

Spotlight on Business, Part 2

Read about local companies that make a difference.

Inside



An athletic upgrade

In April, the University at Albany will break ground on a \$24 million project to update the school's outdoor athletic facilities

See Page 17.



A sparkling show

Visitors to the state museum this weekend will get their fill of flowers, gems and minerals.

See Page 20.



Lednev makes a splash

Bethlehem's Alex Lednev had the Shen Aquatic Center buzzing at Saturday's Section II Division I boys swimming championships.

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Grannies take to the street

Antiwar group uses Valentine's Day to lobby for VA reforms

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Each Valentine's Day for the past six years, a group of grannies dressed in red can be seen on the streets of the Capital District carrying broken hearts, physical representations of their feelings.

"What Grannies for Peace want is no more wars, no more wounded. So our hearts are broken today (Valentine's Day) by the horrible physical and emotional damage to vets of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and the inadequate treatment they receive," said Dot Richards, a member of the group and a Delmar resident. "We call today for greatly strengthened healthcare for our wounded warriors."

Barbara Cooley, a co-founder of the group Grannies for Peace and also a Delmar resident,

said the organization originally formed in 2006 as an offshoot of the Capital District Women Against War group.

"We are a focused group of the older women in the organization that wanted to be more positive," she said. "Instead of being against something, like Women Against War, we wanted to be for something."

The Capital District Woman Against War began in 2002 and is an anti-war activist group that believes women can develop alternatives to violence. The organization focuses on the cost of war to women and children and lobbies for peaceful negotiations.

In contrast, members of the Grannies for Peace group focus their efforts on working on improved healthcare for returning veterans and reform to recruitments in area high schools.

According to their website, some are actually grannies and some "are just women

□ Street Page 23



Members of Grannies for Peace demonstrate outside of the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center on Valentine's Day.
Marcy Velte/Spotlight

Meetings head online

Starting Feb. 22, Town, Planning and Zoning boards to be streamed and archived

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Bethlehem residents will be able to view town meetings online starting Wednesday, Feb. 22 via the town's new webcasting system.

Through the work of the Jeff Dammeyer, the town's director of management information services, and Town Clerk Nancy Moquin, all three types of board meetings held within Town Hall's main conference room (Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals) can be streamed live. In addition, all videos will be archived online and cross referenced with the meeting's informational attachments.

"The new system is wonderful," said Supervisor John Clarkson, who called it a "great labor-saving system."

According to Moquin, the videos will now be used to supplement the town's records, saving her a considerable amount of time. Now she'll only have to write a short summary of the discussion of agenda items before they are voted on, with a count of yes and no votes by board members.

"There will still be paper copies available of the votes, but for the full

□ Head Page 23

Police groups embroiled in lawsuit

One Bethlehem officers' union sues another over fundraising money

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

The Bethlehem Police Supervisor's Association has sued the Bethlehem Police Benevolent Association in Albany County Court seeking funds it claims were jointly raised.

According to the Supervisor's Association's lawsuit, the group came to an agreement with the PBA in 2008 to conduct joint fundraising. The Supervisor's Association represents police

□ Police Page 23

What Light through yonder window breaks?

BC student to compete in national Shakespeare Competition

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Daniel Light has no idea winning the lead role in Bethlehem Central High School's fall production of Romeo and Juliet would lead to a trip to New York City.

After reading the play in English class and painstakingly learning about the emotions behind the lines to play the role of Romeo, Light used the monologue from the famous balcony scene to compete in the school-level competition of the English-Speaking Union's 28th Annual Shakespeare Competition.

"I heard about the competition last year from a friend and I thought about competing, but didn't get around to it," he said.

This year, he did get around to the competition and he had an advantage because of his experience. Still, Little was nervous because seven or eight other students had signed up as well.

For the competition, he recited the first 20 lines of Romeo's monologue from the play's balcony scene.

"It helped that I knew what (Romeo) was supposed to be feeling and how he was dealing

"I didn't used to like Romeo. I thought he was shallow and uninteresting. Then I did the play and learned how challenging and interesting he really was."

– Daniel Light

with the things going on around him," said Little.

"Acting classes are a little more instructive on the how as opposed to English class, which is the why. Why the characters do what they do," Light continued. "In English, you know the premise of the play but the actual play is more in depth emotionally. I didn't used to like Romeo. I thought he was shallow and uninteresting. Then I did the play and learned how challenging and interesting he really was."

The competition's next level would be tougher. Having advanced to the Albany Branch competition on Feb. 12, contestants would again need to perform a 20-line monologue but would also need to select a sonnet to recite.

Light said he decided to

stick with the same balcony monologue since he knew it so well, but chose Sonnet 90, one of Shakespeare's more aggressive poems, to offset the dialogue from the play's famous love scene.

"It wasn't the first one I picked," said Light. "I at first thought of doing Sonnet 20 but it's a bit controversial. It's a love poem but it's vague as if it's to a man or woman. I didn't feel it was the best antithesis to my monologue. I thought it would be best to let the judges see a wider range of my abilities."

Little recited the poem and performed the monologue, and again won first place to advance to the national level.

According to the English-Speaking Union, the competition helps students meet language arts standards and develop English language proficiency.

In the spring, Light will go to New York City to compete at the Lincoln Center against 59 other students. He will need to recite a monologue and sonnet one more time, then he will have to recite a "cold monologue" the judges give him the same day.

Light said he was unsure if he would recite the same monologue. It depends on the number of lines required and how much he can do to prepare.

"It's difficult to choose a monologue to study that they might give you because there are so many. The best



Bethlehem Central student Daniel Light will compete this April in the National English-Speaking Union's 28th Annual Shakespeare Competition in New York City.

Submitted photo

preparation I would say would be to look through the works and choose the most eloquent and powerful," he said. "Be familiar with the characters and the four questions actors need

to know on stage. Then I might not know the monologue but I'll know the characters' motives, so I'll know how to portray them."

Light will compete at the national level in April.



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Maple sugar workshops planned at Five Rivers


A series of interactive demonstrations of the maple sugaring process will be conducted on three successive Saturdays, March 17, 24 and 31 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Five Rivers

Environmental Education Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar.

The programs will demonstrate the entire sugaring process, from sap to syrup, at a series of education stations. Participants can twirl a drill and pound a spile,

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Class finds hope after ‘Night’

Guilderland students write to author of Holocaust story, receive response

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Elie Wiesel’s famous novel “Night” is not required reading in the 10th-grade curriculum, but every few years Guilderland English teacher Amy Salamone pulls it out to teach to a class she feels will be moved by the story.

This school year, one of her classes decided they were so touched they had to do more.

“This was the first time one of the classes wrote to the (Elie Wiesel) Foundation,” Salamone said. “It was really their idea. I need to give them credit.”

“Night” is a book by Wiesel about the experiences shared by himself and his father within German concentration camps during the Holocaust. Although the book is rather short at just over 100 pages, it is considered one of the most important works of Holocaust literature and is part of a trilogy consisting of “Night,” “Dawn,” and “Day” relating Wiesel’s experiences.

After reading the book, students found the story to be much different from what they learned about the Holocaust in history class.

“It was really tough to read because of all of the horrific events that happened,” said 15-year-old Tristan Komaromi. “It was a lot more graphic (than what is taught in class). I could actually visualize what happened.”

Another student, Mark Shepard, said history class is great for learning the facts of what happened during the Holocaust, but is void of the emotion contained in the stories.

Many students had trouble comprehending the actions of the Nazis and were shocked to learn of the meaningless loss of life in the gas chambers, of families physically fighting each other for food and people being made to dig their own graves before they died.

The group struggled with how sad the story was and wanted to do something to inspire hope. Having read excerpts of Anne Frank’s “The Diary of a Young Girl,” they thought of a tree — a hope tree.

Each student was given a gold star and was asked to write down something that symbolized hope in a time of despair.



Students in Amy Salamone’s 10th grade English class (right) stand with the “hope tree” they created in response to their feelings after reading Elie Wiesel’s novel “Night.” The class later wrote a letter to Wiesel about the tree, (above) and he wrote back.

Photos by Marcy Velte/Spotlight

One student wrote, “I believe no human should be judged on just one thing.” Another wrote, “I have learned that one can survive horrible events with hope, and their survival can teach us all to hope.” One student asked for an equal world, where people aren’t treated like objects.

The stars were then turned into ornaments and placed on a fake tree inside the classroom.

Eventually the students asked if they could send a letter to Wiesel, who is 83 years old.

“I feel like they were worried about him still,” said Salamone.

The letter read, “We are



grateful for your story and wanted to share what we learned from you, with you.” It also contained each of the student’s messages that were placed on the tree and a class photo.

To the students’ surprise, they soon received a reply.

“I am moved to learn of the effect that my memoir, ‘Night,’ had on you,” wrote Wiesel. “As a writer nothing is more important. From your words, it is obvious that you are all very sensitive to the darkness of which I wrote.”

Wiesel told the class he “was touched by the tree of

message” and he hopes it blooms in the spring.

“You can use your knowledge and understanding to educate those who are unaware. You and your classmates can make a difference in creating a new kind of century,” he wrote.

The class was ecstatic at receiving the letter. Zach Johnston said he never thought they would hear back. “He’s such a celebrity,” he said.

The class will now plant a real “hope tree” on school property in the spring. Wiesel has been invited to

attend the event.

“We want to see if he will join us, but he is elderly now so he might not,” said Salamone. “But it’s nice he responded specifically to our letter.”

She said in the future not every class would participate in the project.

“I thought it was beautiful because it came from the class and it had an impact,” she said. I don’t want it to be teacher directed because it’s not the same. I think that’s why (Wiesel) responded, because he knew it came from them.”

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Police Blotter

House fire in South Bethlehem



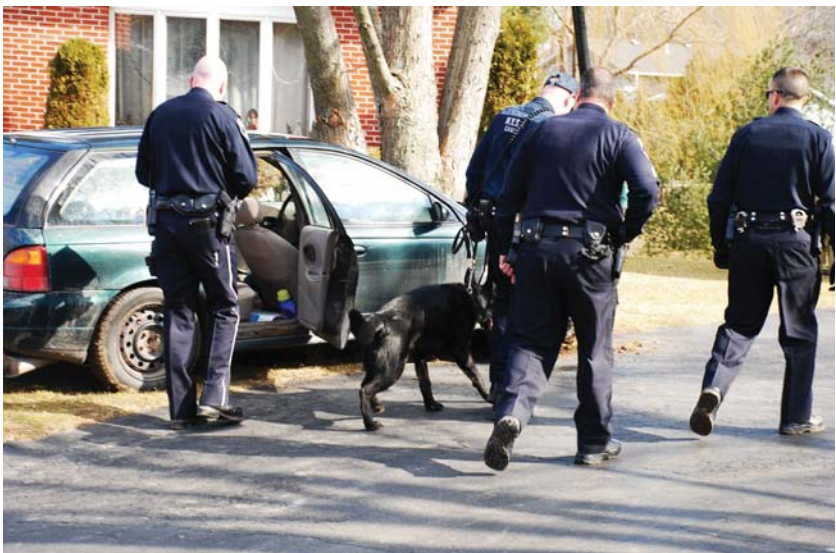
A house fire at 27 Willowdale Ave. in South Bethlehem was reported at about 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. There was no one home at the time of the fire, but a pet dog died in the fire. The Bethlehem Police Department's forensics team was called to the scene to investigate.
Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight

Car chase ends in arrest

Aman was arrested by Bethlehem Police after a brief car chase that ended near the high school on Friday, Feb. 17, police said.

The man was heading westbound near Delaware Avenue around 11:30 a.m. when he approached the intersection of Kenwood Avenue and crossed into oncoming traffic nearly causing a head-on collision, according to police. The man's identity was not released.

An officer observed the reckless driving as he was driving behind the suspect and followed in pursuit, police said. When the officer attempted to get the car to stop, the driver quickly accelerated, causing the officer to chase him, said police.



A brief car chase on Friday, Feb. 17, ended when the driver turned into a Bethlehem cul-de-sac and crashed into a basketball hoop before fleeing the car on foot. Bethlehem police officers have taken the suspect into custody, but his name has not yet been released.
Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight

Got news?

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

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

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

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

The chase lasted about five minutes before the driver turned into a cul-de-sac neighborhood and crashed into a basketball hoop near someone's property. Police then chased the suspect on foot until he was caught and taken into custody, said police.

According to police charges are pending and include misdemeanor reckless endangerment, and numerous traffic violations. No injuries were reported.

Police said there is no further information at this time.

21 arrested in DWI crackdown

Twenty-one people were arrested for DWI or DWAI and 415 traffic stops were conducted with numerous citations issued for violations between Feb. 3 and Feb. 6 as part of a countywide STOP-DWI enforcement crackdown, according to the Albany County Sheriff's Office.

The average BAC level for the 21 arrests was 0.15 percent, nearly two times the legal limit, and the highest BAC was 0.28 percent, three and

a half times the legal limit. There was one alcohol-related crash in the Town of Westerlo.

The crackdown coincided with the Super Bowl and was part of a statewide initiative, but the sweep was not announced locally. Law enforcement agencies throughout the county conducted sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.

"The message that Sheriff (Craig) Apple is trying to send is to expect these patrols every night and don't drink and drive in Albany County. Have a plan in place, use a designated driver or call a taxi, just don't get behind the wheel." Lt. Kerry Thompson said.

During a similar time frame in 2010, officers made 1,048 stops and arrested 25 individuals for DWI, according to information from the sheriff's office.

The STOP-DWI patrols are

named in honor of past DWI victims and this year's was held in honor of Anson Breen, 20, of Colonie, who died on Feb. 26, 2006, when the car he was a passenger in crashed into a tree and the driver, Thomas Lafore, 20, of Colonie, was intoxicated and pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

Other arrests

- Colonie police arrested Sally A. Smith, 36, of 1 Bleeker Terrace Apartment 223 in Albany on Feb. 13 and charged her with grand larceny in the fourth degree for stealing \$1,803.50 worth of assorted merchandise a Macy's in Colonie Center, according to police reports.
- Colonie police arrested Michael P. Carlton, 32, of 318 Griswold Heights in Troy on Feb. 13 and charged him with grand larceny in the third degree, according to police reports.

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The Big Question gets popped

Everyone remembers where and when The Big Question was popped, because usually it's followed by something particularly unpleasant or uncomfortable.

I speak, of course, of the age-old query: "How hard could it be?"

Every adventure seeker and outdoorsman has invariably asked him or herself variations of the big question in different circumstances. "How cold can it get?" "How long can it take?" "How much further can it possibly be?"

(The answers? "Really," "forever" and "just around the next bend up there, I promise, it definitely has to be because I remember that really green tree and if it isn't I'm sitting down right here and refusing to move.")

Other popular places to pop The Big Question include in the camp kitchen ("How bad could freeze-dried bacon and eggs be?") around the campfire ("That growling noise was your stomach, right?") or even at the outfitter's ("How could I possibly need an extra can of stove fuel?").

Still, the best and popular standby remains "how hard could it be?" You usually don't get the answer until clinging to a wet rock on the side of a mountain as night closes in.

For me, the best example came on the descent from Haystack Mountain in the Adirondack High Peaks. Laura, my girlfriend and hiking companion, and I had summited by way of little Haystack on a wonderful summer day. This was in our early days of hiking, when our



ON THE TRAIL
Charles Wiff

gear was procured at the Army surplus store on the cheap. It had special safety features, such as weighing so much it was impossible to fall off the mountain.

We were making great time despite the fact we were both carrying a typical American 13-year-old on our backs, so we turned to head over Basin and Saddleback mountains and make it to a campsite for the night. Looking over the map, I saw a straightforward trail over two mountains shorter than the one we'd just conquered.

The sun was shining, the birds were singing and the air was clean. I felt at peace with the gorgeous landscape and capable amongst nature. I was far too inexperienced at the time to know what I was doing, but I turned to Laura and popped The Big Question.

"Four more miles, how hard could it be?"

The next six hours resembled footage from a film reel you'd expect to find clutched in the fingers of a skeleton in a high mountain pass. It was a mix of white-knuckle terror, excruciating physical effort and unforeseen disaster.

Then we got to the hard part.

In the col between Basin and Saddleback we came upon two young men rushing in the other direction. Both had the latest packs made from space shuttle-grade metals and clothing woven with smart fibers developed



Piece of cake.

The next six hours resembled footage from a film reel you'd expect to find clutched in the fingers of a skeleton in a high mountain pass. It was a mix of white-knuckle terror, excruciating physical effort and unforeseen disaster.

by teams of government scientists. They were lean and svelte, like Olympic athletes. We, conversely, were sporting the aforementioned lead potato sacks and damp blue jeans, and looked like we each spent 50 hours per week sitting motionless under florescent lights.

