



High-tech temple

A new video-streaming service at Congregation Beth Emeth in Albany is bridging the gap between the Internet and synagogue.

See Page 11.



Just one little thing ...

The Schenectady Museum will celebrate Nano Days from Thursday to Sunday, March 29 to April 1.

See Page 22.



Busch keeps going

Eleven years into his Major League Soccer career, Guilderland High School graduate Jon Busch doesn't take anything for granted.

See Page 36.

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BC weighs tax cap challenge

Officials say sticking to cap would result in deep cuts

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Bethlehem Central school officials said challenging the state tax cap is being discussed as an option to minimize the number of cuts in next year's budget.

Superintendent Thomas Douglas said the option is one of many still on the table for the school board. Bethlehem Central is facing a

\$4.2 million budget gap for the 2012-13 school year, which figures in the use of \$1.75 million from reserves and the maximum tax levy increase of 2.94 percent allowed under the tax cap law.

"We can choose to focus on the tax cap when we do this budget, or we can instead choose to focus on the education and wellbeing of our students," said Douglas.

School Board president Diane Giacone Stever said those who attended the budget forums held by the district seemed like they would be willing to challenge the levy

limit to maintain the quality of Bethlehem's educational programs.

"The problem is all of those people who said they would be willing to challenge the limit have a vested interest in the district," said Stever. "We (the school board) represent the whole community and we need to know what they want."

According to Chief Business and Financial Officer Judith Kehoe, a 1 percent increase in the levy makes for \$570,000 in tax revenue. The average tax levy increase for Bethlehem

□ BC Page 27



Dr. Lisa Bevilacqua of Bethlehem, center, will travel to Uganda for the fifth year in a row to provide medical aid to those in need. All of the proceeds from the Tuesday, April 3, performance of "Black Pearl Sings" at Capital Repertory Theatre will go toward travel expenses and medical supplies for the trip.

Submitted photos

A doctor in demand

Bethlehem physician raises funds for annual trip to Africa

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Since 2008, Dr. Lisa Bevilacqua of Bethlehem has been making an annual trip to Africa to provide care to those in need.

Through a mission program by Grace Fellowship in Latham, Bevilacqua has been traveling to an orphanage in Uganda with a team of a dozen healthcare givers and church officials from throughout the Capital District. Their goal is to provide basic health care to the children residing at the orphanage and those living in villages from the surrounding area.



"This is the only time of the year that they have a doctor present," said Bevilacqua. "Their medical system is so much different from ours. They have doctors at hospitals in the larger cities and medical assistants at some clinics who act as our nurses would, but that's about it. They also have mid wives."

Each year for eight days, the team makes the trip to the Canaan Children's Orphanage and School near the village of Buziika. The first day is spent examining and caring for the children and staff, while during the remainder of the time the orphanage acts as a medical base. Villagers then come to the team to treat all of their medical needs.

"We have to deal with everything

□ Doctor Page 18

Nursing home saga continues

New county executive pushes for change, but disagreements persist

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

Weeks after taking office, Albany County Executive Dan McCoy has found himself embroiled in a debate that his predecessor found impossible to close: the future of the county nursing home.

McCoy raised the issue in his State of the County address and came under fire for a perceived shift in his stance when compared to his time heading the Legislature. In a recent interview, the new executive said it all comes down to dollars and cents.

"I haven't changed my values. I strongly support our seniors, that will never waver," said McCoy. "What has changed is the 2 percent cap and the way we deal with budgets going forward."

McCoy was also clear he's not behind any one of the four options he's outlined. He said once he has all the information in, he'll present everything to the Legislature to decide which route is the most fiscally responsible and adequately serves Albany County seniors.

McCoy said the county could continue running the nursing home the way it's been running it and build a new facility; professionalize it with an outside management company that would take over operations; explore a public benefit corporation option; or privatize it.

While he hasn't chiseled in stone which scenario he would like

□ Saga Page 19

Changing times mean cemetery must look outwards

Event to raise funds for upkeep of historic New Scotland Cemetery

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Fourteen known veterans of the Revolutionary War are buried in the New Scotland Cemetery, but there could be more without markers, according to the New Scotland Cemetery Association. Later, four local veterans of the Civil War were buried in the cemetery as well.

“We want people to become aware that the cemetery is here,” said Arlene Herzog, a member of the New Scotland Cemetery Association. “This is a part of their history.”

In 1787, New Scotland residents met for the first time to organize their local Presbyterian Church and in 1791 the first building was erected. As the congregation grew, more room was needed, so the church standing today was built in 1849. It was expanded 20 years later.

According to Herzog, in an effort to raise more money, the cemetery split away from the church in 1866.

“Because it was associated with the church, only Presbyterians could be buried there,” she said. “Once the two were separated people of any denomination could be buried there.”

Over the years the Association has sought out new ways to raise money to support the upkeep of the cemetery. Volunteers now donate their time to do maintenance and the group is paying thousands to remove trees when needed.

For many years the cemetery’s only source of income came from burials, and descendants of those buried in the church were asked to care for the headstones of family members. As volunteers and family members aged, the condition of the cemetery continued to worsen, with some headstones needing replacement.



The New Scotland Cemetery has a long history, but finding money for upkeep has been a challenge. An upcoming fundraiser will raise money for the cemetery and the Presbyterian Church.

Jon Wittmann/Spotlight

“Cemeteries raise money through customers, but you can’t really go out and try to recruit people through advertising,” said Martha Oden, another member of the New Scotland Cemetery Association.

In 2008, a cellphone tower was installed on the cemetery’s property with approval from the town to help generate funds, but the deal was only for five years and the contract is about to expire. Oden said the company that built the tower does have the option to renew their deal, but the Association is preparing for the future.

“We don’t know what technology will look like in 10 years, or if someone will want to continue to use the tower,” she said. “This is really the first time we are attempting to raise money on our own.”

To build up reserve funds for the cemetery and the church, the two entities are partnering to hold a joint fundraiser.

On Saturday, May 5, an antiques appraisal event

called “Treasures Untold” will be held at the church. Each person is allowed to bring up to three items to the event at \$5 per item. Mark Lawson of Saratoga, who has been featured as an expert on the PBS television series “Antiques Roadshow,” will host the event. He will work alongside fellow appraisers Dennis Holzman and Nancy Toomer as they dedicate their time and expertise.

The church and cemetery were named to the National Register of Historic Places in 2010. “We really do not want the town to have to take over the cemetery,” said event coordinator Corrine Weeks.

Herzog said many times when towns take over the caretaker duties for cemeteries, little is done to preserve the headstones or the history of the location. The Association fears if care of the cemetery is transferred to the Town of New Scotland, it will eventually fall into disrepair.

“Usually they only thing they do is care for the lawn,” she said.

Minister Holly Cameron, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in New Scotland, said the church’s portions of the funds from the event would go towards general maintenance of the building. “We always need money for something,” she said. Portions of the roof were replaced last year.

“Raising this money is important to preserve the history of New Scotland and to respect our ancestors,” said Weeks.

There are 144 tickets available, each amounting to five minutes of appraisal time. Tickets can be purchased in person at the church beginning Tuesday, April 3.

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Bridging a Delmar divide

Writers of book on Delmar's first black family to hold discussion

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Arlen Westbrook knew right away the Cunninghams were good people after they bonded over their love of Siamese cats.

In the summer of 1957, Westbrook was recently married to a professor at the University of Albany named Kendall Birr. When he was asked to teach in Amherst for a year, he agreed and Westbrook would be going with him. The problem was, they weren't sure what to do about their Delmar house while they were away.

An acquaintance of Westbrook's who worked as a lawyer said she knew of a doctor who was moving to the area from Alaska. He was looking for a home for his family and she wondered if Westbrook and her current husband would rent the house to him. That seemingly innocuous query sparked a cultural challenge in Delmar.

"Then she said, 'Oh by the way, they are colored. Is that going to be a problem?'" said Westbrook. "I told her I would talk to my husband and he didn't see why there would be a problem, so we showed them the house."

According to Miki Conn, a daughter of James and Margaret Cunningham, searching for a home in the Capital District was a grueling process for her parents.

James Cunningham had originally joined the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps instead of the military, and he was stationed in Alaska because of his specialty in dealing with

Tuberculosis. He moved there with his family, where they lived on a military base near the hospital. There he was assigned a dwelling because of his rank. Race or segregation wasn't an issue.

"When they came to see the house I knew they belonged here," said Westbrook. "They were cultured, educated, sophisticated people."

Because of a housing issue, the apartment Westbrook and her husband were supposed to live in was not yet ready for inhabitants. Birr went ahead to teach without his wife, while Westbrook asked if she could live with the family in the home on Herrick Avenue for a month.

And apparently Arlen Westbrook and Margaret Cunningham had lots in common. The two baked and did art projects, while both women secretly kept a journal about their experiences.

The unlikely friendship struck between the two women of different races would forever change the history of Delmar. Westbrook and her husband had just invited the first African American family to live in Bethlehem.

"I realized Delmar was pretty white, but what I didn't know was there was a conspiracy not to sell to Jews or blacks here at the time," said Westbrook. "I only just learned that recently, after the book came out."

When Westbrook and Cunningham finally told each other about the journals, they thought maybe their firsthand experiences could be turned into a book. In 2011, "Integrating Delmar 1957: The Story of a Friendship" was released.

Through the help of Conn, the book was self-published. James and Margaret Cunningham are both alive at 93 years old, but are frail. Westbrook is 83. Conn

said they decided to self publish because the goal was to get the book printed in time for her parents to see it.

Conn said both Westbrook and Cunningham were very open and honest about their experiences when they wrote.

"She writes how she hoped my parents weren't too dark so their color wasn't an issue, but then she was ashamed of the thought," said Conn. "Arlen didn't know any African Americans growing up, but knew (renting them the house) was a matter of equality."

Westbrook said there were varying degrees of consent among the neighbors.

"This was long before segregation laws, so there was still a lot of discrimination even in the north," she said. "There were rumors that housing prices would fall if a black family moved in and several people talked to me about 'what I had done.' Some were supportive, and some unpleasant and afraid."

Conn, who moved to Delmar when she was in middle school, said the experience was also difficult for her and her sister. They hid much of what was said to them from their parents.

"My one friend in high school was the only Jewish person in the school," she said. "Both of us weren't welcome or a part of the day-to-day social aspects. Some friends could play with us when their fathers were at work, but they had to pretend we had nothing to do with us when their fathers were at home. The mothers were more accepting."

Conn said some things were easier for her little sister because she was in elementary school when she came to



Arlen Westbrook, in her Elsmere home, stands before a painting done by good friend Margaret Cunningham. The two women released a book of journal excerpts about their time living together in the 1950s, which they will discuss at an event at the Bethlehem Library on Thursday, March 5 with Cunningham's daughter, Miki Conn.

Marcy Velte/Spotlight

Delmar. She grew up with the other children and was more accepted, until she became old enough to date.

"Then some doors were closed that had always been open to her before," she said.

Westbrook said she didn't know the children faced such social discrimination until later on.

□ Delmar Page 5

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Police Blotter

Police rule incident on New Scotland train tracks suicide

Authorities said a 23-year-old Delmar resident took his own life on Saturday, March 24, when he laid down on the train tracks between Route 85 and Youmans Road in New Scotland.

Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple said at around 1 p.m. on Saturday, the sheriff's office received a call that a CSX train had hit a pedestrian. Those operating the train told police they had seen the man, but were unable to stop before the train struck him.

Apple said after viewing the video on board the train and based on conversations with family members, the death was ruled a suicide. A family member told police shortly before the incident the man has said he wanted to kill himself.

"It was just a tragic incident," said Apple.

-Marcy Velte



Police said a 23-year-old Delmar man who laid down on train tracks in New Scotland was suicidal. He was struck by a CSX train on Saturday, March 24.

Tom Heffernan Sr./Spotlight

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Road rage leads to WNY arrest

A Guilderland Woman was arrested in western New York after a road rage incident on the state thruway.

On Saturday, March 24, Danielle Barker, 32 of 114C Essex Circle, Guilderland was arrested by State Police after one vehicle failed to move from the left lane to allow another to pass, said police. Barker was a passenger in one of the vehicles and police said she threw a cup of coffee at the other vehicle. It then struck the car and entered through a partially open window.

Police said Barker was charged with criminal mischief in the fourth degree, a misdemeanor, and harassment in the second degree, a felony.

Barker was released to appear in the Town of Tyre court at a later date. The driver of the other vehicle was charged with following too closely, according to police.

Arrests

• A Rensselaer women was arrested for falsifying documents in order to steal from her Delmar employer, according to police.

On Wednesday, March 21, Dawn Gould, 46, of 79 Wahington Ave., Rensselaer was charged with grand larceny in the fourth degree and falsifying business records, both felonies. She reportedly stole a large sum of money from her employers at Delmar Dental, said police. The amount of money stolen was not disclosed.

