

THE Spotlight

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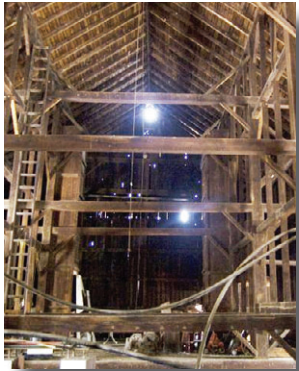
Serving Bethlehem, New Scotland & Guilderland



New beginnings

New eatery in Glenmont opens to the public

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NEWS

Miracle at hand?

New Scotland community leaders are making a last second attempt to save the historic Hilton Barn.

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TOP STORY

Vista lands \$1M

Promise tied to creating 500 jobs, legislators must release funds

By JOHN PURCELL

purcellj@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM — Vista Technology Campus developers are looking to cash in on a more than decade-old agreement with Albany County for \$1 million.

In 2003, county officials awarded Vista Development Group LCC, a partnership between Columbia Development and BBL Construction Services, a \$1 million grant to help cover costs of building infrastructure at the 450-acre site in the towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland. However, releasing the funds is contingent on meeting a job creating benchmark, which developers claim has been satisfied.

Joseph Nicolla, president of Columbia Development, wrote a letter on Jan. 21 to Legislature Majority Leader Frank Commisso requesting the grant funding promised in 2003.

Continues on page 16



ENTERTAINMENT



Every woman

"Orange is the New Black" star Laverne Cox talks to a UAlbany crowd about the lonely world of being transgender.

Story on Page B1

SPORTS



Double strikes

Sisters Jenna and Melanie Lemke of Bethlehem Central qualified for the Section 2 bowling state tournament.

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Spotlight on Business 2015

PART TWO: Retail/ Entertainment/ Health/ Consumer Technology



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■ COPS, COURTS and EMERGENCY CALLS

Police nab several pounds of pot

State Police stopped a vehicle on I-90 in the Town of Guiderland and found the driver to allegedly be in possession of approximately 23 pounds of marijuana.

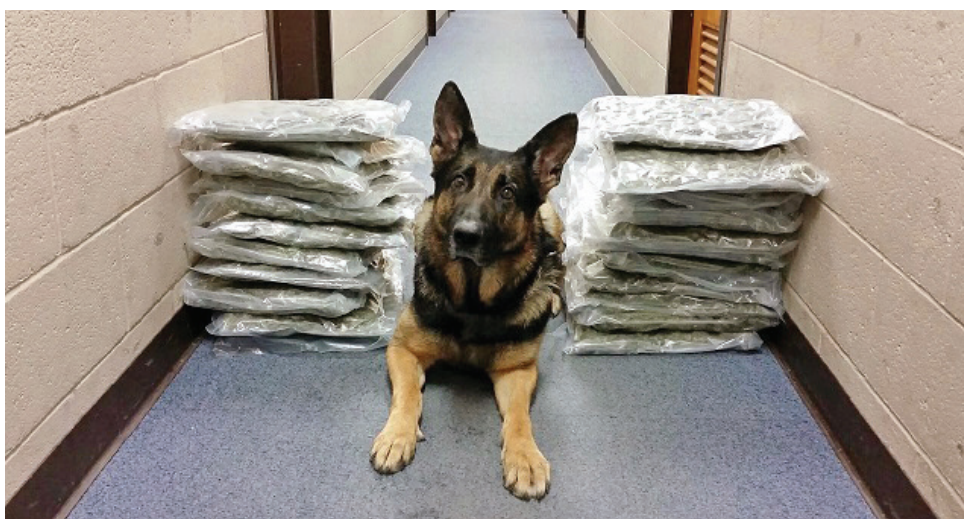
Police arrested William D. Smullen, 52, of Albany, around 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, and charged him with criminal possession of marijuana in the first degree, a felony. Police allegedly found the marijuana while conducting an inventory of Smullen's vehicle.

Smullen was arraigned in Guiderland Town Court and remanded to Albany County jail.

Other arrests:

• State Police arrested Shannon M. Perry, 27, of Delmar, around 7:40 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, and charged her with aggravated DWI, moving

from lane unsafely and failing to use designated lane. Police responded to a 911 call reporting on erratic driver traveling on I-87. Police located a vehicle matching the description and observed the driver commit traffic infractions. Perry was stopped and police observed her to have an odor of an alcoholic beverage from her breath, poor coordination, slurred speech and bloodshot, droopy eyes. Police said she had a BAC of 0.21 percent.



Ash, a State Police canine, lays in between marijuana allegedly found in an Albany man's car on Thursday, Feb. 5.