We stopped briefly to chat. The young fellow in the lead warned us of some "gnarly" climbing ahead.

I nodded, envisioning a picturesque ridge walk over exposed ledges as old as the earth itself. Truly radical, bro.

Then I noticed his companion's face was ghostly white and he seemed to be shaking. When the "gnarly" trail ahead was mentioned his eyes grew wide and he gazed off into the trees, as if listening intently for a distant train.

Anyone who's climbed Saddleback by way of Basin knows what happened next. We climbed until we reached an exposed section of rock about 100 feet tall. We labored up it for what felt like hours, finding cracks to jam our boots into and tiny ledges to grasp on to. With night closing in and our water bottles empty, the only way was forward, even if that was through crushed spirits and blistered feet.

I pulled myself over the last ledge on to Saddleback's summit just as the day's light way fading over the expansive vista of mountains. I was shaking and exhausted.

I turned to Laura. We were both completely devoid of energy but I knew we had accomplished

something amazing and formed a bond neither of us would ever forget. I looked deep into her eyes and found another Big Question, close to my heart.

"How far to the (expletive) campsite?"

We came back two summers later and hiked that same path again with more experience, better gear and in considerably better shape, and that time around it was more of a classic Adirondack experience than an unspeakable ordeal. That hardship made the first trip all the more memorable, though, and the return all the more pleasant.

Charles Wiff is the managing editor at Spotlight Newspapers and enjoys hiking and the great outdoors.

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Matters of Opinion in The Spotlight

Small news a big deal

You'll read this week on the front page about an unusual case of discord in Bethlehem's Police Department.

The long and short of it is really more of the latter than the former. The union representing Bethlehem police officers (sergeants and lieutenants) has sued the union representing its patrol officers for cash the two allegedly raised jointly over several years (or didn't, depending upon whom you believe).

We're bringing you the facts of this case because they're a matter of public information and public interest. We'd accompany them with a reminder that we don't have any reason to believe this tiff extends into the operations of the police department itself, and as Police Benevolent Association President Scott Anson is quoted as saying in our story, there's no reason this can't be worked out in the courts.

As far as we can tell, this is a case of a misunderstanding that's grown out of hand. The folks involved in this litigation are largely declining to comment or couldn't (or wouldn't) be reached, which makes it more difficult to grasp the scope of the disagreement and exactly how much money is at stake here.

What gets lost in the noise a lot of the time when it comes to stories like these is the day-to-day operations of the department, which for the most part are conducted by people trying to do their best in difficult situations. We likewise do the best we can to bring our readers the news of these stories — the good and the bad, the big and the small — as best we can.

Regular readers of *The Spotlight* know that while Bethlehem is altogether a very safe town, it's not so sleepy as to be devoid of the occasional big crime headline.

In the midst of these, it might be easy to forget that police officers spend a lot of time doing things like helping people who are locked out of their cars, responding to quality-of-life issues and directing traffic when a signal light goes out. These instances don't make it into the paper very often because — well, because they happen every day.

For every person who criticizes the Bethlehem Police Department (or any other force) for mishandling a situation, remember there's another person out there who was greatly helped by a person in a blue uniform who often remains nameless and thankless.

We follow that by noting when it comes to the mission of the police department, nothing short of excellence will do (something the brass will undoubtedly be reinforcing with the Town Board come budget season). So keep looking to our pages in the weeks, months and years ahead. We'll be doing our best to bring you the stories that matter, whether they're large or small.

Editorial

Planned Parenthood: To be or not to be

Linda Rizzo

The writer is the public policy chairwoman for the Schenectady County American Association of University Women Branch.

The beginning of February was a very busy week for Planned Parenthood and the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

On Feb. 1, the Susan G. Komen Foundation announced its decision to take away funding for cancer screening from Planned Parenthood. Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy, issued a press release on Feb. 2 denouncing this decision, "AAUW is disappointed that some are playing politics with women's health and jeopardizing care for the most vulnerable among us." She added, "this is a regrettable situation for all concerned but exactly the kind of circumstance in which we must strongly adhere to our principles."

AAUW's policy on health care for women has been consistent throughout the years. The organization strongly believes that women must have affordable and quality health care and services for family planning. Its position on health care has focused on three main issues. One of the issues deals with "gender rating." This is the discriminatory practice of charging women and men different premiums for individual health care plans. Women tend to pay a higher premium.

The second issue centers on required coverage of women's reproductive health needs; while the third area, focuses on coverage for preventive health care and vital medical services. The organization informs its members of issues that may have an adverse impact on their well being. Through its public policy platform, AAUW underscores the importance of issue advocacy. The focal point of issue advocacy is making sure that all individuals

Point of View

are knowledgeable about important topics and current issues. It is for this reason that AAUW issued its press release regarding the cut in grants for Planned Parenthood.

On February 5, AAUW issued a second press release, "today, we learned that thanks to the immense pressure exerted by millions of Americans, AAUW and other organizations, and certain Senators, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is backing down from its decision to cut grants to Planned Parenthood. This is a victory in the fight to take the politics out of women's health, and a victory for the many American women who rely on Planned Parenthood for critical and lifesaving health care."

AAUW has always held the position that women's health care should never be used as a political issue. Politicians should not use these issues for their own political gain. Health care is a right and not a privilege. All individuals should have access to affordable and quality care.

There are some misconceptions concerning the services provided by Planned Parenthood. The organization has been one of the leading health care providers for women. It provides important health care services, sex education, and sexuality information. According to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the organization has "provided nearly five million people worldwide with the means to make responsible choices about their sexual and reproductive health."

Planned Parenthood 2010 Annual Affiliate Service Census Report indicates that 38 percent of their services are for STI/

STD testing and treatment for both women and men, 33.5 percent for contraception, 14.5 percent for cancer screening and prevention, 10.4 percent for pregnancy tests and prenatal services, 3 percent for abortion services, and 0.6 percent for adoption referrals, family practice services. The organization is also involved in international activities.

According to the federation, "we provide health care and education through local partners and advocate for sound U.S. foreign policies that affect sexual and reproductive health and rights globally." Their international efforts have attempted to build global partnerships for the purpose of sharing ideas and professional expertise that connect health care and education with advocacy.

In many instances, this organization is vital for women's health care needs such as cancer screenings, especially for low income women. AAUW and Planned Parenthood share core health care values. Both organizations believe that extended health care should be provided for millions of people who do not have insurance. They support increased access to quality preventive care, and lifesaving screenings for breast and cervical cancer. These organizations are against charging women higher insurance premiums than men, and they believe that insurance coverage should not be denied because of preexisting health conditions.

AAUW supports Planned Parenthood and also the efforts of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. It is AAUW's hope that both organizations will always continue to work together for the improvement and the advancement of women's health care in the United States and internationally especially in the area of early cancer detection.

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Publisher — John A. McIntyre Jr.



Editorial Paginator — Jackie Domin
Sports Editor — Rob Jonas
Reporters — Alyssa Jung, John Purcell, Julie Cushine-Rigg, Marcy Velte

Editor — Charles Wiff
Design/Niche Editor – Kristen Roberts
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Weekly poll

Would/has webcasting of municipal meetings make you more involved in your local government?

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

Last week's poll results:

"Will the tax cap keep school budgets down this year?"

- Yes. 18%
- No. 82%

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Your Opinion in The Spotlight

Public transportation helps everyone

Editor, *The Spotlight*: Governor Cuomo's executive budget proposal increases support for transit services, demonstrating his commitment to getting our economy moving. Additional operating assistance will allow CDTA to meet the Capital Region's growing transportation needs and help drive our economy. The Governor's vision to recognize the importance of public transit in these turbulent economic times is

encouraging. Investing in our transportation infrastructure comes at a time when demand for CDTA services is near record levels. We have developed an innovative business model to increase ridership while improving efficiency. As a result, we will serve close to 14.5 million customers this year, one of our highest annual ridership counts in a quarter century. The impact goes beyond bus rides. Taking people to work is the most important thing that

we do. In fact, 70 percent of our customers use CDTA services to get to and from work each day. We employ almost 650 people in jobs that help businesses prosper and grow. We work to get the Capital Region to work. This is all exciting news, but with rising operating costs and farebox revenues accounting for only 20 percent of our operation, we face challenges in finding long term solutions that support service operations and meet increasing demand.

We will work with Governor Cuomo, members of the State Legislature and our community partners to develop long-term, stable funding streams to meet people's mobility needs. This community driven approach will improve and enhance the quality of life for everybody that lives and works in the Capital Region.

Carm Basile
Chief Executive Officer
Capital District
Transportation Authority

A child's actions says it all

Editor, *The Spotlight*: With Valentine's Day being this week, I thought I would share this touching story because it come from the heart. They say that sometimes children are wiser than their years. Well, I believe this to be true. I took my 10 year-old son who has Down syndrome and autism bowling today. He is non-verbal and a student at Wildwood School. A little girl came over to my son and gave him an orange balloon. Little did she know my son *loves* balloons... they are one of his favorite things in the world. A little while later the girl came over again with a note which said "Do you want to be my friend? I want to be your friend." That says it all. If only we were all we as good at overlooking disabilities and treating the disabled as equals as that little girl. I smiled and told her my son can't talk, but he would love to be her friend. She made both my and my son's day by her nice gestures.

Kimberly Taylor
Selkirk

Make this budget season count

Editor, *The Spotlight*: The 2012-2013 Budget process has begun and it is already evident that we are heading for a very difficult situation. The quality education that Bethlehem's kids get is in jeopardy and everyone needs to start paying attention. Most voters in Bethlehem do not even bother to vote in the School Budget Elections despite it having a direct bearing on their taxes, (renters note that this will be reflected in rent increases). Last year only 4,954 people voted out of some 21,000 registered voters. Last year the budget passed by a 66 percent margin despite support from only 15.6 percent of the electorate. You should note that only 60 percent

is required to override the much vaunted tax cap. I supported the final budget and firmly believe that we will have to blow through the Tax Cap this year just to maintain our local education programs. Here are a few points to keep in mind: The BCTA is in contract negotiations. We need a contract that is fair to the teachers and allows the District to plan. Last minute give backs are not the answer. I believe that taxpayers will support tax increases necessary for programs. They will not support them for teacher raises and benefit increases that are larger than most of them have received recently. Unfunded Mandates are a huge problem and the

things that have been done for relief are a joke and have little financial impact. The NYS Legislature and the Educrats at 89 Washington Ave. are digging in their heels. Senator Breslin has been in office since 1997 and probably voted for many of these unfunded mandates. He is up for reelection. Tell him what you think, he lives right here among us. There is a lot to digest here but you won't have a grasp on the issues unless you go to some of the Budget Forums. The next one is on February 28 at the BCHS Library. Wouldn't it be nice if the crowd was so large they had to move it to the Cafeteria?

Philip W. Carter
Slingerlands

Bethlehem Youth Court logs busy year

Teens volunteering at Bethlehem Youth Court worked overtime last year and logged the program's second busiest year on record. Forty-three teenaged, first-time offenders with minor charges went through the Youth Court system last year, and a total of 979 hours of community service were performed as a result. The Youth Court program has a court comprised of high school students handing out sentences to their peers as an alternative to the criminal justice system, and has been operating since 1995. "We had a busy year in 2011. The student volunteers really stepped up to the plate and handled it well. We held two training sessions, one in the spring and one in the fall, training a total of 33 new members. We had a record breaking 72 new recruits sign up to become volunteer jurors. That's an increase of 140 percent from 2010," said Youth Court Director Katrina Charland in a statement.

The court's year-end report revealed trespassing as the most common charge for the offenders tried in Youth Court, unseating unlawful possession of marijuana, which had been the most common crime for four years running. Charland said petit larceny is also a common crime, but she didn't speculate on the reason for the change. "If anything it probably has to do with the increased vigilance of the police department ... and community," she said. Those tried in Youth Court must admit guilt as a precondition. From there, the offender is put through a full trial in a court staffed by high school volunteers and sentenced to community service by a jury. Community service was performed at more than 30 locations in and around the Town of Bethlehem during 2011, according to Youth Court officials. The year-end review revealed a 26 percent increase in cases from 2010, and a slight increase in the average age of offenders. The number of female defenders shrank by half to 23 percent of the total number of offenders. "Our end of year statistical report demonstrates that the Bethlehem Youth Court Program is a tremendous asset to the Bethlehem community," said Co-Chairperson of the Bethlehem Youth Court Board of Directors Tom Spina in a statement. "Not only do we offer an alternative to the traditional criminal justice system for first time juvenile offenders, we provide intensive training to student volunteers and, most importantly, we give back to the Bethlehem community at large when the offenders and our volunteers perform hundreds of hours of community service a year." Charland said it's difficult to draw conclusions from how 2012 has been going so far, but the court has seen eight cases in January, which is high. "Over the years we do have our ebbs and flows ... so I hate to read too much into it, but it does seem to be really busy," she said.

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Updated booklet available

The annual update of our Donation Sites booklet is now on the literature rack at the library information desk. This handy compilation lists more than a dozen area organizations and libraries that accept donations of used books, media and magazines. The booklet gives contact information and details about what items each location can accept.

It also includes supplemental information for Bethlehem residents about book recycling curbside, at the Elm Avenue Park and Ride bins, and at the Rupert Road transfer station.

This publication is also available online at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org; click on the quick link for "donations."

Other publications

Also on our literature rack you'll find for our guide to area volunteer opportunities, our directory or area cemeteries, and Community Contacts, a directory of service and interest groups in and around Bethlehem. All these



publications are updated annually. While you're browsing, you can also pick up information about our book delivery service for the homebound, the latest BCN-TV program guide, and a copy of our newsletter, footnotes.

'Catskill 67' on our shelves

Back in December, we had the pleasure of a visit by Alan Via and his dog Bookah, who together have climbed the one hundred highest peaks in the Adirondacks and Catskills. Via's adventures and his book "The Catskill 67: A hiker's guide to the Catskills' 100 highest peaks under 3500" were featured last week in *The Spotlight*. We just want to note that Bethlehem Public Library has three copies available for loan.

Teen time

Friday, March 9, 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Games, activities,

crafts and snacks for grade 6-12.

Library tour

Saturday, March 10, 2 p.m.
Reacquaint yourself with the library and all it has to offer. Adults, families and teens welcome.

Daybooks

Monday, March 12, 1:30 p.m.
"The Girl Who Fell from the Sky" by Heidi Durrow.

Board meeting

Monday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.
Open to the public

Pi(e) day

Wednesday, March 14, 7 p.m.
Games, raffles, music, math fun, pie tasting and more for all ages. Kids, families, teens, adults.

Louise Grieco

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

Kids can feel super at library

All kids are superheroes in our book, so why not make it official? On Thursday, Feb. 23, at 10:30 a.m., the Library will offer Superhero Certification for pre-school through early-elementary age children. After a story, kids will make their own Superhero capes, complete an obstacle course and be presented with an official Superhero Certificate. Register today.

The Construction Zone returns on Friday, Feb. 24, at 10:30 am. Lego builders are invited to a "block party" in the library annex. Choose a challenge created by our staff, or just let your imagination run wild. Preschoolers right through elementary-age kids have enjoyed this activity at the library. No need to register.

Let's talk books

The library book group invites you to join them in the library annex on Wednesday, Feb. 29, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss this month's book, "Blue Highways" by William Least Heatoon. Blue Highways is an unforgettable journey along our nation's backroads; the New York Times rates it among the best travel writing. Copies

RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

of the book are available through the Library.

New members are always welcome. Join fellow readers for an evening of lively conversation!

Computer classes

Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is required for all classes.

- Excel Clinic: Formulas and Formatting: Excel is a great way to track your schedules or resources for work or things at home. This clinic will briefly review Excel basic skills and build confidence in using basic formulas and creating pleasing boxes and backgrounds for your lists and tables. Some Excel experience recommended.

Tuesday, Feb 21, at 6:30 p.m. or Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 11 a.m.

- My Resume: Learn some tips and tricks for pulling your job and skill history into an attractive resume. We will discuss and work on targeting your resume to specific fields and jobs. Also learn

about great resources provided by the NY State Library such as JobNow or the NY State Department of Labor's JobZone.

Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. or Wednesday, Feb. 29, at 11 a.m.

Call 756-2053 or email info@rcscommunitylibrary.org to reserve your spot today.

Goal met

Sponsorships for the Acoustic Doorways series have made possible the complete 2012 season of four concerts! The concert series is not part of the library's budget, so this community support makes all the difference. Contributions beyond 2012 needs will be reserved for the 2013 season.

