice, in the fourth or fifth years.

"As you can imagine, it's a pretty significant move whenever you are moving your office locations," said Kehoe. "Because they would be consolidating three operations into a single operation, they want to make sure they have the ability to use that space for a defined period."

Sheriff-elect Craig Apple first proposed the idea to consolidate his office's operations in Voorheesville and Cohoes into one location at Clarksville. Apple

has stated that the move must make sense monetarily and save the county money.

Kehoe told school board members that the district would be responsible for very little of the operating costs at the school.

"Any of the operating costs associated with the building, any utilities (which the district says are about \$80,000 per year), data lines, would all be paid for by the county," said Kehoe. "There are some limited elements that the district would maintain control over."

Details Page 29

'Spirit' soars

Bald eagle shot in Columbia County released from Slingerlands facility

By GREG FRY
fryg@spotlightnews.com

More than two months after suffering severe injuries, a bald eagle named Spirit has been released from The Animal Hospital in Slingerlands.

Doctors released the bird Thursday, Dec. 22 at their facility after caring for the animal's multiple injuries, which included a fractured wing.

"He just wanted out so desperately, but he wasn't prepared to be released, so I couldn't take him to a habitat area, because he wasn't quite ready," said Dr. Ed Becker, co-owner of The Animal Hospital.

Becker and his staff took the bird in on Oct. 12, after a hiker found the animal at the Nutten Hook State Unique Area in Stuyvesant. Becker is a consulting veterinarian to the state Department of Environmental Conservation.

The eagle arrived at the

hospital that day in critical condition with bullets in multiple locations, including his brain. Recently, the staff at the Slingerlands facility has let Spirit test out his healing wing inside their flight cage.

Becker said it would take a little more time to get Spirit back to 100 percent, but pointed out that the eagle has grown accustomed to the area and hospital as a good food source.

"We just put food for him on top of the flight cage," said Becker. "I'll bet any amount of money he'll end up coming back and eating and getting stronger."

Becker said it's a happy ending to the story, but asked that people remember what happened to the animal.

"Let's not lose sight of the fact that this poor patient suffered for weeks because somebody shot him," said Becker.

The investigation into the shooting is ongoing. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has offered a reward of up to \$2,500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the shooting.



Menorah lighting at Four Corners

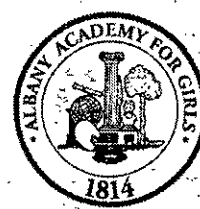


To celebrate the first night of Hanukkah, a menorah lighting ceremony was held Tuesday, Dec. 20, at the Four Corners in Delmar. Rabbi Nachbar Simon and his family led the event, which ended with the lighting of a towering electric menorah placed at the corner of the intersection. About 25 people attended the menorah lighting, including Bethlehem Supervisor Sam Messina and Supervisor-elect John Clarkson.

Photos by Greg Fry/Spotlight



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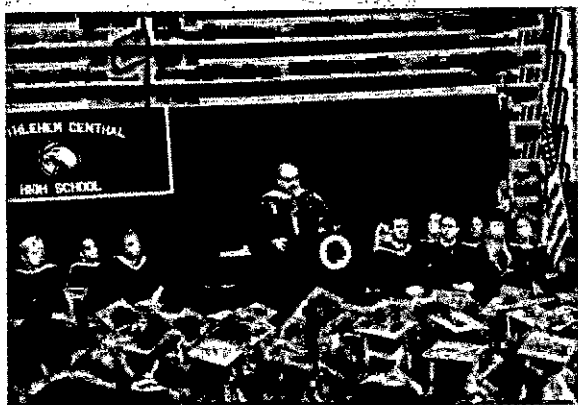
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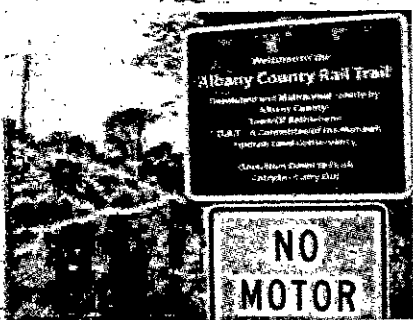
2011

the year in review



ABOVE: After months of inaction, a 1.9-mile section of the Albany County Rail Trail was opened in the Town of Bethlehem.

LEFT: The Bethlehem Central High School Class of 2011 was graduated in a ceremony at the University at Albany.



ABOVE: A body discovered by kayakers June 10 near Henry Hudson Park in Selkirk was identified as Keith A. Rafferty of Troy. Rafferty and his brother, Matthew, were reported missing in November. Matthew's body was discovered in May.

LEFT: A section of the parapet lining much of Bethlehem Town Hall's roof crumbled in the late morning of March 1 damaging four cars parked in handicapped spots along the building.

BELOW: Rafael Flores, left, and Dave Hostig won ownership of the Normanside Country Club after besting a bid from the Town of Bethlehem for the troubled golf course.



ABOVE: A record crowd turned out for the 23rd running of the Delmar Dash on April 10. The field taking on the 5-mile course totaled 824 people, not to mention the several hundred children who participated in shorter sprints in the Spotlight on Youth Race. The event benefited the Bethlehem Food Pantry.

BELOW: More than 50 students of Hamagrael Elementary school took the time to stay after school and lend their less fortunate brethren a hand in January during a Kids Helping Kids Committee workshop.



LEFT: A cast of 84 students sang, danced and acted out a production of "Beauty and the Beast" in the Bethlehem Middle School auditorium four times in early February. Pictured here is Shelsea Cato, who played the lead role of Belle. Middle school students put on a play every year, and 2011's production had a cast of record size to rival the ambitious show.

RIGHT: Veterans and the public gathered at the Bethlehem Cemetery prior to the annual Memorial Day Parade, and a wreath was placed at the grave of Nathaniel Blanchard, who is believed to be the first American troop killed in France during World War I.



Police Blotter

Crews battle blaze at Selkirk home

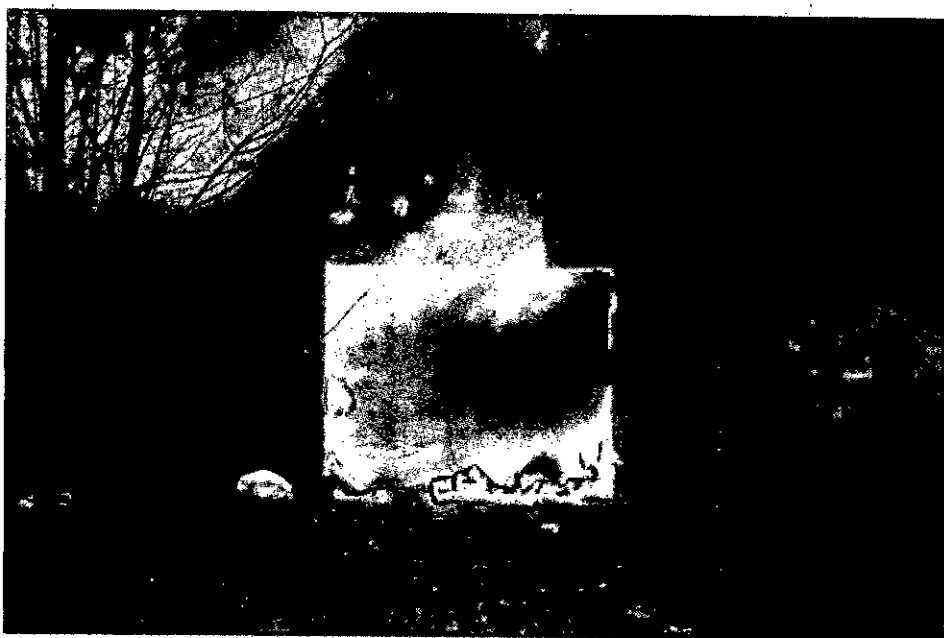
A fire ripped through a Selkirk home Wednesday, Dec. 21, leaving the house with significant damage.

The fire was first reported at 1:37 p.m. at 83 Fairlawn Drive at the Elm Estates.

Bethlehem Supervisor Sam Messina said no one was injured. The home sustained severe damage, and police were working to find an elderly resident of the home a place to stay.

Crews from Selkirk, Elsmere and Delmar fire departments responded to the fire, which was under control by late afternoon.

Bethlehem police said they were conducting an investigation into the fire, but had no other details.



A fire on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 83 Fairlawn Drive in Selkirk resulted in significant damage to the home but no injuries.

Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight

Child thrown from car in crash

State Police said a seven-year-old boy was ejected from an SUV during a rollover crash on the Thruway in the Town of Bethlehem.

Police said six people were inside the vehicle when it rolled over Friday, Dec. 23, at 1:46 a.m. Police said the SUV was traveling northbound when it left

the roadway off the east shoulder during a heavy rainstorm. The vehicle rolled at least twice before coming to rest on its wheels.

The young boy, who was sitting in the back seat, was thrown from the SUV. Police did not find a car seat in the vehicle.

The boy's older brother, Max Rowe, 17, of Flushing, was driving the vehicle. Rowe was issued traffic tickets in connection with

the accident.

All six people inside the SUV, including an 11-year-old girl, were taken to Albany Medical Center. Police reported they were all in stable condition.

The crash blocked one northbound lane of the Thruway for a short time.

17 arrested in DWI sweep

ADWI enforcement effort held over a three-day period in Albany County resulted in 17 arrests of drivers who were allegedly under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The Albany County Sheriff's Office reported that 648 traffic stops were initiated, with 333 citations issued for a variety of violations.

The sweep was held Dec.

16-18. A similar saturation patrol held at this time last year resulted in 13 arrests for DWI.

During this year's patrol, the Sheriff's Office reported that 73 designated drivers reported to authorities that they were a designated driver for an intoxicated individual.

As part of the countywide enforcement effort, police arrested a man they say was traveling at a high rate of speed through the city of Albany. The Sheriff's Office said Stephen Koenig, 29, was spotted traveling at high speeds, and eventually hit speeds of 90 miles per hour before coming to a stop on Euclid Avenue and Greenway in the city. Koenig faces multiple charges, including DWI. Authorities said Koenig had a previous DWI conviction in July 2008.

Police: Teacher bites student

A teacher and soccer coach in the Voorheesville Central School District has been charged with endangering the welfare of a child after allegedly biting a student during a class.

Michael Guerette, 50, of Voorheesville, was arrested on Wednesday, Dec. 21. According to the district and the Albany County Sheriff's Office, Guerette, a fifth-grade teacher at Voorheesville Elementary School, was arm wrestling with a student during classroom instructional time on Dec. 13. Other students, according to the Sheriff's Office, became excited and were pulling and pushing the student's arm.

A female student allegedly reached her arm across the desk in front of Guerette and pulled on the student's hand. The Sheriff's Office reported that Guerette then allegedly bit the female student in the forearm, leaving teeth marks and a bruise that was still visible 48 hours after the incident.

According to the Sheriff's Office, Guerette notified the principal of the school about the incident at the end of the school day. District Superintendent

Teresa Thayer Snyder said Guerette was immediately placed on administrative leave and an internal investigation commenced.

On Dec. 19, the Sheriff's Office was notified of the incident in accordance with district policy, and a criminal investigation began.

In a letter to parents, Snyder said Guerette "will remain on leave from all duties while the district awaits the resolution of the charge against him."

The district is also communicating with the State Education Department to discuss appropriate disciplinary actions.

The Sheriff's Office is also investigating additional incidents of inappropriate behavior or unprofessional comments Guerette may have potentially made, however, no additional charges have been filed.

Guerette was charged and released. Arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 16 in Voorheesville Justice Court.

— Greg Fry



Michael Guerette

Bethlehem Tomboys Girls Softball League 2012 REGISTRATION

The Bethlehem Tomboys Girls Softball League will hold registration for girls grades K to 12.

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Guilderland considers setting new school schedules

District wants more student/teacher time

By DON CAZER
news@spotlightnews.com

The Guilderland Central School District Board of Education on Tuesday, Dec. 13, heard a presentation by Superintendent Marie Wiles and her staff concerning proposed changes to the school schedule for the coming school year.

Wiles started the meeting by explaining why some of the current schedule structure must be changed to minimize the impact of a projected budget shortfall. Wiles projected a "\$3.3 million shortfall for 2012-13 with no signs of improvement in subsequent years. This is partly due to the diminished state revenues and the newly enacted taxing limit by the state legislature," she said.

"We cannot simply cut from our current structures, we need new ones to provide a framework to improve student learning," added Wiles.

The school system started the process in December 2010 and throughout 2011 identified innovative school schedules in all schools, with the goal of maximizing the use of school time. One important goal for the new schedules was to increase student/teacher contact time within the same school resources.

Demian Singleton, assistant superintendent for instruction, expanded on the proposed schedule changes.

"Changing the schedule will not, in and of itself, improve student achievement. The real issues are how teachers function within the new schedule," said Singleton.

The schedule must be a means to an end, he said, allowing an improvement to student learning, maximizing the collective strength of teams and retaining the integrity of the district's mission.

The leadership teams looked at many options before proposing the new schedules.

"These proposals being put before the board are not final and work and analysis will continue," said Singleton.

Guilderland High School Principal Thomas Lutsic explained the proposed new high school schedules.

"Some of the goals for the high school are meeting the needs of students that require special support, offer greater student choice, increase scheduling flexibility and maintain extended contact time between student and teachers," said Lutsic.

Lutsic said that there are concerns with the present schedule, such as the fact student choice and number of classes is limited, although students can currently take seven courses over two days.

The current high school schedule runs from 7:30 a.m. through 2:25 p.m., in four blocks of time, providing seven classes for each student. The period from 2:25 to 3:10 p.m. is for after-school activities.

The new proposed schedule adds a fifth block of time. It adds an eighth instructional block for student choice. In this schedule, the fifth block of time is from 2:21 to 3:10 p.m. and is for school clubs and other activities.

Principals Allen Lockwood and Chris Sanita, of Guilderland Elementary and Pine Bush Elementary, respectively, presented the proposed changes to the elementary

school schedule. Lockwood explained that changes would add to instructional time.

He explained the difference between a 6-day rotation versus a 5-day rotation of classes. The main advantage of the 6-day rotation is it gives longer instructional blocks for core academic area. A disadvantage is decreased instructional time in special areas classes.

The 5-day rotation has the advantage of offering more flexible groupings but increases the difficulty of scheduling shared staff between buildings. The next steps to be taken are a continuation of work with instructional administrators and other support staff.

Principal Mary Summermatter presented the plan for the Farnsworth Middle School. She compared two options: an 8-period option and a 9-period option. The current schedule is the 9-period schedule. Changing to an 8-period format has some advantages, according to Summermatter.

"It has the potential to reduce class size, the class period increases from 40 minutes to 45 minutes, instructional time will increase from 200 to 225 minutes each day and potential cost savings," said Summermatter.

On the down side, Summermatter said, that core instruction time would be reduced and there would be a reduction in non-mandated sixth grade programs.

There are still many more steps to be taken to finalize a change in the schedule.

Singleton wrapped up the session and stated that, "for long term sustainability the status quo is not an option. Maximizing instructional time is

essential but there is still more work to be done."

He turned to the school board for any questions.

Board member Richard Weisz was concerned that if core instructional time in the middle school is reduced "we are heading in the wrong direction."

Legislature overrides budget veto

\$598M legislative budget intact

By ALYSSA JUNG
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The 2012 Albany County budget showdown came to a close Wednesday, Dec. 14, when the legislature voted 27-7 to override County Executive Michael Breslin's veto of a \$598 million budget with an 8 percent property tax hike, just two days after he disapproved of the plan.

"We all have to take some blame and accept our small part," said Shawn Morse, chairman of the audit and finance committee. "The legislature has to exercise direction and figure out how to save money throughout the year."

The body needed at least 26 "yes" votes to override Breslin's veto, and failure to record those necessary votes would have enacted a budget with a 13 percent tax hike, still less than the initial 19.2 percent increase Breslin proposed in his Executive Budget.

"The budget is a document that changes every single day and will change a million times throughout the year," said Morse. "We need to take into consideration, as money is coming in or not coming in, are we meeting our expectations?"

Breslin released a statement immediately

following the override vote, saying his proposed budget was "very tightly drawn" and the legislature's changes put the county at risk.

Board member Allan Simpson commented that it is not clear where the cost savings come

from. "We know there will have to be staff reductions and the new schedule will allow the maximum student/teacher interaction and student learning given less resources," Wiles responded.

There is no room to account for the unknowns of the state budget and the economy," said Breslin.

In a letter that called the legislative budget "impractical and unsustainable," Breslin had laid out various issues he felt would have detrimental effects on the residents of Albany County, from services to overall financial stability.

"While the legislative changes may lower the tax increase on paper, they put the county in a precarious position to maintain operations," said Breslin in the letter, also stating the legislative budget included "unrealistic savings and overly optimistic revenue estimates."

At the Dec. 14 special meeting, Morse said he stood by the adopted budget that his committee worked hard to draft, and said county services are "intact" and "taxpayers get a break."

"I'm confident we will achieve what we need to achieve," said Morse.

Christopher Higgins, D-Albany, originally voted against overriding the state tax cap and adopting the legislative budget. He said he "(stood) by those reasons" and would be voting "no" on overriding Breslin's veto.

"I still think ... some significant steps could have been done to further reduce the property tax

levy," said Higgins. "I do not envy the position you (County Executive-elect Dan McCoy) have moving forward as the next county executive."

Brian Scavo, D-Albany, also initially voted against adopting the legislative budget but on Wednesday said he would be voting to save it because the "tax monkey has turned into King Kong" and he didn't want taxes raised any higher.

"We're damned if we do and we're damned if we don't so tonight by voting for the override we save taxpayers of Albany County 5 percent," said Scavo.

Later in the meeting, Scavo tried to blame McCoy, who is also chairman of the legislature, for allowing Breslin's veto to occur and initiating a vote to override it.

"There's a failure here; the failure is yours, Mr. McCoy, for letting this override move forward in the first place," said Scavo. "This is your budget, you let the people of Albany County down by letting this override move forward so the blame is on your shoulders and you better roll back taxes when you get in. You better roll back taxes, Mr. McCoy."

Scavo was defeated in this November's election.

McCoy said it's written in the charter that the county executive holds the power to veto a budget and the legislature is allowed to call a vote to override that veto.

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Matters of Opinion in The Spotlight

Less bang for your buck

It looks as if the Great Albany County Budget Showdown of 2011 has come to a close.

As Alyssa Jung reports this week on Page 5, the County Legislature has overridden a veto by County Executive Michael Breslin, who sought to block the body's \$598 million 2012 budget, which carries an 8 percent property tax hike.

That's less than half of what Breslin proposed for a tax hike in his executive budget, but certainly nothing to praise when it comes to bringing relief to some of the most highly taxed residents in the nation.

Editorial

A lot of ink has been spilled about this particular budget season, a portion of it here on the opinion pages of The Spotlight, and regular readers will remember us taking county government to task a few weeks ago for living beyond its means for years and setting itself up for failure yet again.

Here we find ourselves about to repeat the same admonishment because this budget is not sound.