• Albany County Sheriff's Office arrested Helena Dimasse, 37, of 80 Delaware St. in Glasco, around 8 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, and charged her with driving while ability impaired by drugs, criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh

degree, and three traffic infractions. A deputy was dispatched to Pine Street in the Village of Voorheesville for a suspicious vehicle with extensive front-end damage circling the area. Police stopped Dimasse, who was driving a vehicle matching the description.

amount of medication, but police said there were only 25 doses remaining when there should have been more than 40. In her purse was allegedly a 0.5 mg pill of alprazolam and she did not produce a prescription for it. She

She said the damage to her car was sustained during an earlier crash in the City of Albany. She denied consuming any alcohol, but said she had a prescription for Suboxone that was in the vehicle. She allegedly claimed to be taking the appropriate

later admitted to taking additional medication before driving, including Klonopin. She submitted to a chemical blood test. She was arraigned in New Scotland Town Court and remanded to Albany County jail in lieu of \$2,000 cash bail or \$5,000 bond. She is scheduled to reappear in Town Court Thursday, Feb. 19.

• Bethlehem police arrested Eric James Marsh, 48, of 35 Forsten Drive in Delmar, around 4:50 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, and charged him with DWI, refusal to take a breath test and failure to keep right. Police received a call reporting a vehicle crash near the intersection of Elm Avenue and Longwood Drive. Police found a Toyota Sienna mini-van hit a utility pole, with Marsh standing near the vehicle. Marsh told police he was driving the mini-van and was the only occupant. Police observed Marsh to have an odor of alcohol on his breath, slurred speech, and bloodshot, watery eyes. Marsh told police he was not injured, but had a sore right arm. He failed all three field sobriety tests administered, according to police. Marsh refused to submit to a prescreen device. He later submitted to a chemical breath test, which tested positive for alcohol.

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Clarification

Joyelle Jewelers was mentioned as obtaining alleged stolen property by means of a pawned transaction in the February 11, 2015 edition of The Spotlight.

The local jewelry store will purchase jewelry to resell or scrap; however, they do not pawn property. A pawned piece of property is exchanged for the purpose of obtaining a loan. Joyelle Jewelers does not conduct in such business.

When Joyelle Jewelers purchases jewelry, they ask for identification. When Bethlehem Police approached the jeweler, the piece of property was positively identified by the victim, and was returned without compensation to the store.

Tips for surviving a divorce financially intact

By FRAN O'ROURKE,
Senior Vice President,
Key Private Bank

For many, it is easy to avoid the difficult, especially when the topic is money and the "difficult" is discussing divorce and finances. We think: it won't come to that or I'll cross that bridge when I get to it or the lawyers will handle it. And that's understandable—divorce is one of the most stressful things a person can go through in life. However, to ignore it, to not confront it and plan for it can be a costly mistake.

No divorce is sweet, and few are amicable. They are often emotional tornadoes and financial wrecking balls. However, difficult as it may be, you need to think logically rather than emotionally when it comes to your finances. Emotions will ebb over time, but the financial decisions made during your divorce can impact you forever.

The best way to remove emotion from the equation is to look at this time as an opportunity to plan for a desired outcome. Establish clear, manageable goals by asking yourself some reasonable questions:

- What do I realistically hope to get out of this?
- What does financial stability look like for me?
- How do I plan to achieve it given my circumstances?

It is also important to focus on what you have and not what you are losing. Planning for the future is much more difficult if you do not have an understanding of what you

have currently and how much you need to spend.

- Write down and track your expenses, and develop a realistic monthly budget.

- Collect and store any relevant financial documents.

- Open your own bank account and credit card to start to build your own credit.

- Start saving and building an emergency fund.

- Ensure privacy in your communications.

- Stay diligent.

Then, surround yourself with a team who can help you achieve your goals.

The divorce team

You don't have to muddle your way through divorce trial and error. In fact, there are many professionals who specialize in guiding people through this tumultuous life experience. You should lean on them. In particular, work with the following:

- A family law attorney who exclusively handles divorce cases or devotes at least 75 percent of their practice to divorce. You want make sure they have sufficient experience in cases similar to yours. You also want to be at ease with them, as their role is to serve as a trusting, supportive and forward-thinking resource for you—before, during and after the divorce.



Frances O'Rourke

- A trust and estate attorney (depending upon the complexity of your case) to draft new wills, trusts, etc., as well as work with you to ensure new beneficiary designations are correct and assets are titled properly post-divorce.
- A mediator, provided circumstances are appropriate. This can save you

many thousands of dollars in legal and court costs.