Thanks go to CapitalCare Medical Group Ravena, Mid-Hudson Cable, Port of Coeymans Marine Terminal, State Telephone Company, and The Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation.

Also to Babcock Funeral Home, Crossroads Ford, Friendship Discount Beverage, Mueller's Automotive, National Bank of Coxsackie, Persico Oil Company, Josie Bruno at Prudential Manor Homes Realtors, Take Shape for Life (Linda Cross, Health Coach), and Van Etten Excavating & Tree Service.


And to Bullock Utilities, Collins & Son Container Services, Julie Dessloch, Kathryn and Tom Domery, Jr., Ravena Shop 'n Save, Shear Creations Studio, Celeste and Tom Steinke, Szechuan Empire Restaurant, and Tastefully Simple (Shirley Mattice, Senior Team Manager).

Next concert is by the Peg Delaney Trio on March 23 at First Reformed Church of Bethlehem.

- All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. RCS Community Library is located at 15 Mountain Road, Ravena. For information, call 756-2053 or visit www.uhls.org/RCSCL/.

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Come and make a special block

Make a Civil War-era quilt block on Sunday, Feb. 26, from 1 to 5 p.m. Join us in a return to 19th century quilt-making. Kris Driessen will teach us to make a quilt block typical of the period just as it would have been done by a 19th century woman. Then we will make the same block with the tools and knowledge that we have today. In this workshop we will learn a little quilt history while we work.

Driessen is an accomplished quilt maker, quilt historian, quilting teacher, author, researcher, and lecturer. Kris has designed a line of patterns published as Phoebe Moon Designs. She is also the owner of the Quiltbug fabric shop in Esperance. Space is limited. Register for this program online at www.voorheesvillelibrary.org or call us at 765-2791.

The Filmmaker's Eye on the American Civil War

This film series is devoted to American films that explore the lives and experiences of both those directly involved in the war as well as those at home. You will see the war through such themes as: men in the face of battle; patriotism and loyalty; and the disparity between citizens' beliefs and actions with regard to war.

We invite you to join us in vicariously reliving this period of American history on Sunday, March 4, at 2 p.m. In this month's film, on her 100th birthday, Lucy Honicut Marsden recalls her life as a civil war veteran's 14 year old bride. Call the library to find out more about this film. Visit our blog: <http://civilwarprograms.blogspot.com/> for more details about our Civil War programs.



Parent Child Workshop Series

Mondays, March 12, 19, & 26 10:30 a.m. This is a three-part series for parents (or caregivers) and their children (ages 0 to 3 years old). Each week we will have a guest who will speak individually with adults and answer questions while your children play and you enjoy the company other parents. We will conclude each week with activities, songs and chants and our parachute.

- March 12: Child Development with a Family Service Specialist from Albany County
- March 19: Nutrition with Sandra Varno from Cornell Cooperative Extension
- March 26: Gail Brown from Voorheesville Public Library, our early literacy expert. Registration is necessary for these programs. Call the library or sign up on our online calendar.

Storytimes

The Voorheesville Public Library offers theme-based, multi-age level storytimes with an emphasis on early literacy. Books, rhymes, songs, and an art activity are all a part of the program. Held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:15 a.m., choose whichever day is more convenient for you. No registration required.

Barbara Vink

- All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. Voorheesville Public Library is located at 51 School Road, Voorheesville. For information, call 765-2791 or visit www.voorheesvillelibrary.org.

It's not too late to celebrate

Celebrate Post-Valentine's Day at the Italian American Community Center on Monday evening, Feb. 27, cost \$25, cash only. The dinner will be a stations buffet with appetizers, soup, salad, pasta, hot Italian specialty dishes, and delectable desserts. Bethlehem Transportation will leave Town Hall at about 4:30 pm. Home pick up is available. Suggested van donation: \$5.00. Call 439-4955, ext. 1169 to make a reservation.

Fitness For Seniors programs sponsored by the Town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department will begin in March. Popular programs include Active Aging, Lifetime Fitness, Seniors in Motion, and Yoga-50+. Go to www.townofbethlehem.org to call 43-4955, ext.1169, for more information.

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.

Wednesday, Feb. 29

- A.A.R.P. tax counseling will be available from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Town Hall. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make an appointment.



Transportation can be arranged.

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

Thursday, March 1

- 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 mah jongg, bingo and pinochle. 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, March 2

- The Health and Wellness Program presents lectures and demonstrations on topics

designed to keep you fit and healthy. The programs are held at the Bethlehem Town Hall from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Join us for lunch beforehand, cost on your own, at the Windowbox Café. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make lunch reservations.

- Seniors in Motion: A low level fun aerobic exercise class to music. Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 9-10 a.m. No registration is necessary. \$3 fee per class.
- Senior grocery shopping for residents of Good Samaritan Senior Housing and Van Allen Senior Apartments. For reservations, call 439-5770.

• Don't forget the Bethlehem Food Pantry. There is always a need for coffee, tea, juice, cleaning products, shampoo, deodorant and all types of non-perishable food. Bring your donations to the Town Hall Senior Services Office. Call 439-4955, ext. 1174, for more information or if you need to use the food pantry.

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

Exercise classes for seniors slated

Exercise classes for seniors are now being offered. Call 356-1980, ext. 1095, for more information.

Zumba

Theresa Adams, instructor

Zumba is a Latin-inspired dance fitness party. 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. This class is sure to be an hour of fun!! 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 working the major muscle groups. Some exercises are done sitting in chairs and standing along side

Town of Guilderland SENIOR CALENDAR

of them. It is an hour program beginning with warm-ups. It also focuses on functional exercises, which will improve daily living. Loose fitting clothing and good supportive footwear are suggested. Weights are available.

Senior Aerobics

Theresa Mattson, instructor

This class is a complete fitness program geared for seniors. It incorporates strength training, cardio vascular fitness, core conditioning and exercises working the major muscle groups. Beginning with warm-ups, the program keeps moving for an hour ending with stretching and flexibility movements. Loose fitting clothing and good supportive footwear are

suggested. Weights are available and mats are provided for floor work.

Wednesday, Feb. 29

- 9 a.m. Zumba
- 10:30 a.m. OsteoBuster
- No Sr. Fitness
- 1 p.m. Needlecraft
- 1:30 pm. OsteoBusters

Thursday, March 1

- Scheduled Shopping
- 9 a.m. OsteoBusters
- 9 a.m. Zumba
- 1 p.m. Mahjongg
- 1:15 Pinochle

Friday, March 2

- Scheduled Shopping
- 10 a.m. Painting
- 10:30 a.m. Bridge
- 1 p.m. Quilting

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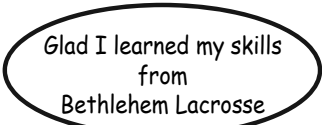
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Mild winter proves to be mixed blessing for Vista

**Officials say
tech park project
on track, on time**

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

This winter's mild weather has been "both a curse and a blessing" for construction crews at the Vista Technology Campus.

Although this season's warm temperatures and lack of snow has helped with the installation of the sewer system and laying of foundations, the soft ground led to issues with mud, according to Jon DeForest, vice president of BBL Construction Services.

"Because of the schedule we always knew we would be working in the winter, and we planned on doing things less weather dependent," said DeForest, mentioning construction of the street. "In a lot of ways we're doing well, but we anticipated for frozen ground. It's challenging sometimes because it's hard to get around the site and not muck things up."

Bethlehem Assistant Engineer Terry Ritz said the crews like the temperatures, but it is sometimes difficult to get supplies such as pipe, stone and sand to all parts



of the site because of the mud.

So far, about 80 percent of the cuts and fills are done, 65 percent of the storm drainage system is complete, 75 percent of the sanitary sewer system

is installed and 35 percent of the pump station is finished, according to Ritz.

"With the winter, things are progressing nicely," said DeForest. "We're on schedule, maybe a little

Work on the Vista Technology Campus is seen late last year. Officials describe the winter's mild weather as "both a curse and a blessing."

Spotlight file photos

bit more but not by an earth shattering amount. It might have been even more difficult, but the weather is fortunate."

The project's formal groundbreaking was held in December of 2011 after years of negotiations, planning and debate. So far, ShopRite, SEFCU and

Berkshire Bank have all signed on as tenants, but the name of a technology firm for the technology park has yet to be released.

Bethlehem Industrial Development Chairman Frank Venezia said it's up to the developer to find companies willing to invest in the park and bring them to the attention of the IDA.

Joe Nicolla, president of Columbia Development Companies, said the company is deciding what steps to take next with the project and will have more information in the coming weeks.

Before the project could begin, Albany County, the Bethlehem Central School District and Bethlehem town leaders signed off on an agreement to use PILOT payments, or payments in lieu of taxes, for construction of the main roadway into the campus. Albany County has previously promised \$1 million to Vista development.

The first three tenants were also granted PILOT agreements from the Bethlehem IDA that will eventually amount to \$200,000 in tax breaks.

Venezia said so far the IDA is happy with the pace

of the project.

"Everything moving along just as we thought it would," he said.

Ritz said the street into the Vista Campus and the utilities are scheduled for completion in August. They are now waiting on designs from National Grid, Verizon and Time Warner and the permits to begin utility installations underground.

"In that area of the project, we are behind," he said.

DeForest said the foundation for ShopRite's building is already complete and the store should open around the time the road does in August or September.

"Very soon we will see things go vertical," he said.

He said the sub base of the road will begin to take shape in the spring along with work done by National Grid, and paving of the road should begin by summer.

When the ShopRite building is complete, DeForest said BBL will move on to the two banks and an office buildings, all of which are slated for 2012 openings.

"For now, we're in good shape," he said.

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All of the terminal's terrazzo floor will be replaced over the course of about three months. Areas of the terminal are blocked off with detours and work is performed at night. More than \$15 million is being spent over the next year to make improvements at the airport.

Submitted photo



Improvements on tap at airport

\$15M to be spent on projects for nearly every area at Albany International

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

By the end of 2012, more than \$15 million will have been spent on improvements to Albany International Airport.

"We are constantly looking at innovative systems and procedures to improve our passengers' experience and to introduce operational efficiencies at the airport," said David E. Langdon, chairman of the Albany County Airport Authority.

One project already underway is replacement of the terminal's entire terrazzo floor, including the ticketing area and baggage claim area. With an \$800,000 price tag attached, the renovation effort began in early February and will take about three months to complete.

"There's a number of temporary walls up in the terminal to direct people around it as they do the work. The work is done at night," said Doug Myers, airport spokesperson.

Terrazzo is a liquid that's spread out on the concrete floor about one quarter to one half an inch

thick. After it hardens, it's polished to a shiny finish. The terrazzo comes in different colors and designs and has small stones in it for an extra aesthetic effect.

The floor hasn't been replaced since the terminal opened 14 years ago, so this fresh finish will bind the terrazzo to the floor stronger than before.

"It's the right time to do it; a cosmetic thing that has to be done. It's like painting your house. You don't want to get behind," Myers said.

Another project set to get underway later this year is a phased program to replace all the lights in the terminal with cost-efficient LED lighting. The airport's annual power bill is \$2.7 million, the equivalent of more than 1,300 homes, but the LED lights are expected to cut that annual cost by about \$300,000.

"Some of these lamps use 70 percent less energy than existing lamps," said Myers, adding the airport currently uses incandescent and fluorescent lights.

Myers said the airport has been mulling a switch to LED for years.

"The technology changes so rapidly and prices come down so quickly that we decided

to wait until there was a period we thought was just the right time to move, when it made good sense and savings would be there," Myers said.

Work will start on the third level of the terminal and continue throughout the year. Each light fixture needs to be analyzed and it determined if replacement or rewiring is the way to go.

"It's not something you do right away but we anticipate a tremendous payback," said Myers.

The LED bulbs will last seven to 10 years and save the airport maintenance time and costs.

The largest project planned is a \$4.2 million expansion of the aircraft maintenance hangar that will double its size. There will also be 625,300 square feet of terminal aircraft ramp replaced with new asphalt and access roads added in remote areas of the airport.

"In an emergency, heavy equipment can get to the scene," said Myers.

Other projects on the yearlong construction list include upgrading the airfield electrical supply and emergency generator; the purchase of additional snow fighting equipment; installation of an electronic baggage system to support TSA baggage screening;

construction of a 3.5 million gallon holding tank for glycol collection and disposal (it's a deicer); construction of an 80- by 120-foot airfield storage building; improvements to the E-Lot parking toll plaza; replacement of terminal chairs and carpeting; replacement of the Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting headquarters roof; and replacement of windows, heating system, entrance and facade in the 45-year-old administration building.

The renovations seem like a tall order for one year but Myers said it's nothing out of the ordinary.

"We pretty much do this on a yearly basis," said Myers. "We set aside funds for maintenance and improvements and have federal airport improvement funds that come in on an annual basis."

Aesthetic improvements are just as important as those with safety and fiscal impacts, said Myers.

"You want to have an inviting place for people to come; a place people are proud of," said Myers. "The airport is often the first place outside visitors see when they come to the Capital District and we want to make a good impression and set the tone for the Capital District."

Legislature confirms McCoy's appointment

Thomas Marcelle to serve as county attorney

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

Despite being sent to the Albany County Legislature without a recommendation by the personnel committee in January, the body confirmed County Executive Dan McCoy's appointment for county attorney Thomas Marcelle by a vote of 27-10 at the Monday, Feb. 13, meeting.

"Our system of government is designed to provide checks and balances and to approve executive appointments with the advice and consent of the legislature. I applaud the legislature for its determination to advance my appointments after an exhaustive vetting process," said McCoy.

McCoy's nomination of Marcelle was a matter of contention among some members of the legislature, specifically Democrats, who questioned whether he was suited for the job since he served as counsel to the legislature's minority and was part of Breslin's redistricting commission.

"You're trained to defend your clients. My loyalty will be to the county," said Marcelle at a meeting with the legislature's personnel committee. "I will defend their issues as vigorously as I can."

However, chairman

of the legislature Shawn Morse said "there was never a time" he didn't think Marcelle would be confirmed, based on his qualifications.

"I really think a lot of the issues were stirred up from the different organizations that were trying to stop the confirmation and not as much from the legislators," said Morse.

McCoy, a Democrat, said he expected a "healthy discussion" to take place during the vetting process but still stood by his pledge to base his appointments on individual qualifications, not politics.

"I said when I took office that I will run this county as a business and that I will appoint the most qualified individuals to help me lead, based on their history of accomplishments rather than their political or personal ideology," said McCoy.

McCoy said he "applauds the decision" of the legislature because "it's the right one" and the "right move."

"It's time to get down to business," said McCoy.

The legislature also confirmed McCoy's other two appointments, Kathleen Dalton as commissioner of social services and Darrel R. Duncan as commissioner of public works. Dalton is a member of the Colonie Planning Board and Duncan most recently served as the highway superintendent for the Town of New Scotland.

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Dual scholarship to memorialize local teenager

Luke Romano died of leukemia last August

By JON WITTMANN
news@spotlightnews.com

You don't ordinarily always find a lot of connections between rival school districts Niskayuna and Shenendehowa, but Lucas Romano was no ordinary kid.

"When you met him he was just such a positive person," said Rachelle Kehoe, a family friend of the Romanos.

A student from high schools in both school districts will hopefully be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship honoring Romano. Named the Luke's Legacy Scholarship, it's being created to remember the 17-year-old from Clifton Park who lost his seven-year battle with leukemia in August of last year.

The scholarship would be awarded to one senior from both Niskayuna and Shenendehowa high schools with an interest in pursuing equine or veterinary studies. A committee is raising money for the scholarships now.

"Niskayuna and Shenendehowa are rival



"Niskayuna and Shenendehowa are rival school districts, but he really unified the community."

Rachelle Kehoe

school districts, but he really unified the community," said Kehoe, who is a member of the scholarship board.

Throughout Luke Romano's lengthy and courageous fight, friends and family from both school districts supported the family. Some created "Luke Strong" T-shirts and bracelets, which were sold by the hundreds, to help pay for his medical bills. Romano wouldn't have that, though, so he used the money to buy

spa treatments for the nurses who cared for him at Albany Medical Center.

Romano had a passion for thoroughbred horse racing. He volunteered every day over the summer at the O'Brien barn starting at six o'clock every morning and only took one break during the day to go to his chemotherapy treatments. After the treatment he would be right back to the backstretch. He even became the part owner of a horse, solidifying his



Luke Romano dreamed of making a career in the equine industry. He died in August of 2011 after a seven-year battle with leukemia. A dual scholarship has been created in his memory.

Submitted photos

dream of going into the equine field.