She was issued an appearance ticket for a later court date, and police said the case was considered closed following Gould's arrest.

• Bethlehem Police arrested William James, 21, of 193 Main St., Ravena on DWI charges.

According to police, on Sunday, March 18 James was witnessed driving on Delaware Avenue when he began swerving in his lane. When James was pulled over, his speech was

slurred and police said the officer could smell alcohol. He allegedly failed sobriety tests and was brought to the police station.

Police said James was charged with DWI and aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. He was scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

• Bethlehem Police arrested Michael Blendell, 27, of 31 Burhan Place, Delmar on DWI charges.

According to police, on Saturday, March 17 Blendell was witnessed running a red light on Delaware Avenue. Police said Blendell was cooperative when he was pulled over, but a smell of alcohol and marijuana was coming from the car.

Police said a small amount of marijuana and a pipe were pulled from the car. He was charged with DWI and possession, both misdemeanors. He was also charged with running the red light.

He was scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

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As weather beckons you outdoors, stay safe

While spring has decided to fall back from the limelight momentarily, its recent arrival can't truly be denied, which is cause for celebration for outdoors lovers.

After a recent hike to the Great Range, I can happily report the snow is nearly disappeared from even the highest regions of New York, and the lowlands have of course been enjoying near-summertime conditions. That's bound to bounce back a bit, but it's a nice warmup for the fair weather season ahead.

This was a mixed winter for outdoor recreation, with mild temperatures but also a lack of snow. But even this relatively warm winter saw a number of outdoorspeople finding themselves in potentially life threatening situations. In the Adirondack High Peaks, near the end of the winter, there were a number of rescues made.

I was witness to a lesser one of these earlier this month, when a helicopter set down on frozen Flowed Lands to evacuate a hiker with a broken leg a mere few hundred feet from our lean to. Though being



ON THE TRAIL
Charles Wiff

there was pretty dramatic, this incident was pretty minor and didn't make the papers.

That's in contrast to the dramatic, well-publicized story of Stephen Mastaitis, a Saratoga Springs man who spent a night high on Mount Marcy. In an Adirondack Daily Enterprise interview with Mastaitis, he recounts a rather remarkable tale of survival in subzero temperatures.

The fact Mastaitis survived in such an inhospitable place is a testament to his constitution and courage. He was also lucky. Wind chills on Marcy were around -20 Fahrenheit that night, and in February it's not uncommon for temperatures to drop well below that level during the day.

In the weeks following this remarkable rescue, several other outdoorspeople either spent an unexpected night in the woods or otherwise ran into dangerous situations requiring

rescue. These incidents do not necessarily lead one to the conclusion that people are being more careless or foolhardy, but instead perhaps point to the fact outdoor pursuits are becoming a more and more popular form of recreation. With the good weather hiking season nearly upon us, now would be a good time for a refresher on the basics of backcountry safety.

- Always carry a map and compass (and know how to use them). Even if you're in a well-known area, always take these two vital pieces of equipment. Time, season and weather can do a lot to change the landscape, and many a hiker has found his or herself lost in a familiar land. Local outdoors groups even periodically offer classes on using a map and compass, so learn this vital survival technique before you need it.

- Don't leave the trail unless it's absolutely necessary. On some excursions you might find yourself bushwhacking on purpose, but always take extra care when leaving the trail for any reason (including to answer nature's call).

If you are striking off into unmaintained areas, the above advice about map and compass applies doubly. If you do get truly and utterly lost, the general rule is to stay put and wait for rescue instead of furthering the distance between yourself and where people will be searching.

- Carry general emergency gear on every single hike. This includes two proven firestarting methods, first aid supplies, an emergency whistle, headlamp and a pocketknife or multitool.

- Carry adequate clothing. You might curse the weight you brought along in the heat of a summer hike but if you find yourself having to spend the night you'll also find the temperature drops rather sharply once the sun goes down. In summer, emergency gear can mean a dry baselayer or sweater. In winter, consider carrying a sleeping bag even on a day hike. It could save your life, fingers and/or toes.

- Extra socks. Often overlooked, this can make a real difference in comfort the day of a hike, and especially the

day after. Wet socks are not only unpleasant, but promote the formation of blisters.

- Rain gear. Hypothermia is thought of as a winter danger, but the truth is a hiker can become hypothermic 12 months out of the year. Being cold and wet presents a serious danger if you have to stop moving because your core temperature will drop precipitously. If you're moving, even the earliest stages of hypothermia result in a lack of coordination and poor decision making, which can make a bad situation worse. People can die of hypothermia in 50-degree weather. Always take a proven solution for wet weather, even on clear days, and if it does rain be cognizant of the threat hypothermia can pose.

- Extra provisions. Even an energy bar or handful of trail mix could give you the energy to get yourself out of the wilderness by nightfall, or to prepare to spend the night if you can't. Everything is more difficult when you're hungry.

- Water purification

gear. If it's a choice between life and death, by all means drink untreated water, but it's better to stay properly hydrated. If you're worried about weight, carry tablets, but never rely solely on the water you brought in. Bladders leak, bottles spill and trips go long, so be ready to take water without risking an unpleasant illness once you get home.

- Leave word of your plans. This last piece of advice is perhaps the most important. If you or your party meets disaster in the backcountry and you've left word, it's a matter of time before the authorities are contacted and a search is organized. If not, you're essentially relying on someone wandering by your location.

Don't let bad news about backcountry mishaps depress or frighten you, but be cognizant of the possibility so if disaster does strike, you're prepared and know what to do. Besides, setting off knowing you can deal with anything will make your outing that much more enjoyable.

Happy trails!

Delmar

(From Page 3)

"I always tell Miki her and her sister should write their own book because they have their own memories," she said.

When the year was up and Westbrook moved back Delmar with her husband, the

Cunninghams once again had trouble finding a home. The two families lived together for another month in the summer of 1958.

"What happened was there were people in Delmar, the Quakers, Unitarians and Methodists, the people from those churches reached out to the family

and invited them to their services and events," said Westbrook. "This helped them out, to know there were supportive and welcoming people out there."

The Cunninghams eventually bought a house on Borthwick Avenue in Delmar.

"I think they ended up having a good experience,"

said Westbrook. "If it was too terrible they wouldn't have stayed."

The Cunninghams and Westbrook remain friends to this day.

On Thursday, April 5, Westbrook and Conn will hold a discussion about the book at the Bethlehem Public Library at 7 p.m. The event will be sponsored by the Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace.

Conn said it's important for people to know racism

and discrimination isn't something that happened just in the South.

"And I want people to know that, while not as extreme, these issues still exist," she said. "Race is still an issue. We were lucky in that we found a community with a good school and even if the social experiences weren't what we wanted, we were made stronger because of it."

Westbrook echoed Conn's thoughts. She

said since the book pieces together both women's journals, she considers the book a historical document.

"We need to raise awareness," Westbrook said. "We live in a different society but there is still an undercurrent of problems. Although, I thought it was important for the history of the town to see how much things have changed. Things are much improved but still a ways to go."

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Matters of Opinion in The Spotlight

Time for talk, time for action

If there’s one thing that’s for certain when it comes to the Albany County Nursing Home, it’s that there’s an awful lot of disagreement when it comes to its future.

That much is clear from Alyssa Jung’s report on Albany County Executive Dan McCoy’s efforts to cement a course forward on the nursing home issue. We came away from our discussions with Mr. McCoy with the impression he is quite serious about finding a resolution to the situation this year, and whatever you think about the options on the table it’s vital county leaders make a decision.

This is not only for the benefit of seniors who already rely on the home, their families or the people who work there, all of whom have been held in suspense for years now, but also for the taxpayer. If the county is going to lay out the kind of money it takes to stay in the nursing home business, it needs to start planning (and cutting) now.

Building a new nursing home would be a \$71 million project, a large portion of which the county would borrow for at 4 percent interest. Then, after it’s built, it’s going to cost \$50 million a year to run, less than half of which will be reimbursed by Medicaid and the like. So, according to the Department of Health’s records, the new nursing home would be about \$26.4 million in the hole every single year.

Those are incredible numbers, and apparently 24 of the county’s 39 legislators think they’re just dandy. They voted earlier this month to press ahead with the project. Then again, this is the Legislature that last year passed a budget with a 9 percent tax hike and hailed it as an honest-to-goodness victory for the people, so take that as you will.

There is some disagreement over those numbers, which demonstrates the poor state this decision-making process is in. Shawn Morse, chairman of the Legislature, says the projection is grossly inaccurate and figures the county could stand to trim \$3 million from the current yearly deficit by building a new home, which is still a pretty big hole.

Let’s all hope the Legislature will take all its options seriously, and not forge blindly ahead on a new nursing home project for the sake of political and emotional satisfaction. We’d tend to agree with McCoy (and his predecessor, who fought this battle on a seemingly annual basis) that when looking at the numbers it’s clear building a new county nursing home with be a tough lift.

But if the Legislature truly feels it’s a good idea and the will of the people to sink hundreds of millions of dollars into 200 nursing home beds, then that’s their decision to make. What will also be their decision to make is which other county programs to slash — we’d warn that people who take advantage of the services of the sheriff’s department, senior services, adoption programs, mental health services and the crime victim and sexual assault center (to name but a few) are able to put together a contingent of angry residents to speak at Legislature meetings just as ably as those impacted by changes at the nursing home. Someone’s going to be unhappy.

Of course, the path we seem to be speeding along yet again is making the taxpayer unhappy. If our county leaders are unwilling to make the tough choices when it comes to programming, perhaps for them it is an easier choice to again hike taxes on an uninvolved and unsuspecting public.

That’s why we’ll be watching the nursing home debate closely—and we hope our readers do, as well — because the outcome could very much impact not only the elderly in Albany County, but whether or not any young people will be able to afford sticking around to grow old.

Editorial

Climate change a real threat

By BARBARA TRYPALUK

The author is a resident of Saratoga Springs, a member of that city’s 2007 Comprehensive Plan Committee and former Saratoga County Green Party chairwoman.

The things I like best about living in upstate New York are the climate and beautiful countryside and mountains. But something about our climate is definitely much different from what it was 30 years ago. Not only is winter shorter, milder, and less snowy, and spring much warmer, but the harbingers of either season – Canada geese and robins—are not acting the way they used to.

Many people have noticed that both of these species stick around a lot longer than they used to. Up until the 1990s, by Election Day, the geese would have been gone along with the robins. Now you can see flocks of robins all winter long and Canada geese gather on Saratoga Lake well into December or later depending on the weather.

Another sign of permanent change in our climate is the fact that, for the past 15 years, Lake Champlain stopped freezing over in the winter. And what about our summers? I’ll never forget the summer of 2005 when we had two weeks straight of 90-plus degree days and it’s not unusual, considering the heat index, for the temperature to top 100 degrees.

Despite these undeniable changes, we continue to hear climate change deniers calling any concern over climate change “hysteria” or that the whole global warming idea is the biggest hoax of the century (Ron Paul). The dismissal of global warming comes as no surprise because if you accept that this problem is caused by greenhouse gases (carbon emissions mainly from the burning of coal and oil) then it would require politicians to actually enact some reforms to encourage Americans to

Point of View

drive their cars a lot less. Many folks would not welcome that kind of change—especially the drivers in their gas-guzzling SUVs.

Climate scientists are telling us that we must drastically begin reducing carbon emissions by 2015 if we’re going to prevent catastrophic climate change. They’re telling us that a 100-year flood like that caused by Hurricane Irene could happen a lot more often—even every 10 years. The cost of recovering from that mega-hurricane that destroyed so many towns in our region was estimated at \$7 billion to \$10 billion. And let’s not forget Hurricane Katrina and how it impacted New Orleans and the gulf states.

Scientists and organizations like the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) are saying that the explosion of tornadoes just experienced by Kentucky, Tennessee, and other states could become the rule, not the exception. All of this, plus things like wind storms, extreme heat, and droughts have become commonplace in the rest of the world. In the summer of 2003, a heat wave in France was blamed for the deaths of 30,000 people.

Just last year, almost all of Texas experienced record heat and as I’m writing this almost 20 towns in that state are very close to running out of water.

Here at home, we’re having to deal with a deer tick infestation unheard of back in the ‘60s and ‘70s. The devilish insects have spread as far north as St.Johnsville, Vt. and are to blame for people, pets, and horses contracting lyme disease. Thanks to the increased pollution, the number of asthma cases has doubled over the past 30 years, and rare diseases like

dengue fever have stricken folks downstate.

Despite his calling global warming one of the biggest challenges of the century, President Obama has not lead on this issue. At climate talks in Durban, South Africa this past December, Obama pushed for capping carbon emissions by 2020. Outrageous! when you consider that by then we will have missed the window for avoiding runaway climate change.