Say what you will about the outgoing executive, including that he spent years at the head of county government while this storm brewed and did not avert it. He still used his last weeks in office making an effort to shed the light of reality on this circus of governance. (Seriously, take the time and go to a legislature meeting and see how the people who levy your astronomical taxes comport themselves in public. From all the snickering and note-passing, you'd think you were in fourth-period study hall).

We agree with legislators and others who say this budget is too optimistic and not critical enough of county expenses. That's not just because of the numbers but also because of a track record of being too willing to see the world through rose-tinted glasses.

The taxpayer will get a return on his or her investment next year. Residents will have access to services like sheriff's patrols, highway paving and social support programs like Meals on Wheels.

They'll also, of course, pay for a county-run nursing home that simply swallows great rafts of taxpayer money at a startling rate. It's operating at a \$20 million deficit that's predicted to grow markedly in coming years, yet lawmakers plan to fix this issue by tearing it down and spending money on a newer, grander nursing home.

And let's not forget we bought the services of our fine 39-member legislative branch for a mere \$2.7 million this year. That's quite a bargain when you consider how much money they're playing with.

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Local sports with Rob Jonas — @jonas_spotlight



Arborvitae — Privacy please

By CHUCK SCHMITT

The writer is a member of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County

This is the season of the year we realize just how much privacy we have around our home. All the green vegetative grow that blocks our view in summer is now gone. One way to regain our privacy is through planting evergreen trees and shrubs.

Arborvitae trees have become synonymous with hedgerow plantings for privacy. It's hard to just think of them as North American native evergreens of the cypress family anymore. I picture them standing guard in suburbia, screening street views, separating and isolating neighbors. Well, that's what we had hoped for anyway. Somehow, it doesn't always work out as well or simply as we expect it to. My comments are an attempt to address some of the reasons why.

In the wild arborvitae can be found in poor soils, which can be sterile, alkaline and rocky. The hybrids selected for the landscape grow best in a moist well-drained soil. A full sun situation is also best; too much shade will cause them to be too open and floppy in their habit. The most popular cultivars are "Techny," "Pyramidal" and "Emerald Green." In our area, Emerald Green has emerged as the most popular and therefore easiest cultivar to find. So why are homeowners disappointed in their "living" fence? Often it is a matter of information and expectations.

Contrary to popular belief, and sometimes left out of advertising, is the fact that these arborvitae are slow growing evergreens. Emerald Green will put on 4-9" in height and possibly 2-6" in width each year. Many homeowners would say "that's all?" I have seen them touted as being able to grow four feet per year! That's amazing considering this excellent evergreen, introduced from

Point of View

Poulsen, Denmark in 1950, matures at 10'-15' with a 3'-4' spread in the landscape setting. So if you don't purchase a sizeable tree from the start, be sure to have plenty of patience waiting for that screen or privacy you were longing for.

Another consideration involves plant selection and quality. Emerald Greens can be purchased in containers or as a balled-and-burlapped tree. They are generally sold by height. The most popular size marketed to homeowners is the 5-6' trees. They can also be purchased as 3-4', 7-8', 8-10', etc. trees in some nursery and garden centers. If the trees have been grown without pruning, they will reach the 5-6' size quickly but will be thinner than those that have been pruned in production. Balled-and-burlapped trees tend to be thicker, heavier and therefore more expensive. So keep in mind that not all Emerald Greens are created equal.

How far apart should I plant my Emerald Greens in order to get my "instant privacy?" The "rule of thumb" in the industry is to plant them on 2-foot centers. That's pretty darn close from the tree's perspective. Some folks plant them further apart and wait for them to grow together, this is most desirable when you have a lot of room to cover. Others cram them closer to get that solid wall effect. The other beauty of this cultivar is that it can be left virtually unpruned without taking up too much yard space. Other evergreens such as spruces, firs and Douglas firs could also be used for privacy, but they require much more yard space.

The most common issue after planting is proper watering. Emerald Greens, as well as other newly planted trees, should be

Make your point

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

Do you have a hobby or cause you feel passionate about? We'd love to share it with our readers.

Do you have information you think others would benefit from hearing about? Let us know.

Point of View submissions should be around 700 words and can be submitted via email to news@spotlightnews.com with "POV" in the subject line. They can also be mailed to The Spotlight at P.O. Box 100, Delmar, NY 12054.

watered regularly. They are especially sensitive until their roots get established in the native soil. The first year after planting is the most critical. High summer temperatures and drying winds can cause tissue death in a matter of days. Some homeowners wait until they see brown foliage to begin watering, but that's too late to start. Be sure your trees receive 1 inch of water each week, either from rainfall or from proper watering. The best way to accomplish this in a hedgerow of newly planted arborvitae is by installing a soaker hose at the time of planting. Soaker hoses have many advantages; they lose very little water to evaporation, the water is placed where it is needed, they are barely visible and can be connected to a timer.

Like any other plant material there are a few pest problems to be on the lookout for. Pests such as bagworms, spider mites, leaf miners, deer browsing and tip blight are the most common problems. If they are left unattended each can cause serious damage. For more information on identifying these pests and recommendations for managing them, contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office.

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Weekly poll

Do you make New Year's resolutions?

Log on to www.spotlightnews.com to cast your vote.

Last week's poll results:

"Do you say 'Happy Holidays' or 'Merry Christmas?'"

- Happy Holidays. 26%
- Merry Christmas. 68%
- Other. 5%

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Your Home Performance contractor will work with you to determine your exact needs, but don't be surprised if your home assessment uncovers problems in any combination of these three key areas.

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2 Insulation. Many homes—especially older ones—lack proper insulation. You should have insulation blown in wherever it is needed, but the attic is often the best place to start. Improving the insulation of exterior walls can also have a dramatic effect.

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Large-scale winterization projects are best left to professionals, but try these low- or no-cost suggestions for homeowners or renters interested in staying warm and cutting heat bills this winter.

Use your programmable thermostat. You can save a lot of energy and money by using your programmable thermostat to lower the temperature of your home significantly when you're out or asleep. Just set it to return to a temperature you're comfortable with an hour before you return from work or wake up. You'll hardly feel the difference—until you see your heat bill.

Make sure your windows are shut tight. Before turning on your heat, remove all window air-conditioning units and close all storm windows. Sometimes a storm window may look closed when it really isn't, so be sure to double check.

Give single-pane windows a little help. Thermal plastic sheeting is affordable, easy to install and can help insulate single-pane windows.

Put your drapes to work. Drapes have the power to help insulate. During the day, drapes should be kept open to let the sunlight shine in and create warmth. When it gets dark, pull them closed to keep the heat in.



For more information please call 1-877-NY-SMART or visit nyserdagreenny.org/home-performance

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Your Opinion in The Spotlight

Appointment should have a new approach

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

In last week's paper we read that Jack Cunningham wants to be appointed to the vacant Town Board seat. We also read that at least two community members disagree. I feel exactly the same way.

Now is not the time to insert politicians who will govern us the "same old way." This practice has led us to the current stalemate at our town and Federal levels. The voters of Bethlehem sent that message clearly in electing John Clarkson by a significant margin.

Joann Dawson states she thinks

that the person might come in with the thought that they have no stake in the game, and perhaps come in, make whatever changes they want and walk, without any accountability to the public. This diminishes the contributions of those of us in town who volunteer our time (three years on the School Board for me). Re-election, or lack thereof is only one means of accountability available to us in our democracy.

Most importantly, the person that is selected to serve out the term of Mark Jordan needs to be committed to doing the right thing

for the future of the town, have the time to read many pieces of material and to stand up for what they believe is the right course for Bethlehem.

Politics aside, the person needs to be governed by nothing other than their sense of decency, honesty and the willingness to work with our new Supervisor. We all need to support John Clarkson as he forges ahead in this difficult time. We are the ones that put him there and we now we have a job to do.

Lisa Allendorph
Delmar

Public should be involved in selection process

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

I am writing to urge voters in the Town of Bethlehem to follow closely the selection of someone to fill the vacancy on the Town Board and to remind all of us of the excitement earlier in the year when we learned that we would have a real choice for the position of supervisor, and not just one candidate cross-endorsed by the two major political parties. The campaign for supervisor proved that the citizens of Bethlehem value choice and appreciate the

opportunity to select a competent citizen who is not an officer in a political party.

As Bethlehem residents talk among ourselves, I recommend that we try – through an informal civic engagement process – to agree on criteria and to share those with current board members. I am personally going to recommend that we ask current Town Board members:

- To select a candidate who will pledge to serve only one year in order to

create an open seat when the Town Board member election is held in 2012.

- To ask each Town Board candidate if he or she has a connection with any other town or municipality. If so, would the potential Board member refuse to vote on any grant application for which both municipalities were competing?

- To report if the candidate has a political party position and to declare how such a position might affect his or her thinking on issues before the Town Board and whether he or she might ever try to use that political party position to sway other board members.

- To have an open public forum at which all candidates may speak before a final selection is made.

Whenever town residents gather in the next few weeks – the farewell to Supervisor Messina on December 29, the swearing-in of newly elected officials on January 2, and the first meeting of the 2012 Town Board on January 11 at 6 p.m. when the issue will be addressed, I hope we will be discussing our criteria and sharing them with the Town Board members who will choose an interim Town Board member.

Lois Wilson
Glenmont

Fire station vote not true referendum

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

Putting aside whether the referendum was good or bad, it was hardly an "overwhelming vote." Only 137 voters voted at all and so the tax levy increase was thrust on us by 105 people (probably many of them volunteers) out of several thousand voters

in the District. This is indicative of the apathy that infects Bethlehem in the School Budget and local elections. Whose fault is it? We have no one to blame but ourselves. Bethlehem deserves better.

Philip W. Carter
Slingerlands

Airport unveils \$45.6M budget for year 2012

Officials optimistic about coming year

By ALYSSA JUNG
jung@spotlightnews.com

Doug Meyers is "cautiously optimistic" that Albany International Airport's 2012 will be better than its 2011, and the Albany County Airport Authority felt similarly when it approved a \$45.6 million 2012 budget on Friday, Dec. 16. The budget is a 1.6 percent increase over the 2011 adopted budget.

"We kept the reins tight. Should enplanements increase and more people start traveling I think we might loosen up a bit," said Meyers, spokesman for the airport.

The airport's anticipated total income for 2012 is expected to be about \$45.7 million, a combination of user-based charges like airline landing fees, terminal rent and maintenance, fuel sales, parking fees, passenger facility charges and concession agreements. Expected operating expenses for 2012 hover at about \$33.5 million.

"The Airport Authority remains cautiously optimistic about the future of the region's demand for air travel and this

spending plan affords us the opportunity for growth while maintaining a tight control over operating costs," said David E. Langdon, chairman of the Albany County Airport Authority.

Total enplanements for 2012 were pegged at over 1.2 million but with passenger numbers from the last seven months showing an increase over the previous year, Meyers said enplanement numbers could fluctuate.

"We've seen a crazy trend, if you would," said Meyers.

The airport budgeted for five additional jobs (they will be left vacant depending on need and strength of the economy) and laid out a \$4.1 million capital plan for necessary and cost-saving projects, allocating \$500,000 for runway obstruction removal, \$1.2 million for aircraft ramp improvements, \$1.1 million for upgrading an electric supply center and \$1.3 million for a sand storage building.

There are several factors the airport keeps in mind when drafting a budget, including total number of passengers passing through the airport, maintaining services and the weather, said Meyers.

"We want to maintain a level of service ... housekeeping of the airport, available parking places for our airport, the need for supplies for the airport," said Meyers.

Juggling expenses with money coming in to the airport from food vendors and airlines also requires careful attention.

"You have to look carefully at staffing levels to see if (they) are in keeping with the amount of money

Letters policy

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing and should be contained to 500 words.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Spotlight Newspapers reserves the right to limit the number of letters published from a single author.

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

The deadline for all letters is noon Friday prior to publication.

□ Airport Page 16

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Look

(From Page 1)

Board for consideration of a special use permit.

• **Lawyers** for Christopher Porco file paperwork seeking to appeal his conviction to the highest court in the state. Porco, convicted on charges he murdered his father and brutally assaulted his mother inside their Delmar home, had a 2010 appeal denied. The appeal focuses on an affirmative head nod given by Joan Porco to police the night of the attack when they asked if her son had committed the crimes. At the trial, Joan Porco said she had no recollection of the head nod.

February

• **The Bethlehem Planning Board** grants the first site approval plans for the Vista Technology Park. The approval clears the way the beginning of construction of the main road through the park, Vista Boulevard.

• **The Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency** weighs the option of offering PILOT payments for Vista. The tax-free bonds would pay for construction of Vista Boulevard and would be paid back through a series of payments. It marks the end of a proposal to create special taxing districts within the technology park so tenants could pay back debt service on tax-free bonds.

• **Financial troubles** lead the owners of Normanside Country Club to announce that the club won't be open come golf season. The property

will be sold at auction. Town of Bethlehem officials express interest in entering a bid for the site, despite a tough budget season, calling it a potential investment opportunity.

• **A public hearing** held later in the month regarding the potential bid draws over 100 people. Some residents say tax dollars shouldn't be used to purchase the course and club, while others believe the town should ensure the land remains open space by buying it itself.

• **Later in the month**, town officials are notified that they did not win the sealed bidding process to acquire the golf course at Normanside. The amount of the town's bid is not disclosed pending the closing of the deal.

• **A budget freeze** is implemented in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District for the remainder of the school year. Any spending on items ranging from field trips to equipment that was not approved before the vote is frozen for the rest of the year. Superintendent Daniel Teplesky says he'll take a pay freeze in the upcoming year.

• **A pay freeze** is agreed upon for administrators in the Bethlehem Central School District for the 2011-2012 school year. The savings add up to \$65,000, but are not enough to make up for proposed staffing cuts.

• **A vote to bond** \$315,000 to expand the Elmwood Park Fire District's facilities ends in a tie. Fire district officials hoped to purchase more land adjacent to the

North Bethlehem Fire Department.

• **Bethlehem High School** senior Eric Segerstrom writes a musical for the New York Philharmonic, who invites Segerstrom to a performance of the composition. Segerstrom calls it a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience.

• **After plenty of deliberation**, the Bethlehem Planning Board approves the necessary permits for construction of a cell tower in Delmar off Van Dyke Road. Officials with ESCO Towers say the level of scrutiny they received for the project was undeserved. Residents who oppose the project say they will continue to fight against it, but decline to discuss potential legal options.

• **Bethlehem Central School District** officials step back from plans to give students more access to computers. Instead, the district changes its focus to make improvements to its network infrastructure.

March

• **A portion of the aging** parapet wall that lines the roof at Bethlehem Town Hall gives way, sending bricks and mortar onto cars below. No one is injured. Anna Colonna Carroll, an 87-year-old member of the Bethlehem Senior Chorus, had just pulled into a parking space when the rubble fell onto her car. She was not hit by the debris.

• **Town officials** point the finger when it comes to the lead up to the collapse. Work on the wall was included in a 2010 capital plan, but no action was taken. Supervisor

Sam Messina says he tried to move the work forward as quickly as he could, but Councilman Kyle Kotary says Messina's proposal was combined with unnecessary spending on office furniture and office expansions.

• **Later in the month**, the Town Board approves the bonding of \$470,000 for exterior renovations at Town Hall. The amount does not include \$60,000 worth of emergency repairs that will need to be done to the parapet wall that fell at the beginning of the month.

• **New Normanside owner Rafael Flores** says he intends to open Normanside Country Club up to the public. Flores, the winner of a sealed bid process, says he'll focus on making Normanside a premier location for weddings and special events.

• **The Bethlehem Town Board** unanimously approves a measure to make portions of the town's parks smoke free. Recreation fields, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts and the town's pool facility are included in the measure. Bethlehem becomes the 14th municipality in the area to enact such a measure.

• **Around 100 people** attend a forum on the future of Clarksville Elementary. The majority in attendance is in favor of keeping Clarksville open due to its role in the community, and concerns about what a mothballed school would mean for the area. One speaker at the forum

says closing Clarksville would be "tantamount to removing the heart of the community."

In a 5-2 vote, Board of Education members approve the closure of Clarksville. The closure will result in a one-time savings of roughly \$800,000 for the BC Schools, according to administrators. The board also approves acquiring a broker to examine the sale of the district offices in Delmar.

• **The Bethlehem Central School District** will save \$1.3 million after contractual concessions from staff and faculty. The largest concession comes in the form of a pay freeze from members of the Bethlehem Central Teachers Association.

• **A New York State Appellate Court** ruling states that former Bethlehem supervisor Jack Cunningham should no longer serve as Commissioner of the Department of Public Works in the Town of Colonie. The ruling says that the position is a town officer who must be a town resident.

April

• **The Bethlehem Central School District** Board of Education adopts an \$86.8 million budget for the 2011-2012 school year. The plan calls for a 2 percent tax levy increase. 10 faculty positions are eliminated, along with 4 from the closure of Clarksville Elementary. The adopted budget calls for \$1.5 million less in spending than in the

previous year's budget.

• **A \$42.5 million** budget is adopted for the 2011-2012 school year in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District. A 3.4 percent tax levy increase is proposed. District officials find \$900,000 in cuts, including eight teaching positions. The district will also spend \$200,000 in reserve funds.

• **The final price** is revealed for the purchase of the Normanside Country Club. The new owners bid \$1,575,000 for the club, which was \$75,000 more than the bid entered by the Town of Bethlehem.

• **Rock band Deluka** makes a stop at Bethlehem Central High School to speak with students. The band, originally from the UK, teams up with students for a charity concert at the Egg in Albany. Proceeds from the show go the American Diabetes Association and the Japanese Red Cross.

• **A record 824 runners** participate in the 23rd running of the Delmar Dash. The race benefits the Bethlehem Food Pantry.

• **An agreement** between Albany County, Bethlehem and the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy is the next step in development of the Albany County Rail Trail. A 1.85-mile stretch between Slingerlands and Delmar would be open to pedestrians by summer pending finalized agreements. It's one piece of the nine-mile trail that as a whole would take \$8

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(From Page 9)

million to open.

•BCSD officials sign off on a proposal for PILOT agreements for the construction of Vista Boulevard at the Vista Technology Park in Slingerlands. BC Superintendent Michael Tebbano calls it a "win-win" for the district and the town.

•A second vote is a success for Elmwood Park Fire District officials looking to buy land behind the North Bethlehem firehouse. Voters approve a resolution allowing the district to bond up to \$265,000 for the purchase of the six-acre plot. A vote in February ended in a tie.

•Plans move forward to expand the Slingerlands Fire Department's building on New Scotland Road. The project, which could cost up to \$1.8 million, would expand fire truck bays at the firehouse, add an equipment room onto the building and allow for installation of a ventilation system to eliminate the smell of diesel fumes inside the firehouse.

•Delmar resident Frank DeSorbo continues his mission to find veterans in the area who served on D-Day. DeSorbo, a retired educator, is putting together a ceremony to honor the veterans around the 67th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy. DeSorbo started the non-profit D-Day Revisited Association in an attempt to capture the stories of courageous veterans who served in World War II.

•\$2,100 is raised during the 17th Annual Voices of

Hope Benefit Concert at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. The money raised for the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless helps with their Summer Youth Program.