"He was so fond of horses, he wanted to go into equine — anything, really," said Kehoe.

On the scholarship's board are people from both districts, ranging from high schoolers to adults. Along with Luke's mother, Annette, and sister, Jacqueline, there are many other students, faculty and community members. Chairman Stacy DeBritz of Niskayuna holds a personal interest in the cause as her daughter also fought leukemia as a young girl.

The community played a massive part in Romano's struggle, showing continuous and unwavering support, and members of the committee hope the scholarship will serve as a thank you to the community as a whole, as well as help the students who will receive it.

The scholarship is just getting off the ground. The committee hopes to raise \$2,000 by this May so as to hand out two scholarships. The goal is to make it an annual scholarship so the memory of Luke Romano stays in the community's

mind and his character keeps influencing students for years to come.

Luke's Legacy is a certified non-profit organization. During the track season there will be a horse race in Luke's name at Saratoga Racetrack as well as a tree planted in his name. Girl Scouts are also organizing fundraisers, but these events will not take place before the first scholarships are awarded to this year's students.

For more information on the scholarship or to contribute, visit www.sites.google.com/site/lukelegacy/.

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Planned fundraiser to go on as a memorial

Event at Tiny Tots Tea Room honors Maddie Musto

By JULIE CUSHINE-RIGG
riggi@spotlightnews.com

Sari Medick, owner of Tiny Tots Tea Room on Crescent Road in Clifton Park had planned to hold a fundraiser for Maddie Musto earlier this month, but the little girl passed away only days after she and her family found out she had an inoperable brain tumor.

The planned fundraiser has been reorganized into a memorial fund and will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26. Like the Mustos, Medick is from Rotterdam, and she heard about 5-year-old Maddie through a friend. After news of Maddie's passing, Medick didn't hesitate to still offer her cafe at The Tiny Tots Tea Room for a memorial fundraiser.

"Our staff is donating all of their time for the



event and we've had an amazing response by local companies who are giving items for the silent auction," she said. "Everything is family based. We even had one of our regular customers give tickets for a Yankees game. Our customers

have also been wonderful in getting the word out about the event. At the cafe here we have flyers about it and people have been stopping in and grabbing fistfuls of them to distribute."

Medick decided to hold the event on a Sunday,

even though Tiny Tots Tea Room is typically closed.

"We've got room for about 120 people between the front and back of the building," she said.

The event will run from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in order to provide various times for people



A memorial fundraiser featuring face and hand painting and other activities to remember Maddie Musto, above, will be held Feb. 26 at Tiny Tots Tea Room in Clifton Park.

Submitted photos

from young children to adults to take part in. Silent auction items include a photo session from Lubas Photo Design, and a week of camp at Tiny Tots Tea Room.

The Musto family had been looking into chemotherapy and other treatments for Maddie, doing everything they could, according to Medick. Several of the Mustos' relatives from downstate have contacted the cafe and said they plan to attend the Feb. 26 event, Medick said.

For those who can't make the event, and would still like to donate to Miracle 4 Maddie, contributions can be made in Maddie Musto's name at Capital Communications Federal Credit Union. For details, visit <http://miracle4maddie.bbnw.org/donate.php>.

For more information on the event at The Tiny Tots Tea Room, visit tinytotstearoom.com.




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Finance in the Spotlight

Bank on the go: Convenient and secure, mobile banking offers 24/7 access to your accounts

By Anthony Lanzillo,
Senior Vice
President, KeyBank

Do you remember when sitting in the drive thru line at the bank to deposit your paycheck was the convenient thing to do? Or how Saturday hours meant you didn't have to give up your lunch break to manage your money? It probably doesn't feel like that long ago. In actuality, it wasn't. Today's technology is moving lightning fast. Developments like electronic fund transfer (EFT) have changed our expectations and changed the way we bank. On vacation and need to pay a bill, check your balance or transfer funds? No problem. The power is literally at your fingertips. All you have to do is pick up your phone. You don't even need to dial. Because as long as you have service, you can now access your financial accounts with your mobile device anytime and anywhere. Mobile banking is today's breakthrough convenience. It allows you to access your account information on your mobile device to view

balances and transactions, make payments, transfer money between accounts and more. Many banks



Anthony Lanzillo

also allow you to opt-in to receive mobile alerts and text messaging to notify you when important activity occurs in your account. It's like having your own personal security guard in your pocket. What's more, mobile banking can help you save money on postage and potential late fees. Better yet, it is available for minimal to no cost thorough a majority of banks, giving you access to your money around the clock...even on holidays. So why is only 10 percent of the population

taking advantage of this convenience? Because according to a recent report by Lookout Mobile Security, more than 50 percent of the population is afraid of it... mainly for two reasons:

1. Security concerns
2. Technology fears

Does this sound like you? Are either one or both of these fears keeping you away from giving mobile banking a try? If so, it may be time to reconsider.

Security concerns debunked (Under lock and key...or rather password and ID)

Banks know their clients have concerns with the security of mobile banking. For this reason all reputable banks have taken precautions to ensure your information is protected by only allowing you access to your mobile banking options through an online login system or a downloadable mobile application (app). Mobile banking typically uses the same security protocols as online banking. As part of the protocol, you

will be prompted to enter a user ID and password to obtain information.

Technology fears squashed (So easy a technophobe can do it)

If you're one of the millions with a lovehate relationship with technology, put your fears aside. Banks understand most peoples' concerns and have created apps and easy-to-navigate mobile websites to make mobile banking more user friendly.

Apps are simplified computer programs for your smartphone (Blackberry, Android, iPhone, etc.). Purposefully designed with a short learning curve, apps will typically walk a user through each transaction with detailed directions.

Banks that offer a mobile website will grant you access to a basic version of their traditional online banking website when you login with your ID and password. These simplified mobile websites are user friendly with large and bold type, easy to recognize icons and straightforward navigation.

Obligation free (There's no harm in trying)

Mobile banking solutions allow you to access your accounts with your mobile device any time you want from wherever you are. It's transformative, and at many banks, completely free. So if you let security concerns and technology fears drive your decision, chances are you'll miss out on this value-added convenience. And even if your idea of convenience is still rooted in the drive thru lane and expanded branch hours, you can still mobile bank. In fact, you can do as much or as little as you want, but the important thing is it will always be there for you.

Also, with identity theft continuing to increase year after year, mobile banking offers added protection. In fact, the best way to prevent and limit the damage of identity theft is to routinely monitor your accounts, and setting up your account to issue mobile alerts and text messages about transactions is a great way to do it. It is also a great way to track your deposits and withdrawals on a day-to-day basis, as well as paying bills. The worst-case scenario if you try mobile banking? You don't like it, and if that's the case, there's nothing to return. The more likely scenario is that you'll love the added convenience and be one of the more than 200 million new people to make mobile banking part of their money management strategy by 2013.

About the author: Anthony Lanzillo is senior vice president of KeyBank and heads the Capital Region's Retail Banking team. He can be reached at 518-257-8598 or anthony_lanzillo@keybank.com.

Protecting the personal information on your mobile device

Be careful about what information you store on your mobile device. Saving your passwords to sites used for email, social networking, shopping, or where personal information may be stored makes you vulnerable to security breaches. Regularly delete text messages and old calendar entries, clear your browser history and delete files from your phone. In addition, be sure to clear sensitive information prior to disposing of, recycling, selling, donating or giving away your device. Here are some additional considerations for securing the personal information on your mobile device.

Bluetooth

Disable your Bluetooth connection when you are not using it to prevent attackers from taking advantage of that connection, obtaining information or downloading malicious code to your device.

Built-in security

Review and utilize the security options available on your device and consider additional measures such as security software and antivirus solutions. Refer to your phone's user manual or contact your mobile carrier for more information on these features.

Lost or stolen

If your device is lost or stolen, notify your service provider immediately so they can disable your device and reduce the risk of information being accessed

or charges being accrued. Failing to promptly report a stolen phone can leave you responsible for all calls made on your device—even the ones not made by you.

Keep records

Keep a record of your phone's make, model, phone number and serial number. Police will need

Require passwords

Some smartphones, including the iPhone, allow users to set and require passcodes. You can determine how long the phone needs to sit idle before the passcode requirement becomes active. You can also enable a data erase feature that will automatically erase all of the data on your phone after a number of failed password attempts.


Try to use secure networks

This may seem counterintuitive to "anywhere/anytime," but conducting personal transactions over open Wi-Fi connections can leave you vulnerable. So always try to use a secured network for personal transactions.

Install trusted apps

Hundreds of thousands of apps are available in the smartphone marketplace. Read reviews and do some research before installing any app, and only install apps from trusted companies.

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More than BBQ

LT's Grill in Niskayuna closing to renovate, refine image

By JOHN PURCELL
purcellj@spotlightnews.com

If barbecue is the first thing that comes to mind thinking about LT's Grill, owner L.J. Goldstock is hoping to change your mind. LT's Grill in Niskayuna is going to be shutting its doors after business on Saturday, Feb. 25, and when it reopens on Thursday, March 1, the doors will swing open to a newly imagined dining area and sports bar.

For now, Goldstock is keeping specific details hidden, but the dining area is planned to feel more separated from the newly designed sports bar. The

changes are mostly driven by customer feedback he has received over the years, but he also wants to highlight his seafood and steak offerings. "We've been here five years and we have gone through a lot of changes," Goldstock said. "We've done those primarily for customers ... so I have been listening to the customers to keep people motivated to keep coming in here." But one of the main things he wants patrons to see is what's offered outside the barbecue fare the eatery is known for. "We have redefined our menu to bring out more steaks, more seafood and more pastas rather than being known just for our great dry rub wings and ribs," he said. "People don't

"One of the things we are trying to do is make it even better for people and more comfortable."

— L.J. Goldstock

realize the steaks that we have, the seafood, the live lobster, the fresh pasta — all these things that we do have, they are as good or better than the barbecue that I have.

He said barbecue is "one dimensional" and people aren't going out for barbecue as much as they go out for a "regular dinner." To help drive more business, he wants to spotlight different tastes.

"We are a completely



LT's Grill is going to be closing on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 9 p.m., to remodel the inside of the restaurant and present a new menu, with classic offerings and new dishes.

Submitted photos

different restaurant from the first day we opened," he said. "We have gotten smacked around a few times on some things that we have tried, not everything works, but we really paid attention to the customers this time in this rebuild."

Keeping a family style

restaurant is important, because many people see the restaurant it that way and know what type of environment to expect.

"The last thing I want to lose is that family atmosphere and friendly neighborhood place," he said. "One of the things we are trying to do is make it even better for people and more comfortable."

There is going to be a "totally different look," but he said he's excited to have regular patrons return and see it.

Goldstock said he posted on the restaurant's Facebook page it would be closing Feb. 25, without mentioning the remodel, and he got the reaction he was hoping to see.

"People were scared as hell that we were going to be going out of business," he said. "I want to see that, I wanted to see people's interest to see if they pay attention."

As a locally owned restaurant, he said he competes against the national chains that have a much larger marketing

budget than LT's Grill. Using social networking is one way he connects with his customers.

Being a true member of the community is also an important aspect of the business.

The restaurant has been active in some local charities and he said Goldstock tries to do whatever he can when someone comes in asking for help with a cause or fundraiser.

Once a year, he holds Feed the Families with the help of the Niskayuna Police Department, so local families in need can come into the restaurant and get a free meal. He also typically hands out around \$50 in gift cards to each family to help purchase some presents or needed items.

"I am blessed, I still have a great inner family, very close knit family," he said, "and I've always felt that if you are blessed with that kind of family and friends you should offer that to others."

When LT's Grill reopens on March 1, he plans to have a celebration with a free taste of new menu items.



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UAlbany unveils plans for athletics project

\$24M undertaking will be largely state funded

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

In April, the University at Albany will break ground on a \$24 million project to update the school's outdoor athletic facilities — something officials said has been years in the making.

"Believe it or not, the university first started talking about making upgrades to our football field in 1973," said UAlbany President George Philip at a press conference held to announce the project at the university's SEFCU Arena.

University Field and the existing track were first built in 1963 and school officials said few renovations have been made since that time. The facilities, especially the track, do not meet the current National Collegiate Athletic Association guidelines or access codes, and seating is described as inadequate.

Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings, an alumnus of the university, said the school has been talking about the upgrades since he was a graduate



UAlbany officials announced a \$24 million project to update the school's outdoor athletic facilities at a press conference at SEFCU Arena.

Marcy Velte/Spotlight

student. He now believes UAlbany's athletes will be competitive on the national level.

Head football Coach Bob Ford said the current facility hasn't helped with recruiting players.

"We've never said 'let's go out and show you our stadium,'" Ford said.

Ford started the school's football team as a club sport in 1970. Players are now essentially playing on the exact field used 42 years ago.

The new complex will be constructed in three

phases and will include a multi-use synthetic field for student and intramurals use, an enhanced football and soccer facility able to accommodate NCAA Division I competitions and repairs and upgrades meeting NCAA Division I standards to the university's track and field.

The football and soccer facility is slated for completion in the fall of 2013 and will be built on an area around an existing football field to the southeast of the SEFCU Arena. It will include 4,000

permanent seats, 2,000 berm (hillside) seats and nearly 2,000 temporary bleacher-style seats.

Philips said some construction will occur during the New York Giants' training camp in the summer, but the school will do everything in its power to make sure the team has "adequate facilities" to practice.

According to Ford, most of the school's athletic training equipment is Division I quality because of the Giants' usage, but the field is Division III.

"We've never said, 'Let's go out and show you our stadium.'"

Head football Coach Bob Ford

"I think it came down to some political leadership that the money went here and not someplace like Long Island," he said. "Things are falling into place... the money would just be spent in someplace like Long Island or Buffalo, so why not here?"

The university president went on to add the project could not have happened without the support of the Capital Districts three state senators, Neil Breslin, Hugh Farley and Roy McDonald.

The entire project will cost \$24 million, with \$18 million coming from "allocated state appropriations targeted for capital improvements and scheduled maintenance projects."

Philips said the money would not be available to the school if it weren't used for the athletic complex project.

Another \$6 million is to be raised through private funding, and the recent press event also included the announcement of the university's efforts to raise

the needed funds.

University at Albany Foundation President George Hearst said an anonymous donor has gifted the university with \$1 million to match dollar-for-dollar that of additional donations.

"The anonymous gift... places the University at Albany well on its way to achieving the state-of-the-art multi-sports complex for students, alumni, and the community at large," he said.

The entire project is scheduled for completion by the winter of 2013.

UAlbany Vice President and Director of Athletics Lee McElroy touted the project as an acknowledgement of the hard work put forward by coaching staffs and their players. He added the community would have use of the field in the off-season.

"All our students, coaches, alumni and community supporters will now receive the Division I-level playing facilities their dedication merits," he said.



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Looking at a hidden history

Lecture to explore African American Shakers during Black History Month

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

There’s something in Shaker history that not many people know about. It’s not a secret, per se; it’s more of an unusual societal quirk buried deep within personal journals and rarely documented.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, Shaker Heritage Society Director Starlyn D’Angelo will share that hidden history in “All Souls Are Created Equal,” a lecture about African American Shakers coinciding with Black History Month.

“It’s a topic that nobody has really written about,” said D’Angelo.

The first Shaker Community was established in Albany in 1776, a group of people originally from Manchester, England who were unhappy with existing religious choices and sought to create their own communal religious society in which they could practice their faith freely.

The Shakers’ rigid lifestyle was unique enough, but what D’Angelo found when she began dissecting personal journals was another aspect of the community even more compelling, given the time period.

“We found six very specific references to the Shakers here in Albany sheltering fugitive slaves and helping them flee to freedom,” said D’Angelo, who has

spent about 10 years researching the topic with interns from local colleges.

Shakers went against the grain in their lifestyle (they were often persecuted, beaten or thrown in jail for their beliefs) but were law abiding, so evidence pointing to Underground Railroad activity, possibly organized on a larger level, surprised D’Angelo.

“They were in violation of the Fugitive Slave Act, which would have put them in jeopardy,” said D’Angelo. “We’re trying to see if we can piece together more of this story to determine how extensive this activity was.”

Putting together the puzzle isn’t easy. D’Angelo must watch out for quick references like “Brother F took a runaway slave to Schenectady to help them on to freedom in Canada,” which take a sharp eye to pick out.

“It’s a little like looking for a needle in a haystack because you’re reading through hundreds of journal entries,” said D’Angelo. “They don’t identify necessarily who is African American and who isn’t, so we look through ... records and come up with a list of people. It’s a process of sifting through the information.”

But the clues are there, so D’Angelo said she was shocked that no comprehensive history exists.