- A financial planner with experience in divorce cases, as well as a financial advisor, who will work hand-in-hand with your divorce attorney. They will create the comprehensive financial analysis and projections that you and your attorney need to fully understand the short- and long-term financial and tax implications of each proposed divorce settlement offer. They will also bring in specialists as needed, including a forensic accountant, a valuation expert and/or real estate appraiser.

- A therapist and/or support group who can help you cope with your feelings as you navigate the ups and downs of the emotional and financial rollercoaster of divorce. Don't neglect your emotional needs.

It is important to be very comfortable with this team. They can and should play an important role in shaping your financial future.

The list of financial priorities

Keep these priorities in mind to avoid costly financial mistakes during divorce discussions:

- Accurately estimate your expenses. Write down and track your expenses, and develop a realistic monthly budget that accounts for future living expenses as well as inflation.
- Make a smart decision about the family home. You must consider the costs of maintenance, taxes, heat and electricity when determining the affordability of taking on the whole mortgage and remaining in your home.
- Protect spousal support and child support with disability and life insurance. This can ensure payments will continue in the event of your spouse's disability or death.
- Evaluate retirement plan assets correctly. Since this is most likely where a large share of your retirement income will be coming from,

you must look at these assets as a future income source rather than a capital source.

- Understand the liability of unsecured debt. If the debt was incurred during the marriage, it's a shared liability no matter which spouse accrued it.

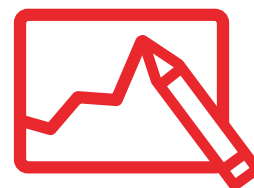
- Determine a fair—not necessarily equal—division of property. Make sure you are comparing apples to apples when you negotiate assets in a divorce settlement, and pay attention to tax basis, present value and transaction costs.

The goal is not just to prevent yourself from becoming a victim, but also to take charge. Your marriage does not need to be ending in order to do that. Even if one spouse currently handles the family finances, the other spouse needs to stay involved. It can be as minimal as reviewing, copying and storing annual statements for everything that relates to your marital lifestyle (checking ac-

counts, investments statements, credit cards, tax returns, etc.).

The most important thing you should know is that you are your own best advocate. In divorce, anything can and does happen. A little knowledge, responsibility and accountability in your marital financial situation can go a long way in moving you through a divorce financially intact.

About the author: Fran O'Rourke is senior vice president and market manager, Key Private Bank, for Key's Capital Region. She can be reached at either 518-257-8733 or frances_orourke@keybank.com. This material is presented for informational purposes only and should not be construed as individual tax or financial advice. Please consult with legal, tax and/or financial advisors. KeyBank does not provide legal advice. ©2015 KeyCorp. KeyBank is Member FDIC.



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Frequently asked questions about divorce and finances

Are both parents entitled to deduct the dependency exemption of a child after divorce?

No. According to the IRS, only one parent may claim a child for tax exemption per year when you are divorced or separated. Who receives the deduction, as well as when and how, are all points to be discussed with your attorney when designing the divorce agreement.

Are all personal retirement accounts at risk for being split? Does one party of a divorce have access to the other's pension? What about Social Security?

Yes. All assets earned during the marriage are marital assets subject to division, including personal retirement accounts. Pension benefits earned during a marriage are subject to divorce calculation and should be discussed with a divorce financial planner. Provided you have been married for 10 years or more, Social Security may be available to a divorced spouse. However, it is important to note that this will not impact or lower the benefit amount of the other divorced spouse.

Are there ever "protected assets" in a divorce?

Sometimes. Assets you owned prior to your marriage are usually your separate property. However, courts may look at the

appreciation of a premarital property as a marital asset if the spouse contributed to maintaining or improving the premarital property.

If you receive inheritance, or someone makes a gift to you personally while you are married, those assets are almost always considered a non-marital asset. However, the burden of proof rests with the holder of the protected asset. So it's important to keep proper documentation regarding their acquisition, such as a will, trust document or another document stating the asset is individually held.

In addition, retirement benefits earned prior to the marriage are generally not subject to divorce calculations. However, any retirement benefit earned during the marriage is subject to divorce calculations.

What about taxes and filing jointly? Do I have to?