•Guilderland Town Board member Warren Redlich announces he won't run for a second term and may not even finish his first in office. Redlich, who has staged runs for Congress as well, says he hopes to move to Florida by the summer.

•The Clarksville Elementary School community comes together and plans to plant a tree in memory of the late Dorothy McDonald. The former principal of the school passed away in September 2010. McDonald is also remembered through the establishment of a \$1,000 scholarship.

•Albany County lawmakers move forward with mandated redistricting following the 2010 census. By April, six meetings have been held, including one in Voorheesville that drew zero members of the public. Some changes could come to legislative districts in Bethlehem, which has seen a 7 percent jump in population since the turn of the century.

•The Bethlehem Town Board, in a split vote, approves \$240,000 in work to the interior of Town Hall in Delmar. Councilman Mark Jordan, who voted against moving forward with the work, says the town keeps sinking money into a building that "doesn't do what we need it to do."

•Town Board members get their first official look at plans for

mixed-use development at the intersection of Route 9W and Wemple Road in Glenmont. The Wemple Corners project would include 526 units of housing and 145,000 square feet of offices and retail. Despite only approving a request to move a rezoning issue to the Planning Board for approval, board members mostly have good things to say about the large-scale project.

•An advisory committee to the Town of Bethlehem suggests extending the term length for the town supervisor position. The 20/20 Implementation Committee's report also suggests making elected positions such as highway superintendent, tax receiver and town clerk appointed offices.

•Bethlehem police arrest a man they say was driving drunk when he drove his truck into a pillar near the main entrance of Bethlehem Central High School. Police say William Clifton VanHoesen, 36, of Feura Bush, drove his pickup truck over two curbs and two grassy areas before the crash.

•Problems with the building's facade cause the main entrance to be shut down for days at BC Middle School. The move is precautionary after a visual inspection showed that portions of the building's masonry were loose.

May

•The BCSD Board of Education approves a measure allowing the solicitation of proposals for the sale of the administration building on Adams Place in Delmar. The building was last

appraised in 2009 and was valued at \$670,000.

•For the third straight year, students from Bethlehem Central High School compete in a national competition of the best scientific minds in the country. The science bowl team finishes 9th out of 69 high schools at the competition in Washington, D.C. The team wins a \$1,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the school's science department.

•Vandals strike nearly all the vehicles in the BCSD Operations and Maintenance fleet. The weekend vandalism included slashing of tires and the etching of swastikas into glass and paint on the vehicles. In all, 15 vehicles and seven tractors and grass mowers are left damaged or defaced. Repairs cost the district \$26,000, and to date no one has been charged with the crime.

•Guilderland police arrest a man they say sprayed graffiti on the Christ the King Church on Sumter Avenue the night before Easter. Andrew R. Alsante, 20, faces multiple charges for alleged incidents of graffiti at area businesses and apartment complexes as well.

•A New Scotland woman is charged with embezzling over \$100,000 from a Delmar construction company. The Albany County Sheriff's Office reports that Angela J. Jordan, 44, used her position as a record keeper with C&K Carpentry to funnel money out of the business for her own personal use.

•An application is nearly complete for the Slingerlands Historic District to be listed on the state and national Register of Historic Places. The designation would be a first for the town. It would cover an area that includes 92 properties and 73 historic homes and buildings.

•The Albany County Legislature unanimously supports a financing plan

for the Vista Technology Park. It's the last approval needed, as the town and school district have already signed off on the deal. A spokeswoman for Albany County Executive Michael Breslin says the county remains committed to a \$1 million investment in the park to create jobs in Albany County.

•Plans for the mixed-use Wemple Corners project go before the Bethlehem Planning Board. Developers are seeking a rezoning review to allow for senior apartments in the development. One Glenmont resident expresses concern over whether the need is there for additional apartment-style housing in that area of Bethlehem.

•A lengthy meeting of the Bethlehem Republican Committee ends with an endorsement for Town Board member and Democrat Kyle Kotary for the position of town supervisor. Party heads say Kotary is the best person for the job. The party endorsed current supervisor Sam Messina during his run for office in 2009. Later in the month, Kotary locks up the town Democratic Party's endorsement as well, moving him closer to securing the top two lines on the ballot in November's election.

•Bethlehem Town Board member Mark Hennessey announces he will not seek another term in office. Hennessey says he intends to focus on the issue of preserving open space and plans to remain involved in the town after his departure from office.

•Residents speak out during a hearing regarding the proposed closure of the Guilderland Center post office. One resident says the closure would be an "extreme inconvenience," and the former postmaster of the office says the office is viable and profitable.

•Voters approve budgets in the Bethlehem, Guilderland and Voorheesville School

Districts. For the second straight year, residents of the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District reject a budget proposal. Voters also say 'no' to a proposition to purchase school buses in the RCS district. A nearly identical budget will go before voters a second time, but an extra \$100,000 in reserves will be spent to lower the tax levy.

•Turnout is light for a public forum on proposals to change Bethlehem town government, which were made by the 20/20 Implementation Committee. Recommendations in the committee's report include extending the town supervisor's term to four years and changing certain positions in town government from elected to appointed. Those who do attend the forum express a desire to continue voting for those town officials.

•There is good financial news for Bethlehem, according to Comptroller Suzanne Traylor, who says the town's revenues were \$1.7 million ahead of expenditures to end 2010. Traylor says the town is spending within its budget in 2011, but cautions that challenges are ahead, including soaring healthcare costs and the likely adoption of a 2 percent property tax cap at the state level.

June

•Guilderland Councilman Mark Grimm announces that he will not seek re-election to the board. Grimm says he'll spend time focusing on his PR business, a radio talk show and his family.

•Sam Messina wins the support of the Conservative Party in his bid for re-election as Bethlehem supervisor. It's the first endorsement for Messina, who later in the month decides he will bow out of the race, saying the decision was a difficult one.

•John Clarkson, a

□ Year Page 17

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Resolve to volunteer in 2012

As you make your New Year's resolutions this weekend, consider giving back to your community by volunteering at the library.

•Computer tutors

If you are proficient on a desktop computer, enjoy one-on-one teaching, and have some daytime hours a week to spare, you can sign on as a tutor for Computer Partners. This library service provides one-on-one instruction for adults in computer basics. We provide tutor training, lesson plans and supervision, and arrange all tutoring sessions. Contact Michele Giuffre at 439-9314 for more information.

•Friends

Our library Friends sponsor an annual winter concert series and guest author series, underwrite the library's museum passes, and fund two annual scholarships for high school students in the Bethlehem school district. This year they also sponsored an antiques appraisal and a



book recycling/document shredding event—both of which drew a large number of folks. For more information about the Friends, visit <http://friends.bethlehempubliclibrary.org>.

•Gardeners

Installed in 2004, the library gardens offer three seasons of beauty and variety. Volunteers help with planning, planting and maintenance, and assist with spring and fall cleanup. For more information, contact Penny Koburger, 439-5678.

•Teens

Teen volunteers are an indispensable part of our Summer Reading Program, reading stories, helping kids with their online reading logs, and assisting with various programs and activities. Our ongoing Book Buddies program pairs teens with kids in grade

K-5 to build kids' reading skills and self-confidence. For more information, contact Youth Services at 439-9314 option 4.

Yearbooks online

We are in the process of digitizing all Bethlehem Central High School yearbooks from 1929 forward. Help us scan, crop, index and troubleshoot images. Training is provided. Hours are flexible.

Apply online

Volunteer application forms are available in the library and online; just click on "volunteer" in the quick links bar on the home page.

New Year holiday hours

A reminder that the library will be closed Jan. 1 to 2.

A very unmermy birthday

Wednesday, Jan. 11,

10 a.m.

Every day but one is your unbirthday—celebrate with stories and a craft. Preschool and families.

E-book workshop for Nook users

Thursday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.

Bring your Nook e-reader and a laptop if you have one. Learn how to use your reader and borrow the library's ebooks.

Teen anime club

Thursday, Jan. 12, 3:30 p.m.

Watch an episode from a Japanese animated show, munch animatedly on snacks, and show off your artistic drawing style. Grade six to 12.

Louise Grieco

• All library programming is free and open to the public. The Bethlehem Public Library is located at 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar.



"Own the Night" by Lady Antebellum is among the RCS Community Library's new offerings.

Concert series set to kick off

**RCS
COMMUNITY
LIBRARY**

The Acoustic Doorways Concert Series begins its fourth season on Jan. 20. Vocalist Rena Graf will be joined by Azzaam Hameed, Carl West, and Brian Melick at 8 p.m. in the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem in Selkirk. Graf is influenced by blues and soul singers such as Billie Holiday and Sarah Vaughn and has performed locally at many venues. Make time for an evening of musical relaxation under the spell of Graf's soulful, soothing voice.

See the library's website (www.rcscommunitylibrary.org) for the complete 2012 season schedule.

Subscription to all four concerts: adults, \$20; children and seniors, \$12. Buy a subscription and enter a drawing for a gift certificate! Single tickets

available at the Library and at the door: Adults, \$8, Children and Seniors, \$5.

Acoustic Doorways sponsors

Thanks to our local business and individual sponsors, our fourth Acoustic Doorways concert series offers tickets at the same low prices as the previous three years. You too can become a sponsor. Call the Library, 756-2053, or find sponsorship information on the website. Sponsors names are posted on the website and will appear in the concert program.

□ See Off Page 12

Take advantage of a fine opportunity

Bring back your overdue library books, no matter how late. Tuesday, Jan. 3, through Saturday, Jan. 14, return Voorheesville items to the Voorheesville library and pay no fine on the items. Fine free applies only items owned by the Voorheesville Public library and only items returned to the Voorheesville library during the period of

Jan. 3 - 14. Fines and fees previously accrued or from other libraries cannot be waived.

Holiday hours

In observance of the new year, the library will close at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 31; we will remain closed on Sunday, Jan. 1, and Monday, Jan. 2. The library will reopen at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 3.



Have a new e-reader?

The library will be having sessions for you to learn about your device and our digital collections available through Overdrive. On Wednesday, Jan. 18 2-4 p.m. and 5:30-8 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 21 10am-12pm, staff will demonstrate how to download library books

onto the Nook, Kindle, iPod, iPad and Literati. Bring your own ereader, tablet or smart phone or try out one of the library's devices.

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.



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Retired men welcome to join Second Milers Club

It's time to consider joining the Second Milers Club, an organization for retired men. They will kick off the 2012 meeting schedule with a report on "The State of the Town" by incoming supervisor John Clarkson on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Normanside Country Club restaurant. The club meets at noon on the second Wednesday of each month for lunch, fellowship, and a short program featuring a local speaker or musical group. New members are always welcome, and there are no dues or other obligations. The program for Feb. 8 will feature a presentation "Abraham Lincoln Visits Albany" by Judge W. Dennis Duggan. For further information or to make a reservation please call John Alden at 475-1864 or Bob Mulligan at 439-3802.

Welcome new town Supervisor John Clarkson and other town officials on Monday, January 2, at the Oath of Office ceremony in the Bethlehem Town Hall Auditorium from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A reception will

Senior Action

Town of Bethlehem

follow the ceremony.

Get ready for tax time. A.A.R.P. tax counseling will be available on Wednesdays starting on Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Town Hall. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176 after Jan. 3 to make an appointment. Transportation can be arranged.

Our outreach workers are available to assist with Home Energy Assistance Program (H.E.A.P.) applications for help with heating related bills. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make an appointment.

Bethlehem Senior Services and Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., provide transportation for town residents, age 60 and over, to medical, dental, therapy, and clinic appointments. Call 439-5770 to make reservations.

Monday, Jan. 2
• Bethlehem Town Hall is closed in observation of New Year's Day.

Tuesday, Jan. 3
• Come to Bethlehem Town Hall to register for the A.A.R.P. Alive Safe Driving Course to be held in Wednesday, January 18 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The course fee is \$17.00 for AARP members and \$19.00 for non-members. This course usually provides a discount on your automobile insurance. If space permits, reservations can be made by phone at 439-4955, ext. 1176 on and after January 4.

Wednesday, Jan. 4
• The Senior Discussion Group will meet from 10:30 am to noon at the Town Hall, Room 101. Jane Sanders, LMSW, will lead a discussion on current news events, human interest stories, and reminisces about the past. Transportation can be arranged by calling 439-4955, ext. 1176.

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

Thursday, Jan. 5
• Bethlehem Senior Citizens Club meets weekly on Thursdays for an enjoyable afternoon of games and socializing at the Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar at 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We play bridge, mah jongg, bingo and pinocle. All seniors are welcome. Bring a sandwich and join others for lunch if you wish.

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

Friday, Jan. 6
• The Health and Wellness Program presents "Making Health Care Decisions" by Margaret Reed, Esq., Reed and Vella LLP. This program

will help you decide who will speak for you if you can no longer make your own health care decisions and who will decide what treatments or health services you will receive if you are incapacitated. There will be a discussion of relevant New York State laws and a look at the documents you can sign to appoint a health care agent. The free program will be held at the Bethlehem Town Hall from 1 to 2 p.m. Join us for lunch beforehand, cost on your own, at the Windowbox Café. Call 439-4955, ext. 1167, to make lunch reservations.

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

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

Wilma DeLucco, Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. Board Member

Off

(From Page 1)

Holiday hours
The library will be closed Saturday, Dec. 31, through Jan. 2 for the New Year's holiday. Regular hours and story times

resume on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

What's new

- Adult Fiction
"Breaking Point" by Dana Haynes
- Music on CD
"Loud" by Rihanna
"Own the Night" by Lady Antebellum

In addition to our regular exercise classes we will be offering a beginning Zumba class for January and February. Call 356-1980 or visit the senior office for further

details on all our classes.

• Zumba
Theresa Adams, instructor

Zumba is a Latin inspired dance fitness party that will exhilarate you from deep within your core. Come dance with us to exotic rhythms like Salsa, Merengue, Cumbia, and other international beats. We will break down the steps and use slower Zumba music to provide a safe and effective total body workout. Bring water and dress comfortably.

• Senior Fitness
Theresa Mattson, instructor
This is a low-level fitness program. It incorporates strength training, cardio vascular fitness, balance and conditioning exercises

Town of Guilderland SENIOR CALENDAR

working the major muscle groups. Some exercises are done sitting in chairs and standing along side of them. It is an hour program beginning with warm-ups. It also focuses on functional exercises. Loose fitting clothing and good supportive footwear are suggested. Weights are available.

Wednesday, Dec. 28
No Line Dancing
10:30 a.m. OsteoBuster
No Sr. Fitness
1 p.m. Needlecraft
1:30 p.m. OsteoBusters

Thursday, Dec. 29
Scheduled Shopping
9 a.m. OsteoBusters
No Aerobics
10:30 a.m. Movie: "Fried Green Tomatoes" (reservation deadline is Dec. 23)
1 p.m. Mahjongg
1:15 p.m. Pinochle

Friday, Dec. 30
Scheduled Shopping
10 a.m. Painting
10:30 a.m. Bridge
1 p.m. Quilting

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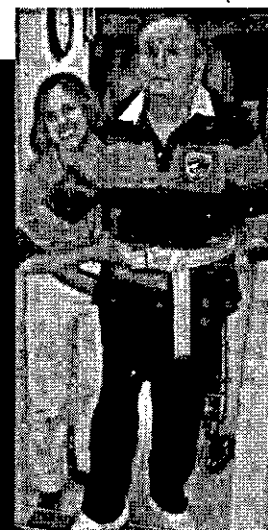
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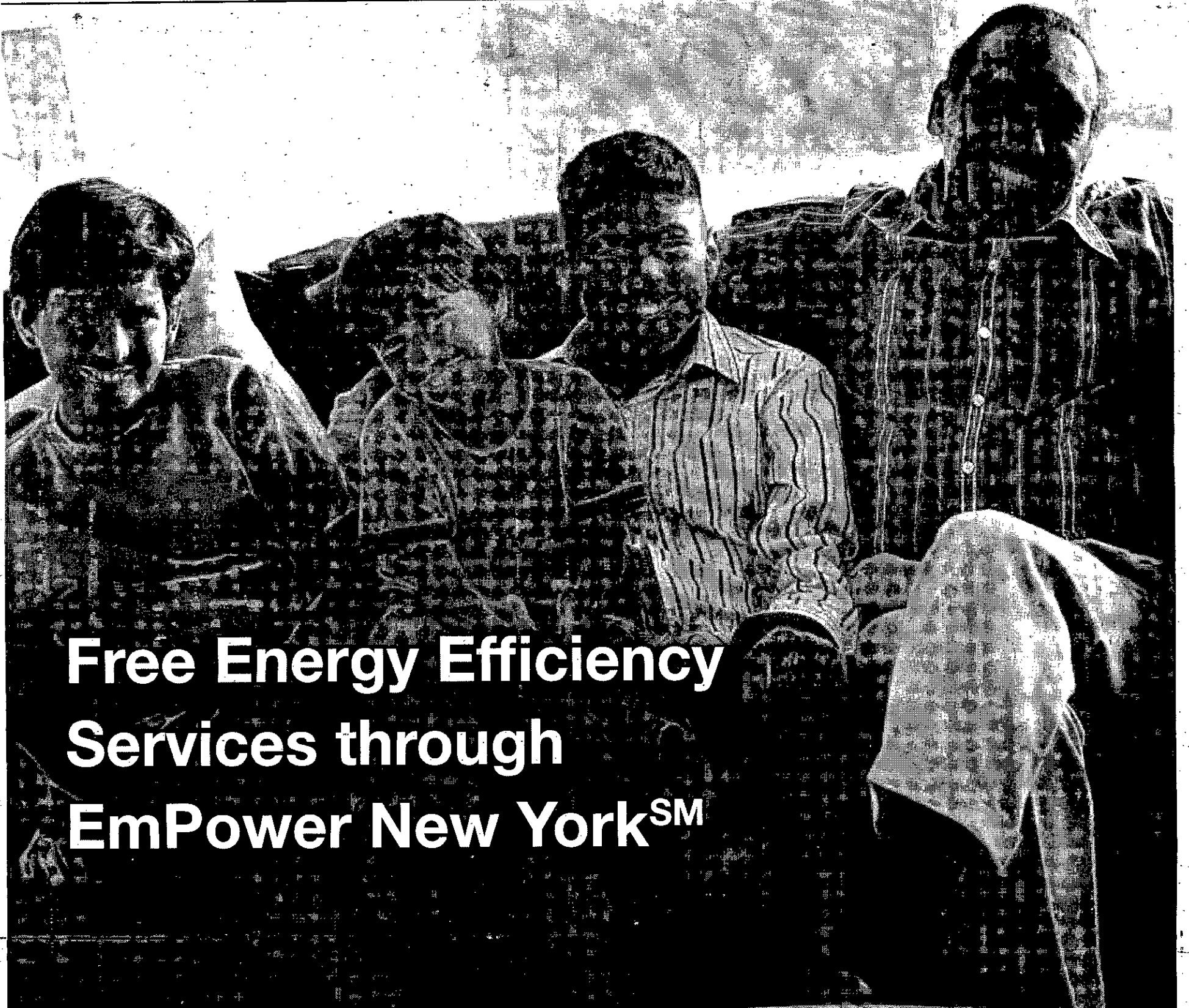
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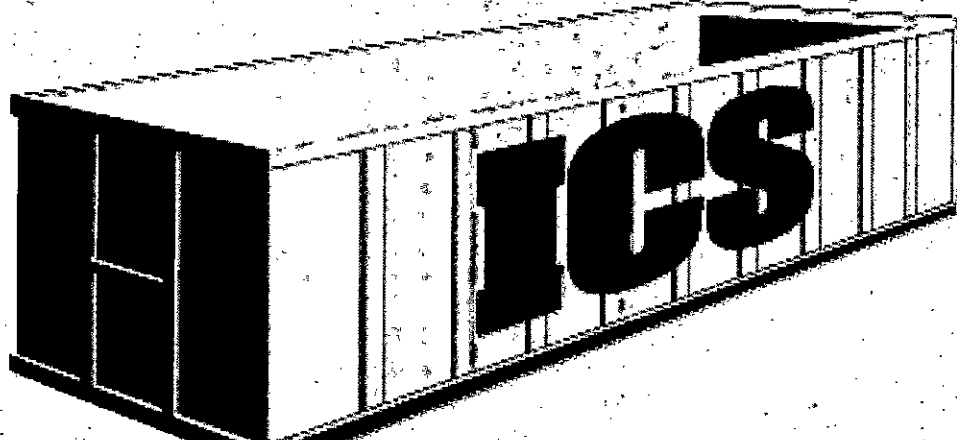
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En garde!