“It’s a hidden history I think is important to document,” said D’Angelo.

It’s not just the role of blacks in the Shaker Community that

has been overlooked. D’Angelo said human stories in general are lacking.

“The vast majority of books about Shakers have to do with their furniture, which is wonderful and beautiful, but historians simply have not looked at the human stories,” said D’Angelo.

Ever since seeing a watercolor painting from a Shaker community in New Lebanon that included a black man, D’Angelo has made it her mission to discover what Shaker attitudes toward blacks were.

“What’s clear is they believed in racial and gender equality from the very beginning. There were blacks as early as 1790; that’s quite amazing considering that they already were ostracized because of their unique religious beliefs,” said D’Angelo. “It was very brave of them to accept black people as equals in their community.”

A cornerstone of the Shaker faith was treating and loving one another equally.

“When a family joined the Shaker community the children were put in a children’s order, husbands were put in one part of the community and wives in another part. ... They were expected not to care for each other any more than they would have for other brothers and sisters in the community,” said D’Angelo.

In fact, the first person buried in the cemetery at the 1848 Shaker Meeting House site in Albany was a black woman who



An upcoming lecture looks at the role of black Americans in the Shaker Community.

Submitted photo

had likely been a slave at some point.

“At that time, you didn’t bury black and white people next to each other in a cemetery; that was unheard of and yet another reason for non-Shakers in this period to dislike the Shakers,” said D’Angelo.

These days, there’s only one active Shaker community left, and though the lifestyle has evolved through the years, the basic beliefs remain.

“They believe in passivism, celibacy, confession of sin and communal ownership of property,” said D’Angelo. “They’re still focused on hard work in daily life.”

D’Angelo has presented her research findings at conferences before, but the lecture on Feb. 25 will include new information and

is all part of a greater campaign to increase awareness about Shaker history, so she hopes the public stops by.

“All Souls Are Created Equal” is at 2 p.m. on Feb. 25 at 25 Meeting House Road. A donation of \$5 is suggested.

This year also marks the Shaker Heritage Society’s 35th anniversary, so there’s a full slate of programs and events in the future. On Wednesday, Feb. 29, there will be a 35th Anniversary Celebration at the 1848 Meeting House from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. featuring Albany Pro Musica, dance, basket making demonstrations and food. All proceeds will benefit education programs of the society. For information about tickets or other upcoming events, visit www.shakerheritage.org or call 456-7890.

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Helping hearts with a hop, skip and jump

Sand Creek Middle School celebrates 10 years of participating in AHA fundraiser

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

On Friday, Feb. 17, the main gym of Sand Creek Middle School was pulsing. For more than an hour, speakers blasted the hottest pop singles as throngs of students laughed, jumped rope and hula hooped for healthy hearts.

"They're one of my banner schools. They're a school that really takes on the responsibility of community service learning as well as educating their students to be active and healthy every day," said Jeff Masline, director of youth markets at the American Heart Association.

The middle school in South Colonie Central School District has participated in Jump Rope for Heart for 10 years and raised more than \$52,000 for the American Heart Association. It celebrated its 10th anniversary as a Jump Rope for Heart school by having an afternoon of jump rope fun.



Jump Rope for Heart, established in 1978, raises money to fund critical research on heart disease and stroke, the No. 1 and No. 4 killers in America, according to the American Heart Association. A small portion of money raised goes toward providing public education materials for schools across the country and a handful of grants for physical education and health teachers.

"It was started by a group of physical education teachers who wanted to bring prominence to jump roping and at the same time do some type of community service activity," said Masline.

Since the heart is the main muscle worked during jump roping, teachers chose the American Heart Association to benefit from jumpathons.

"The American Heart Association bought the rights and started this program," said Masline. "It's a community service learning project for schools or community agencies that want to bring awareness to heart disease and stroke and fight the disease."

Schools raise money for Jump Rope for Heart by holding jumpathons during class or on a night or weekend. Donations aren't made per jump, there's just a flat donation to attend, and students and their families get to showcase jump-roping skills.

"It teaches them at an early age the importance of eating and exercising and being active," said Masline.

Incorporating heart health education into a fun community event, said Masline, is a way to reach younger generations and help them develop healthy lifestyles, earlier.

"Be active and find something that can keep you active every day," said Masline.

There are 157 schools across 17 counties in eastern New York State that regularly participate in Jump Rope for Heart. For more information, visit www.heart.org.



LEFT and INSET: Students at Sand Creek Middle School participated in a Jump Rope for Heart event on Friday, Feb. 17, to celebrate 10 years of being a Jump Rope for Heart school. The program raises money for the American Heart Association to fund research for heart disease and stroke. For more than an hour, students showed off their jump rope skills and hula hooped.

Photos by Alyssa Jung



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Entertainment in the Spotlight

State museum BLOOMS in winter

'New York in Bloom' show to feature more than 100 arrangements

For three days at the end of February, the entire first floor of the New York State Museum will be blanketed in flowers for the 21st "New York in Bloom" Feb. 24 to 26.

"I think it's popular because of the uniqueness of the flowers but also the time of year," said Nicole LaFountain, public programs coordinator for the museum. "It's a great time for people to see fresh flowers, tropical flowers ... and it makes them start thinking of the upcoming spring season and people getting ready to plan their gardens."

The yearly flower show is a fundraiser for Museum Club and Discovery Squad, the museum's afterschool programs that target inner city youth in elementary, middle and high school.

"They just get a lot of opportunities they wouldn't normally get," said LaFountain.

The afterschool programs are celebrating 25 years running this year, and "New York in Bloom" has been instrumental in their longevity. Last year, about 20,000 people troled the floral creations, and that led to \$25,000 being raised.

There's no overall theme for the flower displays but each florist or floral artist is given a specific area in the museum, so the arrangements mirror the exhibits.

"All arrangements are interpretations of parts of the exhibitions on the floor, so you see stuff through the Adirondack wilderness, native people's hall and through metropolis hall, which is New York City and neighborhoods," said LaFountain.

Margie Amodeo of Nagengast Florist in Albany has created arrangements for three years and will craft one of the flower shop's three displays this year.

"Mine is a topographical map of New York State and right inside the front doors," said Amodeo. "It's white but texturally outstanding."

By
ALYSSA JUNG
junga@
spotlightnews.com



The 19th James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show and Sale runs concurrent to the New York in Bloom flower show and funds new acquisitions for the state museum's gem and mineral collection.

She said she'll use exotic flowers to build the display but won't know which ones until she visits the flower wholesaler for recommendations the week of the show. Arrangements sit on a pedestal 36 inches high but can spill out on to the space in front of and around it.

"There really is no size limitation, only safety concerns that they use to limit you. The sky's the limit," said Amodeo.

The most important consideration is the museum's size, which plays a part in the structural aspects of the display.

"The ceilings are so high there that it really needs to be something large to fill up the space and have a presence," said Amodeo.

Last year, Amodeo created a Sesame Street display, filling the steps of the exhibit with a rainbow of Gerber Daisies. The year before that, she had a bird-themed arrangement and made a huge basket out of wicker and feathers, filled to the brim with blue flowers.

"It's very exciting because you can do absolutely whatever you want. You're the customer," said Amodeo.

There will be more than 100 flower displays scattered throughout the museum. Admission is \$5 each day and all the proceeds benefit the afterschool programs. The weekend show is the main fundraising source of the year.

Museum Club gives elementary and middle school students tutoring and homework help and lets them visit the museum. High school students get homework help, research assistance and mentoring, and they're also paid to participate.

"They mentor the younger kids," said LaFountain, who is a volunteer with the program.

She said she's seen first hand the value of providing this extracurricular service.

"I see the kids get so much support and learn so much by being a part of the museum," said LaFountain.

"New York in Bloom" runs from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24 to Sunday, Feb. 26. Admission is \$5 each day and children under 12 get in free. There will also be the 19th James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show and Sale on Saturday and Sunday, which is a separate \$4 admission fee, which goes toward new acquisitions for the museum's gem and mineral collection.

Floral arrangements such as this one are paired with museum exhibits during the New York in Bloom flower show.



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Agatha Christie's famous play, presented by Home Made Theater, Spa Little Theater, Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs, Feb. 24-26, shows 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, \$23-\$26. Information, 587-4427.

LEND ME A TENOR

Madcap comedy about the lengths an opera company will go to cover for the absence of a visiting star, presented by Curtain Call Theatre, 210 Old Loudon Road, Latham, Feb. 24 through March 31, shows 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, \$22. Information, 877-7529.

MUCH ADD ABOUT NOTHING

Shakespeare's comedy about the search for the perfect love, presented by the Theater Program at Sage College, Schacht Fine Arts Center, Russell Sage College, Troy, shows 10 a.m. Feb. 28-29 and March 1-2, adults \$10, students/seniors \$8. Information, 244-2248.

RUMORS

Neil Simon's comedy, presented by Albany Civic Theater, 235 Second Ave.,

Albany, Feb. 24-26, shows 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, adults \$15, students \$10. Information, 462-1297.

Music

MIKE HARRISON

Oldies and originals, Feb. 23, 7 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

CASS & EMMA

Singer-songwriter duo, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366 Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

JOHN JASTER AND SHAPESHIFTER

With Mohonasen High School students Emily & Jessica, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

BEPPE GAMBETTA

One of Europe's foremost guitarists, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., Caffè Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$18, door price \$20. Information, 583-0022.

ALAN GOLDBERG

Acoustic guitarist and singer, Feb. 25, 7 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366 Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

MIKE DOUGHTY

Singer-songwriter performs his music and reads from his new autobiography, "The Book of Drugs," Feb. 25, 8 p.m., WAMC Performing Arts Studio, 339 Central Ave., Albany, \$22. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

GATHERING TIME

Rocking folk trio, with opening act The Stray Birds, Feb. 25, 8 p.m., Caffè Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$14, door price \$16. Information, 583-0022.

ROB JONAS, BETSI K & RICK SACCHETTI

Three singer-songwriters, Feb. 25, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

CAVANAUGH & KAVANAUGH

Capital District-based husband and wife folk duo, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Caffè Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$12, door price \$14. Information, 583-0022.

Comedy

MOP AND BUCKET COMPANY

Weekly show of improvised comedy and music, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., Proctors Underground, 432 State St., Schenectady, adults \$14, students/seniors \$6. Information, 346-6204.

COMEDY WORKS

Tommy Koenig and Melvin George headline, Feb. 24 and 25, 9 p.m., Best Western, 200 Wolf Road, Colonie, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m., Starting Gate Restaurant, 12 Ballston Ave., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$15, day of show \$20. Information, (877) 565-3849 or 275-6897.

Visual Arts

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

"Making Time: Voyage to Vietnam," through Feb. 25; From the Collections," thorough 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 Colletcion 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

"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.

ARTS CENTER OF THE CAPITAL REGION

"Allscapes" and "FLUX," through April 1, 265 River St., Troy. Information, 273-0552.

BROADWAY ART CENTER

"The Human Form: Undressed," through March 31; "Art of the Heart/Heart of the Art," through March 24; Arcade Building, 488 Broadway, Albany. Information, 489-0866.

MORNINGSIDE GALLERY

"Exploring Elegance," recent photographic works by Katherine Wardle, through April 1, 588 Loudon Road, Newton Plaza, Latham, hours 10 a.m to 6 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Information, 783-8763.

OPALKA GALLERY

"Tranquill Power: The Art of Perle Fine," through Feb. 26, Sage Colleges, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany. Information, 292-7742.

SAMUELS

"True Grit," featuring Sue Clark's photographs of the Old West, through May 31, 258 Alplaus Ave., Alplaus, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Information, www.suephotography.com.

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.

UNION COLLEGE

"Art Inspires Art: Union College Visual Art Faculty Exhibition," through Feb. 26, Mandeville Gallery, Nott Memorial, Union College, Schenectady. Information, 386-6004.

CLARK ART INSTITUTE

"Copycat: Reproducing Works of Art," through April 1; 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. Information, (413) 458-9545.

MASS MOCA

"The Workers," through March 15; "Geometric Death Frequency 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.

Call for Artists

SCHENECTADY CIVIC PLAYERS

Holding open auditions for May production of Tom Stoppard's "The Real Thing," March 6 and 8, 7:15 p.m., Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 South Church St., Schenectady, roles for three women ages 17-49 and four men 20-49. Information, 451-9237 or e-mail 2cfoster2@gmail.com.

JAZZ PIANIST

Seeking female singer and/or bass player for project. Information, 377-5260 or 847-6841.

BALLSTON SPA COMMUNITY BAND

Openings in several sections, especially percussion, rehearsals Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Ballston Spa High School. Information, 580-1037.

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 CHORALIERS

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 Clares' 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 Orlanso

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

Group meets four times a year and holds an annual show, promotes and encourages the medium of pastel through exhibitions, education and comradery in the medium. Information, 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 Thursdays 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.

Weekly Crossword

Liquidity

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	9			10	11	12	13
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ACROSS

- 1 Kind of conductor
5 Fortune-teller's card
10 Will, of *The Waltons*
14 Secret organization
15 Sam, the sleuth
16 Car shaft
17 First lady of scat
18 Twisting routes
19 ___ Marie Presley
20 Find trouble
23 Captures
24 Pup's bite
25 Unite
27 Singer/actress Sheena
32 Rim support
36 Levin and Gershwin
39 *Blood and Sand* beast
40 Things past
43 Yorkshire river
44 Neck part
45 Soap substitute
46 Somnolent state
48 Lawn cover
50 ___ Guevara
52 Miscreants
57 Discourage, in a way
63 Author Rice

- 64 Less common
65 ___ *That Tune!*
66 Take ___ from me . . .
67 1983 Indy winner Tom
68 Nicholas or Peter
69 Sun. section
70 Brickell and Adams
71 *You ___ Me*

DOWN

- 1 They connect keels to sternposts
2 Actress Barkin
3 Republic south of Sicily
4 Floating
5 African fly
6 Lhasa ___
7 Skin irritation
8 Concert hall
9 Most irritable
10 Celebration
11 This way out
12 What ___ can I say
13 Word before 11 Down
21 Fresher
22 Org. under FDR
26 Prima donna

- 28 Rosebud support
29 Ruckus
30 By word of mouth
31 Alaskan city or cape
32 The Babe's sultanate
33 Poker holding
34 Other, in Oaxaca
35 Wail
37 Tie fabric
38 Bellicose deity
41 Kind of town
42 Charged
47 Perfect game for kegler Caesar?
49 Tara family
51 African antelope
53 Scouts' housing
54 Scrub
55 Type type
56 Bergen dummy
57 Early late-night star
58 Aware of
59 Military group
60 ___ *Man*: 1984 Emilio Estevez film
61 Cologne trio
62 ___ *Never Been Licked*: WWII film

Milestones



Allison Jean and Andrew Joseph Wendth

Mesmer, Wendth wed

Edward and Donna Mesmer, Buffalo, NY are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Allison Jean Mesmer to Lt. Andrew Joseph Wendth, USN, son of A. Joseph and Julie Wendth, Slingerlands, NY.

The bride attended Holy Angels H.S. and graduated from Canisius College in 2008. She is employed as a Sales Representative for a major Pharmaceutical company in the Virginia Beach area.

The groom attended Bethlehem Central H.S. and graduated from the University of Rochester in 2006. Lt. Wendth received his wings of gold at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas in October 2009. Currently employed by the United States Navy, Norfolk, VA. Lt Wendth is a Naval Aviator, VAW-123 Screwtops attached to the carrier U.S.S. Enterprise.

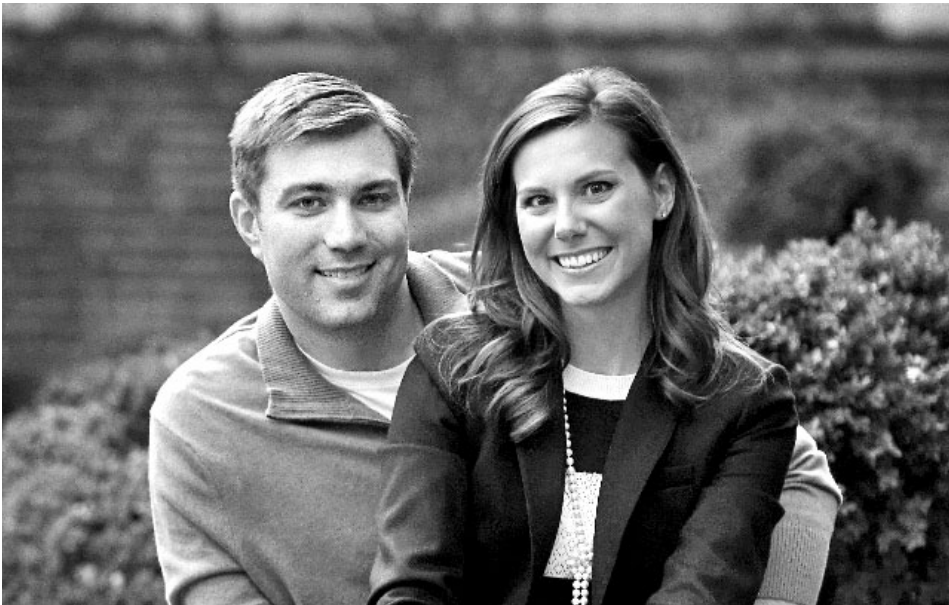
The wedding took place on November 19, 2011 in St. Louis Church, Buffalo, NY. It was officiated by Fr. John Mattimore.