According to the IRS, if you are divorced under a final decree by the last day of the year (December 31), you are considered unmarried for the whole year and do not have to file a joint tax return. Couples who are separating but have not divorced by December 31 have the option to file a joint tax return or married filing separate returns. The decision should be discussed with your accountant.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Sushi restaurant rolls in

New Japanese restaurant opens at former Golden Town Buffet location

By **MARCY VELTE**
veltem@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM — Nearly a year after the closing of Golden Town Buffet, a new Asian restaurant is opening in its

place. Akira, owned by Frank Zheng's New Jersey restaurant group, opened for the first time last week. An official ribbon cutting was held on Wednesday,

Feb. 11, though the restaurant had a soft-opening a few days prior. "I really liked the location and felt I could make it into a really great location," Zheng said.

Zheng became interested in the property last summer when he was in the area visiting family and eventually took over the lease in September.

The buffets from the older restaurant were torn out and replaced by three bars.

One of the major changes customers will notice is the addition of 10 hibachi grills. The majority were added towards the left of the restaurant, with one table in a separate room to allow for private parties.

"We basically changed the whole interior of the dining room because we wanted to open it up for more space," said Zheng.

This is officially the 6th Akira location to open since 2003, with the majority of locations in



Akira owner Frank Zheng and head sushi chef Kuni Lin with a 200-pound Blue Fin tuna, flown in from Hawaii.

Submitted photos

New Jersey. Zheng said another three locations are in the works.

Voiced confidence

Golden Town Buffet Hibachi and Sushi closed last March. This was about six months after an employee, Heng Li, was arrested in August for using a credit cards skimmer to steal the personal information from customers. Three New York City men were arrested in the following months for using the stolen

information.

Zheng said he wanted to ensure future customers a similar situation would not happen in the new restaurant.

"Someone had told me there was credit card information stolen, and that's just terrible," said Zheng. He said he wanted to restore the trust of diners. He also said he planned open the hiring process soon to locals.

To learn more, visit www.akirasushigroup.com/akira3/.

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Whooping cough at Elsmere Elm

BETHLEHEM — The Bethlehem Central School District confirmed a case of pertussis, commonly known as Whooping Cough, at Elsmere Elementary.

School officials said the student sought appropriate medical care, but warns parents that others may have been exposed to the disease. The district is asking parents to make sure their families are up-to-date with pertussis vaccinations, as the disease is highly contagious.

"Our nursing staff works closely with the Albany County Department of Health to ensure appropriate steps are taken to limit exposure to pertussis," said

Superintendent Thomas Douglas. "One of the most important roles for the district is communication. Once confirmed, we were able to provide Elsmere families with factual and practical information about signs and symptoms of the disease and, out of an abundance of caution, also shared the information widely, giving everyone the opportunity to be as informed as possible about pertussis."

In a letter home to parents, Elsmere Principal Kate Kloss said "all close contacts to this student have been identified and treated." However, the district warned pertussis can occur in those who have already received a childhood vaccination

because its protection "decreases over time."

Symptoms include coughing and sneezing, cold-like symptoms and a low-grade fever. Within a few weeks the cough becomes more severe and can lead to pneumonia, dehydration, seizures or death if left untreated.

This is the third case of Pertussis to occur in the Bethlehem Central School District in the last three years.

For questions or concerns, the district recommend's contacting your child's healthcare provider or the Albany County Department of Health at 447-4640.

—Marcy Velte

■ NEWS

Hail Mary possible for historic barn

New Scotland official hopeful Hilton Barn will be persevered as interest surges

By **JOHN PURCELL**
purcellj@spotlightnews.com

NEW SCOTLAND — Daniel Mackay had conceded a miracle was likely need to relocate the Hilton barn locally, but a miraculous solution could be closing in.

A month ago, Mackay lamented over the fate of the historic barn, commonly known as the LeVie Barn, to fellow Town Board members. Mackay, who spearheaded preservation efforts to relocate the massive structure, feared finding a new home for the barn was unlikely. The barn's defining characteristic, its large size, was proving too costly for any interested

party to move without financial assistance, which was also lacking. Mackay's spirits were lifted at the board's meeting Wednesday, Feb. 11, when he said media coverage spurred a resurgence of interest in relocating the barn. Since the board's meeting last month, he said there have been "a number of calls and inquiries" about relocating it.

"There are several discussions in the works, several variations on a save that would keep the barn here in New Scotland, so I am very pleased with that," said Mackay. "There are discussions about variations on a save and relocating the barn to property very close by."

He was optimistic

the 60-foot wide, 120-foot long and 60-foot tall barn would be saved, with his concern shifting to whether it remains in town. People with experience relocating similar structures have expressed interest to move it out of town but nearby, along with out of state.

"Seeing the barn come down in ruin, I think we have ... some strong possibilities of not having to deal with that outcome," Mackay said.

"It is a question of whether we can keep the barn close at hand or not."