Bethlehem Central Middle School sixth-graders were "foiled" last week as they honed their fencing skills in physical education class. The weeklong lesson is part of the school's mission to expose students to different types of physical activity. "It exposes the sport to some kids who may never have heard about it or may want to learn more about it," said sixth-grade physical education Instructor Piera Canuto.

Submitted photos



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John Clarkson gets rolling on governing

Series of meetings designed to shape major policy issues in 2012

By GREG FRY,
fryg@spotlightnews.com

Bethlehem Town Hall has been relatively busy early in the morning over the past month.

A group of community stakeholders, including residents, town officials and Bethlehem Central School District leaders, have been meeting each week as part of a 2012 Transition Committee.

The meetings, which are open to the public, have included discussions about major issues such as budgeting, ethics and economic development.

At a meeting held Dec. 20, committee members tackled issues surrounding another major point of discussion in the town: open space.

The committee was organized by Supervisor-elect John Clarkson, who sat at the front of the room during the recent meeting and gathered input from committee members and residents inside the Town Hall auditorium.

"I think there is an emerging consensus that we should look again at the comprehensive plan. That certainly doesn't mean abandoning it," said Clarkson.

The issue of open space was significant in this year's campaigns for town offices. Views regarding the town's involvement in protecting open space were front and center during the debate in early 2011 over the town's interest in purchasing the Normanside Country Club. Some have questioned whether the town should spend its limited resources to keep open space.

"We don't really have any revenue sources to involve here," said Clarkson. "Hopefully, what we can do will be based on what we have now."

He went on to say that if the town could find a

I think there is an emerging consensus that we should look again at the comprehensive plan. That certainly doesn't mean abandoning it."

— Supervisor-elect
John Clarkson

major revenue source — perhaps from government modernization — then that money could possibly be used for open space preservation.

While the hourlong meeting included a number of discussions, the end result was a realization of a point that often lingers over the open space debate in Bethlehem.

"The tension is between those who feel that the government should stand back from it, and those who feel that it should be totally involved. I think we've got to find the reasonable ground between those two opposing viewpoints," said Clarkson.

In the near future, the committee will meet on matters such as senior issues, shared services and town governance.

"It's really helping to create a big-picture policy map of what we need to look at and what's important," said Clarkson of the committee's work. "It's also helpful to have this communication among all these members, because some are experts in some fields and not in others, and having the discussion spread out through the community to the audience that comes, that's very useful."

The Transition Committee is scheduled to meet through the month of January. A scheduled of meetings can be found on the town's website: www.townofbethlehem.org.

Justice: Best served too cold

Mock trial helps students learn the intricacies of the judicial system

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Goldilocks: Hardened criminal or innocent little girl who accidentally walked into the wrong home?

That's the question parents had to decide at two mock trials held by fourth- and fifth-grade students who participate in Ballston Spa Central School District's Ballston Scholars program.

To prepare, teacher Bairbre McCarthy provided students with an old version of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" to read. They were told to think of the story as evidence. The story couldn't be changed to prove their case, but it could be added to.

Students were then split into two teams, the defense and the prosecution. The students spent weeks establishing a story, thinking up witnesses and evidence and trying to find any ways the opposite side could poke holes in their narrative.

"I think studying the judicial system is really important for this age group," said McCarthy. "It's an important aspect of the curriculum later on in the year and this exercise takes the process a step further for them."

McCarthy has been teaching the mock trials in her classes since 2006, but this is her first year

working at the Ballston Spa Central School District. She previously taught the Young Scholars program at the Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES. She was hired over the summer to expand the program within the district's two elementary schools.

Those involved in the program have reasoning skills measuring in the top 1 or 2 percent of students in their age group nationwide and are tested using the School and College Ability Test by Johns Hopkins University. The students performing the trial of Goldilocks met one day each week and are in the literature and social studies track. Others are taught classes by McCarthy on the math, science and technology track.

"This is a great unit for working collaboratively," said McCarthy. "It helps teach them persuasion and public speaking skills."

Another fairy tale trial will be performed in March. The lessons prepare the students for a larger trial recreation at the end of the year. As part of the curriculum, the students will learn about the Boston Massacre. In June, they will recreate the trial for a more hands-on experience with the lesson.

"I start with fairy tales because the stories are easily recognized by the children," said McCarthy. "It brings the theories of the judicial system to their level."

On Friday, Dec. 16, the



The prosecution questions Yasmin the Unicorn about what she witnessed at the bear's house.

Marcy Velte/Spotlight

Ballston Scholars of Malta Avenue Elementary held their trial with visiting parents acting as jurors. Goldie was being charged with vandalism, larceny and criminal trespassing, and the parents needed to decide if she was guilty or innocent.

To mimic a real trial, witnesses were asked to put their hand on the "bauble" before testifying and "to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you Bob."

The defense claimed the whole ordeal was a misunderstanding.

According to Goldie's sister Silvia, on July 7, 1877, Goldie and her sister were on the way to give

an anniversary present to friends of their parents when they came to a fork in the road. Weighed down by the present she was carrying, Silvia claimed to have told Goldie to walk ahead of her when Goldie took the wrong fork in the road.

"I'm still not good with my lefts and rights," responded Goldie, played by Hannah Thompson.

Goldie claimed she didn't think it was weird no one was home because her mother had said the Steels might be busy preparing for their anniversary. She also didn't think anything of the porridge left on the table or the three beds upstairs, explaining how she thought the food had been left out for her and

her sister and the extra bed was made in case they stayed the night."

"Mother always told us how nice they were," she said. So she ate the porridge.

The defense acknowledged a chair was broken, but by accident when she sat down after eating. After eating she grew tired waiting for her sister, so she took a nap in one of the beds. Her story was corroborated by her sister, Peyton the tree and Yasmin the unicorn.

The bears had a different story, claiming Goldie walked into the house without permission, ate their food, broke a chair and was found when the bears returned sleeping in one of their beds.

Within the story used as evidence, the bear's door is not locked. However, Goldie does lift the latch to enter the home. Bob the flying Seahorse testified to passing by the house and seeing Goldie lift the latch to enter. He also saw her eat the porridge through a window.

"I have very good eyesight, I just had my eyes tested last week," said Bob, played by Gavin Butler, in response to a question from the defense.

Eventually the parents were asked for a verdict.

The discussion became heated over whether

Goldie could be charged with larceny if she didn't intentionally know she was stealing.

One parent questioned why Goldie would enter a house without knocking even if she did know the people who owned the home.

"Maybe things like that were different in the 1800s," said another.

Unable to come up with a unanimous decision, the parents took a vote. They decided to acquit Goldie of the vandalism and larceny charges since she may not have been aware she was doing something wrong. They did convict her of trespassing, but on a lesser misdemeanor charge.

"I think the parents found Goldie not guilty because [Thompson] was such a good actress," said McCarthy. "In real life it would be a different story, although she is a minor so she probably wouldn't be placed in jail."

The parents liked the idea of their children learning about the judicial system at such a young age.

"Maybe it will make them think twice before doing something they're not supposed to," said Gavin's father, Larry Butler. "It shows to them the intricacies of having to prove their guilt or innocence."



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The gift of warmth

Visitors to the Bethlehem Public Library can view the annual Delmar Progress Club giving tree, decorated with hats, scarves, mittens and gloves provided by Progress Club members and their friends. One of the most noteworthy contributors is Mildred Dickinson, mother of member Judy Ciccio. She will be 105 years old this January and is still knitting strong. This year she produced eight sets of beautifully crafted hats and mittens. The winter warmers will be delivered to the Albany Rescue Mission, Equinox Shelter for Battered Women, Albany Interfaith Shelter and Catholic Charities Maternal Health Services.

Submitted photo



Town officials to be sworn in Jan. 2

A ceremony and reception will be held Jan. 2 for Bethlehem town officials.

The ceremony will include the swearing-in of Supervisor John Clarkson, Town Board members Joann Dawson and Jeffrey Kuhn, Town Justice Mark Jordan,

Town Clerk Nancy Moquin, Receiver of Taxes Nancy Mendick and Highway Superintendent Gregg Sagendorph.

The ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. in the Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

Airport

(From Page 8)

that will be coming into the airport in terms of rent from the airlines, dollars that the concessions will provide to the airport," said Meyers. "It's quite a balancing act and there are a number of different factors you have to look at to come up with a budget we feel will not only be balanced but will make all the ends meet."

Weather is an unpredictable factor, especially in winter, and ensuring there's enough wiggle room to account for surprise snowstorms is a big issue, said Meyers.

"You have to plan for winter storms and the amount of ice melting material and sand you'll need on a runway," said Meyers.

The numbers for 2011 aren't in yet but Meyers said he thinks the airport will be within 1 or 2 percent of what was budgeted for weather-related upkeep.

"Throughout the year we adjusted any of the variables that we can adjust to ensure that at the end of the year we do have funds left over to provide a revenue sharing for our airlines," said Meyers.

So far, this winter season has been mild and Meyers said (knock on wood) harsh winter weather doesn't even appear to be looming.

"It's a guess what's coming. ... We don't have

"Throughout the year we adjusted any of the variables that we can adjust to ensure that at the end of the year we do have funds left over to provide a revenue sharing for our airlines."

— Doug Meyers, spokesman for the airport

any serious storms in the forecast as yet. The end of 2011 seems pretty clear," said Meyers, adding the airport once made it all the way until Jan. 12 without a significant storm to handle.

Once the inevitable snow does come, though, things can get pricey.

"Snowstorms are very expensive for the airport and involves an awful lot of overtime for people," said Meyers.

To put it in perspective, Meyers said if you lump all the parking lots, roadways, aprons, tarmacs, taxiways and runways together into a 12-foot wide strip akin to a single-lane highway, clearing it would be the equivalent of plowing 120 miles of road.

"That's an awful lot of snow," said Meyers. "It can tax your resources in terms of dollars and also puts a heavy burden on people removing that snow."

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Carole Warburton's "Vanishing Barn" series of paintings will be on display at the Schenectady Jewish Community Center.

Scenic icons in peril

Local artist's series on historical barns is meant to raise awareness of their destruction

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Several years ago, Carole Warburton was driving down Vischer Ferry Road in Clifton Park when she noticed an old barn surrounded by woodlands. It was in the middle of being excavated to make room for a housing development.

Eventually the barn was torn down, the woods were cleared away and a pond on the property was filled in.

"I drove past it every day for years, and now the environment and ecosystem of the area was radically changed," said Warburton. "It bothered me that no one cared, and I felt there had to be a way to preserve it."

Before the barn was demolished, Warburton, an artist from Rexford, painted the scene. Soon after began her series of artwork on "Vanishing Barns."

She became fixated on the project, doing research on barns across New York to better connect with the subject matter.

"As we travel through the New York countryside, we can identify elegant Gambrel-roofed barns, English barns, Dutch barns, basement barns, bank barns, round and polygonal barns. These structures are symbols of our American heritage and the hard work that produced useful and life-sustaining products," Warburton writes on her website.

She said after the first painting, she began to paint and draw a whole series of forgotten barns for her newest collection. She would travel the Mohawk and Hudson valleys in search of new barns and would even ask friends if they had suggestions of older barns in the area.

There are now more than 15 pieces in her "Vanishing Barns" collection.

"I'm kind of inspired by the beauty of them," she said. "Even those in a state of deterioration are very strong and powerful structures."

Warburton said the series is meant to heighten awareness of the historical importance of the barns.

"Perhaps in some way, this may avert their destruction to make way for housing projects and

□ Peril Page 25

Year

(From Page 10)

member of the town's 20/20 Implementation Committee, announces he'll run for supervisor, saying he was influenced by Messina's decision not to run. Clarkson will attempt to challenge Kyle Kotary for the Democratic line in the September primary.

• A ceremony is held to mark the official opening of a 1.9-mile stretch of the Albany County Rail Trail through the Town of Bethlehem. The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy agrees to cover liability insurance, while Bethlehem maintenance crews will chip in with some clean-up responsibilities such as mowing grass.

• Several Bethlehem town employees tell The Spotlight that they fear for their safety after a suspended dispatcher is back working in the town's police department. Dispatcher Eric Kerr was suspended following an incident in which he used profanity, threw paperwork and threatened to "get even" with coworkers after he was reprimanded for leaving his post, according to sources. One dispatcher describes Kerr as "out of control" and "really angry." Efforts to reach Kerr for comment were unsuccessful.

• Police Chief Louis Corsi denies allegations that he became angry when members of the telecommunications department took the complaint outside of the department. Supervisor Sam Messina says the town is doing everything necessary and appropriate for employees.

A decision to install a small camera in the police department's dispatch room draws plenty of criticism from union officials, who are upset that they were not involved in discussions over the decision. Privacy issues are also raised.

The police union's legal counsel distributes a letter to town officials arguing that the camera alters existing agreements between the union and the administration.

• A 4-1 vote by the Bethlehem Town Board is a rejection of Supervisor Sam Messina's proposal to conduct an internal review of the police department's operations in order to identify cost savings. The report would have cost \$7,000, but board members said they were unclear of the details of the study.

• A nationwide analysis could lead to the shuttering of the Clarksville Post Office. The idea draws plenty of reaction from local residents worried about another loss to the character of the community following the closure of Clarksville Elementary School earlier in the year.

• The state Comptroller's Office releases an audit

criticizing certain financial practices within the Bethlehem Central School District. The audit indicates that gifts were given to employees in violation of the state constitution, best purchasing practices were not followed and the district's reserve fund was improperly maintained. The audit looks at the district's operations between July 2009 and August 2010. District officials accept the recommendations from the Comptroller's Office, but also dismiss some as shortsighted and misunderstood.

• Members of local trade unions hold a protest outside the Owens Corning plant on Feura Bush Road. They protest the use of out-of-area labor on renovations and upgrades to the plant. One union official says the company is just giving away work to contractors and workers from outside New York. Owens Corning

officials say contracts for work on the plant went to a firm that hires the union organizing the demonstration.

• A consultant hired to examine the impact of erosion along the shoreline at Henry Hudson Park in Selkirk reveals the price tag to fix the problem. Officials with Ocean and Coastal Consultants say it would cost the town \$2.5 million to fix the problem of a timber bulkhead once capped with concrete that is crumbling into the Hudson River and taking pieces of the park with it.

• A veteran teacher retires from the school she's spent the last 41 years at in Delmar. Barbara O'Brien, an educator for over 50 years, retires from her position at St. Thomas the Apostle School. O'Brien says she has seen many changes, but says the uniqueness of the faculty and feeling of extended family has never changed at the school.

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Icing on the cake

National Guardsmen sworn in on Guard's 375th birthday

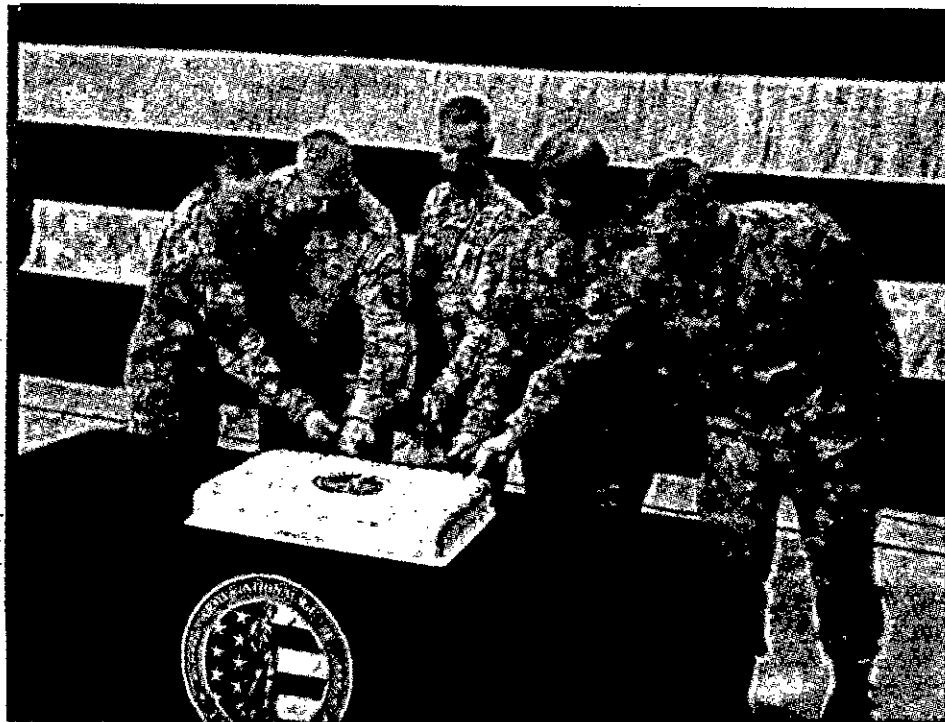
By ALYSSA JUNG
jung@spotlightnews.com

"I ... do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State of New York against all enemies ..."

In front of camouflage-clad soldiers and family, five new enlistees repeated the above oath in its entirety on Tuesday, Dec. 13. They were sworn in as National Guardsmen on the National Guard's 375th birthday at a traditional cake-cutting ceremony at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs Headquarters in Latham.

"I don't remember the day [I was sworn in] at all; it was not memorable. But today, I hope for these gentlemen and their families you'll remember the 13th of December," said Adjutant Gen. of New York Patrick Murphy, who administered the oath. "It's a great day to be joining the National Guard."

The National Guard, a group of civilian soldiers,



Five National Guard members with Dec. 13 birthdays cut the birthday cake emblazoned with the 375th birthday logo.

celebrates each birthday with a cake-cutting ceremony. For the 375th year of service, though, members decided to mark the occasion a little differently.