Jessica Edwards, friend of the bride, served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids; Lauren Wendth, sister of the groom, Leah Lombardo, friend of the bride and Amanda Maggiotto, friend of the bride.

Sam Minassian, friend of the groom, served as Best Man. Groomsmen; Brian Wendth, cousin of the groom, Kevin Wendth, cousin of the groom and Steve Mesmer, brother of the bride.

The reception took place at Westwood Country Club, Williamsville, NY. The couple will honeymoon in Hawaii after completion of Lt. Wendth's second deployment.

They will reside in Virginia Beach, VA.



Chase Batchelor Bower and Rachel Christine Audi

Audi, Bower to exchange vows

Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Lisa Audi of Loudonville are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel Christine, of Philadelphia to Chase Batchelor Bower, also of Philadelphia, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne and Judy Huey of Malvern, PA and Mr. and Mrs. Ward and Linda Bower of Newton Square, PA. The future bride is a graduate of Colonie Central High School, has earned a BA and MBA from Villanova University and is currently an Associate Brand Manager for Campbell's Soup Company. The future groom graduated from Dartmouth College with a BA in history and is currently a Manager for Deloitte Consulting.

The wedding is to take place at Saint Patrick's Church in Philadelphia, followed by a reception at the Rittenhouse Hotel on May 12, 2012. The couple is planning a Hawaiian honeymoon.

Timothy Mather Harris, M.D.

Timothy Mather Harris, M.D., 77, of Glenmont, passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 12, 2012 at St. Peters Hospital. B o r n January 9, 1935 in New York City, he was the son of the late Rhoda E. Harris. Tim was raised in Albany, graduated from Albany Academy in 1953, Amherst College in 1957 and Albany Medical College in 1961. He and his beloved wife of 50 years, the former Helen Alexander Suderley, were married in 1961 in Coeymans. From 1965-67, Tim and Helen lived in El Paso, Texas where Tim was a doctor in the U.S. Army. He went on to complete a pulmonary medicine fellowship at the



University of Colorado in 1968, before settling in Colonial Acres, Glenmont. He worked at Albany Medical Center, Albany Medical College and in private practice in the field of pulmonary medicine. A member and governor of the American College of Chest Physicians, Tim was a leader in his field. Tim was also an avid reader, fisherman and accomplished piano player. Tim's greatest love, however, was his family, and he especially enjoyed spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren. He looked forward to holidays, vacations and any special occasion where he would be with his family. He is survived by his wife, the love of his life, Helen Suderley Harris; his children, Heather (Marc) Moss of Denver, Colo., Tim (Andrea) Harris of Waitsfield, Vt., and

John (Maureen) Harris of Slingerlands; six grandchildren, Parker and Dylan Moss, Tim and Ali Harris and Kathleen and Libby Harris; nieces, Kim Cross, Margo Johnston and Elizabeth Losee, and a cousin, Linda Harris. A special thanks to the many doctors, nurses and health care professionals who helped Tim battle through many years of health problems. The funeral will be private and in lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, 315 S. Manning Blvd., Albany, NY 12208 or the Albany Academies, 135 Academy Road, Albany, NY 12208. To leave the family a special message on their guest book, obtain a memory card, or share a photo or E-card with them, visit McveighFuneralHome.com.

Elisabeth C. George

Elisabeth C. George (nee Clayton), 84, May 28, 1927 - February 11, 2012

Wife of Phillip, mother of Clayton, Carol and the late Donna. Grandmother of Ray, PJ, Wendy and Elisabeth. Elisabeth was a alumni of Emma Willard and a graduate of Troy High School and was a member of the American Legion Post #1040 Ladies Auxiliary. She also enjoyed playing the piano. Services will be private. Interment Saratoga National Cemetery. Contributions in memory of Elisabeth may be made to the IPH Children's Programs at the First United Methodist Church 428 Kenwood Ave, Delmar, NY 12054.

Arrangements by Meyers Funeral Home, Delmar.

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Head

(From Page 1)

discussion on record people will need to go to the videos,” she said, adding those without Internet access can go to the library to see the videos.

Town Board meetings have been recorded with the new system since mid-January and are now available for viewing online. The video is indexed by agenda item so viewers can jump right to the topic of interest.

According to Dammeyer, the town has been working on the system for about five months. The new system includes three remote cameras and a live feed interface that allows all digital presentations given to each board to be

“Public discussion is an important part of local government.” Supervisor John Clarkson

uploaded directly online.

The entire system cost about \$16,000 and was purchased by Verizon through a franchise agreement as part of the Public, Educational, and Government Access Program (PEG) described in state law. The franchise agreement was reached as part of Verizon’s rollout of FiOS service in Bethlehem.

“It allows localities to obtain assistance with these types of services from the companies who provide it,” Clarkson said.

Although the equipment was free, the town must pay \$3,840 a year, or around \$160 per

meeting, for the software that allows the streaming and storage of videos, a figure that includes software updates and technical support.

Dammeyer said the new system also helps the library, which no longer has to send someone to tape the meetings using two different cameras and then edit the video together. The old process took days to get the videos available for the public’s viewing on a public access channel. Now the videos will be immediately archived after each meeting.

“It’s an amazing system in my opinion,” said

Moquin. “The credit really goes to (Dammeyer) who did the contracts for us and the research. We’re lucky to have him.”

Moquin said the new system is pretty self explanatory and so far there have been no issues.

Officials said the new system will ultimately help the town save money and provide information more quickly to the public, Clarkson stressed he and other Town Board members still would like to see residents at the meetings.

“Public discussion is an important part of local government,” he said.

Dammeyer will give a presentation on the new system at the Wednesday, Feb. 22 Town Board meeting. At all future meetings, the system will be run by the Town Clerk’s office.

It’s an honor



Casey Lynn Kalica of Colonie sings “God Bless America” at the USO tribute to Honor Flight on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Zaloga Post 1520, 4 Everett Road, Colonie. The night honored veterans and active military, as well as the Honor Flight volunteers. The Honor Flight Network with aims to helping veterans visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Robert Goo/Spotlight

Police

(From Page 1)

police officers holding the rank of sergeant and lieutenant, while the PBA represents the department’s patrolmen.

“Fundraising proceeds were to be split based on the ratio of members in the plaintiff’s association (the Supervisor’s Association) to the number of members in the defendant’s association (PBA),” read court documents obtained by *The Spotlight*.

At the time, there were seven members in the Supervisor’s Association and 31 members in the PBA. According to the agreement in the documents, the money was supposed to be split in 38 equal parts, with seven parts to the supervisors and 31 parts

to the patrolmen.

The Supervisor’s Association now claims it received the share for the year of 2008, but did not receive money for each year thereafter. The lawsuit seeking an unnamed amount of money was filed in January in 2012.

According to the PBA’s answer to the complaint, filed by their attorney Thomas Jordan, the two groups were supposed to be splitting just the current fund balance in 2008, not the balance of each year going forward.

“An accord was reached when the two parties agreed to a split of the existing fund balance only,” reads the response. “The agreement was satisfied when the defendant’s paid plaintiffs the agreed upon share.”

Jordan said he could not

comment on the lawsuit because it is currently in litigation.

The Supervisor’s Association is being represented by attorneys for Council 82, the New York State Law Enforcement Officers Union, which is affiliated with AFSCME and AFL-CIO. Supervisor’s Association President Sgt. Steve Kraz said the lawsuit is in its infancy stages, but there were talks between the two unions before the paperwork was filed and they were not successful.

“We would like to come to a resolution, however, the BPA has yet to approach us with anything,” he said.

The lawsuit argues the BPA breached its contract by not paying the supervisors their share of the proceeds

and continues to refuse to perform its obligations under the contract.

The supervisors are seeking a judgment directing the BPA to perform their terms of the contract for all future fundraising, a monetary judgment against the BPA to be determined at trial and to reimburse the costs of going to trial. They are also seeking “further relief as to the court seems necessary, just and proper.

Bethlehem PBA President Scott Anson said the matter is a legal one and thing have remained civil within the department.

“There’s no animosity. We’re all professionals,” he said. “It will all get ironed out in the court systems eventually.”

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Your Community in The Spotlight

Cemetery group sets meeting

On March 8, the Onesquethaw Union Cemetery Association will hold it's annual meeting at 7 p.m. at the Onesquethaw Reformed Church on 11 Groesbeck Rd., Feura Bush. All lot owners are encouraged to attend.

Button Club to meet March 14

The Half Moon Button Club will meet on March 14 at 11 a.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library, at 451 Delaware Avenue, Delmar. There will be a program on umbrella buttons. Bring a brown bag lunch. For more information, call Kathy at 393-3156.

Pine Bush First Friday hike

On Friday, March 2, the first Friday hike at the Albany Pine Bush will be held from noon to 1 p.m. The calendar says spring is on its way. What clues does nature give us that reveal the arrival of spring? Come and discover signs of the approaching spring season along the trails of the Pine Bush Preserve.

Hikers should meet at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Road, Albany, for this free hike. Registration is required, so sign up by calling 456-0655 or visit www.albanypinebush.org and click on "Events Calendar."

League hosts government talk

The League of Women Voters of Albany County program is presenting a program on Challenges and Issues Facing Local Governments in Albany County.

John Clarkson, supervisor of the Town of Bethlehem, John T. McDonald III, mayor of the City of Cohoes and Ellen McNulty, mayor of the Village of Green Island, all who hold elected offices in three different types of local municipalities, will speak.

The program will be held on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Discovery Center at the Albany Pine Bush, 195 New Karner Road (Rt 155).

This program is free

Students celebrate world cultures



The Albany Academies welcomed the community to the Fourth Annual International Taste of the World Festival on Saturday, Feb. 11. Held at Albany Academy for Girls, the event drew hundreds of families to celebrate the many cultures that comprise the Academies' community. The afternoon featured delicious food prepared by Academies' families, international dance and music demonstrations, and other cultural activities. More than 20 countries -- including Italy, France, Senegal, India, Russia and the Republic of Korea -- were represented at the festival. Currently, 19 international students -- hosted by families throughout the Capital Region -- attend the Upper School at The Albany Academies. Pictured from left are students Mengyuan Shi, Chu Liu, Qi Wu and Shuchen Wu.

Submitted photo

and open to the public. Reservations should be made at mdanes@nycap.rr.com.

Winter program at Five Rivers

Teaching About Winter, a day-long conference for teachers and youth leaders focusing on the many teaching opportunities only winter can provide, will be conducted on Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar.

An indoor/outdoor plenary session from 10:00 a.m. to noon will focus on savvy tips and methods for teaching outdoors in winter, as well as helpful curriculum enhancement resources that will help make winter studies fun and engaging.

After a brown-bag lunch from noon to 12:30 p.m., concurrent outdoor elective sessions on Winter Ecology of the Forest and Winter Ecology of the Fields will take place from 12:30

to 1:45 p.m., followed by concurrent outdoor elective sessions on Snow as a Teaching Tool and Maple Syrup as a Teaching Tool beginning at 2 p.m. The presentations are free, but space is limited. Participants may register for single sessions, or for the entire day. Please call 475-0291 for more information and/or to register. Participants are urged to dress for outdoor winter activity. In the event of severe winter weather, this program may be cancelled.

Annual fish fry a tasty catch

The Cornell Hook & Ladder Auxiliary will be having their Annual Take Out Fish Fry on Feb. 24 and March 2, 9, and 16 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the New Baltimore Firehouse located on Gill Road. The meal will cost \$8. Each meal includes a choice of fish fry or chicken tenders, French fries, cole slaw and a dessert.

Old Songs Dance on March 3

An Old Songs Contra Dance will be held

Saturday, March 3, at 37 S. Main St., Voorheesville.

There will be a potluck at 6:30 p.m., dance instruction at 7 p.m. and the dance will start at 8 p.m.

The caller will be Sandy LaFleur. Live music will be provided by Fennig's All-Stars.

No partner needed. Clean, soft-soled shoes required.

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

Fish fry benefits Schoharie FD

The New Salem Fire Department will hold a fish fry to benefit the Schoharie Fire Department on Friday, Feb. 24, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at 694 New Salem Road, across from the Punkintown fairgrounds, in Voorheesville.

All profits from the fish fry will go to the Schoharie Fire Department. The meal will include haddock fish, clam rolls, clam chowder, baked potato, French fried, desserts and a children's menu.

For more information, visit www.newsalemfire.com.

Holocaust Essay Contents begins

This year's B'nai B'rith Capital Area Holocaust Essay Contest has begun. Around this time each year for over a decade this contest has involved middle school and high school students in personal research on the Holocaust. To promote Holocaust education, student research, and awareness, B'nai B'rith each year invites Capital Area principals and teachers to encourage their students to participate. Students also are motivated by six cash prizes totaling nearly a thousand dollars to be awarded for winning essays. The Contest is completely non-commercial and participation is free.

The significant cost of the contest is paid with money that Schenectady B'nai B'rith Unit 879 raises from private sources. Major contest sponsors include the United Jewish Federation (UJF) of Northeastern New York, the Sternlicht Memorial Holocaust Endowment Fund, the Congregation Gates of Heaven Brotherhood,

the Albany B'nai B'rith Gideon Lodge, Schenectady B'nai B'rith Unit 879, and individual donors.

This year's essay topic is "What Is The Meaning and Impact of Holocaust Denial?" Essays received by Monday, April 16, will be coded and then submitted to a panel of judges who see only the coded essays, not the identity of the student authors or their schools. Winners will receive their prizes at a public Award Ceremony to be held at the United Jewish Federation Community Room on the evening of Wednesday, June 6.

The Award Ceremony each year is broadcast at multiple times during the day and at night on public television. Winning essays also are published in a booklet.

If, continued support from sponsors will be forthcoming, this contest booklet also will be used to motivate schools and students to participate in the 2013 B'nai B'rith Capital Area Holocaust Essay Contest.

For further info, visit www.holocaustessaycontest.ramtrac.com or contact Holocaust Essay Contest Chairperson Dr. Robert Michaels (hec@ramtrac.com, or 785-0976).

Glass painting class at Thacher

On Sunday, March 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. there will be a decorative glass painting class will be offered at the Thacher Nature Center. Come and explore the beauty of painting with acrylics on glass.

Instructor Ida Pagano will teach several methods of painting on glass. Students will go home with a hand painted piece of decorative artwork. The fee is \$15 includes all materials. Participants may wish to bring own supplies and glass object/window/mirror if they like. Students should also bring pictures, photos or designs to work from. No experience necessary. Appropriate for age 14 and up. Call 872-1237 to register. Visit the park website at www.nysparks.com for additional information on park events.

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Street

(From Page 1)

of a certain age who could be grannies and care about creating a more peaceful world for our young people.” The group is about 80 members strong.

Each Valentine’s Day the group stages a small demonstration at one of their places of interest in hopes of drawing attention to their cause. Past demonstrations have been held at the military recruiting office in Colonie Center, and this year’s demonstration was outside of the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center.

According to Cooley, soldiers have had a deep connection with Valentine’s Day for generations.

She when women weren’t allowed in the military, women began to use the holiday as a way to spread peace and love to their husbands and sons when they were away from home. The day is still especially meaningful for those in the military away from their loved ones, so the group thought the day was an appropriate one on which to spread their message.

“We feel these veterans may not have given their life, but in many cases have given their quality of their life in battle and the rest of their lives will be a battle to try to survive and lead a normal life,” Cooley said. “For that reason we don’t think their healthcare should be compromised.”

The group is lobbying to get veterans the same type of

health care that members of Congress are entitled to. They are also seeking increased home healthcare for severely wounded veterans, increased mental health support for returning soldiers and increased support for women soldiers who may have been sexually assaulted during their time in the military.

“We’ve also heard it’s hard for soldiers to get a second opinion on their condition without paying out of pocket and we would like that to change,” said Cooley.