Since we have such gridlock in Congress these days, it seems that the only way we’re going to convert from dirty fossil fuels to green energy is on a state-by- state basis. The Institute for Local Self-Reliance, in 2008, published a series of studies that half the states could meet their energy needs entirely within their borders. They say that 81 percent of New York’s power could be provided with wind turbines and solar panels. As for transportation, Amtrak is becoming more affordable and as the price of gasoline continues to climb, we’ll have no other choice but to carpool or ride the bus.

It’s imperative that we all be prepared for the climate change that lies ahead of us and that we realize what’s really causing it. The oil and gas industry would have us believe that global warming is the result of planetary trends, but the IPCC has stated in no uncertain terms that the warming trend is mainly caused by human activity: agriculture, power plants, and using mainly fossil fuels for transportation. Climate change is here to stay, but how dramatic that change will be depends on us and our willingness to change the way we live. The more apocalyptic scenarios—flooding, rising sea levels, tornadoes, tide surges—may be unavoidable if we don’t start to dramatically reduce our carbon emissions by 2015.

Weekly poll

Should governments be in the business of running nursing homes?

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

Last week’s poll results:

“Do you donate to local programs aimed at feeding the hungry?”

- Yes 67%
- No 33%

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Your Opinion in The Spotlight

To challenge or not to challenge the school budget tax cap

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

School districts face a unique challenge this year in the budget process. In addition to the many difficult choices the Bethlehem Central School District community usually faces when developing budgets – what cuts should or can be made, how they will affect students, how it all will affect the community at large – there remains an overarching question this year that we have never faced before: Should we or shouldn't we exceed the tax levy limit imposed upon us by the state's so-called "tax cap" law.

The law itself is confusing. It has been misconstrued and misrepresented as a "2 percent tax cap" when, in fact, the law does not restrict any proposed tax levy increase to 2 percent.

Instead, the law determines what level of support is needed for a school budget to pass. If the tax levy increase is above the tax levy limit—in our case, 2.94 percent—the support of a supermajority (60 percent) of voters would be required for budget passage. If the levy is within the limit, a simple majority is needed for budget approval.

We are facing a budget gap of \$7.7 million. If BCSD proposes a 2.94 percent increase in the tax levy, we will have to eliminate about \$4.2 million from our current budget. For those who have attended our forums and budget workshops thus far, you know that we are considering reductions in service or outright cuts in all areas of our budget: Athletics, Transportation, Administration, Special Education,

Operations and Maintenance and, of course, Instruction. If we challenge the tax levy limit (the so-called "cap"), the reductions in services and/or programs will be less severe. Therefore, the question for us remains should we or should we not challenge the cap?

Preliminary numbers show that if we were to propose a tax levy increase of 3.94 percent (1% above the cap), our budget gap would be \$3.7 million; if the gap is reduced to approximately \$3.1 million the levy increase is 4.94 percent (2% above the cap) with the gap continuing to be closed by \$570,000 for every additional one percent over the cap. To keep this all in perspective, if the district were to close the \$7.7 million budget gap using only tax revenue, it would have to levy a 13.5 percent increase. I think we can all agree that this is not feasible or responsible. There is one constant, however, throughout this entire process, it is that what defines a Bethlehem education will change next year. These cuts, even at a tax levy beyond our state-imposed "limit" will not stave off all our potential reductions, but rather minimize them from the severity that has developed through financial distress.

Pension reform need not be all or nothing

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

I congratulate *The Spotlight* for its effort to comment on the Pension battle on its editorial of 3/14, but it provides simplistic conclusions in supporting the 401(k) solution because (a) it is now common in the private sector, and (b) millions of private sector workers provide for their retirement with 401(k)s.

The arguments for Defined Benefit Plans and Defined Contribution Plans are all about risk...who bears the risk. It is the employer for DBP, and the employee for DCP. Perhaps it is true that DBPs are no longer sustainable for the private sector. We are in a global economy competing with companies that do not bear the burden of supporting their employees retirement forty years hence. Predicting a company's economics in a competitive world so far in the future cannot be done with certainty.

But the fact that "millions" provide for their own retirement speaks not of the many more millions who do not, either because they chose not to invest in retirement accounts or could not afford to, or, because, investing as individuals, they invested badly. There will come a day, I predict, when this cohort arrives at retirement age as was the case in the past, with insufficient savings, in poverty, and on the public SSI dole. Yes, the shift to private savings will result in more public dependency, and less dignity, than the current system.

The public DBP should not be vilified. It is a predictable, stable, retirement for which adequate funds should have been provided over the years.

Yes, there are some abuses in the system, and the overtime calculation is one of them. There are others that may need to be parsed out. But fundamentally, the DBP is a more stable system for the retiree and for the economy.

The fees paid for private investment advice is not money wasted, but an investment in ensuring the stability of the State retirement system, one of only four in the nation is that fully funded. Certainly the rate of increase should be investigated and contained.

But where is it written that it must be one or the other with no in-between. Certainly one advantage of the 401(k) system is its portability. I know of many state workers for whom the pension is a set of golden handcuffs; the closer they are to retirement, the less able they are to move on to other opportunities.

A better option would be to provide a fixed amount of retirement benefit, which the worker could then choose to direct a part to a DBP, and a part to a DCP. The sponsor would invest the DBP portion, and guarantee its return (the risk for which could be outsourced), and the worker can invest the DCP portion.

Barry Hecht
Delmar

Thomas J. Douglas
BC Superintendent of Schools

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Lexi Becker, DVM

We have had a very mild winter and an early Spring! Spring heralds the coming of Easter. Many of us get chocolate and candy for this holiday. Please be mindful that chocolate can be dangerous to our pets. Spring also brings the blooming of flowers. While flowers are beautiful, certain ones such as lilies can be fatal to cats and they can be dangerous to other species including dogs and ferrets. During this season it is also possible for our pets to experience allergic reactions. Symptoms can include facial swelling, hives, vomiting and diarrhea. If you witness any of these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian or your local emergency clinic. The mild winter that we had has also yielded a surplus of ticks, fleas

and mosquitoes. It is very important to use your flea and tick preventative on a regular basis as directed by your veterinarian.

Many pet owners have not used heartworm, flea and tick prevention over the winter months. Most flea and tick prevention is safe to start and stop without retesting. However, it is very important to have your pet tested prior to beginning a heartworm prevention regimen. Also be mindful that many flea and tick medications have heartworm prevention included in them. This means that you need to get your pet retested prior to restarting such medications. Please be sure to check in with your veterinarian if you have any questions or concerns

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Final ‘Rings’ set for movie matinee

Come to the library’s final “Lord of the Rings” Saturday Movie Matinee at 1 p.m. on April 7 to see the live-action movie version of the third installment – “The Return of the King” – of J.R.R. Tolkien’s fabulous trilogy. Watch Sauron’s final assault on Middle-earth, Gandalf’s antics, an army of ghosts in the defense, and the “here-we-come-to-save-the-day” actions of Hobbits Frodo and Sam.

As with all movies at the library, there will be free popcorn and down-front seating for kids.

Dealing with challenging behaviors

As part of its continuing program at the Guilderland Public Library, the Alzheimer’s Association of Northeastern New York will present “Understanding and Dealing with Challenging Behaviors” at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 5.

This highly informative class will help you identify whether the behavior frustrating or dangerous.

It will help you understand the behavior’s causes, and give you strategies to respond properly.

To register call Jamie Mott at 867-4999 x209, or email jamie.mott@alz.org.

Say hey, anime

Attention Anime-naics: The next meeting of the Anime Club will be held on Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 pm. Come hang out with fellow anime-niacs, watch selected anime movies and series episodes, create your own artwork, read some manga, or browse through the latest Otaku magazines.

Holiday closing

The library will be closed Sunday, April 8. It will reopen at 10 am Monday, April 9.

Mark Curiale

For more information on these programs, please call the library at 456-2400, or email info@guilpl.org. The Guilderland Public Library is located at 2228 Western Ave., Guilderland.

Duo mixes music and history

Kim and Reggie Harris highlight one of the most fascinating chapters of American history with songs, stories, audience involvement and an award winning multi-media presentation. They will present Music and the Underground Railroad Monday, April 9, at 7 p.m. .Kim and Reggie are superbly talented traditional folk performers whose captivating stage presence and unique harmonies have earned the respect and love of audiences for over 30 years.

School’s out, library’s in
Pizza Possibilities

Voorheesville Public Library

Program (for Grades 3-6) on Thursday, April 12, at 10:30 a.m.

Learn how to make your own pizzas! We will mix the dough, pick out some toppings and bake some of our selections right here in the library. There will also be some silly stories about pizza, too. Please bring a mixing bowl with you. It would be helpful to also bring measuring spoons and cups, if possible. Registration is required.

Movie matinee
Thursday, April 12, at

1:30 p.m.

A young Emperor Penguin runs away with two of his pals when he’s laughed at by the flock for being unable to tap-dance like the rest of them. Rated: PG; 100 minutes. There will be popcorn.

Boston bus trip

On Saturday April 21, join the Friends of the Library on a trip to Boston! The bus will leave at 7 a.m from the Voorheesville Middle School parking lot and drop us off at the New England Aquarium. Spend the day sightseeing in good old Beantown. Bus leaves Boston at 7 p.m and will arrive in Voorheesville

at approximately 10 p.m. Paid reservations can be made at the Circulation Desk at the library. Call 765-2791 for more information.

Holiday closing

In observance of Easter, the library will be closed on Sunday, April 8, and reopen on Monday, April 9, at 10 a.m.

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.

Come solve the child care puzzle

Finding good child care is like a jigsaw puzzle. Essential pieces are a positive educational experience, uncompromising safety, and excellent care. Parents, grandparents and guardians are invited to “The Child Care Puzzle: Piecing it Together” tomorrow, Thursday, March 29, at 7 p.m.

Presenter Sheri



Dushane is the Center Education Coordinator for the Capital District Child Care Council and a New York State-credentialed trainer. She helps child care programs develop good learning environments, curricula,

leadership skills and business practices.

Staff/trustee arts and crafts show

This the last week of the show. Linger awhile in the lobby to see, hear and read what our talented staff and trustees have wrought. The display has been a pleasure for patrons and an eye-opener for staff, who have learned

a little more about their colleagues.

We’ve got winners!

It was a tough job, but somebody had to do it. About 85 pie lovers attended Pi Day at the library on March 14 and sampled sixteen pies. Winners and their pies are listed online at www.bplkids.org and in the

Check Page 25

Join us on March 31 for Family Day!

Visit our new branch at 98 Wolf Road in Colonie, and enter to win cash and cool prizes!

On Saturday, March 31, from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, you’re invited to Family Day, to experience the excitement of our newest branch! Use your key to unlock the treasure chests and you could win \$1,000 cash, an Apple iPad® 2 or a \$250 gas card!

Join Berkshire Bank and the Colonie High School football team to help raise money. Bring in your cans and bottles for their bottle drive, or bring in a donation. The High School Booster Club will also be at the event selling hot dogs and hamburgers.

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Kids who bring a pair of sneakers for donation to the Delmar Dash will have the children's race registration waived.
Spotlight file photos

Racing to provide footwear to those in need

Delmar Dash a collection point for Green Sneakers program

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

For local runners looking to do a little spring cleaning, the 24th Annual Delmar Dash will provide a good cause to start.

This year, spectators and those participating in the race can donate an old or new pair of sneakers to provide footwear to those in lower-income areas around the world.

“The school district already had this initiative going and we thought this would be a great way to contribute,” said Nancy Fopeano of Bryant Assets



Protection, a Delmar Dash sponsor. “All of the money raised will benefit the Hope Seven Community Center in Troy.”

The Hope Seven Community Center “provides daycare for low-income families,

activities for kids and maintains a food pantry for the community.” For every pound of shoes collected for the Green Sneakers program, 50 cents will be donated back by the program to support the community

center. Hope Seven started the initiative in hopes of collecting 1,000 pairs of shoes by June.

Glenmont Elementary School has been working to collect shoes for the drive for months, and several other schools have joined in.

Fopeano said the drive is the perfect reason for residents to clean out their closets. For children who donate sneakers, the \$2 registration fee for the

children's race sponsored by *The Spotlight* will be waived.

The sneakers can be in any condition. The people of Green Sneakers clean and repurpose each pair of sneakers. They are then sent to regions like Africa, South America and Haiti where they are sold at an extremely low price by not-for-profit organizations at local markets. This way the project not only provides shoes for low-income families, but it also creates jobs for the local economy.

“When you participate in a Green Sneakers fundraiser, you’re doing more than helping a local charity, you’re providing the opportunity for economic prosperity to some of the poorest people on the planet through reuse,” reads the Green Sneakers website.

According to the organization, for every 70,000 sneakers donated,

500 cubic meters of landfill space is saved.

All sneakers can be donated at the children's registration table. Fopeano said children do not have to donate their own sneakers. Any pair will do and the more pairs of sneakers donated the better.

“You also don’t need to be running to donate,” she said. “People can donate just to support a good cause.”