"We normally find the oldest and youngest guard soldier and airman and bring them together to cut the cake," said Eric Durr, a spokesman for the National Guard.

"This is the first time we did the enlistment at an event. 375 is a little more impressive than 372 or 373. It's one of those numbers that people notice."

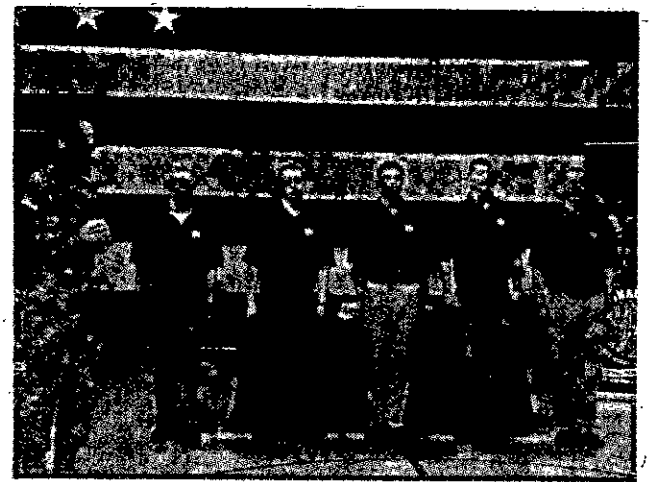
In 2011, the National Guard turned over 2,036 soldiers nationwide, with Haley Young, Michael Patterson, Jr., Shelbi Vanderbogart, Eric Petersen and Donald

Pestuglicci being five locals to join the ranks.

"We thought it was a great idea to have the adjutant general do the enlistment for these soldiers," said Durr.

Murphy also reenlisted Hillary Crispell of the 105th air wing.

"You see a mother here, not dressed as she would be with combat boots [because] her and her



Haley Young, Michael Patterson, Jr., Shelbi Vanderbogart, Eric Petersen and Donald Pestuglicci were five locals to enlist at the Tuesday, Dec. 13, birthday ceremony.

Alyssa Jung/Spotlight

husband, also in the 105th air wing, are expecting in April," said Murphy. "We congratulate her on that but also on deciding to make the decision, with family, to come back in to the Guard again and reenlist."

Five National Guard members with Dec. 13 birthdays—David Smith, Joseph Dumas and Justin Phillips of the Army Guard and Airmen Brenda Baxter and Ian Tucker—cut the birthday cake emblazoned with 375th birthday logo.

The National Guard has played a storied role in U.S. history since its inception on Dec. 13, 1636 when the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony passed a law establishing formal

militia companies in the colony. The militia has fought in every war involving America, from King Philip's War against Native Americans in the colonies in 1675 to the war in Afghanistan. Members also offer support on the home front during events like the Sept. 11 attacks or natural disasters like this year's Tropical Storm Irene.

Currently, more than 1,000 members of the New York Army and Air National Guard are serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations around the world. More than 200 are on state active duty performing a security mission in New York City.

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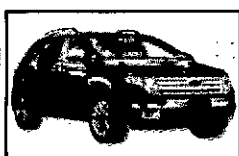
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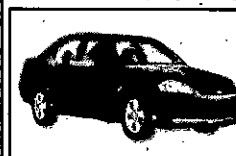
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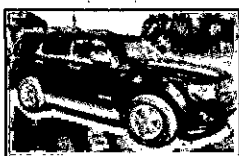
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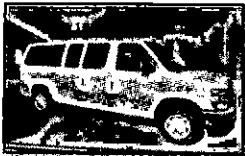
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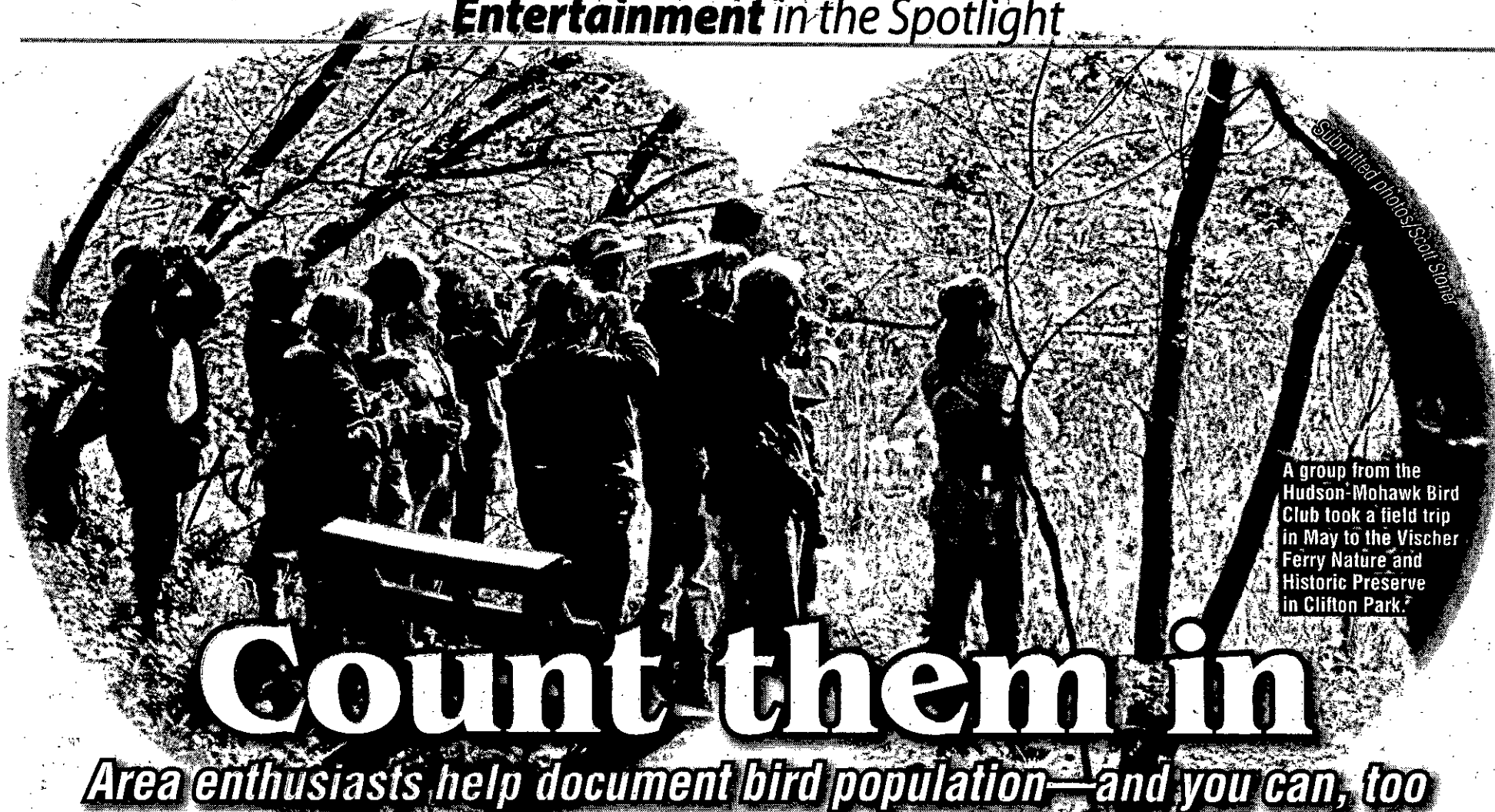
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Entertainment in the Spotlight



When Ann B'Rells recently told her friends she had to get going since she had to be up early to count birds, she got more than a few funny looks.

"Why?" her friends wanted to know. "Why do you do this?"

After all, "It's cold. It's icy. It's windy," B'Rells said of the weather she typically encounters on Christmas bird counts.

But the elements don't keep B'Rells away, and she has plenty of company counting birds. B'Rells, of Guiderland, belongs to the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club, a group some 300-members strong. Many of them take part in the club's annual Christmas bird counts, held each December in conjunction with the National Audubon Society. They spend the day in a designated area, writing down how many birds they see and what species they are.

"It's sort of like a treasure hunt," said Alan Mapes, a club member who coordinates the Albany County count. "You never know just what you're going to come across. There's always surprises. It changes year to year."

This year, in fact, one of the people taking part in the Albany County count got quite a shock when he heard a rustling in a bush and looked over to see a green bird fly out and land on a nearby power line.

It turned out to be a monk parakeet, an exotic bird native to South America. Mapes said monk parakeets have been sold in the United States as pets, and some have escaped and mated, which was the likely story behind the one spotted on the count.

The Albany County count was held on Sunday, Dec. 19. The club still has two counts upcoming: the Troy Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, Dec. 31, and a New Year's bird count at Five Rivers. The Five Rivers count is not affiliated with the Audubon Society and is run a little differently.

Audubon Society counts focus on a particular point on a map and extend in a 15-mile radius in every direction. The land that is included is broken into sectors, and teams of bird-

By JACQUELINE M. DOMIN
dominj@spotlightnews.com

ers cover each sector, noting the birds they not only see, but hear. Mapes said that some of the birders taking part in the Albany County count, for example, heard two great horned owls but didn't see them. That was enough for the birds to be included in the count.

In all, the Albany County count covered eight sectors, Mapes said. In addition to the monk parakeet, two black vultures were spotted, along with common birds like mallards and Canada geese.

There's a good-natured competition among people who take part in the counts, said Bernie Grossman, a longtime birder from Rexford. It's always exciting to report seeing a bird that has not been previously seen in the region.

Grossman and his wife first got interested in birding when they were living in a building owned by Stony Brook University on Long Island in the late 1960s. The building was on a salt marsh, and "birds were all around us," Grossman said.

So when the couple moved to the Capital District in 1974, they hooked up with the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club and have taken part in dozens of counts over the years.

"You can look at it as a scientific duty," Grossman said. "I just enjoy it. It's fun."

Grossman said counts are a "great way to be out in nature," which is one of the ideas behind the Five Rivers count. Craig Thompson, the director of Five Rivers, noted that communities often offer First Night activities for people on New Year's Eve.

"We decided to have a first morning event," he said.

People gather at Five Rivers in Delmar around 9 a.m. and spend about two hours out on the center's paths and trails, writing down the birds they see. People who don't have a lot

of experience birding are paired with those who do. At the end, everyone comes together to compile the day's data, and a list is posted in the exhibit room noting what species of birds were seen that day. The list hangs throughout the year, with new birds being added whenever someone reports a sighting.

"It's a fun, social way to usher in the new year," said Scott Stoner, a former president of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club who frequently helps with the count at Five Rivers. There are usually 30 or so species spotted on New Year's Day; by the end of the year, the list includes 140 or 150 species, he said.

Stoner's parents were birders, which sparked his interest. B'Rells, too, was turned on to birding by her family. As a child growing up in New York City, her dad took her to Central Park and Brooklyn Botanical Gardens to see birds. But her interest really grew after she was engaged to a man whose father was a Navy veteran of World War II studying for his doctorate in ornithology.

"He was a navigator aboard his ship," B'Rells said. "You can look for enemy ships you haven't seen in 10 weeks for only so long. Then you start looking at the birds."

All these years later, B'Rells is the one looking at the birds. She says it's more exciting than studying plants — there's the thrill of seeing a bird and chasing it to figure out what it is.

"Basically, it's just fun," she said. "Our birders bird until they see their last bird. Retirement is a time for more birding."

The 31st Annual New Year's Day Bird Count at Five Rivers is Sunday, Jan. 1. Groups will leave the visitor center at 9 a.m., with birders welcome to head out early. There is an indoor lounge where people can watch the center's feeders and record the birds that visit it to be included in the day's count. If the weather is bad, call the center at 475-0291 to make sure the count is still on.

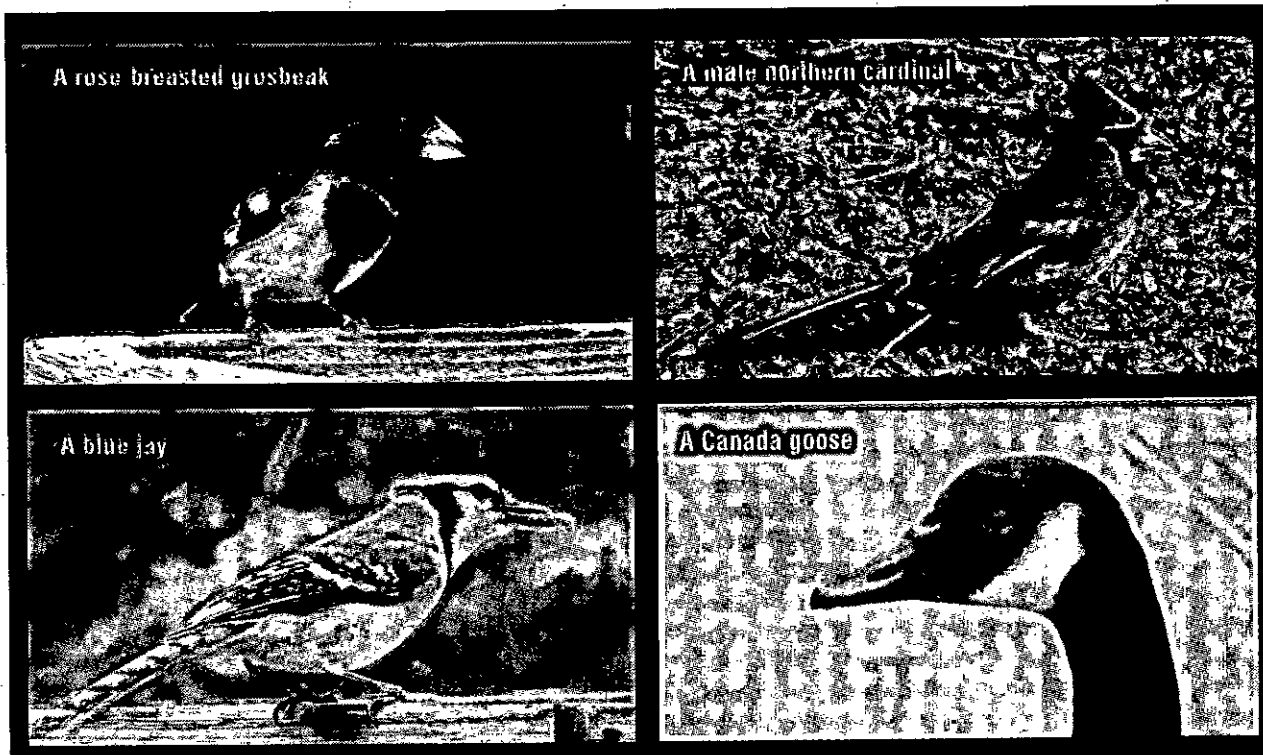
To learn more about the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club, including its Troy bird count, visit hmbc.net.

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Music

JOHN BIRCHLER

Performing classic folk music from the likes of John Denver, Kingston Trio and more, Dec. 29, 7 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

SYBIL ALLYSON & ROOTS OF CHANGE

Original socially-relevant folk and Americana music, Dec. 30, 7 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366 Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

BRIAN PATRIK & RICK SACCHETTI

Rock and folk, Dec. 30, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

JO HENLEY

Boston-based Americana quartet, Dec. 30, 8 p.m., Caffè Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$15, door price \$17. Information, 583-0822.

TOR & FRIENDS

Acoustic singer-songwriter, Dec. 31, 7 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366 Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

RING-A-DING NEW YEAR

Featuring "Joe" Sinatra, "Nick" Orbison, "Peggy" Cline and 11-year-old Katera Edwards, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

EMERALD DAWN

Celtic/rock duo rings in the New Year, Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366

Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

Comedy

MOP AND BUCKET COMPANY

Weekly show of improvised comedy and music, Dec. 30, 8 p.m., Proctors Underground, 432 State St., Schenectady, adults \$14, students/seniors \$6. Information, 346-6204.

Visual Arts

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

"Making Time: Voyage to Vietnam," through Feb. 25; "From the Collections," through April 1; "New York Remembers: Reflecting on September 11," through April 28; plus "Beneath the City: An Archeological Perspective of Albany," permanent collections on the 9/11 recovery effort, New York state history and geography, Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue. Information, 474-5877.

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF ART

"Albany and the Civil War: Medicine on the Home and Battle Fronts," through Feb. 26; "Kid Stuff: Great Toys From Our Childhood," through March 4; "First in the Hearts of His Countrymen: George Washington," through May 20; plus "The Folk Spirit of Albany: Folk Art from the Collection of the Albany Institute of History and Art" and exhibits on Hudson River School painting, American sculpture and the history of Albany, 125 Washington Ave. Information, 463-4478.

ALBANY AIRPORT GALLERY

"Michael Marston, World Apart," through January; "Laugh Out Loud," through March 25; plus installations by Paul Katz, Harry Leigh, Harold Lohner, Lillian Mulero, Ken Ragsdale, Nancy Shaver and Joy Taylor. Information, 463-3726.

BROOKSIDE MUSEUM

"The Threads of Time," through Dec. 31, 6 Charlton St., Ballston Spa. Information, 885-4000.

CLEMENT ART GALLERY

"Group Show Part IV," through Jan. 23, 201 Broadway, Troy. Information, 272-6811.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DANCE

Michael Jackson tribute, a "Dancing with

the Stars" exhibit and the C.V. Whitney Hall of Fame, 99 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 584-2225.

SARATOGA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM

"The Syracuse Mile," featuring two of the central New York's famous stock cars; plus ongoing exhibits including "East of Detroit" and New York racing, 110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Springs. Information, 587-1935, ext. 20.

SCHENECTADY MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM

"FETCH! Lab" and "Fueling the Future," ongoing; Nott Terrace Heights, Schenectady. Information, 382-7890.

SPA FINE ART

Featuring new works by Ken Orton; 376 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 587-2411.

TANG TEACHING MUSEUM AND GALLERY

"I Myself Have Seen It: Photography and Kiki Smith," through Dec. 30; Skidmore College, 815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 580-8080.

CLARK ART INSTITUTE

"Rembrandt and Degas: Two Young Artists," a selection of portraits by two masters, through Feb. 5, 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. Information, (413) 458-9545.

MASS MOCA

"Ruse," through Dec. 31; "Sub Mirage Lignum," through Dec. 31; "The Workers," through March 15, 2012; "Geometric Death March 141," through April 30; "Kidspace: Under the Sea," through May 28; "Sol LeWitt: A Wall Drawing Retrospective," ongoing; 87 Marshall St., North Adams, Mass. Information, (413) 664-4481.

ARKELL MUSEUM

"American Paintings from the 1920s and 1930s," through March 11; "Rising from the Sea: The Art of Jay Hall Connaway," through May 27; plus "Arkell's Inspiration: the Marketing of Beech-Nut and Art for the People," ongoing; Canajoharie. Information, 673-2314.

THE HYDE COLLECTION

"Draw Me a Story: A Century of Children's Book Illustrations," through Jan. 7, 161 Warren St., Glens Falls. Information, 792-1761.

Call for Artists

SARATOGA KLEZMER BAND

Area music group specializing in traditional Jewish dance music is seeking a clarinet player. For information, call Judith Kroot 793-5416 or 260-0466.