Cooley added officials from the hospital have been supportive of the group’s efforts and asked them to continue lobbying, as the VA system has been affected by budget cuts.

“There was a young veteran there waiting for the bus when we were setting up,” said Cooley. “He said that he would like to emphasize the fact that unless a war vet is labeled ‘disabled’ their medical care beyond the normal health care only lasts two years.”

Housing and employment for soldiers upon their return is also an issue Grannies for Peace focuses on.

The group holds other events throughout the year to bring attention to their cause.

They can often be found at the Albany Tulip Festival walking silently through the crowd carrying a coffin with names of all of the counties who have lost civilians to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan written on it. They also hold events at the Capitol building and are hoping to hold creative writing events



Grannies for Peace say Valentine’s Day has a special meaning for soldiers, which makes it a good day to protest.

Submitted photos

at local libraries.

“Our message is important because we need to start using diplomacy instead of going to war,” said Maude Easter, another founding member from Delmar. “We just ended a horrible decade of war, but not all of our soldiers are home and safe yet. And many are coming home with disabling injuries that need to be taken care of.”

The group wants to remind the public of the consequences of war, especially with current tensions escalating with Iran. “If we provoke them into warfare the problem only increases,” said Easter.

“We just feel we owe (returning soldiers) a huge debt because often times their lives are permanently changed,” said Cooley.



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E	L	L	A		E	S	S	E	S		L	I	S	A
G	E	T	I	N	T	O	H	O	T	W	A	T	E	R
S	N	A	R	E	S									
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A	I	R	E		N	A	P	E		A	M	O	L	E
T	R	A	N	C	E				S	O	D			
				C	H	E				H	A	T	E	R
P	O	U	R	C	O	L	D	W	A	T	E	R	O	N
A	N	N	E		R	A	R	E	R		N	A	M	E
A	T	I	P		S	N	E	V	A		T	S	A	R
R	O	T	O		E	D	I	E	S		S	E	N	D


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7	9	1	5	3	2	6	8	4
5	6	3	4	7	8	9	2	1
4	8	2	6	9	1	5	3	7
2	1	8	7	5	3	4	6	9
6	3	5	2	4	9	7	1	8
9	7	4	8	1	6	2	5	3
8	4	7	3	6	5	1	9	2
1	2	6	9	8	7	3	4	5
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Notice of Qualification of Pacifica Loan Pool LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/29/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 5/26/10. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 1785 Hancock St., Ste. 100, San Diego. CA 92110, also the principal office address. Address to be maintained in DE: 2140 S. Dupont Hwy, Camden, DE 19934. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secretary of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78658 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Anderson Group International, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/16/11. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Florida (FL) on 11/22/11. 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., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. FL address of LLC: 110 E Broward Blvd., Ste. 1700, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301. Arts. of Org. filed with FL Secy. of State, 2661 Executive Center Circle, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Purpose: any lawful activity. 78660 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 72 MADISON LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/5/12. 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. 78661 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of IRS BLANKNET LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 12/20/11. 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. 78662 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Trinity NYC Hotel, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/4/12. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/28/11. 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., 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. 78870 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Premier Retail Networks LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/4/12. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on

LEGAL NOTICE

4/8/97. 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: 600 Harrison St., 4th Fl., San Francisco, CA 94107. Address to be maintained in DE: 1679 S. Dupont Hwy., Ste. 100, 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. 78871 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Empire Credit Services, LLC. Original fictitious name: Empire ES, LLC. Current Fictitious name: Empire CS, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/7/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in California (CA) on 11/30/09. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal office address: 12526 High Bluff Dr., Ste. 300, San Diego, CA 92130. Arts of Org. filed with the CA Secretary of State, 1500 11th St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78872 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Marquette Business Credit SPE I, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/6/12. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Minnesota (MN) on 10/20/11. 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., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Address to be maintained in MN: 60 South Sixth St., #3800, Minneapolis, MN 55402. Arts of Org. filed with the MN Secretary of State, 60 Empire Dr., St. Paul, MN 55103. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78873 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Hiltz Propane Systems, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/22/11. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Pennsylvania (PA) on 9/14/11. 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, also the registered agent. Address to be maintained in PA: 73 Glen Moore Circle, Lancaster, PA 17601, also the principal office address. Arts of Org. filed with the PA Secretary of the Commonwealth, 401 North St., Rm. 206, Harrisburg, PA 17120. Purpose: any lawful activities. 78874 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of NATIONS POWER – NEW YORK, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/6/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. 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. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 78876 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation 39th Street Depot, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/27/2011 with effective date of 1/1/2012. 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. 78877 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Salem 2012 Development LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/12/2012. 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. 78895 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of AIM Your Way, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/9/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 12/9/11. 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: 2801 Network Blvd., Ste. 600, Frisco, TX 75034. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, 1019 Brazos, Austin, TX 78701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 78897 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Percheron Acquisitions, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/11/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 3/30/07. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Capitol Services, Inc., 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. TX address of LLC: 7920 FM 1489, PO Box 840, Simonton, TX 77476. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, Box, 12887, Austin, TX 78711. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 78898 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SIO Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/9/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Lemery Greisler LLC, 60 Railroad Place, Ste. 502, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Purpose: any lawful activity. 78899 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Indoor Direct, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/6/12. Fictitious name in NY State: Indoor Direct I, LLC. Off. loc.: 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: 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. DE address of LLC: Capitol Services, Inc., 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. 78900 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation PJ Real Estate Holdings LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/11/2012. 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. 78904 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Fountain Development LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/11/2012. 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. 78905 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation M & G Travel LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/18/2012. 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. 79001 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of UNITED WEB SOLUTION LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/6/12. 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. 79002 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of EASTWOOD TRADING LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/10/12. 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. 79003 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of UNITED KITCHEN & VENTILATION LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/17/12. 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. 79004 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ALBERTON REALTY, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/13/12. 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. 79005 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of MICDEE LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/18/12. 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. 79006 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of BAR-RERA HOLDINGS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/11/12. 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. 79007 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of WESTSIDE DONUT BROADWAY VENTURES LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/10/12. 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. 79008 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of USA TAX PREP PLUS, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/9/12. 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. 79009 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of an LLC: Coeymans Recycling Center, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on January 6, 2012. Office location is in Albany County. The 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, at 494 Western Turnpike, Altamont, NY 12009. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. 79010 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Theodoraki LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/19/2012. 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. 79012 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: Dean Investments Limited Liability Company. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/12/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process

LEGAL NOTICE

against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 60 Chimney Ridge Dr., Morristown, NJ 07960. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 79015 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED PARTNER-SHIP (L.P.) The name of the LP is Guilderland Partners of Albany, L.P. The Certificate of Limited Partnership was filed with the NY Secretary of State on 1/12/2012. The purpose of the LP is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LP is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LP upon whom process against the LP may be served and a copy shall be mailed to 596 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110. 79016 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of BSC Administration LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/28/11. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/10/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1400 Post Oak Blvd., Ste. 400, Houston, TX 77056. DE address of LLC: 1675 South State St., Ste. B, Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, PO Box 898, Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79017 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Eni USA Gas Marketing LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/20/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/25/05. 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. 79018 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Phoenix Healthcare LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/18/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Florida (FL) on 6/15/09. 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. FL address of LLC: 610 Sycamore St., Ste. 240, Celebration, FL 34747. Arts. of Org. filed with FL Secy. of State, PO Box 6327, Tallahassee, FL 32314. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79019 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HEALTHY GENERATION GROUP LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/19/12. 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. 79020 (D) (February 22, 2012)

The Spotlight

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HOUNDSTOOTH BY SPOT LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/19/12. 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. 79021 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CATALYST GLOBAL LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/20/12. 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. 79022 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of MIM-IMIMOSA LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/20/12. 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. 79023 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of GLENNART CONSULTING GROUP LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/20/12. 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. 79024 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of DVP ENTERPRISES, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/20/12. 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. 79025 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Susan Campeas MD PLLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/23/2012. 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 Cntral Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79030 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Seligman and Patrick, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/23/2012. 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. 79201 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Prime Property Protection LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/22/11. Office location: Schenectady County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Delaney Corporate Services, Ltd., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: any lawful activities. 79202 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION OF A NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY PURSUANT TO NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW SECTION 206 (c) The name of the limited liability company is Learnimation, LLC. The date of filing of the articles of organization with the Department of State was March 14, 2002. The county in New York in which the office of the company is located is Albany County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the company upon whom process may be served, and the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the company served upon him or her to Sarah Manning 49 Oldox Road Delmar, New York, 12054. The latest date upon which the company is required to be dissolved is March 8, 2201. The business purpose of the company is to engage in any and all business activities permitted under the laws of the State of New York. 79213 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Five Star Property Pros LLC Articles of Organization of this Limited Liability Company (LLC) were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on January 20, 2012. The LLC maintains its office in Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served to the LLC at: c/o Young Sommer, LLC, 5 Palisades Drive, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: for any lawful activity for which limited liability companies may be formed under the law. 79214 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Raymary LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/27/2012. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 1225 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79215 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Aleksandr Tolmach LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/12/12. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 81 Baltic Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314. General Purposes. 79219 (D)

LEGAL NOTICE

(February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Anapol Enterprises, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/25/12. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 200 East 33rd St., Ste. 7-B, New York, NY 10016-4827. For any legal purpose. 79220 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of LA VILLETTE LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/26/12. 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. 79222 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of EAGLEBAY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/26/12. 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. 79224 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Amanda Rose Wellness LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/30/2012. 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. 79226 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Masala Mama LLC. Articles of Org. were filed with NY Secretary of State (NYSS) on 12/2/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. NYSS shall mail service of process (SOP) to NW Registered Agent LLC @ 90 State St STE 700 Office 40, Albany NY 12207. NW Registered Agent LLC is designated as agent for SOP at 90 State St STE 700 Office 40, Albany NY 12207. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. 79229 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Certificate of Conversion of Steinway Realty Venture, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on January 26, 2012, effective on the date of filing. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any pro-

LEGAL NOTICE

cess to the LLC at P.O. Box 1341, Guilderland, New York 12084. The principal business location is 225 Bentwood Court West, Albany, New York 12203. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the NYS Limited Liability Company Law. 79230 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: J & T Property Management, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 1, 2012. 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: 1223 River Road, Selkirk, New York 12158. Purpose: For any lawful purpose 79273 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (PLLC) The name of the PLLC is Hollyhock Psychological Services, PLLC. The Articles of Organization of the PLLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on January 20, 2012. The purpose of the PLLC is to own, operate and manage a psychological consulting services company, and also to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the PLLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the PLLC upon whom process against the PLLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC is 11 Peel Street, Selkirk, NY 12158. 79276 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SPV 1, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/31/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: One Juniper Drive, Delmar, NY 12054. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79280 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Domtar Industries LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/26/2012. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/17/1965. 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., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001, the registered agent upon whom process may be served. DE address of LLC: 160 Greentree Drive, Ste. 101, Dover, DE 19904. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79281 (D)

LEGAL NOTICE

(February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 1736 Western Ave., LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 3, 2012. 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: 129 Kennewyck Circle, Slingerlands, New York 12159. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 79282 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of YZES REALTY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/4/09. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Schwartz, 207 Wallabout St., Brooklyn, NY 11206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79283 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of L J J LENDING, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/6/12. 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. 79284 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

THE DONOVAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization of The Donovan Technology Group, LLC (the "LLC") were filed with the Department of State of New York ("SSNY") on October 18, 2011. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC c/o 73 Darroch Road, Delmar, NY 12054. The LLC does not have a specific date of dissolution. Purpose: All legal purposes. Filer: Ryan T. Donovan Address: 5 Clinton Square Albany, New York 12207 79286 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Maveric Trans LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 1/9/2012. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Eric Vinogradov, 2501 South Ocean Drive, Apt. 711, Hollywood, FL 33019. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79298 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED

LEGAL NOTICE

LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) The name of the LLC is Home Fix Up General Contracting LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on 2/1/2012. The purpose of the LLC is to own, operate and manage a contracting business, 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 935 Bridge Street, Selkirk, NY 12158. 79299 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Cinque Crossing LLC Application for Authority filed with SSNY on 2/3/12. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. Arts. of Org. filed with SSDE on 11/7/2011. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o the LLC, 10105 Los Padres Place, Las Vegas, NV 89134. Address required to be maintained in DE: 3500 South Dupont Highway, Dover, DE 19901. Name and address of the authorized officer in DE where copy of Arts. of Org. is filed: Delaware Secretary of State, Division of Corporations, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79301 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) The name of the LLC is KIMBERLY II OF LATHAM, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on 1/27/2012. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 596 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110. 79302 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 120-124 EAST FORDHAM LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/10/12. 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. 79304 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Driftwood Special Servicing, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/13/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on

LEGAL NOTICE

12/5/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Corporate Research, Ltd., 10 E. 40th St., 10th Fl., NY, NY 10016, registered agent upon whom process may be served. DE address of LLC: 615 S. DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79305 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY INDEX NO. 690/11 AMERICAN TAX FUNDING, LLC, WELLS FARGO Foothill Inc. AS SECURED PARTY, Plaintiff, Plaintiff designates SCHENECTADY County as the place of trial. -against- MURIEL J. SCHROEDER, if living and if she be dead, any and all persons who may claim as devisees, distributees, legal representatives, successors in interest of the said defendants, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to the plaintiff and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained, CRISTEL I. McGUIRE, WILLIAM E. SCHROEDER, FRANK M. PUTORTI, JR. PC, CAPITAL ONE BANK, LVNV FUNDING LLC, PALISADES COLLECTION LLC, CALVARY PORTFOLIO SERVICES LLC, HEIDI QUINN AS POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF MURIEL SCHROEDER, IF DECEASED, LISA SKIFFINGTON AS POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTE

tax lien holder will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (TAX LIEN HOLDER) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. Dated: December 14, 2011 Garden City, New York STAGG, TERENCE, CONFUSIONE & WABNIK, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff By: Lisa M. Confusione 401 Franklin Avenue Garden City, NY 11530 (516) 812-4500 Schedule A All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the City and County of Schenectady, State of New York, known and designated as Section 48.83, Block 2, Lot 32 on the Schenectady County Tax Assessment Map. Premises known as 2361 Avenue, Schenectady, New York. 79308 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem hereby invites sealed bids for furnishing Sewer Vacuum Truck services for the use of the Department of Public Works for the year 2012. Bids will be received up to 2:30 p.m. on the 13th day of March, 2012 at which time such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York. Bids shall be addressed to Mr. John Clarkson, Supervisor, Town of Bethlehem, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York 12054. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes which shall bear, on the face thereof, the name and address of the bidder and the subject of the bid. ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY of each shall be submitted. Bid documents may be obtained at the Bethlehem Town Clerk's Office, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054. Bid documents may also be available for download from the Capital Region Purchasing Group through the Town of Bethlehem Website at www.townofbethlehem.org Purchasing Division. The Town Board reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any or all bids.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM NANCY MOQUIN TOWN CLERK Dated: February 22, 2012 79309 (D) (February 22, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village of Voorheesville will hold a public hearing to review the following request from: Applicant/ Owner Bill St. Denis: for an 8'6" side yard setback area variance to replace a fire damaged attached garage at 231 Newport Court. The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Voorheesville Fire House, 12 Altamont Road, Voorheesville, NY. BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Dated: February 15, 2012 79310 (D) (February 22, 2012)



Lednev

(From Page 32)

individual medley with an All-American consideration time of 1:53.60, he took first place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a state meet qualifying time of 59.40 seconds and he swam the second leg on the Eagles' winning 200-yard medley relay team.

Lednev finished the day with two individual titles, three state meet berths, the Most Outstanding Performer award and the Scholar-Athlete award.

"I was aiming high," said Lednev. "That was my best time (in the 200-yard individual medley) by 2.5 seconds."

Shen didn't get a single point in the day's first final, the 200-yard medley relay, because its team was disqualified during Friday's preliminary round. But Gordon helped the Plainsmen rebound quickly when he won the 200-yard freestyle by nearly six seconds over Shaker's Timothy Buff with a New York state meet qualifying time of 1:42.34.

Gordon was equally impressive in the 100-yard freestyle, as pulled away for a 2.43-second victory over Bethlehem's Gunnar Zemering. The sophomore finished with a state meet qualifying time of 46.50 seconds, while Zemering

earned a Section II team berth with a time of 48.93 seconds.

"At the beginning of the year, Chuck (Dunham) put me in the sprints, and that really helped me build my speed," said Gordon.

"Ryan Gordon is an unbelievably fast swimmer," said Dunham. "Without a doubt, the sky is the limit as to how far he can go."