The 24th Annual Delmar Dash is a 5-kilometer race presented by the Hudson Mohawk Road Runners Club. It will be held on Sunday, April 15 starting at the Bethlehem Middle School at 9 a.m. Registration is \$20 for HMRRC members and \$25 for non-HMRRC members. The deadline for online registration is Friday, April 12.

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Albany temple introduces live video streaming

Online services draw varied audience

By MARCY VELTE
veltem@spotlightnews.com

Two years ago, when Rabbi Scott Shpeen, when Rabbi Scott Shpeen was unable to attend the funeral of a dear friend in California, his friend's congregation offered a unique solution.

The funeral was live-streamed over the Internet. Through technology, more than 1,000 people from across the country who would not have been able to attend the service, were now able to watch their loved one be laid to rest. This sparked an idea for Shpeen: Why not introduce a similar service for his temple, Congregation Beth Emeth in Albany?

"I believe, we as a congregation and community need to think outside of the box to engage and include as many members as possible in what we do," he said.

In its first year, Shpeen said the new video-streaming service is bridging the gap between the Internet and synagogue for an exciting outcome because it can be used by a varied number of people. Services are



Video streaming has proved popular at Congregation Beth Emeth in Albany.

being watched online by older members no longer able to drive, college students attending school far from home, families with younger children who can't attend services on a Friday night, and those on vacation.

All regular weekly services are streamed and then archived on the temple's website. Special services such as funerals,

weddings, and Bar and Bat Mitzvahs can be streamed by request.

"During the high holy days, nearly 300 people watched our services who weren't able to attend," said Shpeen, adding since the initiative began in September about 12 families use the streaming service on a weekly basis.

The initiative is also fairly new

nationwide. According to Congregation Beth Emeth, only 10 percent of Jewish congregation's have similar access and they are the only Jewish community in the greater Capital District providing streaming services.

Shpeen said with most of the Congregation's members coming from communities outside of Albany like Bethlehem

and Colonie, the services may be appropriate at times when families cannot make the drive.

The first service streamed was the confirmation of Brett Kauffman's daughter. Kauffman is a Congregation Beth Emeth trustee and on the temple's IT committee. Because of the service, his parents were able to watch their grandchild get

confirmed. "We have truly humanizing technology," he said in a news release.

The temple raised money to purchase the equipment, but the initial funds were provided by a member of the board Judith Saidel, and her husband, Peter.

"When I'm in Florida, I feel like I'm home," she said in a news release. "Suddenly I'm there, watching the candles glow, hearing the familiar melodies, and feeling the clergy's presence as if I were sitting in the front row. Our worship reaches me, the virtual audience, just as dramatically and realistically as it does those in the sanctuary."

Shpeen said there are on-going costs associated with providing the service and they are looking for contributions to continue the streaming and archiving. The temple would eventually like to stream all lectures, special events, and other learning opportunities, but it would be dependent on private funding through donations.

"No longer can we expect that (the public) can easily come to us," said Shpeen. "Our world is changing and we might need to come to them."

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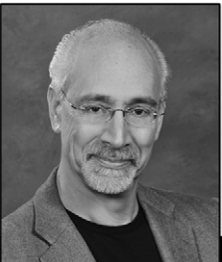
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Toeing up to the challenge

Training program prepares runners for the Freihofer's Run for Women

By ALYSSA JUNG
junga@spotlightnews.com

The 34th Freihofer's Run for Women isn't until June, but starting Monday, March 19, a group of Capital Region women kicked off their training at The Crossings of Colonie.

"We're trying to target women who might be a little more sedentary, non runners, women who always wanted to run the race but never thought they could," said Patrick Lynskey, director of operations for the Freihofer's Run for Women.

Last year, Lynskey helped introduce the Freihofer's Training Challenge, a 10-week program that provides a running plan to get women in shape.

"They loved it. I heard several people say it

changed their lives," said Lynskey. "I met a woman... who still runs, she just ran the Disney Half Marathon, and is coming back to do the intermediate program because now she wants to go faster."

The Training Challenge is modeled after the Couch-to-5k Running Plan, which teaches novice runners how to complete three miles gradually. Runners spend one day a week working out with a team at The Crossings, another day working on their own and a third day each week in a group session led by coaches, personal trainers and injury prevention specialists.

"Our mission is to create a healthy lifestyle event for women and to introduce as many women as possible to the sport of running, so this goes hand in hand with that," said Lynskey.

Last year's Training Challenge drew about 400 women and as of Wednesday, March 14, about 210 women had signed up for this

year's program. New to this year's challenge is a virtual beginner and intermediate component that has 82 and 27 participants, respectively. It's for women who want to train alone or can't complete the full Training Challenge.

Cathy Stone, 64, tried The Training Challenge last year and returned this year for the intermediate experience.

"This year, they're going to have intermediate so that's why I signed up again so I could better my time," said Stone, a resident of Loudonville.

Stone initially signed up to participate because she wanted to learn how to run; and she did.

"I had never run in my life. It was excellent. It's very well done, very well organized. Besides just teaching you how to run and breathe they give nutritional advice," said Stone. "In my age group I did fantastic. I came in around 29 minutes. ... I was very proud of myself."

Stone said she would



Participants stretch at The Crossings of Colonie prior to a workout during last year's inaugural Freihofer's Training Challenge. More than 400 women took part in the 10-week program that gradually teaches novice runners how to complete a three-mile run.

Submitted photo

encourage women to sign up and see what they can do.

"Women should try it because even if you think you could never run even an eighth of a mile, by doing the training you'll surprise yourself and really be able to do it," said Stone. "It's really fun, not a chore; a great way to do exercise."

Women can sign up for the Training Challenge

through Saturday, March 31.

Lynskey said the type of women participating runs the gamut.

"We've had women that did it because they needed to lose weight and women who wanted to get in better shape, get a little exercise, get out of the house," said Lynskey. "There's a plethora of different reasons why

these women completed the training challenge."

Runners can sign up for the Training Challenge online at www.freihofersrun.com/fc25k.htm. The challenge costs \$20 and when women sign up they choose which of the three teams led by area media personalities they'd like to be on. Registration for the race on June 2 is \$25.

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10:45 PM Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 6

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
3:00 PM Ecumenical Stations of the Cross
7:30 PM Celebration of the Passion

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 7

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
8:00 PM Celebration of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8

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Maunday Thursday 6:00 p.m. Agape Dinner
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Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

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Seniors raise \$1,000 for Y

A group of seniors from Bethlehem Central High School raised \$1,000 for the Capital District YMCA Reach Out for Youth Campaign.

Derek Martin, Executive Director of the Bethlehem YMCA, said the money will be used for provide camp scholarships to local children from low-income families.

“We never turn a child away because of

someone’s inability to pay,” he said.

The money was raised by five seniors in the Bethlehem Central Lab School, Samantha Vell, Jon Whittman, Megan Kaplowitz, Coby Berger, and Nicole Jones. Martin said seven children will now be able to attend camp because of the money they raised.

Last year, \$65,000 was raised among all 13 Capital District YMCA branches, according to Martin. This year’s goal is \$90,000.

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Saga

(From Page 1)

to see play out, McCoy said there are some facts he can't ignore.

"Where I'm at is, within the 2 percent cap, it's going to be hard going forward to sustain a nursing home. I'm not against it, I just need commitment from the Legislature that they're committed to giving me funds to run a nursing home," said McCoy.

The amount of money

the county would have to throw in to run the nursing home is a debated issue. According to McCoy, it will cost roughly \$11.3 million to operate the nursing home in 2012. That number includes about \$7.2 million the county pays into a nursing home fund (\$3.7 million is written into the budget and the rest is retiree pension costs, workman's comp and other expenses) and about \$3.9 million the county must match locally to the IGT funding it receives (a combination of federal and state dollars).

For 2012, about \$8.6 million in IGT funding is expected to come in, but the county will only end up receiving about \$4.7 million in net revenue when taking the local match into consideration.

That doesn't take into consideration the costs of building a new home, which the Legislature recently addressed. New York State Department of Health projections show building a new home would perform even more poorly at a \$26.3 million operating deficit.

Chairman of the

Legislature Shawn Morse released a statement claiming that number is inaccurate and some legislators are clamoring for clarity.

"I don't know how you come to a decision on what is the best way to go without having some agreement on what the numbers actually are," said Legislator Richard Mendick, R-Selkirk.

According to Morse, the DOH refused to accept numbers the Legislature presented in a certificate of need application filed to build a new nursing home

facility.

"It's very difficult to get anything done when the State of New York is playing games and trying to make this a difficult process. Trying to get information from them is very difficult when they won't talk to you, so I think we have a plan, it's just a matter of trying to get the steps put together," said Morse.

Morse said while the legislative minority will "be respected and have a right to be heard," the majority will ultimately make the final decision,

which thus far is to build a new nursing home facility.

"Building a new nursing home will save money, period. Not because of the bricks and mortar solely, but because it'll be the right size with the right size staff and it'll save us money," said Morse.

The current nursing home is a 250-bed facility, and the new one would house 200 beds. There are about 45,000 seniors over the age of 65 in Albany County.

"We're spending so much money on that small

Home Page 32

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Entertainment in the Spotlight

Making a BIG DEAL of nanotechnology



Schenectady Museum Educator Liesl Bailey interacts with visitors while conducting nanotechnology demonstrations.

Submitted photos

Schenectady Museum to focus on science of extremely small things

By JACQUELINE M. DOMIN
dominj@spotlightnews.com

Nanotechnology is a hot topic in the Capital District, and kids can see what all the excitement is about this weekend at the Schenectady Museum.

Nanoscience and nanotechnology deal with extremely small things. Education and Planetarium Manager Megan Dominguez said just how small will be one of the focal points of Nano Days, from Thursday, March 29, to Sunday, April 1.

Matter that is considered “nano” is so tiny it can’t be seen by a microscope, she said. Educators will drive the point home with real-life analogies: Cut a meter stick into a billion pieces, and you have a nano, Dominguez said.

Nano Days is part of a nationwide festival of educational programs about nanoscale science and engineering. The Schenectady Museum has taken part for the last four years, in no small part because nanotechnology has a foothold in this area. The University at Albany’s College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering touts itself as “the most advanced research complex at any university in the world.” Nanotechnology is the backbone of the GlobalFoundries plant in Malta that will focus on semiconductor manufacturing and research.

Every museum and science center taking part in Nano Days has its own approach, Dominguez said.

In Schenectady, there will be individual, standalone demonstrations at tables staffed by educators along with UAlbany professors and students. At one table, there will be Legos with which kids can build. But nanotechnology involves such small components that this won’t be just a standard Lego-building station. Instead, kids will have to wear oven mitts while building their creations, recreating some of the challenges of working in a nanoscale environment.

“Since you can’t look at things, you have to feel your way,” Dominguez said.

Other tables will draw attention to how nanotechnology applies to real life. It plays a part in liquid gold, which allows “more energy to go out of something.” A golf club made with real gold, for example, could potentially hit a ball farther than a normal club.

And that sparks discussion: Is it fair to use clubs made with liquid gold? Is it safe?

“It’s newer stuff,” Dominguez said. “You can start some very interesting conversations with people.”

Dominguez said nanotechnology has allowed some things seen in nature to be replicated. Water, for example, can slide off plant leaves. Scientists studied

that and were able to create stain-proof clothing and other materials using nanotechnology.

The museum has one exhibit devoted to nanotechnology, but that’s going to grow. It recently secured a grant that will allow it to create a “nanotrail” that highlights an area in the museum where nanotechnology has come into play. The museum is also looking into bringing lessons on nanotechnology to local schools and creating more of the museum’s science discovery demos that focus on nanotechnology.

The Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network organizes Nano Days, the largest public outreach effort in nanoscale informal science education. In Schenectady, museum educators will lead nano demonstrations and hands-on activities from 1 to 2:30 p.m. over the four days. Scientists from the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering will visit the museum Saturday, March 31, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. to conduct demonstrations and to discuss their work.

Admission to Nano Days activities is free with museum admission. The museum is at 15 Nott Terrace Heights in Schenectady.

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Submitted photos

Schenectady Museum Educator Liesl Bailey asks a young visitor to make predictions about water-resistant fabric samples during a nanotechnology demonstration like those that will be featured at Nano Days March 29 through April 1 at the Museum.

Arts and Entertainment

Theater

A BODY OF WATER

Staged reading of Lee Blessing's play, presented by Schenectady Civic Players, 12 South Church St., Schenectady, April 1, 2:30 p.m., free. Information, 382-2081.

BLACK PEARL SINGS

Regional premiere of Frank Higgins' play about an imprisoned woman who must decide if she trusts another woman with the music that has been passed down to her, presented by Capital Repertory Theatre, 111 North Pearl St., Albany, through April 7, shows Tuesdays through Sundays, \$20-\$60. Information, 445-7469.

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, through March 31, shows 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, \$22. Information, 877-7529.