SCHENECTADY CIVIC PLAYERS

Holding open auditions for March performance of Christopher Hampton's famous play, "Les Liaisons Dangereuses," roles for six women and six men; auditions Jan. 3, and 5, 7:30 p.m., Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 South Church St., Schenectady. Information, 577-3777 or rroe@nycap.rr.com.

THURSDAY MUSICAL CLUB

Women's singing group entering its 99th year, practices held Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Information, 765-4536.

THE CHORALERS

Musical group looking for singers of all abilities, performs concerts at Christmas and in the spring, pieces are familiar and fun to sing; no auditions are necessary, practices are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Saint-Claire's Chapel, McClellan Street, Schenectady.

ETUDE CLUB

Looking for women interested in vocal and instrumental performance, meetings held the first Thursday of every month. Information, 374-5536.

CLIFTON PARK COMMUNITY CHORUS

Ongoing rehearsals for its winter concert, Shenendehowa Adult Community Center, Clifton Common, Clifton Park, no auditions required to join. Information, 371-6681.

CAPITALAND CHORUS

Openings for all voice parts for women who love to sing and perform, rehearsals are at 7 p.m. Thursdays at New Covenant Presbyterian Church, corner of Orlando and Western avenues, Albany. Information, 785-3567.

TANGO FUSION DANCE COMPANY

Auditioning professional dancers by appointment at Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 75 Woodlawn Ave., Saratoga Springs. Information, 306-4173.

ADIRONDACK PASTEL SOCIETY

Seeking new artists that work in pastels.

meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at the Dave Francis Gallery, the Shirt Factory, Glens Falls. Programs, artist demonstrations and exhibitions are planned throughout the year. Information, 793-9309 or 793-9350.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Openings in the string, horn and percussion sections. Information, 813-4299 or e-mail delmarcommunityorchestra@gmail.com.

COLONIE TOWN BAND

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

COLONIE CENTENNIAL BRASS CHOIR

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

SUBURBAN SOUNDS COMMUNITY CHORUS

Openings in mixed chorus, rehearsals Sundays at 7 p.m. at Lynnwood-Reformed Church, Route 146, Guilderland. Information, 861-8000.

FRIENDSHIP SINGERS

Openings in women's singing group, focusing on old favorites and show tunes, rehearsals Tuesday mornings at Delmar Reformed Church, Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Information, 439-2360.

SIENA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Rehearsals Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Siena College, Route 9, Loudonville. Information, 783-2325.

THE ORCHESTRA ON THE COMMON

Openings in the string section; also need French horn, trombone, flute and bass drum players, rehearsals Friday at 9 a.m., Shenendehowa Senior Center, Clifton Common, Clifton Park. Information, 372-5146.

ELECTRIC CITY CHORUS

Male singing group, training provided, rehearsals at Faith United Methodist Church, Brandywine Avenue and Eastern Parkway, Schenectady; Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Information, 399-1846.

RIVER VALLEY CHORUS

Sweet Adelines group based in Niskayuna is looking for women to join group. Information, 346-5349.

MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB WOMEN'S CHORUS

Invitation for new members to join in singing classical and popular songs, Third Reformed Church, 20 Ten Eyck Ave., Albany, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Information, 477-4454.

ARTISTS WANTED

Exhibit space available for original paintings at Local Color Art Gallery, 1138 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham. Information, 220-9027.

SUDOKU

		4	7				1	
	2			4	8	7		5
						9		
5		9					8	
					2		6	
	8	6		5				4
8	3				4		5	1
4		2						9

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Weekly Crossword

Nationalities

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
			23					24				
25	26	27			28	29	30		31		32	33
35					36		37		38		39	
40					41				42	43		
44					45			46				
47			48	49		50		51	52			
			53		54			55	56			
	57	58			59	60			61	62		
63					64				65			66
67					68				69			
70					71				72			

ACROSS

- 1 Carpe ____
5 Counts calories
10 Rain forest feature
14 Highlander
15 Fakir's faith
16 Biblical preposition
17 Boxer Matthew ____ Muhammad
18 Mild cigar
19 Pond cover
20 Graham Green novel; with *The*
23 Flourish
24 45 inches
25 Give up
28 Pinch
31 Most's opposite
35 Steep-roofed structure
37 Pants part
39 Fr. holy woman
40 Rocky Balboa's nickname
44 Film location
45 Brazilian resort, briefly
46 Small dog
47 Cornered
50 *All Things*
Considered network
52 Highway hazard
53 Emergency road service org.
55 First shepherd
57 South Bend students
63 Incline
64 Christmas Island, e.g.
65 Invoice stamp
67 Mademoiselle
68 Nephric
69 Meanie
70 Marine's meal
71 Hidden humor
72 Compost item

DOWN

- 1 ____ Moines, IA
2 Mesopotamia, today
3 Isaac's son
4 Middle Age
5 Start to phone
6 Elton John's ____ Girl
7 Jack, of TV's *Easy Street*
8 Weight deduction
9 Campfire treat
10 Pectoralis, e.g.
11 Old Peruvian
12 Bowl over
13 Male turkey
21 Fragrant resin
22 Bedbound
25 Pants measurement
26 Following
27 Fit to be tied
29 Last name in journalism
30 Lay it on the line
32 All kidding ____
33 Boa
34 Belief
36 Listener
38 Space
41 Aristocrat of note
42 Also-ran
43 Candy on a stick
48 Philadelphia eleven
49 *La Dee* ____ 1958 song
51 Type of sleeve
54 Video game name
56 Evangelist Sunday
57 Ranger's partner
58 Misfortunes
59 Route: L
60 Taboo
61 Wise guy
62 Take on
63 Tailor's edge
66 Blue Hen St.

Milestones

Berens, Bucki marry

Ms. Kathleen Farley Berens and Mr. Craig Robert Bucki were married on November 12, 2011 at St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church in Buffalo, New York.

Rev. John P. Bucki, S.J., uncle of the groom, concelebrated the Nuptial Mass, along with Rev. Thaddeus Bocianowski, Rev. Joseph P. Gatto and Rev. Jerome E. Kopec. A reception was held at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga.

Mrs. Bucki is the daughter of Mr. Donald P. Berens, Jr. and Ms. Maureen Farley of Latham. She is a graduate of Shaker High School, Williams College, and the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is a librarian; active



Kathleen and Craig Bucki

in the New York Library Association.

Mr. Bucki is the son of Hon. Carl L. Bucki and Dr. Deborah Bruch Bucki of East Amherst, New York. He is a graduate of Canisius High School, Yale University, and Columbia University Law School. He is an attorney associated with Phillips Lytle LLP in Buffalo.

Ms. Annie Carroll was maid of honor for her

cousin. Bridesmaids were: Mrs. Rebekah Nellis Kennedy, Ms. Rachel Ohm, and Ms. Melanie Woz. Mr. David Del Papa, friend of the groom, served as best man. Groomsmen were: Mr. Paul Befley, Mr. Robert George, and Mr. Christopher Woz.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, Mr. and Mrs. Bucki will make their home in East Amherst, New York.

Bradshaw, King to wed

Mary Beth and Michael Bradshaw of Rotterdam Junction, NY are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Elizabeth to Dillon Jeffrey King, son of Louise and Jeffrey King of Ballston Lake, NY.

The future bride and groom are both graduates of Loudonville Christian School. They are attending Cedarville University in Cedarville, OH. A May 2012 wedding is planned.



Sarah Elizabeth Bradshaw and Dillon Jeffrey King

Nowik, Giroux engaged

Edward and Lynda Nowik of Loudonville are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Elizabeth, to Captain John Eric Giroux, II, son of Tammy Flynn of Watervliet and John Giroux of Green Island and stepson of William Flynn of Watervliet.

The future bride is a graduate of Colonie High School and the University of Hartford in East Hartford, CT. She is Director of Marketing & Communications for HSM Global in Manhattan. Her fiancé is a graduate of La Salle Institute and Loyola College of Maryland and served with the United States Army 10th Mountain Division in Iraq. He is currently Bravo Company Commander of the Anti-Terrorism Task Force based out of Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn.

Stephanie is the



Stephanie Elizabeth Nowik, Capt. John Eric Giroux, II

granddaughter of Joan Messier of Guiderland. John is the grandson of Diane Giroux of Green Island and Vera Flynn of

Watervliet. A June 2, 2012 wedding is planned at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Albany.

Pamela Nuzzo

Guiderland - Pamela Nuzzo, 62, of Guiderland, passed away unexpectedly early Sunday morning, December 11, 2011.

Pamela was born in Cooperstown on June 30, 1949, the daughter of the late Dr. William B. and Virginia Page Nuzzo.

She and her family moved in 1955 from Oneonta to Delmar, where she was raised and educated. She was a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and attended Oswego State University.

She was employed by Key Bank for several years in computer services.

In 1977, Pamela joined her sister, Judith, in establishing Chiron Farm in Guiderland. Pamela helped manage the horse farm for many years and shared an interest in the activities surrounding the farm, such as equestrian events and Kennel Club activities.

Pamela is survived by her siblings, Judith Nuzzo of Guiderland, William (Cynthia) Nuzzo of Brookline, MA, Janet (Ron Schowe) Nuzzo of Houston, TX, Virginia Nuzzo of Houston, TX, Maria (Fred) Hoehne of Houston, TX, Robert (Ann) Nuzzo of Bolton, MA, and Peter Nuzzo of Houston, TX; and nieces

and nephews, Sara (Jason) Rowe of Allen, TX, Ginger Winship of Houston, TX, Jeremy Schowe of Houston, TX, Mariah Nuzzo of Brookline, MA, Wesley Nuzzo of Bolton, MA and Michael Nuzzo of Bolton, MA.

Funeral services will be private and held at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Tebbutt Funeral Home, Albany.

Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Peaceful Acres Horses, www.peacefulacreshorses.com

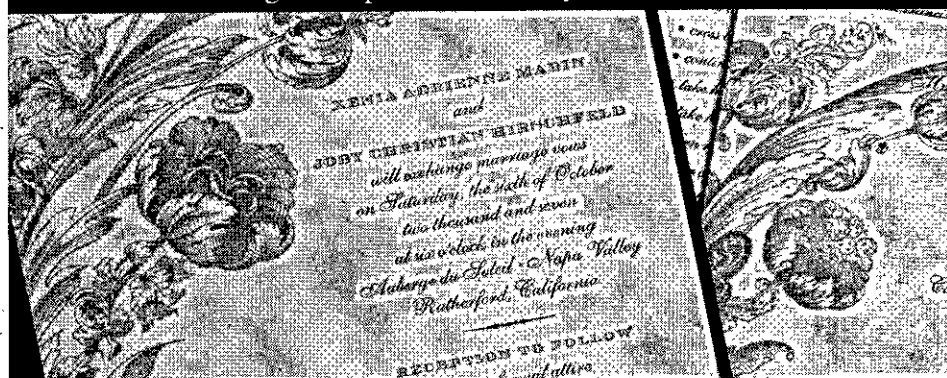
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Pisciotta, Phol to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pisciotta of Delmar, would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Jessica Pisciotta to Christopher Phol, son of Rhonda and Phillip Phol of Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada. Jessica currently has an elementary teaching position with the Harlingen School District in Harlingen, TX. Christopher is a rig manager for Savanna Energy, also in Texas. A wedding is planned for October 2012.



Jessica Pisciotta and Christopher Phol

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Brookside Museum closing for second January

Additional funding cuts led to decision from board

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

For the second year in a row, Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa will close for the month of January due to financial issues.

Brookside's Board of Directors decided to close the museum again after it learned funding from both Saratoga County and the New York State Council of the Arts would be partially cut.

"Brookside operates on a shoestring budget," said Brookside's Executive Director Joy Houle in a statement. "To take a loss of 55 percent and 10 percent from two of our biggest funders calls for extreme measures."

In early December, a proposed budget plan for Saratoga County called for a complete elimination of the funds usually provided to Brookside, home of the county's historical society. Museum employees and members of the public were dismayed.

"The proposed cuts represent what it would take to run the museum's utilities for a year," said Jeanne Obermayer, president of the museum's Board of Directors, at a public hearing on the budget on Dec. 1. "It's also comparable to a Native New York program,

which serves a couple thousand kids each year."

In the final version of the budget, \$5,625 in funding was restored from the previously allotted \$11,250. County Board Chairman and Town of Saratoga Supervisor Tom Wood said those organizations that had funding restored should not expect any money next year, due to the budget deficit the county will face.

Several days later, Brookside's board of directors learned NYSCA would reduce the museum's funding by 10 percent.

Obermayer said the board is thankful to the county supervisors for the restoration because it was not an easy decision.

Brookside's board chose to close the museum in January because it's the slowest month for visitors. It's also the most expensive month to heat the facility. In previous years, no educational programs were held at the museum because of the low visitation numbers.

"So the good news is no educational programs will be affected," said Houle.



Brookside Museum will close for the month of January after facing additional budget cuts from the state.

Unlike last year, the decision to close will affect employees.

Obermayer said the museum employs two full-time workers (including Houle), two part-time employees and two county employees paid through a work grant separate from the museum's budget. In 2011, Houle continued to work while the museum was closed, writing grants and planning programs, and the other employees took vacation time. This year, none of the employees will be paid for four weeks.

"Last year was more

of a pilot run to see what would happen if we did have to close for a time," said Obermayer.

The museum will reopen on Jan. 31.

Besides cuts to funding, Obermayer said revenue has been impacted because fewer schools are sending students to participate in education programs put on at Brookside. Typically, local schools can pay for the programs through arts and education grants, but more often schools are unable to pay the transportation fees to bus

students to the museum. Instead, volunteers and employees have been offering to visit the schools so students will not miss out on the lessons.

"We've done a lot of fundraising over the summer, but still haven't totally met our goals going into next year," said Obermayer. "Not a one of

us is a professional fund raiser, so we might need to find someone willing to help us in the future. We already write tons of grants, but often they are too narrowly-focused on what the money can be used for."

Unless the museum has to permanently close, Brookside's board does not plan to close beyond the month of January in 2013.

Obermayer said if the museum was faced with permanent closure, the board would look to see how to staff the museum differently while still providing quality programming. In 2014, the board may look at consolidating educational programs with agencies that offer similar ones. It also may change the volunteer program to allow the helpers to step into more leadership roles.

"We have a very strong volunteer force with considerable knowledge and interests," she said.

Submitted photo

Spotlightnews.com

George W. Frueh

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Your Community in The Spotlight

Life after BC discussion

Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited and Parents for Excellence are sponsoring Life After Bethlehem-Central High School, a panel discussion and question/answer session with recent BC graduates. Come hear about what BC grads have learned and what choices they have made. After the panel discussion, there will be more time to talk to BC grads while enjoying refreshments. The event is most appropriate for seniors, juniors and their parents/guardians.

The panel will be held Thursday, Jan. 5, at the high school in room G100 (the choir room) from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Course examines Middle East

B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation will offer a new four-week course that will examine the modern Middle East that surrounds Israel.

"Israel's Rough Neighborhood: The Emergence of the Modern Middle East" will be held Mondays beginning Jan. 30 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany.

Taught by Dr. Steven A. Leibo, professor of modern international history and politics at The Sage Colleges, the course will look at the core realities of the Middle East, emergence of the modern, largely Arab Middle East, the world beyond the Arabs, especially the emergence of modern Turkey and Iran, and the origins and implications of the so-called Arab Spring.

A former Fulbright scholar, Leibo is best known to Upstaters for his work as an international political analyst for regional television, radio and newspapers. Leibo specializes in the relationship between Asia and the West and teaches courses on topics ranging from modern Asia and the modern Middle East to U.S. foreign policy. During the Persian Gulf War of 1990-91, he served as the international political analyst for WTEN. Since 1997, he has served as an international affairs commentator for WAMC/Northeast Public Radio and twice served as a consultant for the Educational Testing

Girls give back to community



Bethlehem Girl Scout Troop 1888 recently spent an evening Christmas caroling throughout a Slingerlands neighborhood to raise \$114 for Ronald McDonald House. Next, they voted to donate troop funds to two local causes. They purchased grocery store gift cards and helped fill holiday food baskets at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Then, the girls made another donation to a former Girl Scout leader who is raising funds for a mission in the spring to Annville, Kentucky, one of the poorest counties in the nation. The troop of 4th graders earned the money for the donations when they received a donation themselves for volunteering to dress up and portray ghouls for the Albany Aquaduck Historic Haunting Tour in October. Pictured from left: Emily Meier, Amy Burdick, Mary Ann Licht, Alaina Smith, Mackenzie Constable, and Maggie Rempel.

Submitted photo

Service's exams on the modern Middle East. Leibo blogs at "Leibo's World Watch."

Registration is required for this course. Cost is \$30; for B'nai Shalom members, it's \$20.

For more information or to register, contact the B'nai Shalom office at 482-5283 or email office@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us.

Japan travel opportunity

Rotary International is offering the experience of four weeks in Japan on a vocational and cultural visit. The trip is to the Ibaraki Prefecture, just north of Tokyo and commences on March 14, 2012.

Participants must be between the ages of 25 and 40, non-Rotarians, fully employed with at least two years of work experience in their chosen field and reside in or be employed in the Capital District area.

The team consists of four members and a Rotarian team leader. Team members study Japanese institutions and ways of life and observe how their own

vocations are practiced, with the opportunity to develop personal and professional relationships and exchange ideas. Team members can come from corporations, small businesses, community organizations, medical and educational facilities, government offices and nonprofit agencies.

The program includes round-trip airfare and staying with Rotarian host families. Language training is provided.

The deadline for applications is Jan. 6, 2012. For more information, contact Tony Rivera at 322-7390 or William Nathan at 489-4499.

Contra dance scheduled

An Old Songs contra dance will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 37 Main St. in Vooreheesville. A potluck dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m., followed by dance instruction at 7:30 p.m. and the dance at 8 p.m.

The caller will be Gail Griffith, and live music will be provided by Fennig's All Stars. No partner needed, and clean, soft soled shoes

required. Admission is \$10. For more information call 765-2815.

First snowshoe walk

A First Day New Year's Day Snowshoe Walk will meet at the Hop Field parking lot of Thacher Park on Jan. 1, at 11 a.m. Walk through the woods of Yellow Rocks area to the scenic views of Glen Doone. Hot chocolate and refreshments following walk. Approximate program time: 2 hours. Walk is easy and appropriate for beginners. Some small, hilly areas. Snowshoes are available for rental at park office and may be reserved in advance. Call 872-1237 to register.

Toastmasters to meet

The Bethlehem Toastmasters meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the Adams Station Clubhouse, 1 Juniper Drive, Delmar.

BC grad makes the Bar

Elizabeth Fox-Solomon, a graduate of Bethlehem High School and the University at Buffalo Law School, was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States on Dec. 5. She is serving as law clerk to the Hon. Erin M. Peradotto of the state Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department. Fox-Solomon resides with her husband, Kevin, in Buffalo. Her parents now reside in Saratoga Springs.

Fiver Rivers workshop

A teacher workshop on the award-winning curriculum-enhancement program Project WILD will be conducted at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar on Thursday, Dec. 29, from 9 a.m. to noon.