During the last couple weeks, he said four different interested parties have toured the barn to assess its structural integrity and "eyeball" how

the barn matches their reuse idea.

Country Club Partners is constructing an 18-lot residential subdivision on a 22.4-acre property located in an agricultural district off Maple Road in New Scotland. The barn is located on lot 18, but as part of the sub-division approval the developer is required to the town for preservation and relocation efforts.

Town officials legally have until Feb. 28 to notify the property owner it has received a proposal to relocate the barn to another location.

Once the owner is notified, the town would have until May 31 to deconstruct and relocate the barn.



The the 60-foot wide, 120-foot long and 60-foot tall barn Frank Osterhout built in 1898 is hoped to be moved in an effort to preserve its historic value within the Town of New Scotland. The building is at risk of being destroyed to make way for a new residential development.

John Purcell/Spotlight

Some board members have previously lobbied the developer for more time, because construction has

not proceeded as initially planned.

If the barn is relocated,

Continue on 13

Bomb threat a false alarm at Voorheesville school

NEW SCOTLAND — A bomb threat found last week at the Voorheesville High School led to students and staff members being evacuated, but proved to be a false alarm according to district officials.

Two girls found the bomb threat inscribed on a bathroom stall wall in the building Tuesday morning, Feb. 10, according Superintendent of Schools Teresa Thayer Snyder. Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple Sr. said the

handwritten read, "There is a bomb in this school."

The girls then informed the school dean of the alleged threat, which spurred district officials to contact law enforcement shortly after 9 a.m. Students began evacuating around 9:30 a.m. and the building was cleared before 10 a.m.

Students were evacuated for almost two hours while bomb detection dogs swept the building for any explosives, but found no threat. The middle

school and high school are contained within the same building.

"We had incredible police cooperation," said Snyder. "I had never seen so many dogs. They swept the building quite thoroughly and found it was nothing."

Students in grades 6 to 8 were evacuated to Voorheesville Elementary School, and 9 to 12 grade students were sent to St. Matthew's Church. Students and staff returned around 11:15 a.m. after

the building was cleared. Lunch was being prepared as students returned.

"We are going to resume the day as though it was a normal," said Snyder. The school day followed a two-hour delay schedule.

Authorities are continuing to investigate the incident and have not identified any suspects.

"We are going to do our best to find out and we will deal with whoever did that when it happens," said Snyder. "It is not

something that typically happens here, so it is obviously discouraging when something like this happens."

Several agencies assisted the Albany County Sheriff's Office, which included the Albany Police Department, New York State Police, Schenectady County Sheriff's Office, SUNY Police Department, Troy Police Department and the Transportation Security Authority.

Snyder said authorities were "very efficient" and

she thanked the church for temporarily housing around 400 students. "The students behaved well and all the faculty and staff pitched in," she said.

— John Purcell



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■ NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Community Spelling Bee returns Feb. 26

BETHLEHEM — Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited is sponsoring its third annual Community Spelling Bee Thursday, Feb. 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Central High School on Delaware Avenue.

Teams of 3-5 members will compete for prizes and the honor of being recorded as Bethlehem's spelling champions. This is a team-based competition, so no one spells alone.

Last year's spelling bee attracted 20 teams from the community and the Bethlehem Central School District. This year, teams representing all Bethlehem schools, Bethlehem Youth Court, Town Board, local real estate firms and Kinderhook Bank are expected to compete.

The deadline for team registrations was Feb. 15. Registrations are still being accepted on a space-available basis. The entry fee is \$100 per team, but prospective participants are encouraged to email bouthebee15@gmail.com for team sponsorships, which are ongoing. Team attire and costumes are encouraged.

Spellers must be at least 13 years old to enter. Family team entries are also welcome.

Registration and sponsorship forms are available at www.bethlehemschools.org/community/bou.

Historical association February lecture

BETHLEHEM — "Three 20th Century Archaeologists Who 'Discovered' the Prehistory of New York State" is the topic for the Bethlehem Historical Association's February lecture Thursday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m., at the Cedar Hill Schoolhouse, 1003 River Road in Selkirk.

BHA member Galen Ritchie will talk about how the work of three men — Arthur Parker, William Ritchie and Robert Funk — forged the modern understanding of the state's prehistory. The talk is free and open to the public.

Additionally, the BHA will



From Bethlehem to the White House

Bethlehem Central High School graduate Adriana Schaffer — a senior at George Washington University — is serving as an intern at the White House in the Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernment Affairs. Schaffer's responsibilities include organizing the weekly "Brown Bag Lunch" Internship Speakers program, in which various White House officials and administrators address the interns. She is the daughter of Howard and Wendy Schaffer of Slingerlands.