Music

DORA & ANDY

Two members of The Wheel perform their collection of blues, rock and more, March 29, 7 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

PEGGY SEEGER FAREWELL TOUR

Member of famed Seeger folk musician family, March 29, 7 p.m., Caffe Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$22, door price \$24. Information, 583-0022.

BRIAN PATNEAUDE TRIO

Capital District jazz performers, March 30, 7 p.m., Stockade Inn, 1 North Church St., Schenectady, free. Information, 346-3400.

SYBIL ALLYSON AND MARK SMITH

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

CHRISTINE POWERS

Dynamic soprano performs "Universal Belssings: A Song Journey for the Soul,"

featuring music from European classical composers and American spiratuals, March 30, 7:30 p.m., WAMC Performing Arts Studio, 339 Central Ave., Albany, advance tickets \$18, door price \$23. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

KIM & CLYDE

Country duo, March 30, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

SHELBY LYNNE

Grammy Award-winning blues singer-songwriter, March 30, 8 p.m., Swyer Theater, The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$28. Information, 473-1845.

STREET CORNER HOLLER

Mark Tolstrup and Dale Haskell lead Saratoga Springs band kicking off the Acoustic Blues Festival, March 30, 8 p.m., Caffe Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$16, door price \$18. Information, 583-0022.

BLACK CAT HABITAT

Indie pop band, March 31, 7 p.m., Emack and Bolio's, 366 Delaware Ave., Albany, free. Information, 512-5100.

BLUES IN THE ROUND

Featuring Shari Kane & Dave Steele, Rob-in O'Herin and Low 'N Lonesome, March 31, 8 p.m., Caffe Lena, 47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$20, door price \$22. Information, 583-0022.

DAN JOHNSON & HIS EXPERT SIDEMEN

Six-piece Americana band, March 31, 8 p.m., Moon and River Cafe, 115 South Ferry St., Schenectady, free. Information, 382-1938.

ROOTS MUSIC FESTIVAL 3

Featuring Annie and the Hedonists, Jim Gaudet and the Railroad Boys, Street Corner Holler and the Red Haired Strangers, March 31, 8 p.m., WAMC Performing Arts Studio, 339 Central Ave., Albany, \$15. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

JOAN OSBORNE

Famed "One Of Us" singer-songwriter returns with new album and tour, April 1, 7:30 p.m., Swyer Theater, The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$34.50. Information, 473-1845.

Comedy

MOP AND BUCKET COMPANY

Weekly show of improvised comedy and music, March 23, 8 p.m., Proctors Underground, 432 State St., Schenectady, adults \$14, students/seniors \$6. Information, 346-6204.

COMEDY WORKS

Kevin Downey Jr. and Dave Cooperman headline, March 30 and 31, 9 p.m., Best Western, 200 Wolf Road, Colonie, March 31, 7:30 p.m., Starting Gate Restaurant, 12 Ballston Ave., Saratoga Springs, advance tickets \$15, day of show \$20. In-

formation, (877) 565-3849 or 275-6897.

LOUIE ANDERSON

Comedy veteran, March 31, 8 p.m., Hart-Theater, The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$29.50-\$99.50. Information, 473-1845.

Family Fun

IMAGINATION ARTS WORKSHOPS

Learn to create art from felt (April 12) and study impressionism (May 10) at Malta Community Center, open to children age 5-7, registration fee is \$6 per class for Malta residents, \$7 per class for non residents, registration deadline is one week prior to class. Information, 899-4411.

RIVERWAY STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Seven free performances for families the week of April 16-21 at libraries in Bethlehem, Castleton, Colonie, East Greenbush, Guilderland and Grafton. Information, 383-4620 or www.riverway-storytelling festival.org.

Visual Arts

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

"Shadow and Substance: African American Images from the Burns Archive," through March 31; "From the Collections," through April 1; "New York Remembers: Reflecting on September 11," through April 28; plus "Beneath the City: An Archeological Perspective of Albany," permanent collections on the 9/11 recovery effort, New York state history and geography, Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue. Information, 474-5877.

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF ART

"St. Peter's Church: 300 Years of History and Art," through April 29; "First in the Hearts of His Countrymen: George Washington," through May 20; plus "The Folk Spirit of Albany: Folk Art from the Col-lection 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

Installations by Paul Katz, Harry Leigh, Harold Lohner, Lillian Mulero, Ken Ragsdale, Nancy Shaver and Joy Taylor. Information, 463-3726.

ALBANY CENTER GALLERY

"Chip Fasciana: Life & Death," through April 6, 39 Columbia St., Albany. Information, 462-4755.

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

BROADWAY ART CENTER

"The Human Form: Undressed," through March 31; Aracde Building, 488 Broad-

way, 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.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DANCE

"Tails & Terpischore" through Nov. 24, 2013; "En Pointel" through Nov. 18; "Eleo Pomare: The Man, The Artist, The Maker of Artists," through Nov. 18; "American Ballet Theatre: Then & Now," through Nov. 18; 99 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 584-2225.

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.

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UPSTATE ARTISTS GUILD

"Fatal Abstraction 2," through March 31, 47 Lark St., Albany. Information, 426-3501.

HYDE COLLECTION

"Toulouse-Lautrec & Company: Prints from the Belle Epoque," through May 27, 161 Warren St., Glens Falls. Information, 792-1761.

CLARK ART INSTITUTE

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

MASS MOCA

"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

"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," ongo-

ing; Canajoharie. Information, 673-2314.

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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.

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

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- 43 Reckless
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26 Acid derivative
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42 Be acceptable
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52 That: Sp.
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55 Organic unit
56 Scandinavian capital
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The life and times of a Saratoga landmark

Caff  Lena’s long history being recorded, commemorated

By JULIE CUSHINE-RIGG
riggj@spotlightnews.com

An effort to memorialize the history Caff  Lena, the iconic music and theater venue in Saratoga Springs is under way, even as the Phila Street mainstay continues to operate.

Deemed the longest running folk club/coffee house in the country and formed by Lena Spencer, the landmark will live on for generations to come through the Caff  Lena History Project.

Spencer died in 1989, and since then the caf  has been operating as a nonprofit organization. Today, Caff  Lena still holds hundreds of shows a year and remains a regional draw for music lovers. The documenting of its history stems from the interest of Jocelyn Arem, a Skidmore graduate who is now at the helm of the project that started in earnest in 2002, along with Sarah Craig, the venue’s director.

“The Caff  Lena History Project began as a capstone fieldwork study and research paper during my undergraduate



Don McLean, famous for “American Pie” among other songs, at Caff  Lena in 1960.

Submitted photo

days at Skidmore. I’d been intrigued by the history of Caff  Lena since I climbed those mysterious stairs during my first months of school to perform at open mic night and Sarah offered me my first professional gig,” said Arem in an email. “I soon began spending my free time in between classes volunteering and absorbing live music at the Caff , and trying to learn as much as I could about its legendary place in music history.”

Also helping with the project is musician George Ward, who has been connected to Caff  Lena and knew Spencer from the beginning. His role in the project is to

do some of the things that Arem can’t from her home in North Carolina, most notably inventorying the Caff  Lena archive at the Saratoga Historical Society.

“Lena’s artist files have led us to some former Caff  artists with great stories about the place, people whom we otherwise might have missed,” said Ward, who is a folklorist in addition to his musical talents.

Ward has also helped in tracking down early recordings made at the Caff , which are now being professionally restored and digitized in New York City with the help of a \$4,000 grant Arem secured from the GRAMMY Foundation.

Caff  Lena’s mark on the music scene was highlighted recently when Arem traveled to California for Grammy Week, when the GRAMMY Foundation showcased the history project during its annual Preservation Project celebration. That event was attended by many notable names in the music scene, including Sharon Osbourne.

“Over the past 10 years, thanks to the support of Skidmore College, The New York Council for the Humanities, the GRAMMY

Foundation and many others, we’ve accomplished the organization of 6,000 rare, never-before-seen photographs made at Caff  Lena between 1960 and 1968, digitization of 700 hours of rare audio recordings, interviews with 100 musicians including Pete Seeger, Arlo Guthrie, Don McLean and the creation of an online exhibition at www.Caff lenahistory.org. The Library of Congress is committed to preserving these materials in its national archives. We’re currently in need of final funding to finish research and preparation of these materials in time to commemorate Lena’s 90th birthday in 2013,” said Arem.

A coffee table type book about the project is expected to be released within the next year and will also highlight the collection.

Since its Phila Street doors opened 1960, Caff  Lena has been connected to such notable musicians as Bob Dylan, Arlo Guthrie and Don McLean. It has become infamous because of Spencer’s passion for the arts, particularly theater, and her ability to connect with people. She came to Saratoga from New York City and brought with her many of her art scene connections, namely from Greenwich

Village, which she would visit weekly.

“The stage has helped create great moments in music history. Lena was an authentic beatnik and was a really strong and interesting person. ...In the beginning the Caff  wasn’t always well received...there were some snarky articles in the papers and it raised a lot of eyebrows. ...She became an advocate for musicians and helped many careers,” said Craig.

“Lena, in her early years was extraordinarily energetic. It’s easy for people who knew her later in life when her health was not as good to not realize just how much energy she put not only into the Caff , but what we would today call outreach, and how she encouraged the coffee house as a local place for teenagers to drop in.”

Spencer’s connection to the community, such as the fact that every year at Christmas time, she held a reading of “A Child’s Christmas in Wales,” may not be as well known as those that talk of her taking a road trip to Boston to track down Bob Dylan to get him to perform at the Caff , but to many they’re just as important.

“She had become part of the Saratoga scene. She

had become someone and the Caff  had become someplace that was as integral to Saratoga’s image of itself...The Caff  was also an extended family of choice for some people, and that never really went away,” said Ward.

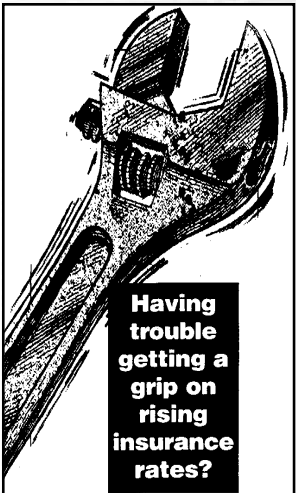
Arem said that while Caff  Lena is recognized as an important cultural site, the full impact of its role in music history remains largely unappreciated.

“We hope the results of this project will be used as teaching tools to help students, cultural historians and aspiring performers better understand the value of a local landmark, that local organizations will use this information to fill in a missing piece of local cultural history, and that the project will enhance the Caff ’s upcoming capital campaign to renovate its building and prepare its space for future generations of performers,” said Arem.

The history project is still collecting audio and video recordings made at the venue from 1960 through today for preservation. If you have Caff  Lena recordings to donate you can visit Caff lenahistory.org for information on how to contribute.

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Check

(From Page 8)

next issue of footnotes, the library newsletter (teaser—chocolate featured prominently this year). Special thanks to our celebrity judges: Bethlehem Central School District math supervisor David Hearst, 2011 winner Robert Maynard, and Delmar Marketplaces's Chris McCarroll.

Poetry online

April is National Poetry Month, and we invite kids in kindergarten through grade five to participate in our poetry contest. Submit your entries online this week through April 25. Go to www.bplkids.org for details.

Petition forms available

Nominating petition forms are available for two vacancies on the Bethlehem Public Library board of trustees, one for a full term of five years, and one for a partial term of one year. Petition forms and information packets are available at the library information desk.

Petitions must contain at least 99 signatures of voters residing in Central School District No. 6 of the Towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk, 90 Adams Place, Delmar by 5 p.m. on April 16.

Coloricious!

Thursday, April 12, 10 a.m.

Wear your favorite color and join the party. Stories and crafts for ages 3 to 8 with family.

Minute 2 Win It

Thursday, April 12, 2:30 p.m.

Compete in some crazy games—you've got 60 seconds! Grades six 12.

Louise Grieco

- The Bethlehem Public Library is located at 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar. For information, call 439-9314.



Timothy Patrick Lyster and Carey Ann Denefrio

Denefrio, Lyster to marry

Fred and Suzanne Denefrio of Niskayuna, NY, announce the engagement of their daughter, Carey Ann Denefrio to Timothy Patrick Lyster son of Peter and Patricia Lyster of Lockport, NY.

Carey Ann graduated from Niskayuna High School. She attended Boston College and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. Carey

Ann then attended and graduated from Albany Law School, where she received her Juris Doctorate. She is now an attorney in Rochester, New York, working as Confidential Law Clerk to United States Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman.

Timothy graduated from Lockport High School. He attended Lehigh University and graduated with a

Bachelor's Degree in Business and Economics. Timothy then attended and graduated from St. John's University School of Law, where he received his Juris Doctorate. He is now an attorney in Rochester, New York, working as Confidential Law Clerk to United States Bankruptcy Judge Paul R. Warren.

A May 26, 2012 wedding is planned in Lake George.