Not many Section II swimmers qualified for the state meet at Sectionals in Division I. Besides Gordon, Lednev and Zemering, only seven swimmers earned individual berths, and no relay teams other than Bethlehem's 200-yard medley group of Lednev, Zemering, Brian Negri and Kevin Flynn swam a time under the qualifying standard.

Shaker's Thomas Kearney was one of the swimmers who did qualify for states, though not in the event that he won. Kearney finished first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 54.34 seconds, but it was his second-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke that earned him a state meet berth.

Still, Kearney was happy to be the first Shaker swimmer to win an individual title since Frankie Dyer did so three years ago.

"I've honestly never been first (in a meet like



The Bethlehem 200-yard medley relay team admire their first-place patches after winning the Section II Division I title at last Saturday's meet. The team of Brian Negri, Alex Lednev, Kevin Flynn and Gunnar Zemering finished with a state meet qualifying time of 1:39.93.

Rob Jonas/Spotlight

this)," said Kearney. "Just seeing the team going crazy was really cool."

Albany Academy won the Division II boys team title with a score of 365.5 points, thanks in part to a historic performance by diver Manny Pollard. The senior set a state record with a score of 635.75 points during Thursday's diving portion at Ballston Spa High School.

Division I

Team standings: Shenendehowa 446, Niskayuna 411.5, Shaker 350, Bethlehem 238.5, Ballston Spa 170,

Mohonasen/Schalmont 138, Schenectady 132, Saratoga Springs 104, Albany 90, Guilderville 83

Top three finishers

200-yard medley relay: 1. Bethlehem (Brian Negri, Alex Lednev, Kevin Flynn, Gunnar Zemering) 1:39.93*; 2. Shaker 1:42.19; 3. Niskayuna 1:42.97

200-yard freestyle: 1. Ryan Gordon (Shen) 1:42.34*; 2. Timothy Buff (Shaker) 1:48.03; 3. Emerson Wells (Nisky) 1:48.16

200-yard individual medley: 1. Alex Lednev (BC) 1:53.60**; 2. Taylor Nichols

(Shen) 1:55.82*; 3. Dave Gardiner (BSpa) 1:59.74*

50-yard freestyle: 1. Sam Boese (Sch'dy) 22.31; 2. Gunnar Zemering (BC) 22.34; 3. Eric Tsui (Shen) 22.39

Diving: 1. Josh Koppel (Shaker) 541.90*; 2. Josh Dodway (Nisky) 515.15*; 3. Adam Bonk (Shen) 470.85

100-yard butterfly: 1. Thomas Kearney (Shaker) 54.34; 2. Gerhard Bosman (Nisky) 55.02; 3. Sam Boese (Sch'dy) 55.92

100-yard freestyle: 1. Ryan Gordon (Shen) 46.50*; 2. Gunnar Zemering (BC)

48.93*; 3. Ryan Burke (Nisky) 49.47

500-yard freestyle: 1. Emerson Wells (Nisky) 4:51.57*; 2. Brian Nolte (Shaker) 4:54.18*; 3. Orion Whitney (Nisky) 4:57.56

200-yard freestyle relay: 1. Shenendehowa (Luoxiao Li, Eric Tsui, Taylor Nichols, Mike Conley) 1:30.45; 2. Niskayuna 1:30.78; 3. Ballston Spa 1:32.18

100-yard backstroke: 1. Taylor Nichols (Shen) 52.44*; 2. Dave Gardiner (BSpa) 53.54*; 3. Timothy Buff (Shaker) 55.44*

100-yard breaststroke: 1. Alex Lednev (BC) 59.40*; 2. Thomas Kearney (Shaker) 1:01.17*; 3. Evan Melby (Nisky) 1:01.52*

400-yard freestyle: 1. Niskayuna (Dylan Karlok, Ryan Burke, Emerson Wells, Evan Melby) 3:19.76; 2. Shenendehowa 3:20.40; 3. Shaker 3:20.68

*State meet qualifying time
** All-American consideration time

Bethlehem wins team award

The Bethlehem wrestling team won the Section II sportsmanship award this season.

The annual award is voted on by the Section II wrestling referees.

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Players from Bethlehem (black jerseys) and Adirondack battle for the puck during a preliminary round game at the sectional tournament last Saturday at the Bethlehem Area YMCA. Bethlehem defeated Adirondack 9-0 to advance to the semifinal round, where it defeated Canton 3-2 to earn a berth in the state tournament. *Justin Cummings/Spotlight*

Bethlehem makes history at tourney

Host team wins first sectional championship at any level for youth hockey program

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

The Bethlehem Youth Hockey squirt division A team gave the hometown fans a thrill at last weekend's sectional tournament at the Bethlehem Area YMCA.

The Junior Eagles defeated Saratoga Springs 7-4 in Sunday's final to become the first BYH team at any level to win a sectional title. They

also became the first squirt division team in the organization's 12-year history to earn a berth to the state tournament.

"That was two very exciting things (to happen) for our organization," said tournament director Dennis Golis.

Bethlehem clinched a berth in the state tournament by beating Canton 3-2 in the semifinal round. The two finalists in the tournament earned berths to next weekend's state tournament in Buffalo.

The sectional tournament kept things hopping at the Bethlehem

Area YMCA all weekend. Twelve games were played between Friday and Saturday, with the semifinal and championship games taking place Sunday.

Sunday's games coincided with "Hockey Day in America," a nationwide celebration of the sport that encompassed everything from the youth level to the NHL.

"It was a fun and exciting weekend of hockey, and it was a great way of celebrating hockey across America," said Golis. "The attendance was great, and the fans were great (all weekend)."

Women

(From Page 32)

The one question mark that Union had was in goal, but the combo of sophomore Troy Grosenick and freshman Colin Stevens have been solid. Grosenick is among the top goalies in the nation with a 1.52 goals against average and a .942 save percentage, while Stevens – a Niskayuna native – has a 2.25 GAA and a .913 save percentage in 11 games.

The big thing that the Dutchmen must do between now and the start of the NCAA Tournament in March is prove that they can win in the playoffs. They were eliminated in last year's ECAC quarterfinal round and then fell in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament. If this program is going to raise its national profile beyond where it is right now, it needs a long playoff run.

Unfortunately across the Hudson River, things have fallen apart for the RPI hockey team. After making

the NCAA Tournament last year, the Engineers are fighting to stay out of the ECAC basement.

RPI's biggest problem has been at the offensive end. The Engineers have scored a grand total of 56 goals in 32 games – less than two goals per game. If not for the goaltending of junior Bryce Merriam (2.46 GAA, .909 save percentage), RPI might not even have the eight wins it currently has.

Until the Engineers resolve their offensive woes, they will be looking up at the rest of the ECAC.

Finally, I would have said that the first collegiate lacrosse and baseball games of the season signaled the rapid conclusion of the winter season. Trouble is, winter never really arrived in our region. Seriously, it's hard to take the season seriously when it's nearly 50 degrees on President's Day and there is no snow on the ground. Still, it beats having to deal with a snowstorm every five days like we did last winter.

Eagles fall to Brothers

Christian Brothers Academy scored two goals in each of the final two periods to defeat Bethlehem 4-2 in last Tuesday's Section II Division I hockey quarterfinal game.

John Bassett tallied twice for CBA (10-11-1), while RJ Diego scored both of Bethlehem's goals.

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Spotlight on Sports

Sports Editor Rob Jonas
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BC squirt team wins tourney

The Bethlehem Youth Hockey squirt division team defeated Saratoga 7-4 to claim the sectional title at last weekend's tournament at the Bethlehem Area YMCA.

See Page 31.



Follow us on Twitter

Hear about local sports as they happen with Rob Jonas — @jonas_spotlight.



Weekly poll

Who is the top winter sports athlete in Bethlehem/Guilderland?

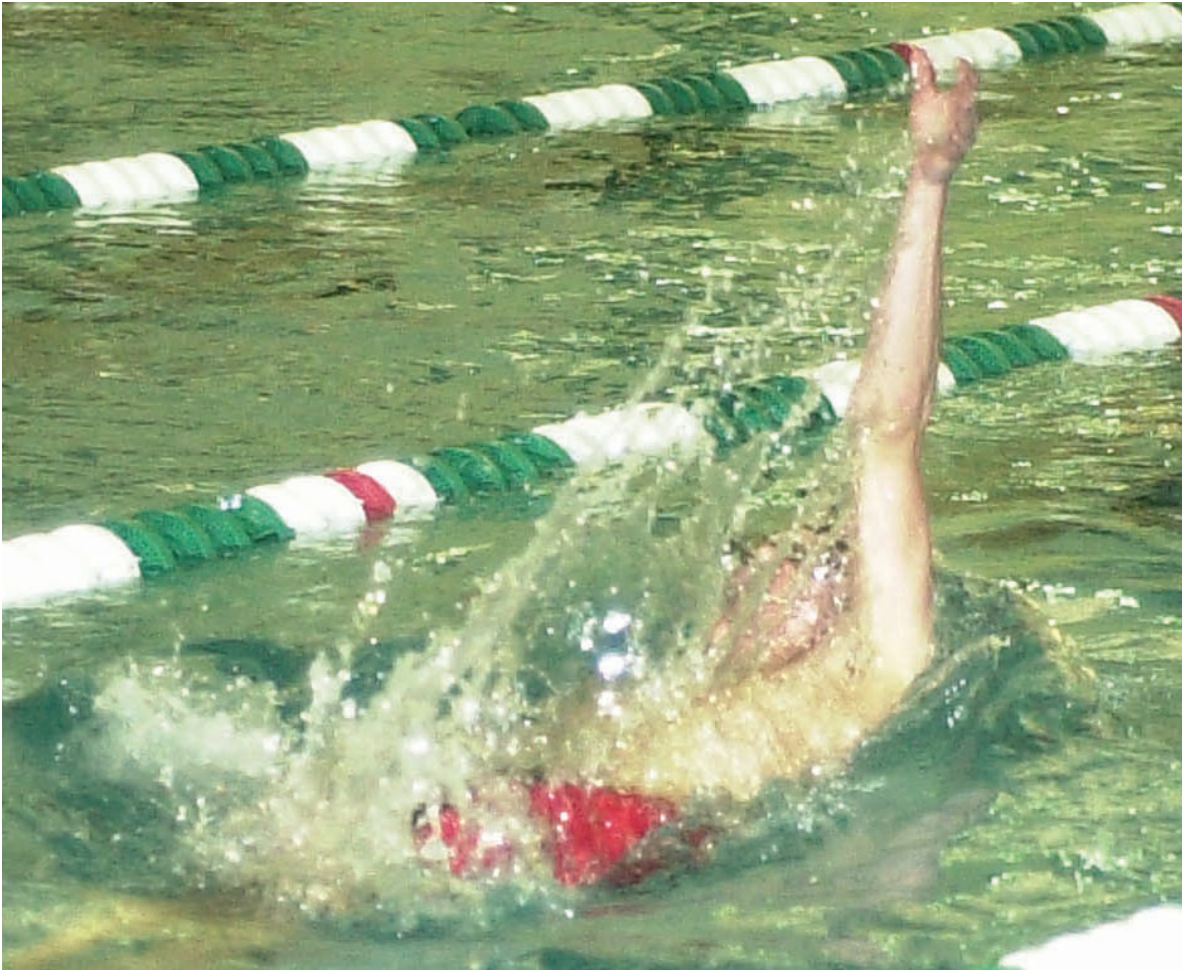
- Cameron Dobbs (Guilanderland boys basketball)
- John Gosstola (Bethlehem hockey)
- Alex Lednev (Bethlehem boys swimming)
- Bridget Murphy (Bethlehem girls basketball)

Go to www.bethlehemspotlight.com or www.guilderlandspotlight.com and click on sports to cast your vote.

Last week's poll results:

Who is the most exciting Section II boys basketball player to watch?

- Jelani Currie 49 percent
- Cameron Dobbs 23 percent
- Jordan Gleason 20 percent
- Collin Stewart 5 percent
- Trahmier Burrell 2 percent



Bethlehem's Alex Lednev makes a splash during the backstroke portion of the 200-yard individual medley finals at last Saturday's Section II Division I championships at the Shenendehow Aquatic Center. Rob Jonas/Spotlight

Lednev leads the way

Bethlehem senior earns Most Outstanding Swimmer at Sectional meet

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

Not even a disqualification involving one of its relay teams could prevent Shenendehowa from winning the team title at Saturday's Section II Division I boys swimming championships at Shen's aquatic center.

Led by Ryan Gordon's victories in the 200- and 100-yard freestyles, the Plainsmen eased past the competition to claim the team title. Shen finished with 446 points, 34.5 points ahead of runner-up Niskayuna.

"It's the most important thing, and that's our goal every year," Shen coach Chuck Dunham said of winning the team title. "That's a goal we have to work very hard for as a team."

Niskayuna was within six

points of Shen in the team standings before the Plainsmen pulled away in the final four events.

"We didn't even have a full lineup in there," said Niskayuna coach Steven Hall. "We gave (Shen) a scare, but that's all we could do."

Bethlehem's Alex Lednev had the Shen Aquatic Center buzzing with his performance. The senior won the 200-yard

□ Lednev Page 30

Bergere jumps the best

Senior leads BC high jump trio at Sectional meet

By SPORTS STAFF
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

Adrian Bergere led a trio of Bethlehem high jumpers at Sunday's Section II Division I Indoor Track and Field Championships at the University at Albany.

The senior cleared the bar at 6 feet, 2 inches in the fewest attempts to win the title. Jake Abbuhl placed fourth, and Drew Duguid finished fifth after both cleared the bar at 6 feet.

The efforts by the three high jumpers helped Bethlehem tie Saratoga Springs for third place in the boys team standings with 59 points. Shaker took first place with 125 points.

Matt Crawford and Brendan Behan added second-place finishes for the Eagles. Crawford finished second in the 1,000-meter race with a time of 2:38.58, and Behan placed second in the shot put with a throw of 48 feet, 10.25 inches.

On the girls' side, Bethlehem's Danika Jensen (1,000), Jackie Kearney (55 hurdles) and Vicky Buehler (high jump) each had second-place finishes.

UAlbany women give hoop fans hope

Area college basketball fans lamenting the current state of affairs with the floundering Siena and University at Albany men's programs might want to take a look at what's going on with the UAlbany women's team.

In only her second year on the job, head coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson has turned the Lady Danes into a true contender for the America East title. UAlbany (13-2 league, 19-9 overall) cemented that position when it defeated first-place Boston University 48-41 on the road last weekend.

The biggest difference Abrahamson-Henderson has made has been at the defensive end. In the two years prior to her arrival in Albany, the Lady Danes allowed more than 60 points per game, and opponents made approximately 40 percent of their shots. In the two years since Abrahamson-Henderson joined the program, UAlbany has brought those two numbers way down as opponents now average 53 points per game and shoot a shade under 37 percent from the field.

Ebone Henry continues to be the heart and soul of the team. The junior guard/forward leads the Lady Danes this season in scoring (14.2 points per game) and steals (76), and she is second on the team in

rebounding (7.2 per game). Senior guard Cassandra Callaway (11.3 points per game) and junior forward Julie Forster (8.9 points per game, 9.8 rebounds per game) are also making major contributions this season.

But the reality is that the talent was already there when Abrahamson-Henderson took over for Trina Patterson following the 2009-10 season. All that Abrahamson-Henderson had to do was get the players to believe that they could be successful – not an easy sale to make with a program that had been at or near the bottom of the America East standings nearly every year since moving to the NCAA Division I league. Once they bought in, the wins began to come; 16 last year and 19 to date this season.

The challenge for UAlbany will be to keep the momentum going into the America East Tournament, where it will be no worse

than the No. 2 seed. The Lady Danes might have a tough semifinal match-up against tournament host Hartford, which split its two games with UAlbany this season. But with a tough defense and a trio of talented players, the Lady Danes have what it takes to make a run at the league title.

Maybe that will offer area college basketball fans a respite from watching the two high-profile men's teams struggle down the stretch of their regular seasons.

In other area college sports news, it looks like Union should be headed back to the NCAA Division I hockey tournament this season. With one weekend left in the ECAC season, the Dutchmen lead the league by two points over second place Cornell and can do no worse than a second-place finish should they lose to the Big Red and Colgate.

A veteran offense has helped Union maintain its position among the ECAC's elite. Senior forward Kelly Zajac and junior wingers Jeremy Welsh and Wayne Simpson have combined for 44 goals and 54 assists through 32 games, and sophomore defenseman Mat Bodie has chipped in with eight goals and 17 assists.

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