At this hands-on workshop, Center staff will lead a participatory training in Project WILD

(Wildlife in Learning Design), an initiative which integrates wildlife themes into the core reading, writing and arithmetic disciplines. Participants will receive a free Project WILD curriculum guide full of stimulating activities, correlated to the NYS learning standards, for students in grades K-12.

The workshop is open to teachers and youth leaders free of charge. Please call Five Rivers at 518-475-0291 by Friday, December 23 to register for the workshop.

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.

New Center board members

The Foundation Board of Directors at the Center for Disability Services has appointed three new members. Mary E. Burgess is General Attorney with the Legal Department at AT&T, Albany; Denise DuBois is owner of Complexions Day Spa in Albany; and Lisa Smith Fortin is Senior Mortgage Consultant, First Priority Mortgage, Inc., Clifton Park.

Foundation Board Chairperson is George R. Hearst III, and First Vice Chairperson is William Palmer.

A not for profit organization founded 69 years ago, the Center for Disability Services is a community resource for individuals of every age, who have all types of disabilities and medical conditions. Support is also available to family members. The Center annually provides primary and specialty medical, dental, therapy, education programs/Langan School, job training, residential, pediatric and young adult skilled nursing, transportation, medical equipment and related home products, and respite services to more than 15,000 consumers.

The Center for Disability Services is known as the place where people get better at life. Its mission is to enable and empower people, primarily those with disabilities, to lead healthy and enriched lives.

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Term

(From Page 1)

he wanted to run again but probably would've needed the support of one of the two major parties.

"I pushed back a machine in the Democratic Party pretty hard when I ran for supervisor (in 2009), and those things aren't soon forgotten," said Messina. "I knew what I was doing, and I needed to push back because we didn't need politics as usual in Bethlehem. There's one major party I wasn't going to get."

Messina said he was surprised to not receive the support of the Republican Party, which chose instead to support Councilman Kyle Kotary in his bid for supervisor. He did, however, believe he could win with the endorsements he received from the Working Families and Conservative parties.

"That is a very long, grueling, very expensive proposition," said Messina of the possibility of another run. "Mostly it's grueling on the candidate's family, on the volunteers that you ask to be with you. I had not had an easy two years on the Town Board, so it was a tough decision, but I talked with my confidant on these matters, and that's (Deputy Supervisor) John Smolinsky, and said I would not run."

Normanside Country Club

Messina said the Town

Board did exactly what a responsible body should do when considering a bid for the Normanside Country Club in early 2011. He said the board and town officials met and talked with other towns and golf course owners about the positives and negatives of owning a course.

"We got our brains wrapped around this one, and I feel that we did the right thing," said Messina. "I think there were people that were very unhappy based on principle, and they told me so, that we went out to try and acquire the golf course."

Messina stressed that he would not have supported the town's \$1.5 million bid for Normanside if he did not have evidence the town would've broken even or benefited financially from ownership. He said there was a need to keep the golf course open for recreation, including for use by those who jog and cross-country ski through Normanside.

Messina said he knows that for some in the Republican Party, his support of the Normanside bid was "pretty much the death knell" regarding support for his term in office and reelection.

Two years of budget issues

In crafting budgets for 2011 and 2012, Messina and the Town Board have kept tax increases under 2 percent. For 2012, the

tax increase was 1.27 percent, well within the property tax cap adopted by state lawmakers over the summer.

Messina credited the successful budgets (though leaders butted heads late into the process in 2011) on principles he followed in crafting the spending plans, such as minimizing the use of fund balances and addressing the town's structural deficit. Despite excluding a 1 percent cost of living increase for employees this year, Messina said the town was able to avoid a growing trend of laying off staff in order to meet its budget goals.

"If we don't have to cut jobs and fire people, we don't," said Messina. "Let's not get caught up in the mantra that's out there that's almost publicly popular to do. We have a responsibility to these people. They help us get where we need to go."

Messina was quick to applaud the town's ability to balance its financial situation.

"I don't know any other government that balanced it quite all of those ways," Messina said.

Progress on the horizon

Messina referred to the development at the Vista Technology Campus as the "preeminent project" he worked on during his time in office. He said his responsibility was to not give in to the idea that the economy was to blame

for a lack of economic development.

"We looked at three different financing mechanisms, we had heated debates in here, so many things to coordinate, we had some delays along the way, but the bottom line is that the IDA (Industrial Development Agency), the town, the other taxing jurisdictions, and the developer knew we were serious, our town staff was serious," said Messina.

A ceremonial groundbreaking was held for Vista on Dec. 15, but work on Vista Boulevard, the main road through the tech park, began in October.

Life out of the spotlight

Messina said he wants to get back involved in a number of efforts in the new year. He's been in touch with Albany Medical Center, where he wants to once again become an overnight chaplain at the hospital. He's also looking to get re-involved in DWI impact boards and presentations for boards working on issues pertaining to organ donation.

As for town government, Messina plans on following the town's progress and lending his thoughts where appropriate.

"I intend to continue to be involved in my town government. I believe I'll attend Town Board meetings every once in a while," Messina said.

Peril

(From Page 17)

industrial development that deplete our natural resources and decimate ecosystems that might better be utilized to provide food and clean water to our communities," she wrote.

Each barn has its own unique characteristics based on the culture that built it:

According to Warburton, English barns were a popular design and were used to store crops instead of livestock. Dutch barns were often connected to homes and had gabled roofs.

The series is now on display at the Schenectady Jewish Community Center in Niskayuna.

Jewish Cultural Director Irit Magnes said the series was selected as the center's latest exhibit because the pieces depict local scenery by a local artist.

"I think it's an interesting idea," she said. "Most people live in the area and they see these barns along the way. Sometimes they are taken down because of new development, and it's always sad to see them go."

Magnes said she tries to promote exhibits at the JCC that provide members with a different life perspective.

"The exhibit may not have a Jewish connection, but it has a local connection which will make the pieces close to people's hearts," she said.

The "Vanishing Barns" exhibit will be displayed in the art gallery of the Schenectady JCC until the end of January.

"Most people live in the area and they see these barns along the way. Sometimes they are taken down because of new development, and it's always sad to see them go."

— Jewish Cultural Director Irit Magnes

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DIAMOND CUSTOM INTERIOR RENOVATIONS, LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/16/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process. SSNY shall mail process to: 54 Hudson Ave., Delmar, NY 12054. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 77726 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC Stonebridge DHC LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on 11/04/11. Its office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail a copy of any process served on him or her to the LLC, at LLC, c/o Dawn Homes Management, LLC, 20 Corporate Woods Blvd. 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12211. The street address of the principal business location is c/o Dawn Homes Management, LLC, 20 Corporate Woods Blvd., 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12211. Its business is to engage in any lawful activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under Section 203 of the New York Limited Liability Company Act. 77727 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: JESSIE ALBERT, RECEIVER LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, November 10, 2011. 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 20 Corporate Woods Blvd., Albany, NY 12211. 77728 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SDA REALTY GROUP, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/8/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77853 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Pursuant to Section 206 of the New York Limited Liability Law
a. The name of the Limited Liability Company is Genesis Associates II, LLC.
b. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on September 30, 2011.
c. The office of the Limited Liability Company will be located in Albany County.
d. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him or her: Anthony Grasso 1 Arizona Avenue Sherwood Park Rensselaer, New York 12144.
e. The Limited Liability Company is formed for any lawful business purpose or purposes. 77854 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ACUMEN ASSOCIATES LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/9/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77856 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Petron Energy, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/4/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/26/10. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Incorp Services, Inc., One Commerce Plaza - 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805-A, Albany, NY 12210-2822. Address to be maintained in DE: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 77859 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of TARA LAURENCE HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/10/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77860 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of GIOVANNI CONTRACTING LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 8/2/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77861 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The name of the limited liability company is LIBRARY CAPITAL ADVISORS, LLC, and the Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on October 26, 2011. The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is Albany. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without this state to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him is 402 Feura Bush Road Glenmont, NY 12077-2984. The limited liability company is to be managed by one or more members. The purpose for which this limited liability company is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity in which a limited liability company may engage under the laws of the State of New York, all subject to, and in accordance with, applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. 77862 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation 'Precision Risk Solutions LLC of org filed with SSNY 10/6/2011. Off. Loc. Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 135 Kennewick Circle Slingerlands, NY 12159. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77863 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CASTLE RESTORATION LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/14/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77865 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SALAA, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/14/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77866 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of LIBERTY GARDENS ASSOCIATES II, L.P. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. of State (SSNY) on 11/3/2011. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Liberty Gardens Associates II, L.P., c/o Omni Housing Development LLC, 40 Beaver St., 5th Fl., Albany NY 12207. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 77867 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation The Law Firm of Daniel M. O'Hara PLLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/8/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77869 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation. CGB Realty Holdings LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/15/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77870 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation 163 Fourth Ave Realty LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/14/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77871 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Yellow Dog Media, LLC (the "LLC"). Articles of Organization filed

LEGAL NOTICE

with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on November 15, 2011. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy to 3049 Evelyn Avenue, Schenectady, New York 12303. Duration: Perpetual. Purpose: to conduct any lawful act or activity for which limited liabilities may be formed under the law. 77878 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Kenneth Gibbons L.L.C. (a foreign professional service limited liability company) App. for Authority filed with Sec of State NY (SSNY) on 9/26/11. NY Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in New Jersey on 11/5/10. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail process to its foreign add: 7 Riggs Place West Orange NJ 07052. Arts. of Org filed with NJ Sec of State Division of Revenue 33 West State Street 5th Fl Trenton NJ 08608. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to practice the profession of public accounting. 77879 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC CBM Farm LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the New York Secretary of State on 11/15/11. Its office is located in Albany County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail a copy of any process served on him or her to the LLC, at LLC, 60 Meriam Street, Lexington, Massachusetts 02420. The street address of the principal business location is 348-350 Albany Hill Rd., Rensselaerville, NY. Its business is to engage in any lawful activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under Section 203 of the New York Limited Liability Company Act. 77880 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: THINKING HORSES LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with Sec'y of State of NY on 11/3/2011. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 110 Salisbury Rd, Delmar, NY 12054. Purpose: any lawful activity. 77881 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HELEN OF TROY ANTIQUITIES, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/18/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77882 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Articles of Organization of Success Symbols, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on October 11, 2011, effective on the date of filing. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent

LEGAL NOTICE

of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 28 Upper Wedgewood Lane, Voorheesville, New York 12186, which is the principal business location. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the NYS Limited Liability Company Law. 77883 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Lakeshore Holdings Group LLC. Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 9/19/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to PO Box 1933, Latham, NY 12110. Purpose: any lawful activities. Latest date 1/1/2109. 77886 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Jan's Wash and Wax, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/18/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 56 Haswell Rd., Watervliet, NY 12189. Purpose: any lawful activities. Latest date 12/31/2110. 77980 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Digital Age Distribution, LLC. Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/28/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 12 Petra Lane, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful activities. 77981 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qual. of CSP Albany LLC, Auth. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/31/11. Office loc.: Albany County. LLC org. in DE 10/20/11. SSNY design. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of proc. to Robert Heidenberg, Lemmer-Heidenberg Properties, 234 Closter Dock Rd., Closter, NJ 07624. DE off. addr.: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Cert. of Form. on file: SSDE. Townsend Bldg., Dover, DE 19901. Purp.: any lawful activities. 77982 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation 40 Butler St Realty LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/23/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77983 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Rare Books Consulting LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/22/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 77984 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of INCBERT INSURANCE

LEGAL NOTICE

BROKERAGE LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/21/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77987 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HELTER LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/28/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 77994 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of GLC Advisors & Co. Holdings, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 3/10/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Global Leveraged Capital, 451 Jackson St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94111, also the principal office address. Address to be maintained in DE: 3500 S. DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 77995 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Global Leveraged Capital Holdings, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 5/15/09. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Global Leveraged Capital, 451 Jackson St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94111, also the principal office address. Address to be maintained in DE: 3500 S. DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 77996 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of AMBIT MARKETING, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/21/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 9/27/11. 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: 1801 N. Lamar St., Ste. 200, Dallas, TX 75202. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, 1901 Brazos, Austin, TX 78701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 77998 (C) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Global Leveraged Capital Partners & Co., LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 3/18/08. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail

LEGAL NOTICE

process to: Global Leveraged Capital, 451 Jackson St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94111, also the principal office address. Address to be maintained in DE: 3500 S. DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 77999 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of GLC Investment Advisors, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 3/18/08. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Global Leveraged Capital, 451 Jackson St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94111, also the principal office address. Address to be maintained in DE: 3500 S. DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78000 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ATIO-GLU JEWELRY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/23/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC 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. 78002 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CBM MGMT LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/16/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in California (CA) on 1/31/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Registered Agent Solutions, Inc., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Principal office address: 655 Mariners Island Blvd., Ste. 304, San Mateo, CA 94404. Address to be maintained in CA: 868 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94107. Arts of Org. filed with the CA Secretary of State, 1500 11th St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78004 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of AES MGMT LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/16/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in California (CA) on 1/31/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Registered Agent Solutions, Inc., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 1008, Albany, NY 12260. Principal office address: 655 Mariners Island Blvd., Ste. 304, San Mateo, CA 94404. Address to be maintained in CA: 868 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94107. Arts of Org. filed with the CA Secretary of State, 1500 11th St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78005 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of LTF Lease Company, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/23/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 8/24/11. SSNY designated

Details

(From Page 1)

The district would maintain the heating and ventilation systems at the school, mainly to ensure that if the district opened Clarksville as a school again in the future, the systems would meet state standards for operation. District officials have maintained that opening the school again when enrollment numbers rise is a priority — a point that Kehoe stressed during the meeting. Clarksville was closed due to declining enrollment and a budget crisis at the end

of the 2010-11 school year.

Board member Laura Bierman asked Kehoe if there was any way to write a clause into the contract to ensure that the district has the say over any structural changes to the building.

"It will be very restrictive so that we can ensure that it gets returned to us in the same condition," said Kehoe.

Besides the additional revenue, the district would also save money under an agreement with the Sheriff's Office for policing work. Last year alone, the district

"It will be very restrictive so that we can ensure that it gets returned to us in the same condition."

Judith Kehoe

spent about \$29,000 for security patrols at the high school at the end of the school year. Those were handled by Bethlehem Police Department. Apple has offered to conduct those patrols for the district as an in-kind service.

Members of the public were given a chance to ask Kehoe questions about the proposed agreement. Questions

ranged from concerns over securing rooms with weapons and evidence to maintaining equipment such as school desks and library materials that are still in the building.

Kehoe said the district is still working on many of the details of the proposal, but outgoing Superintendent Michael Tebbano said the district has taken steps to ensure that all district property

is maintained.

"When the school closed, our Operations and Maintenance staff video recorded the entire facility and logged where everything was in the building," said Tebbano. "When we return back to the status of the school, that will be a key feature for us to be able to ensure that everything is back where it is supposed to be."

Tebbano also said the district would like to see murals and wall hangings at the school preserved, adding that there are many ways to keep and protect some of the work that students have done

in previous years.

Kehoe said the Sheriff's Office is still interested in allowing the community to use the building as well. The school would remain an emergency shelter for nearby residents, community room space would likely be available and the playground at the building would be maintained.

The board still has to approve an agreement, but there was no discussion of when a vote might occur. Kehoe said Apple has indicated that the department could be ready to move into the building by the spring.

LEGAL NOTICE

as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Address to be maintained in DE: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78006 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

SPINFORWARD, LLC (the "LLC") filed Articles of Organization with the NY Secretary of State ("SOS") on 11/22/11. "LLC" office is in Albany County. "SOS" was designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SOS shall mail copy of any process served to 134 Fernbank Ave., Albany, NY 12054. The purpose of the LLC is any lawful act or activity. 78007 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

MGU, LLC Arts of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/19/07. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY design. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 1380 Dahill Rd., Ste 303, Brooklyn, NY 11204. General Purposes. 78117 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of F&D VENTURES LLC, Art. Of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/31/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 20 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159. The Reg. Agt. at such address upon Frank A. Grant. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78122 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of HBSM PROPERTIES LLC, Art. Of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/31/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 20 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159. The Reg. Agt. at such address upon Frank A. Grant. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78123 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

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

LEGAL NOTICE

The name of the LLC is EJ Countryman Properties, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on 11/30/2011. The purpose of the LLC is to own, operate and manage a real estate company, and also to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 71 Countryman Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186. 78124 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CARLOS VARELA PHOTOGRAPHY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/2/11. 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. 78125 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of NETPHONE COMMUNICATIONS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/5/11. 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. 78126 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: HOPSEN CONSULTING LLC. Articles of Org. filed with NY Secretary of State (NS) on 11/30/2011, 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, 90 State Street STE 700 Office 40, Albany, New York 12207, purpose is any lawful purpose. 78127 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Cliff Walk LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/5/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/18/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC

LEGAL NOTICE

upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 750 Lexington Ave., 23rd Fl., NY, NY 10022. Address to be maintained in DE: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 3, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78128 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of COLLEEN PUTNAM PHOTOGRAPHY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/6/11. 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. 78129 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Forty Steps LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/5/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/18/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 750 Lexington Ave., 23rd Fl., NY, NY 10022. Address to be maintained in DE: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 3, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78130 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of B Sweet New York LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/6/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Minnesota (MN) on 11/8/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, Attn: R. Flint, 80 South 8th St., #500, Minneapolis, MN 55402, also the address to be maintained in MN. Arts of Org. filed with the NY Secretary of State, 180 State Office Bldg., 100 Rev. Dr. Luther King Jr., Blvd., Saint Paul, MN 55155. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78141 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Department 57 LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/6/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Minnesota (MN) on 11/8/11. SSNY design-

LEGAL NOTICE

nated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, Attn: R. Flint, 80 South 8th St., #500, Minneapolis, MN 55402, also the address to be maintained in MN. Arts of Org. filed with the NY Secretary of State, 180 State Office Bldg., 100 Rev. Dr. Luther King Jr., Blvd., Saint Paul, MN 55155. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78142 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Tobacco Roll LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 11/14/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Ji Le Ni & Bao Quan Liu, 640 Loudon Rd., Latham, NY 12110. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78143 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 56 Cohoes Rd, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 11/4/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 56 Osborne Rd., Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78144 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of limited liability company ("LLC"). Name of LLC: Burst Marketing, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on August 30, 2011. LLC office location: 122 Industrial Park Road, Albany, New York 12206, Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon it to: 122 Industrial Park Road, Albany, New York 12206. LLC has been formed to engage in any lawful act or activity. LLC shall be member-managed. 78145 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Advanced Collision Technologies LLC. Articles of organization filed with the SSNY on 12/01/2011. Office located in Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Advanced Collision Technologies, Bob VanAlstyne, 56 North Road, Clarksville, NY 12041. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

78147 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Pursuant to Section 206 of the New York Limited Liability Law

- The name of the Limited Liability Company is Continental Farms II, LLC.
- The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on November 10, 2011.
- The office of the Limited Liability Company will be located in Albany County.
- The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him or her is: Continental Farms II, LLC c/o William D. Pfeiffer, Esq., Girvin & Ferlazzo, P.C., 20 Corporate Woods Blvd., Albany, New York 12211.
- The Limited Liability Company is formed for any lawful business purpose or purposes.