The time is now to become a library trustee

Nominating petitions for four open seats on the library board are available at the Library and on the library website (www.rcscommunitylibrary.org).

Trustees are responsible for establishing library policies, overseeing its financial affairs, and contributing to the library's development, along with other duties. The library director and trustees can answer questions about the board. Call the library at 756-2053.

This year, term lengths will range from one- to three-year commitments. Nominations require 38 signatures of residents registered to vote in the RCS school district. Completed petitions must be returned to the library by 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. (Note that the library closes at 5 p.m. on Saturdays.) Election of library trustees occurs on May 15 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the RCS High School.

Vacation activities

The library will

RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

celebrate spring during vacation week. Join Kathy Domery on April 12 at 10:30 am for a special storytime about Spring Peepers, little frogs who announce the arrival of spring!

On Friday, April 13, from 11 am to 1 pm, tweens, teens and adults can play Wii games in the Library Annex. Each group of four (or three

Viva L. Klim

DELMAR – Early Sunday morning March 18, 2012, Viva Lela (Hunt) Klim entered into eternal peace after a brief hospitalization at St Peters Hospital. Viva was 93 years old, and had led an involved life in her community of Delmar, NY until health issues in her later years.



She was born in Gloversville, NY October 2, 1919, the daughter of Bessie (Peterson) and Leigh Hunt. Viva married John F. Klim in Albany on February 14, 1943, and after WWII, she and John settled in Delmar to raise their growing family of 4 boys. She was a long-time member of the Bethlehem Business and Professional Women's organization, beginning with her first career in the mortgage department of Albany Savings Bank. Viva's life then focused more around her four boys: Brian, Jack, Dennis, and Tom. She was a past President of the Tri Village Little League Women's Auxiliary and taught Sunday School at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. After

raising her boys and seeing all four of them go off to college, she spent many years working in an administrative capacity in a Delmar obstetrical practice. Vi was predeceased by her beloved husband, John. Vi loved spending time with her grandchildren and provided much loving support to her boys and their families.

Viva is survived by her sons Brian (Susan), Jack, Dennis, and Tom. She is also survived by her grandchildren Zachary (Philip Howse) Klim, Courtney (JJ) Mazzone, Sean Klim, Brandon (Sunni) Klim, Valerie Klim, Megan Klim and Thomas Klim, Jr.

Relatives and friends are invited to call on Wednesday, March 21st, 2012 from 12 noon to 2:00 pm at the Applebee Funeral Home, 403 Kenwood Ave., Delmar. A service will follow at 2 pm at the funeral home. Burial will be in Bethlehem Cemetery. Contributions in Viva's memory can be made to the Five Rivers Environmental Center, 56 Game Farm Rd., Delmar, NY 12054, where she spent many enjoyable hours, or to the Tri Village Little League, P.O. Box 164, Delmar, NY 12054-0164.

or two) can reserve half an hour. You can choose among Wii Sports, several Mario games, DecaSports and Super Smash Bros' Brawl.

Registration is required for vacation week activities. Call (756-2053) or email info@rcscommunitylibrary.org today!

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Calvary Cemetery, Glenmont General Cleanup

Diocesan regulations concerning memorials and grave decorations are now in effect at Calvary Cemetery. Like other Diocesan Cemeteries, a general cleanup will be conducted on or about April 1. At this time, cemetery staff removes and discards all decorations. Lotowners should remove any decorations they wish to save before April 1. In addition, plantings in violation of the new regulations such as perennial flowers, hosta plants, edging around plantings and the like will also be removed.

For more information, please call 463-0134 or visit CapitalDistrictCemeteries.org

www.CapitalDistrictCemeteries.org

Your Community in The Spotlight

Food and Fellowship

The Food and Fellowship luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 11 from noon until 2 p.m. at the New Baltimore Reformed Church, located on the corner of Route 144 and Church Street in the hamlet. The meal will feature Roast Chicken and Rice, Asparagus, Dinner Rolls and Butter with Lemon Squares for dessert. The program will be by librarians Linda Dubert from Cossackie and Judith Felsten from the RCS Community Library who will provide information on available library programs and services. This luncheon is open to all members of the community. To facilitate with planning, reservations are encouraged. Call the church office at 756-8764 and leave your name, contact number and the number of reservations you are making for this April 11 meal. Additionally, if you require transportation, please leave that information as well. Dining space is limited to 60 seats. Free will offerings are graciously and gratefully accepted to help defray the food costs.

Bethlehem hosts egg hunt

On March 31, at 10 a.m. at the Elm Avenue Park large pavilion. Bring your children for some fun at the park with Flutterbug the Clown, jelly bean guessing contest, egg hunt and more! Recommended ages for participation, ages 2-grade 5. Children will be broken up into 3 age groups for the egg hunt. Please bring your own basket. In case of rain or poor field conditions, this event will be rescheduled for April 7.

Indian Ladder Trail now open

The Indian Ladder Ladder Trail at John Boyd Thacher State Park is open for the season. The Indian Ladder Trail is well known for its history, geological significance and for its scenic and dramatic views and vistas. Thacher Park is open daily from 8 a.m. to

Real estate firm celebrates Delmar property



CM Fox Real Estate opened its second location in Delmar at 333 Delaware Avenue on Tuesday, March 20. The company has been involved in buying and selling homes in the Capital District for the past six years and employ more than 20 licensed brokers. The location's opening was marked with a ribbon cutting by owner and broker Troy Miller, with the help of Bethlehem Town Supervisor John Clarkson and the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce.

Marcy Vette/Spotlight

sunset. Call 872-1237 for additional information. Visit the park website at www.nysparks.com for additional information on park programs.

Toastmasters hold open house

Bethlehem Toastmasters will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, April 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Adams Station Club House, 1 Juniper Drive, Delmar. No pre-registration required and all are welcome. If you have a fear of public speaking or just want to improve your presentation skills, then come to learn more about the art of public speaking in a comfortable setting among a supportive group of peers. Refreshments will be served.

Festival of Baskets in Ravena

The St. Patrick's Parish Center annual Festival of Baskets held on Sunday, April 15, from 11 a.m. to

4 p.m. in Ravena. Ticket Admission is \$10 and will include free tickets for four different categories of baskets. A light lunch and bake sale will be available.

Old Songs hosts McCutcheon

Old Songs presents singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist John McCutcheon on Friday, April 13, 8 p.m. at Old Songs, 37 South Main St., Voorheesville. Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under and may be purchased at the door or by calling Old Songs at 765-2815.

Voorheesville soldier to deploy

New York Army National Guard Specialist Matthew Shearer, a Voorheesville resident, is one of two dozen troops who recently trained at the Hattiesburg-Laurel Regional Airport to prepared for a deployment to Bahrain later this spring. The

Soldiers, assigned to C Company, 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion used the airport to learn airport security operations from March 12 to 14. The unit is part of the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and brigade Soldiers are at Camp Shelby, Miss., preparing to go overseas. Airport security is one of several missions C Company may be performing in Bahrain.

Beaver program at Five Rivers

A family-oriented program on the American beaver will be conducted at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar on Thursday, April 12 at 2 p.m. During this indoor/outdoor study, Five Rivers staff will present an elementary overview of the natural and cultural history of this fascinating rodent

through games and show-and-tell artifacts. Afterwards, staff will lead a tour of prime beaver habitat, searching for tell-tale signs of seasonal activity such as freshly chewed tree stumps, gnawed sticks, and new dam and lodge building. This program is free of charge, but enrollment is limited. Parents and children must accompany each other. Participants are urged to dress for outdoor activity. Please call 518-475-0291 by Monday, April 2 to register or for more information.

Pro Bono Project hosts clinic

Albany Law School's Veterans' Rights Pro Bono Project will host a free legal clinic for military veterans for the second time this year, offering an opportunity for veterans to receive free legal advice and assistance from attorneys at no cost. The clinic will take place on Saturday, March 31,

from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Albany Law School, located at 80 New Scotland Ave., Albany. Veterans will be able to receive legal advice and help in a variety of important legal areas, including tax issues, preparing advance care directives (such as Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Health Care Proxies), applying for Veterans Administration disability benefits, debtor/creditor issues, bankruptcy questions, divorce and custody matters, and a number of other topics.

Church holds pork dinner

On Saturday, March, a donation roast pork dinner will be held at the Trinity United Methodist Church, on Route 143, in Coeymans Hollow. Serving from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Take out will be available. For further questions, call Ismay at 756-6551 or Marion at 756-2629 or, on the day of, 756-2091.

Lost Radio Rounders perform

On Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. "The Star-Spangled Banner: Songs from the Second War of Independence" will be presented by the Lost Radio Rounders (Michael Eck and Tom Lindsey), as the program sponsored by the New Scotland Historical Association, held at the Wyman Osterhout Community Center in New Salem. This program is free and open to the public. For further information call 765-3125.

Palm Sunday breakfast

The Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company will be hosting their Annual Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast on Sunday April 1 from 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the New Baltimore Firehouse on Gill Road. Our all you can eat breakfast includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, toast, home-fries, sausage gravy, orange juice, milk, tea and coffee. The costs per meal are as followed: Adults- \$8, Senior Citizens-\$7, Children 5-12 years of age-\$6 and Children 4 and under are free.

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(From Page 1)

Central over past 10 years is 4.93 percent.

“The environment has been created where, if we draft a budget that preserves the excellence of a Bethlehem education and the tax levy increase is at or below 2.94 percent it’s a good thing, but if we determine that maintaining that excellence requires an increase of 2.95 all of a sudden it’s a bad thing?” said Douglas. “That is not the way the Bethlehem Central School District wants to approach education.”

If the district puts forward a budget with a tax hike above the levy limit, at least 60

percent of voters will have to approve it, versus the simple majority needed for a budget at or below the limit.

At a Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, March 21, parents and students came out in droves to oppose cuts to athletics and special education.

Under the current levy limit, Douglas said it is likely all priority one, two, and three level cuts would need to be made to balance the budget. This would include the loss of nearly 25 special education positions, mostly aides. It would also mean the elimination of the district’s gymnastics program and either modified or freshman teams for every sport that has four levels of teams.

Some parents were frustrated with the extreme cuts to the special education program, when there were relatively fewer proposed cuts for sports.

“I can’t believe we are discussing whether or not our district has a football team when we could potentially be cutting programs my son needs for his development,” commented one parent.

The board said fewer cuts to sports are under consideration because the program as a whole is not as large. Kehoe said athletics makes up less than one percent of the budget.

Douglas said the district wouldn’t be having these types of discussions if nearly \$4.1 million in state aid hadn’t

been granted to the district and then taken away.

“If we had that money it would take care of most of the gap,” he said. “The board is struggling because they feel they have been making sacrifices for the past several years. They have done everything the governor and Legislature has been asking them to do and it’s to no avail.”

Nearly 60 positions have been cut from the district in the past two years.

Stever said no decisions have been made and the board is still looking for feedback from the community. Two more public budget meetings will be held before the budget is presented to the public in mid April. The public will vote in May.

Got news?

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

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

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 Thursday prior to publication.