Submitted photo

open the Cedar Hill Schoolhouse museum every Sunday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. in the month of February. There is no admission charge.

For more information, visit BethlehemHistorical.org.

Caregivers sets orientation dates

GUILDERLAND — Community Caregivers is holding a series of orientations at its office at 2021 Western Ave. to train volunteers. Sessions take place:

Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 3 p.m.

Thursday, March 12, at 8 a.m.

Monday, March 23, at 6 p.m.

Since 2010, Community Caregivers has had more than 230 volunteers provide services to nearly 500 individuals including visitations, transportation, shopping assistance, prescription pickup, help with paperwork and chores, and more.

To reserve a space at an orientation session, call 456-2898.

Nature center calls for art submissions

VOORHEESVILLE — The Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center is looking for artists to participate in its annual Nature Art Exhibit, which will be on display March 7-28.

Artists may submit up to three pieces of artwork for consideration. Original artwork in any medium will be considered. All submissions must be inspired by nature or created using natural materials.

The hanging fee for the exhibit is \$15 per artist. For more information or an application, call 872-1237.

Historical Association offers scholarship

NEW SCOTLAND — The New Scotland Historical Association offers a \$1,000 High School Junior Award for a town resident who is a junior in high school with a strong interest in history, museum studies or education and is planning to

further his/her education at the college level.

Each applicant is required to submit an application form with a copy of his/her resume and high school transcript, along with a 250-word essay on a specific topic. The application form is available at local public schools and libraries. All New Scotland juniors are invited to compete for the award, whether they attend public school, private school, parochial school or are home schooled.

Applications must be postmarked no later than April 1.

For more information, call Sherry Burgoon at 765-4387.

Selkirk Fire Dept. offers fish fry dinners

BETHLEHEM — Selkirk Fire Company No. 1 Ladies Auxiliary is hosting a series of fish fry dinners Feb. 20 through April 3 at the firehouse, 126 Maple Ave., in Selkirk.

Meals are served from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and include fish fry or chicken nuggets, French fries, homemade coleslaw, a drink

and dessert. New England clam chowder is also available. Meals can be eaten on site or taken home. Please bring your own take out containers.

The cost of a meal is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. An extra piece of fish, extra chicken nuggets or an extra bowl of clam chowder costs \$3.

Take the Farmers Market survey

CAPITAL DISTRICT — Farmers' Market Federation of New York is asking for farmers and other vendors who participate in farmers markets to fill out a brief, anonymous survey on market benchmarks.

The in-depth survey covers many areas, including the amount of an average sale, marketing strategies and market preparation time.

"The survey [results] will give farmers a standard by which they can measure themselves, in terms such as sales volumes or staffing levels," said Diane Eggert, Executive Director of Farmers' Market Federation of New York.

The standards will also allow market organizers and management to better understand how their farmers and vendors measure market success.

The survey is available online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/FMFNYBenchmarks. The results will be published in the organization's newsletter and website, as well as presented at conferences.

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* News briefs for our community page must be sent via email to news@spotlightnews.com and may not appear online.

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■ COMMUNITY

E-book assistance

There are so many ways to e-read at the library, and our librarians are more than happy to help you get started.

We have e-readers geared toward children, teens and adults. Some are pre-loaded with an author's entire e-collection (great for vacation reading when you're not in the mood to haul a bunch of books in your suitcase). Some simply put a selection of bestsellers at your fingertips. The library also has ready-to-load e-books for loan and a vast e-collection that can be accessed through Overdrive.

Patrons thinking about purchasing an e-reader or those who are just curious are encouraged to test drive our Kindles and NOOKs to get a better feel for the devices. Our librarians can talk you through every step of using an e-reader, including how to download books using



Overdrive. Directions are also available at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org.

If you've always wondered how e-readers worked but were unsure of where to begin, stop by the information desk, and we can get you on your way.

Don't worry if you find that digital books aren't your thing – we have plenty of the paper kind, too.

Planning ahead

Is it too early to start planning for warmer days? We certainly don't think so.

We're asking teens in grades 6-12 for their input on spring and summer programs at the library. Stop by Friday, Feb. 27, and share your ideas at the Teen Advisory Group meeting.

Catalog update

In the coming weeks, we will be rolling out our new integrated catalog and circulation system, with a go-live date set for March 31. Patrons should notice very little disruption as we make this transition. The exception is library holds, which may be unavailable at some point during the final two weeks of March as we migrate to the new system. The new catalog will offer a range of improvements, including the ease with which you can search, place holds and gain access to the library's collection, including our e-books and e-audiobooks.