78148 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Northpark Pitt LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/9/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 78416 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Aliyah Associates LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/7/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 78417 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Blue Riverside LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/5/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 78418 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Tribeca Design Showroom LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/30/2011. Off.

LEGAL NOTICE

Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 78419 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Agoon LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 11/28/2011. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 78420 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of SBMS 2000-C3 BRODERICK WAREHOUSE, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/8/11. Office location: Albany County, LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/4/10. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, registered agent upon whom process may be served. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 78421 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Zodiac Management, LLC. Fictitious Name in NY State: Zodiac Management of New York, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/7/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/16/09. 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. DE address of LLC: 1675 South State St., Ste. B, Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 78422 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Tipsteria LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/8/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 8/18/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc.,

LEGAL NOTICE

875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal office address: 485 7th Ave., #404, NY, NY 10018. Address to be maintained in DE: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78423 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Albany NY Fitness LLC. Articles of Org. filed with NY Secretary of State (NS) on 03/29/2011, office location: Albany County, NS is designated as agent upon whom process may be served; NS shall mail service of process (SOP) to NW Registered Agent LLC @ 1773 Western Ave Albany NY, 12203, NW Registered Agent LLC is designated as agent for SOP at 1773 Western Ave Albany NY, 12203, purpose is any lawful purpose. 78425 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of THROWING FRUIT PRODUCTIONS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/12/11. 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. 78427 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 8317 FLATLANDS AVE, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/12/11. 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. 78428 (D) (December 28, 2011)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a license, serial number pending, for beer, liquor and wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, liquor and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 544 Delaware Avenue, City of Albany, County of Albany, New York 12209 for on premises consumption. Mingle: The Uncafe LLC d/b/a Mingle 544 Delaware Avenue Albany, New York 12209 78431 (D) (December 28, 2011)

Eagles edge LaSalle in CDHSHL contest

The Bethlehem hockey team needed a late goal by Joey Verstandig to edge LaSalle 4-3 in last Tuesday's Capital District High School Hockey League game at the Bethlehem Area YMCA.

LaSalle's Peter Hamlin scored on a power play with 9:05 left in the third period to tie the game at 3 before Verstandig tallied with 5:03 left to put Bethlehem back in the lead.

Verstandig assisted on John Gosstola's goal late in the first period that gave Bethlehem a 1-0 lead. Anthony DeMarte then tied the game at 1 for LaSalle with 14 seconds left in the opening period. DeMarte scored again with less than five minutes left in the second period to give the Cadets a 2-1 lead, but Sam Vincent struck for a short-handed goal less than two minutes later

to tie the game for the Eagles.

Chris Caswell tallied early in the third period to put Bethlehem ahead 3-2 before Hamlin scored his power play goal for LaSalle.

Bethlehem goaltender Kevin Cooley made 15 saves to pick up the win.

In other CDHSHL action last Tuesday, Gunderland/Mohonasen picked up its first win of the season by edging South Glens Falls/Hudson Falls 2-1 at the Glens Falls Civic Center.

South Glens Falls/Hudson Falls scored in the first period to take a 1-0 lead, but Shane Shields tallied in the second period to tie the game for Gunderland/Mohonasen. Ryan Ghizzoni then put the Dutch Warriors ahead by scoring on a third-period penalty shot.

Top

(From Page 32)

standings and earned their first NCAA Tournament bid. Then, head coach Nate Leaman moves on to Providence College, while goaltender Keith Kinkaid joins the New Jersey Devils organization. That hasn't slowed down Union, though, as it exits 2011 ranked in the top 10 again following wins at national powers Michigan and Merrimack.

3. Section II connection helps University at Albany women's lacrosse reach new heights. Guided by former Bethlehem coach John Battaglini and featuring Gunderland High School graduate Nikki Branchini, the Great Danes roll through an undefeated regular season and reach the NCAA Division I quarterfinals, where they lose to eventual national champion Northwestern. Along the way, UAlbany gains a top-five national

ranking and a lot of national respect.

2. The College of Saint Rose women's soccer team finally wins a national title. After three straight losses in the NCAA Division II semifinals, the Golden Knights got past Armstrong 2-0 to reach the championship game against two-time defending champion Grand Valley State. After falling behind in the first half, Saint Rose got two second-half goals from Carmelina Puopolo to pull out the historic 2-1 victory. And with several players coming back next year, coach Laurie Darling Gutheil could have the makings of a national dynasty at the Plumeri Sports Complex.

As for No. 1 on my list, I only have one word:

JIMMER

Jimmer Fredette did more for this region than any other individual or team in 2011. The Glens Falls native guided BYU to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA men's basketball

tournament. He led the nation in scoring average. He won the John Wooden Award as college basketball's top player. He was the No. 10 pick in the NBA Draft. And all along, he remained his normal, humble self—frequently talking about his upbringing back in Glens Falls.

For all of that (and his ability to hit shots from anywhere on the court), he attracted a national following that bordered on being a cult. The phrase "You've been Jimmed" became a part of the lexicon of basketball language. Celebrities such as Kevin Durant and Nelly Tweeted about his exploits. He had to stop attending classes in person at BYU because he was being constantly hounded for autographs by his classmates. Somebody even took the song "Teach Me how to Dougie" and turned it into "Teach Me how to Jimmer."

Will Jimmer be a success in the NBA? Who

knows? But if nothing else, he has an incredible 2011 to look back on and relish—and so does all of his fans back in the Capital District.

Honorable mentions: Colonie boys and girls bowling teams winning state titles; RPI hockey makes the NCAA Tournament field; Saratoga Springs native Tim Stauffer becoming the San Diego Padres' No. 1 starting pitcher; Schenectady native Casper Wells hitting home runs in four consecutive games for the Seattle Mariners; Bethlehem Pop Warner cheerleaders win national title.

What will 2012 bring local sports fans? No one can be sure, but as always it will be fun to see what happens. I'll have the front row seat, but you can be there with me—at least, through the Internet. You can follow me on Twitter at jonas_spotlight, and you can read my weekly Sports Scraps 2.0 blog at www.spotlightnews.com.

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Titles

(From Page 32)

to the state finals for the second year in a row, only to be denied again. This time, it was Section VI champion Williamsville North that edged the Blue Streaks 3-2 in the Division I title game. Saratoga won the Section II championship by edging county rival Shenendehowa 3-2 in the final.

- Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk's Andy Lyman capped his wrestling career by winning the 125-pound weight class at the state tournament in Albany. Lyman edged Bainbridge-Guilford/Afton's Danny Gormley 2-1 in the finals after scoring a third-period escape. Lyman's RCS teammate, A.J. Rue, and Loudonville Christian's Brian Walsh each reached the finals of their weight classes before losing.

- The Shenendehowa wrestling team won a state title without having one individual champion. The Plainsmen placed several wrestlers in the top six of their weight classes to claim first place in the individual team standings.

- Relay teams from Section II performed well at the state indoor track and field championships. The Colonie girls 1,600-meter relay team finished first, as did the Shaker boys and Shen girls 3,200-meter relay teams.

- Colonie's boys and girls bowling teams won state titles. The boys team got past Vernon-Verona-Sherrill by 144 pins with a score of 5,944, while the girls team eased past the competition by 226 pins to win the team title with a score of 5,576. Tyler Mochrie led the Colonie boys with a six-game score of 1,191 pins, while Stephanie Buckley paced the girls team with 1,138 pins.

- Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake claimed the girls

alpine skiing title in 2011. Demi Feder led the way with a second-place finish in the slalom for the Lady Spartans.

- It was a down year for Section II in boys swimming, as the region placed last in the team standings at the state meet. The lone champion was Albany Academy diver Manny Pollard, who took first place in the 1-meter springboard with a score of 543.35.

- College hockey moved to the forefront of the Capital District sports scene, as Union College won the ECAC regular season title and both Union and RPI earned berths in the NCAA Division I tournament. Both area teams lost in the opening round.

- The Siena College men's basketball team saw its three-year Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championship streak come to an end, while the University at Albany suffered a quarterfinal round loss in the America East Tournament.

- In their first season, the Albany Devils dropped into last place in the East Division on the final day of the American Hockey League regular season. The Devils moved back to the Capital District after the Albany River Rats (once affiliated with New Jersey before becoming Carolina's AHL affiliate) moved to Charlotte, N.C., to be closer to their NHL parent club.

Spring

- After starting the season 3-6, the Burnt Hills-

Ballston Lake baseball team won its last seven games to claim its first state championship. The Spartans defeated Section V champion Pittsford Sutherland 8-2 in the Class A final as Keaton Flint collected three hits, drove in three runs and scored three times.

- The Shaker baseball team came within inches of winning the Class AA state title, but Jeff Hoffman's bases-loaded drive was caught by Josh Ludwig to give Victor (Section V) a 5-4 victory over the Blue Bison. It was only the second trip to the state tournament for Shaker, which claimed the Section II title by beating crosstown rival Colonie 6-0 in the championship game.

- Loudonville Christian played for its first state championship in a boys' sport in school history when its baseball team made it to the Class D final. Unfortunately for the Eagles, they ran out of gas and lost to Livingston Manor 13-0. LCS had never won a Sectional title in a boys' team sport until the baseball team defeated Germantown 13-3 in the championship game.

- The Bethlehem softball team claimed its first Sectional title since 1978 when it defeated Shen 2-1 in the Class AA final. Freshman pitcher Meagan Sullivan tossed a five-hitter, and Cassie Smith paced the offense with three hits to help the Lady Eagles upend the top-seeded Plainswomen.

- Shen had better luck on the lacrosse

field, as the boys team reached the Class A state semifinals before losing to Farmingdale. The Plainsmen defeated Niskayuna 9-4 for their second consecutive Sectional title and shut down Section I champion Mahopac 8-5 in the regional final.

- The Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake boys lacrosse team made history in 2011 when it defeated Queensbury 12-9 for the Class B Sectional championship. It was the first Sectional title for the 5-year-old varsity team and the third for head coach Tom Schwan, who won two Class A championships at Guilderland.

- Niskayuna ended Guilderland's four-year reign as Class A Sectional champions by beating the Lady Dutch 15-14 in the title game. The Silver Warriors had won the last four Class B Sectional titles before moving to Class A in 2011. Kayla Treanor - who later went on to play for the world champion United

States under-19 national team - led Niskayuna with five goals and three assists, including the game-winning goal with 2:42 left in the second half.

- Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake's girls lacrosse team took advantage of Niskayuna's move to Class A by winning its first Class B Sectional crown with a 12-11 victory over Queensbury. Nicole Beardsley and Becky Guess each had hat tricks to lead the Lady Spartans.

- The Shaker boys 3,200-meter relay team won the Federation title with a time of 7:41.47 at the New York State High School Track and Field Championships. Holy Names' Klarissa Ricks was the top individual from Section II with victories in the public school and Federation long jump and a state public school title in the 100-meter dash. Shen's Sam Kosa added a victory in the Federation shot put.

- Two Capital District natives had top-20 finishes at the Freihofer's Run for

Women June 4 in Albany. Ballston Spa's Megan Hogan - who had only began running distance events in college - finished fifth in the international field with a time of 15:53.3, while former Saratoga Springs cross country great Nicole Blood placed 16th with a time of 17:05.

- The University at Albany women's lacrosse team turned heads in 2011. Guided by former Bethlehem coach John Battaglini, the Great Danes completed an undefeated regular season, won the America East title and reached the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division I tournament before losing to eventual national champion Northwestern. UAlbany had several Section II alumni on its roster including Guilderland's Nikki Branchini, Bethlehem's Allie Phelan, Niskayuna's Jenn Primeau and Columbia's Rachael Burek.

The summer and fall sports round-up will appear in next week's edition.

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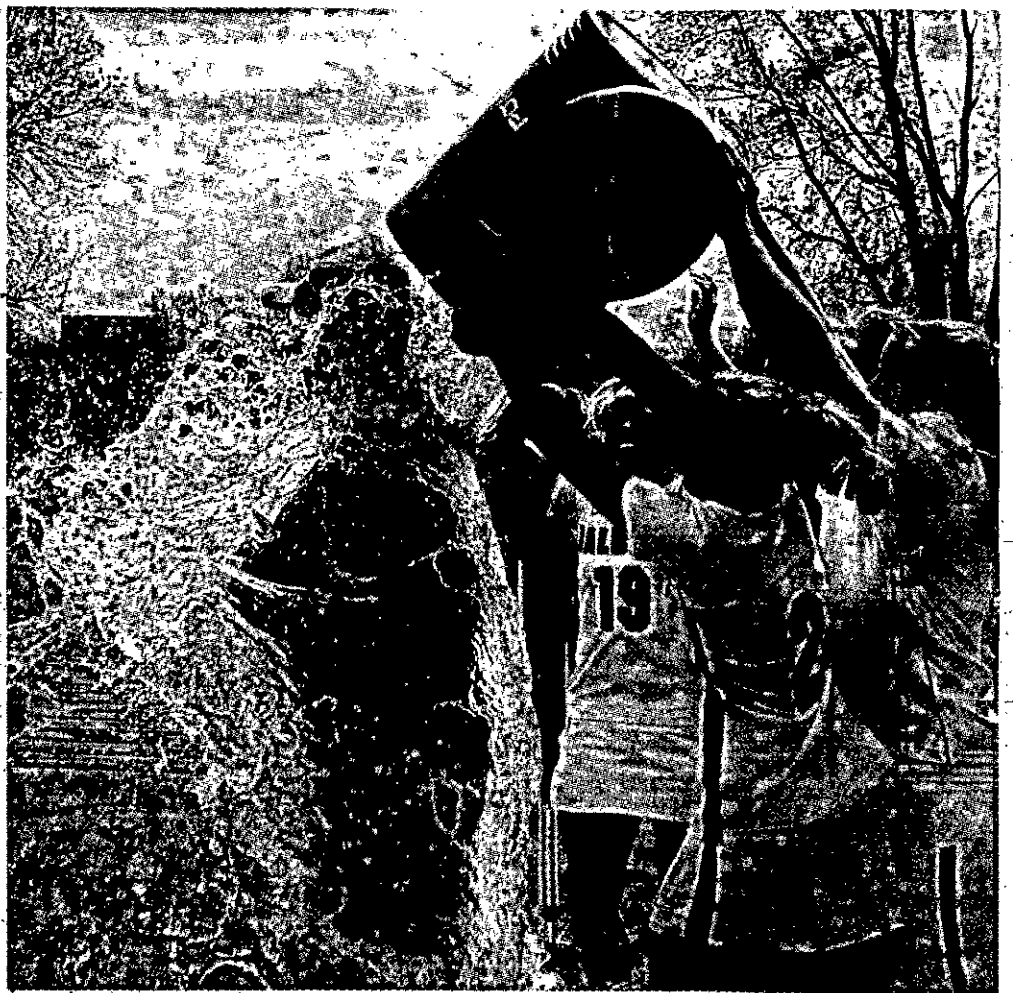
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Sports in the Spotlight



Clockwise from top left: Bethlehem freshman pitcher Meagan Sullivan delivers to the plate during the Section II Class AA final against Shenendehowa; the University at Albany women's lacrosse team gives coach John Battaglini a celebratory bath after the Great Danes won the America East championship; and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk wrestler Andy Lyman stands on top of the podium after winning the 125-pound weight class at the New York State High School Championships at the Times Union Center.

Rob Jonas/Spotlight

2011

the year in review

Titles galore for locals

Lyman, BC softball among champs

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

It's time take a look back at what the first half of 2011 brought to the area sports scene.

Winter

• The Christian Brothers Academy boys basketball team continued its tradition of Section II excellence. The Brothers capped an undefeated run through the Sectional competition by winning their sixth Class AA title in the last eight years with a 69-46 victory over upstart Bishop Maginn in the finals. CBA advanced to the state semifinals before losing to Section VI champion Jamestown 61-56 in overtime.

• Mohonasen ended a long boys basketball title drought by beating Schenectady County rival Scotia-Glenville 53-36 in the Class A final. The Mighty Warriors last won

a Sectional championship in 1992. Unfortunately for Mohonasen, it was in the same class as three-time defending state champion Jamesville-DeWitt, and the Red Rams pulled away for a 67-50 victory over the Mighty Warriors when they met in the regional final.

• The Shaker girls basketball team ended an even longer Sectional championship drought when it defeated crosstown rival Colonie-59-52 in the Class AA final. The Blue Bison hadn't won a Sectional title since the early 1980s. Shaker lost to eventual state champion Cicero-North Syracuse 63-34 in the regional round.

• The Voorheesville girls basketball team claimed the Class C Sectional crown with a 56-53 victory over Cambridge in the finals. The Blackbirds then advanced to the state semifinals, where they lost to Section V champion Gananda 66-52.

• The Saratoga Springs hockey team advanced

□ Titles Page 31

Counting down the top stories

As we enter 2012, here is my top 10 list of local 2011 sports stories:

10. Shaker baseball comes within inches of winning its first state title. Bases loaded. Two outs. Bottom of the seventh inning. One run deficit. Shaker's top hitter, Jeff Hoffman, launches a line drive into the outfield that Victor's Josh Ludwig stabs inches off the ground. State title for Victor. Heartbreak for Shaker.

9. Saratoga Springs loses in the state hockey finals for the second consecutive year. In what turned out to be coach Mike Ricupero's final game for the Blue Streaks, Saratoga fell to Williamsville North 3-2 after taking a 2-1 lead midway through regulation.

8. Section II girls swimmers excel at state meet. Led by Guilderville's Jenna Bickel and Niskayuna's Kina Zhou and Maggie Jordan, Section II won the overall team title at the state meet. Bickel (100-yard backstroke) and Zhou (100 freestyle) repeated as state champions, while Jordan (100 butterfly) and Ballston Spa diver Addison Walkowiak earned their first state titles. Niskayuna's 400 freestyle relay team of Zhou, Jordan, Emma Terwilliger and Mikayla Frodey capped the meet by breaking their own state record in the event with a time of 3:28.84.

7. Schalmont girls soccer storms to state title. The Sabres outscored their opponents 123-7

From the
Sports Desk
Rob Jonas



throughout the season, including a pair of 4-0 victories in the Class B state semifinal and championship games. Senior Megan Strijek led the way in Cortland with a pair of hat tricks to finish her illustrious career with 106 goals.

6. Another unbelievable year for Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake athletics. More than a dozen Section II titles. State championships for the alpine skiing, baseball and girls volleyball teams. The football team reached the Class A state final for the third time in the last four years. The girls soccer team reached the state final four for the seventh consecutive year. No other Section II school came close to that level of success in 2011.

5. Two Shenendehowa coaching greats announce their retirements. Between them, football coach Brent Steuerwald and girls basketball coach Ken Strube won 21 Section II titles and nearly 900 games. Losing them is a big blow to the Shen athletic program, but it opens the door for others to make their mark at the Clifton Park school.

4. Union College hockey rises to national prominence. The Dutchmen received their first top-10 ranking as an NCAA Division I program as they climbed to the top of the ECAC regular season

□ Top Page 30

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