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Mav-eric 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) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED 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) (March 28, 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) (March 28, 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) (March 28, 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) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Driftwood Special Servicing, LLC. App. for Auth. filed

LEGAL NOTICE

with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/13/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 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) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: Twenty Five Elk Street Properties LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/18/12. 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, 25 Elk Street, Albany NY 12207. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 79518 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Medication Management Services, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 1/20/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 25 Parkwyn Dr., Delmar, NY 12054. Purpose: any lawful activities. Latest date 12/31/2110. 79523 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation 220 APT. LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 2/15/2012. 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. 79525 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation LDL Events, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 2/3/2012. 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. 79526 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Rosemina LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 2/13/2012. 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. 79527 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of EMPIRE HOLDINGS, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. Of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 2/15/12 using the fictitious name of DP HOLDINGS I LLC. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 3/23/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State

LEGAL NOTICE

St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address.DE address of LLC: c/o USA Corporate Services Inc., 3500 South Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Arts. Of Org. filed with the DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St. #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79528 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of JOHANNA C DESIGNS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/15/12. 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. 79529 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HOME FUNDING LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/16/12. 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. 79531 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABLITY COMPANY. NAME FRIENDLY EARTH LANDSCAPING LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/6/11. Office location Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Friendly Earth Landscaping LLC, 224 Newport Court, PO Box 4, Voorheesville, NY 12186. Purpose for any lawful purpose 79535 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LINDA DEKKERS LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/1/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process. SSNY shall mail process to 207 W.16 St. #1, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 79537 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Ramen Champion USA, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/14/12. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 170 Broadway, 4th Fl., NY, NY 10038. General Purposes. 79647 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Great White Directional Services LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/13/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Oklahoma (OK) on 12/15/05. 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. OK address of LLC: 14201 Caliber Drive, Ste. 300, Oklahoma City, OK

LEGAL NOTICE

73134. Arts. of Org. filed with OK Secy. of State, 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Rm. 101, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79651 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of WD GLOBAL LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/23/12. 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. 79654 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ROI PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/22/12. 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. 79655 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CEG CAPITAL LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/9/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79656 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ALBANY PAYROLL, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/7/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. 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. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79657 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of INRE SERVICES LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 9/29/10. 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. 79658 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation Three Smiles Kitchen, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/22/12. Off. Loc.: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 18 Wexford Rd, Delmar, NY 12054. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79660 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Kleenby LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 2/24/2012. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent

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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. 79669 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: NESTOR TORRES CONTRACTING LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/22/12. Office location: Schenectady 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, 1060 Helderberg Avenue, Schenectady, New York 12306. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 79670 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CONTEMPO AFFORDABLE FASHIONS LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/22/12. Office location: Schenectady 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, 1702 Chrisler Avenue, Schenectady, New York 12303. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 79671 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of LA VILLETTE INVESTORS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/29/12. 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. 79673 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Case Funding Associates, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/28/12. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 244 5th Ave., Ste 284 NY, NY 10001-7604. General Purposes. 79674 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of WESTSIDE DONUT 9TH AVE. VENTURES LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/1/12. 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. 79675 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ABOVE & BEYOND PRODUCTIONS LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/1/12. 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. 79676 (D)

LEGAL NOTICE

(March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of NZDCKNS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/07/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, c/o Nissim Seliktar, 47-28 37th St., 3rd Fl., Long Island City, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79677 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Bayport LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/07/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, c/o Jahangir Yaghoobian, 31 Jayport Lane North, Great Neck, NY 11023. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79678 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 19 Rabbit Run, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/07/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, c/o HHC Co., LLC, 23 Old Kings Hgwy South, PO Box 4004, Darien, CT 06820-4004. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 75007 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Eco-Energy Transportation, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/14/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 8/8/11. 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: National Registered Agents, Inc., 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. 75010 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CST TAX ADVISORS LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/ Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/29/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process. SSNY shall mail process to 1330 Ave. of Americas, Level 23, NY, NY 10019 . Purpose: Any lawful activity. 75018 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Aero Luggage LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/5/2012. 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. 75019 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Icon Design Build LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/1/2012. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom pro-

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cess may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79913 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Stoneage LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/1/2012. 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. 79914 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 47-52 43RD STREET LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/5/12. 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. 79915 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 51-46 MANILLA STREET LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/5/12. 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. 79916 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 51-50 MANILLA STREET LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/5/12. 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. 79917 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ZYM @ 112 LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 11/21/11. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. 79918 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Fisher Scientific International LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/29/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 9/19/91. 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. 79919 (D) (March 28, 2012)

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Notice of Qualification of Sysco Leasing, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/1/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 9/21/10. 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. 79920 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Gavilon Liberty Grain, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/26/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/28/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Attn: Christopher M. Bikus, Husch Blackwell LLP, 1620 Dodge St., Ste. 2100, Omaha, NE 68102. DE address of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, PO Box 898, Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful activity. 79921 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Iron Energy LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/2/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 9/26/11. 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: 5000 Bee Cave Road, Ste. 106, Austin, TX 78746. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, PO Box 12887, Austin, TX 78711. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79933 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of LEHIGH GAS – OHIO, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/5/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 4/16/09. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Capitol Services, Inc., 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. DE address of LLC: 1675 South State St., Ste. B, Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 79934 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Driftwood Hospitality Management II, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/10/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE)

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on 12/7/09. 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. 79935 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of MEL's BISTRO LLC, Art. Of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 2/27/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 26 Teasdale Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159. The Reg. Agt. at such address upon Yusuf Dincer. Purpose: any lawful activities. 80088 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of LEHIGH GAS WHOLESALE LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/8/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/2/11. 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. 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. 80091 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Bowery Member LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/8/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Krishna K. Mehta, Penthouse, 100 Ring Road, Garden City, NY 11530. Purpose: any lawful activity. 80092 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of BUILDING EQUITY MANAGEMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/12/12. 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. 80096 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of EYE D VISION LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 2/17/12. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail

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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. 80094 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CAMA & CAMA, LLP. Arts of Org. filed with SSNY on 3/13/12. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLP upon whom process against it 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. 80097 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of RICHDAVE ANTIQUES LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 3/14/12. 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. 80102 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of MILK DIARY LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on March 28, 2012. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. 80103 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of HEPACO, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/19/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/13/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2711 Burch Drive, Charlotte, NC 28269, Attn: Legal Dept. 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. 80104 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Pyrrho Management, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/9/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 2/14/12. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc. (CSI), 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. DE address of LLC: CSI, 1675 S. State St., Ste. B, Dover, DE 19901. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St.,

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Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 80105 (D) (March 28, 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, NY 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. 80116 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Pyrrho Global GP, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/26/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 2/14/12. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc. (CSI), 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. DE address of LLC: CSI, 1675 S. State St., Ste. B, Dover, DE 19901. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 80252 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Boulis LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/21/2012. 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. 80260 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Doron Enterprises LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/13/2012. 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. 80261 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Advantage Production LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/20/2012. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom pro-

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cess may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. 80262 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Simplicity Protection, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/6/12. Off. loc.: Albany County. LLC formed in Texas (TX) on 1/24/12. 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. TX address of LLC: 122 W. John Carpenter Fwy, 6th Fl., Irving, TX 75039. Arts. of Org. filed with TX Secy. of State, 1019 Brazos, Austin, TX 78701. Purpose: any lawful activity. 80266 (D) (March 28, 2012)

LEGAL NOTICE

Voorheesville Central School District Notice of public hearing, budget vote, and election NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a public hearing of the qualified voters of Voorheesville Central School District, County of Albany, State of New York will be held on May 7, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Large Group Instruction Room of the Voorheesville Middle School/Clayton A. Bouton High School in said district for the presentation of a budget for the school year 2011 2012. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that said vote will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 in the Voorheesville Middle School Foyer. The polls will open at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time and voting will proceed until 9:00 p.m. on the following: To elect two members of the Board of Education for a 4-year term terminating June 30, 2016, to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the terms of Timothy E. Blow and Lisa A. Henkel. To vote on the Annual School Budget and the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimate of expenditures, and to authorize the levy of taxes for this purpose. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that at said Annual District Election and Budget Vote to be held on May 15, 2012, the following propositions will be submitted: Proposition #1: Purchase of Buses: RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School District is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of school buses, including incidental expenses, at a maximum estimated cost of \$250,000, and that said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued. PROPOSITION #2: BUILDING PROJECT RESERVE FUND: RESOLVED, that the Board of Education be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund, designated

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as the Building Project Reserve Fund, in accordance with Education Law § 3651(1), for the purpose of paying the cost of future building projects, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 to be raised by annual transfer of unexpended fund balances in the maximum amount of \$500,000 per annum and a transfer of the existing balance of the Land Acquisition Reserve Fund, for a probable term of ten (10) years, effective immediately and expiring June 30, 2022, provided that, pursuant to Education Law § 3651(3), no expenditure shall be made from such fund except upon authorization of the voters of the District for the purposes specified herein. PROPOSITION #3: REPAIR RESERVE FUND: Shall the Board of Education be authorized to transfer up to \$250,000 from the unallocated fund balance to the Repair Reserve at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year? AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes, exclusive of public money, may be obtained by any taxpayer in the district during the fourteen days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, except Saturday, Sunday or holiday, at the following schoolhouses in which school is maintained during the hours designated: Schoolhouses Hours Voorheesville Elementary School Clayton A. Bouton High School 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the Clerk of the district not later than the 30th day preceding the school meeting. Each petition must be directed to the Clerk of the Library Board, must state the name and residence of the candidates and must describe the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated including at least the length of the term of office and the name of the last incumbent. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that letters requesting application for absentee ballots may be received by the District Clerk not earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day nor later than the seventh (7th) day before the election. Requests should addressed to: Clerk, Board of Education Voorheesville Central School District P.O. Box 498 Voorheesville, NY 12186 Dated: March 28, 2012 Dorothea Pfleiderer District Clerk AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a public hearing of the qualified voters of Voorheesville Central School District, County of Albany, State of New York will be held on April 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Voorheesville Public Library for the presentation of the Public Library budget for the year 2012 2013. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that said vote will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 in the Voorheesville Middle School Foyer. The

LEGAL NOTICE

polls will open at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time and voting will proceed until 9:00 p.m. on the following: To elect one member of the Board of Education for a 5-year term terminating June 30, 2017, to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term of Richard Ramsey. To vote on the annual Public Library budget and the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimate of expenditures, and to authorize the levy of taxes for this purpose. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for the ensuing year for library purposes, exclusive of public money, may be obtained by any taxpayer in the district during the fourteen days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, except Saturday, Sunday or holiday at the following schoolhouses in which school is maintained during the hours designated: Schoolhouse Hours Voorheesville Elementary School Clayton A. Bouton High School 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the petitions nominating candidates for the office of the Library Board must be filed with the Clerk of the Library Board not later than the 30th day preceding the school meeting. Each petition must be directed to the Clerk of the Library Board, must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the district, must state the name and residence of the candidates and must describe the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated including at least the length of the term of office and the name of the last incumbent. AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that letters requesting application for absentee ballots may be received by the District Clerk not earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day nor later than the seventh (7th) day before the election. Requests should addressed to: Clerk, Board of Education Voorheesville Central School District P.O. Box 498 Voorheesville, NY 12186 Dated: March 28, 2012 Gail Sacco Director 80264 (D) (March 28, 2012) LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7:00p.m., at the Town Offices, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York, to take action on an application by Glenmont Retail LLC, for area variances under, Article VI, Section 128-59, signs. Applicant wishes to construct a wall sign at 312-316 Route 9W that exceeds the square footage allowed for a building facade. Daniel W. Coffey Chairman Board of Appeals 80271 (D) (March 28, 2012)



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Home

(From Page 16)

population and I'm OK with that because I think we do have an obligation to our seniors but we have to service all 45,000 seniors and try to keep seniors longer in their house," said McCoy.

Morse said the plan to build a new nursing home will allow the county to serve a larger chunk of that senior population, most of whom are "poor, underinsured" or have health conditions that require expensive care.

"It is incumbent upon us to make sure those people have the absolute best care we can possibly give them and that they deserve. In doing that, we need to make sure it's done with a sense of understanding of who pays for the nursing home, which is taxpayers, and figuring out ways to offset the cost to the taxpayer," said Morse. "We believe that having a nursing home that is the right size, that has the right size staff, that has ancillary services surrounding the nursing home on a campus-style setting, we'd be able to reduce the cost,

create additional revenues to further reduce the cost and have a facility we can all be proud of."

McCoy said his other three options shouldn't be discarded. Switching to private management would bring county costs down and the county would remain the owner. A public benefit corporation option would see the nursing home manage itself with some oversight from the Legislature and essentially taking the county's control away in terms of hiring or firing. The fourth option would be to privatize it entirely.

"What people don't realize is if we close it down today, it would take two years for us to see any financial impact from the nursing home closing," said McCoy.

Morse doesn't see any option working outside of keeping the nursing home publically owned and run.

"I think any other option leaves a lot to be desired and I'm concerned that the people who would be at the mercy of the private industry would find themselves shipped out of our state like we've done time and time again, living in a foreign place," said Morse.

Mendick, though, thinks the Legislature should explore those other options.

"It is clear that history has shown us that Albany County as a public entity is not adept at running a nursing home and that is substantiated by the sizable deficits that we've run over the years," said Mendick. "... The legislature's inability to get their arms around the numbers may be the strongest indication that we should not be in the nursing home business."

Mendick said the Legislature should look at the option that will serve the most Albany County seniors while not breaking taxpayers' banks.

"If the taxpayers have spoken through the ballot box and put Mr. Cuomo in the governorship, very clearly they're looking for some tax relief," he said.

Mendick said legislative actions during the budget process suggest the body won't be implementing a taxpayer-friendly nursing home plan.

"The legislature ... voted to override the 2 percent tax cap. That gives the indication that the majority of the legislators are willing to pay the nursing home tab

regardless of the cost," said Mendick.

But Morse challenged the sentiment that footing the nursing home bill directly correlates to raising taxes.

"Raising taxes is just a scare tactic. We have more than just one service in the county government and if that means we have to balance the ability to fund all the services with less money, that may be an option. The other option is maybe we have enough money with these ancillary settings on our campus that generate revenues and offset the cost rather than have to raise taxes," said Morse.

Morse said he's weighing more "creative solutions" that would ease the taxpayer burden.

"We're very concerned for the taxpayer but we're also very concerned for people who would otherwise not have anywhere to go," said Morse. "People need to start thinking outside the box. It's not just about cut and tax, spend and tax; those days are over. It takes creative thinkers to come up with creative solutions ... and those are what we're seeking out right now."

McCoy said the

legislature needs to absolutely consider what impact raising taxes to fund a new nursing home would have on residents.