We have scheduled a demonstration in April of the new catalog to help you get acquainted with all it has to offer. More demonstrations will likely be scheduled as we get closer to implementation.

— Kristen Roberts

Game day Thursdays

The Bethlehem Senior Citizens Club meets weekly on Thursdays for an afternoon of games and socializing at the Bethlehem Town Hall Auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring a lunch and play pinochle, bingo, or mah jongg, (lessons provided). Or just come for a chat with friends. Call Yvonne Mendleson at 472-0202 for more information.

Join us for a post-Valentine's Day dinner out at Normanside Country Club on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 5:30 p.m. Order from the menu, cost on your own. Suggested van donation: \$5. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make your reservation.

The Caregiver's Support Group will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Bethlehem Town Hall. Join others who are caring for a loved one who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Call



Jane Sanders at 439-4955, ext. 1174.

Bethlehem Senior Services is hosting free Health and Wellness programs at the Town Hall on Fridays, from 1-2 p.m. Lunch at the Windowbox Cafe is available before the programs, cost on your own. Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make your lunch reservation. The program on Friday, Feb. 27, will be "Rise Up Singing" presented by Will Vail, LCSW, Bethlehem Senior Services. Elevate your sense of wellbeing with an upbeat melody. Sing along, learn new songs and enjoy the music.

A.A.R.P. Income Tax Assistance will be offered on Wednesdays through April 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Bethlehem Town Hall. Call 439-

4955, ext. 1176, to make an appointment. Bring your 2013 Federal and State returns, your 2014 W-2 and 1099 forms and receipts for contributions, interest, medical bills, and property and school taxes.

Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. is sponsoring two \$500 scholarships for high school seniors who plan to pursue a career in human services, social work or medical services, specializing in assistance to the elderly. The scholarships are established to honor Karen Pellettier, former Director of Bethlehem Senior Services and first president of Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., and Charles "Tod" Tobin III, current BSP Board member who served as president for 25 years. The scholarships are being administered by the Bethlehem Community Foundation. Information and application forms are available at the BCHS Guidance Office.

— Wilma DeLucco

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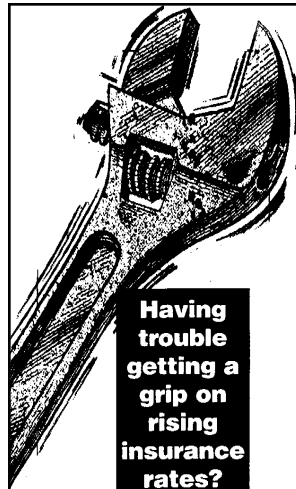
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■ COMMUNITY

BAY Rays make waves in 2015

The water is rarely still in the YMCA swimming pool, especially when members of the Bethlehem-area YMCA (BAY) Rays swim team are churning up and down the lanes towards success in their fourth season.

The BAY Rays, lead by Coach Josh Wolin and his team of dedicated assistant coaches, are achieving new heights this season, which began with 175 swimmers. One hundred and eleven swimmers qualified for the North Country League Championships at the end of February, and 56 BAY



Rays swimmers qualified for the New York State YMCA championships.

For the first time ever, a BAY Rays swimmer, Gillian Burch, qualified for the National YMCA swimming tournament in Greensboro, N.C. at the end of March. She will compete in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke events.

Congratulations to

Coach Wolin and all the members of the BAY Rays for their hard work and tremendous success.

Hug-A-Heart

February is Heart Month, and the Capital District Y is raising awareness of heart related disease. To mark this special month, the Capital District YMCA is partnering with Ellis Medicine in the Hug A Heart program.

What is Hug A Heart? This is a great opportunity for members of our community to help people who have undergone cardiac surgery. The Hug A Heart is a program where you can volunteer to sew a heart shaped pillow that will be donated to cardiac patients at Ellis Medicine. These heart

shaped pillows are used to help ease pain and aide in post-surgery recovery.

If you would like to help with a project, you can visit cdymca.org for the downloadable heart pillow template and directions. Completed pillows can be dropped off at the front desk of the Bethlehem YMCA. If you have any questions please contact Shawn St. James at 439-4394, ext. 1425.

Box lacrosse comes to the Y

Believe it or not, spring is coming soon. No, really it is. And by mid-March, the YMCA's ice rink will be taken down and replaced by the area's only sport-court indoor playing surface.

The sport court brings with it new opportunities for pre-season spring sport training activities, fun and games. The Bethlehem Y will host a two-day box lacrosse clinic on April 7 and 8.