"I still would love to ... build a state-of-the-art facility for our seniors because I believe in it. The problem I have is that people are suffering, people are having a hard time paying their rent, mortgage, putting food on their table, finding jobs and taxes are killing them," said McCoy.

Speaking of taxes in general, McCoy said it's unrealistic to think Albany County can live within a 2 percent cap, so tax hikes in some capacity are inevitable in the coming years.

"We can never live within the 2 percent cap in Albany County, ever, and it's because of the unfunded (state) mandates," said McCoy. "Until they get rid of all the unfunded mandates or give us relief from it there's no way possible for us to live within."

McCoy said he's starting to consolidate services within the county to generate savings.

"We're merging the Department of Mental Health and Department of Health, we're going

to consolidate internally, shared services. ... Budget and managements we're overhauling right now. We're going to change that whole philosophy, centralize everything," said McCoy. "If I can centralize it then I won't need as much staff, so as people retire I can shrink the workforce a little bit more but continue the level of service that we're providing and do better."

He said he's approaching his job as county executive with short- and long-term vision.

"I'm worried about the future of Albany County for my children and for everyone else's children," said McCoy. "We have to look at where do we want to be in 2020, 2025."

To get a better handle on what concerns are weighing on residents' minds, McCoy is planning a series of "town tours" where he'll visit municipalities across the county. He's also trying to spark economic development in the county by starting an "incubator" at 112 State St. in Albany with a local development corporation and office space for new businesses that pledge to remain in the county for a certain number of years.



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Years

(From Page 36)

was a minor leaguer with the organization. I had to borrow my parents' car to make the trip from their winter condo to the training facility, but it was worth it.

The tiniest place I've ever covered a sporting event – Schenectady Christian School's old gym. Before it was called Mekeel Christian Academy and before it built a beautiful gym, the then-named Falcons played in a gym right out of the early part of the 20th century. It was so small, the mid-court time line rule was not used because you needed to take only a few steps to go from one end to the other. Also, the three-point arc was a line

that went from one sideline to the other. You couldn't hit a three-pointer from the corner because there was no corner.

The largest place I've ever covered a sporting event – The appropriately-named Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. I covered two NFL pre-season games when the New York Giants had begun holding training camps at UAlbany in the mid-1990s.

The one sporting event I wished I covered but didn't – The Albany Firebirds winning the 1999 Arena Bowl title at what is now known as the Times Union Center. Where was I? In Syracuse at a bachelor party for a college friend of mine. Meanwhile, "Touchdown" Eddie Brown was leading the conga line for the Firebirds as they

beat Orlando for the only "major" professional sports title this city has ever had.

The one Capital District native I want to interview – Pat Riley. Six NBA titles as a head coach, and he's the man who brought LeBron James to South Beach to play with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh. And that's only a small part of the Schenectady native's résumé.

The most nerve-racking interview I've ever conducted – Bill Parcells. I and another reporter had only a couple of minutes to talk to Parcells as he left a Saratoga Springs Pop Warner football clinic, and by that I mean we had to stop him at his car before he got in and drove off. It's intimidating just to ask Parcells a question under normal circumstances, but

to have to do that while he's standing at his car itching to get in and leave doubles the pressure. I'm just glad we both got direct quotes from him.

The easiest interview I've ever conducted – Anything involving a team winning a championship. The players and coaches are always willing to talk, but that's what you would expect.

The hardest interview I've ever conducted – Anything involving a team losing a championship or a person losing a loved one. Unfortunately, it comes with the territory of being a journalist.

Finally, the one interview I'm dreading – The exit interview. I'd like to put that one off as long as I can. Perhaps for another 20 years. Maybe longer.

Busch

(From Page 36)

credit not only my off-season workouts but also my in-season workouts for helping me."

As Busch has gone through his MLS journey, he's seen the league grow from a third-tier sport in the American pro sports landscape to a well-regarded second-tier sport that has a vibrant fan base.

"It's really exciting for me to see how this league has grown and to see the younger players coming up," said Busch.

Busch said some of the craziest fans are in Seattle, where the people have been known to throw unflattering comments in the direction of the opposing goaltender.

"I actually enjoy listening to some of the crazy comments because they can be quite funny,"

said Busch. "A few years ago, I might have turned around and said something back to them, but now I just laugh."

San Jose is going through its own soccer renaissance. A new soccer-specific stadium is being built for the Earthquakes, which is scheduled to open in 2013. When completed, it will be the 12th soccer-specific stadium in the 19-team league.

"When I first came in, the only soccer-specific stadium was in Columbus," said Busch. "(The growth of new facilities) shows that the league is here to stay. It just raises the profile of the league because we all have our own stadiums."

Busch plans to continue playing in MLS as the league continues to grow. Only 35 years old, he said he feels like he still has several years ahead of him.

"I never try to take a day off, and I never try to take a play off," said Busch. "The day I do that is the day that I retire."



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Defending champions ready for a new season



Bethlehem's Meagan Sullivan throws during a preseason practice last Wednesday. Sullivan is one of six returning starters from last year's Class AA championship team.
Rob Jonas/Spotlight

Bethlehem knows it won't take anybody by surprise in tough Suburban Council

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

For the first time in three decades, the Bethlehem softball team enters the season as the defending Section II champion.

With that title comes the burden of being everyone's target, but the Lady Eagles don't mind.

"I think we gained more respect for winning it last year," said returning outfielder McKenzie Pezze. "Now, people come and want to say that they beat the Section II titleholders."

"The thing we have this year is no one is going to be surprised about us," added Bethlehem coach Karen Gentile.

Sophomore pitcher Meagan Sullivan returns to see if she can continue to confound Section II hitters with her array of off-speed pitches like she did last year. It was that variety of pitches that helped Sullivan shut down Shenendehowa's high-powered offense in a 2-1 victory over the Plainswomen in the Class AA Sectional final.

"I definitely think it's going to put a bigger target on our backs because we're not that team with a freshman pitcher that no one knew about anymore," said Sullivan.

"She doesn't strike many batters out, but she induces a lot of ground balls," said Gentile. "So, we'll have to tighten up defensively."

How quickly Gentile can get the defense to come together will determine how well Bethlehem does in the Suburban Council this season. The Lady Eagles

have to replace three starting infielders following the graduation of Kat Rice, Mary Beth Dombrowski and Meghan Burns.

"A lot of the players who were here last year have been training hard (in the off-season)," said Pezze. "I have faith in our infield this year. I think they can support Meagan (Sullivan) on defense."

"I've played with most of them when we were on JV, and we did well that year," said Sullivan of her new teammates.

One area where Bethlehem won't have many problems is scoring runs. Pezze, Mikayla Shade, Cassie Smith and Sammy Smaldone are back, and Rebekah Kitchen is a new starter that Gentile said should contribute to the offense.

"Our offense is going to be amazing this year," said Gentile.

Having a strong offense gives Sullivan some peace of mind as she gets ready for the 2012 season.

"It makes it a lot easier because you know you have a little leeway," said Sullivan. "You don't want to give up a ton of runs, obviously, but it's nice to know that if I do give up a couple of runs, my teammates can score some insurance runs for us."

The Suburban Council schedule will provide Bethlehem plenty of tests this season. Shen, Shaker and Colonie all return several key players from last year, and there are up-and-coming programs within the Lady Eagles' division at Guilderland and Mohonasen.

"It's hard to say how the other teams are going to be, but I can say that we will be competing for the South Division title this year," said Gentile.

Bethlehem begins its season Monday, April 2, against Averill Park in a Suburban Council South Division game.

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Spotlight on Sports

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Lady Eagles prepare for 2012

The Bethlehem softball team is looking to repeat as Section II Class AA champions with a veteran squad led by pitcher Meagan Sullivan and catcher Sammy Smaldone, pictured above.

See Page 35.



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Weekly poll

Which softball team will win the Section II Class AA title this year?

- Bethlehem
- Shenendehowa
- Shaker
- Colonie
- Columbia

Go to www.spotlightnews.com and click on sports to cast your vote.

Last week's poll results:

How far will the Union College hockey team get in this year's NCAA Tournament?

- National champions 38%
- National final 33%
- National semifinal 14%
- Regional final 10%
- First round exit 5%

Busch is a rock in goal



Guilderland High School graduate Jon Busch is playing his third season with the San Jose Earthquakes. Submitted photo

Guilderland graduate started his 200th career MLS game last weekend

By ROB JONAS
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

Jon Busch has been playing in Major League Soccer for 11 years, and he still doesn't take anything for granted.

The Guilderland High School graduate said he still works hard for every start he gets as the San Jose Earthquakes' goaltender, even though he has been the team's defensive player of the year two years running.

"You can never take a start for granted," said Busch prior to leaving for last weekend's game at Toronto. "If you do, in my opinion, you're setting yourself up to be disappointed."

Busch made his 200th career MLS start in Saturday's 3-0 San Jose victory over Toronto. He only needed to make one save to post his 62nd career shutout, and his second this season.

Busch has gotten plenty of support from his defenders this season. San Jose has allowed only five shots on goal over the first three games – a far cry from last year, when Busch often faced five or six shots on goal per game.

"The team we have this year, the guys we've added have all been terrific," said Busch. "We've really improved our depth."

The lack of shots on goal hasn't affected Busch's attention span. When he isn't keeping the ball out of the net, he's busy shouting directions to his teammates to put them in the

right places to thwart scoring chances.

"I feel very focused in my play right now," said Busch. "There is always room for improvement in that category, but I feel comfortable right now."

Busch has lasted longer in MLS than most former Section II all-stars have lasted in any pro sport. That can be attributed to his steady play over the years for three MLS teams – San Jose, Chicago (2007-09) and Columbus (2002-06). He has amassed more than 100 saves in five of his first 10 seasons, and he recorded 10 shutouts in a season three times in that span.

Busch's finest season came in 2008, when he guided Chicago to a 13-107 record and was named the MLS Goalkeeper of the Year after posting 122 saves, a league-best .782 save percentage and 10 shutouts.

"It meant a lot to me to win that award," said Busch. "It meant that I had arrived."

Busch would have also been a good candidate for Comeback Player of the Year in 2008. He tore a knee ligament in 2006 while playing for Columbus, and he missed most of the 2007 season with another injury.

Since those two lost seasons, Busch has been fairly lucky on the health front, and it's shown in his on-field performance. His save percentage and goals against average have been consistently among the best in the league.

"Once I got 100 percent healthy several years ago, I've had to maintain my health," said Busch. "From there, I

□ Busch Page 34

After 20 years, it's still an adventure

This weekend marks the 20th anniversary of the day I was first hired as a professional sports writer, and it's definitely been a wild ride.

I jotted down some of the events that I've seen and people that I've interviewed since April Fool's Day 1992 (insert your joke here), and it's an impressive list. Here is a sample:

State high school championship teams I've seen crowned – Voorheesville girls basketball, Naples boys soccer (while I was working in Canandaigua), Colonie girls basketball, Shenendehowa softball, Shen boys soccer, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake boys volleyball, Shen wrestling and BH-BL girls volleyball.


College championships I've witnessed – University at Albany men's basketball winning 2006 America East Tournament, Siena men's basketball winning 2010 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Tournament and UAlbany women's lacrosse team winning 2011 America East title.

Professional athletes I've interviewed – Don Mattingly, Bernie Williams, Andy Pettitte, Andre Davis, Anthony Weaver, Hakeem Nicks, Joba Chamberlain, Bobby

From the

Sports Desk

Rob Jonas



Unser, Tim Stauffer, Dion Lewis and Jon Busch, among others.

Legendary NFL coaches I've interviewed – Bill Parcells.

Unusual sporting events I've witnessed – A dodgeball marathon and a mud run.

Number of times I've been hit while covering sporting events – Three. I was run over by a football player while taking pictures on the sidelines, I was hit on the head by a basketball while taking pictures behind the baseline and I was hit in the back of the head by a puck while taking pictures of a hockey game. Needless to say, I should stop taking pictures.

Number of Sectional softball playoff games I've interfered with – One. I unthinkingly picked up an errant throw in a mid-1990s game between Voorheesville and

South Glens Falls. The player was allowed to go to third base after the photographer interference call. Again, I should stop taking pictures of sporting events.

Number of miles I've traveled covering sports – I have no idea, but I have to think it's enough to qualify me as a world traveler. By that, I mean I've probably driven the circumference of the planet many times over.

The most awesome place I've ever covered a sporting event – The "old" Yankee Stadium. Sitting in the press box for the 1993 season opener and then being on the field two years later covering a special pre-season practice that was open to the public (a public relations maneuver by the Yankees in the wake of the 1994 lockout that wiped out the World Series). I touched more history in those two trips than any other place I've been, and that includes the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

The farthest I've traveled to write a story – Port St. Lucie, Fla. I was on vacation in 2005, and I decided to go to the New York Mets spring training facility to interview former Section II star Kyle Brown, who

□ Years Page 34