The sport of box lacrosse was first perfected by game that was perfected by Native Americans and Canadians. It is played between two teams of six players each, and is traditionally played on an ice rink once the ice has been removed. Many players and coaches consider box lacrosse to be faster, more fun and more physical than outdoor lacrosse. It is also an excellent way to develop lacrosse skills. Players touch the ball more, are put into offense and defense situations more, and get more playing time. All this translates into a much

improved field lacrosse player.

Most NCAA lacrosse coaches realize that training their players in box lacrosse can increase their field awareness, speed up the athlete's reaction time, increase the athlete's abilities in tight quarters and increase their stick skills.

The Bethlehem YMCA box lacrosse academy will be directed by Chad Fairfoull of Paragon Lacrosse — head coach of Team Quebec Junior and four-time coach of the year in the Canadian Lacrosse Association. There will be two age groups: third to fifth graders and sixth through eighth graders. The cost is \$135 per participant. For more information, contact Rusty Decker at the Bethlehem Y.

— Mark Hansen

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Read-a-thon Friday at VPL

Back by popular demand, the library has set aside the community room for the entire day on Feb. 20. Bring your sleeping bags and soccer chairs and settle in with us. We'll take activity breaks throughout the day for crafts and games too. Drop in for any part of the day, watch the "pages read" total grow, you may even win a prize. Pizza will be

Voorheesville Public Library

served for lunch, and snacks will energize our afternoon hours. Doors open at 10 a.m. and close at 6 p.m.

Nimblefingers

Our artists this month are the Nimblefingers crafting group. Every February, the ladies in

Nimblefingers treat us to a small sampling of their crafting genius. Please be sure to stop by the library and stroll through the gallery and community room.

If you are interested in joining a craft group, check out our events calendar. There are several groups that meet at the library and they are all friendly and helpful and welcome new

members with open arms.

Meetings

The next regular meeting of the library Board of Trustees is March 16 at 7pm and the next meeting for the Friends of the Library is March 27 at 10am. Both meetings are held in the community room and open to the public.

— Lynn Kohler

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Feb. 18-Feb. 24, 2015

Headliners named

Big acts continue to be named to SPAC's summer schedule and The Albany Symphony Orchestra is to make an announcement of their own today.

Page B2

PICK OF THE WEEK



It's a tribute

Michael Eck leads a tribute to Woody Guthrie. Feb. 20, 8 p.m., WAMC Linda Norris Auditorium, 339 Central Ave., Albany. Tickets: \$12. For more information, call 465-5233, ext. 158.

Pages B4

INSIDE



Arts calendar

Pages B4

ONLINE

Check out our expanded calendar of events at www.spotlightnews.com/events.



TOP STORY

Every woman

Netflix star speaks about the lonely world of being transgender



By **EMILY DREW**
drewe@spotlightnews.com

As Laverne Cox walked onto the main stage of the University at Albany Performing Arts Center, the filled auditorium greeted her with applause and shouts.

"I stand before you this night a proud, African American transgender woman from a working class background raised by a single mother," said Cox. "I stand before you an artist, and an actress, a sister and a daughter. I think it's important to name the various components of my intersecting identities because I am not just one thing. And neither are you."

Many people know Cox from her role as transgender inmate Sophia Burset on the Netflix hit show "Orange is the New Black." But on Tuesday, Feb. 3, hundreds of students met Cox as a transgender rights activist. She began her talk, "Ain't I a Woman," embracing her various identities before delving into her story of coming to claim her identity.

Every seat in the Performing Arts Center was filled, and more people watched in overflow rooms at the Lecture Center and campus ballroom. University at

Continues on page B8

▲ **Laverne Cox, Netflix star and transgender activist, speaks to UAlbany students about her experience to claim her identity.**

Photo by Emily Drew/ Spotlight

Coming March 25th... Look for our Special Section

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■ NEWS

Big name for Symphony

ALBANY - The Grammy Award winning Albany Symphony Orchestra is to announce the details of the upcoming 2015-2016 season, among which is to include a major celebrity soloist.

Details of the guest performer's appearance is to be announced today,

Wednesday, Feb. 18.

Music Direct David Alan Miller is to be joined by Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy and State Assemblyman John McDonald.

There will also be details revealed about a new group being created to better

engage rising leaders in the region.

The press release, shared late last week, continuously made reference to the orchestra's plan to provide a "world-class" experience.

The orchestra won a Grammy last year, on their first nomination in their 84-year history, for

best classical instrumental solo for its recording of composer John Corigliano's "Conjurer Concerto For Percussionist & String Orchestra." The award winning piece was also recorded in the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.

Michael Hallisey



■ FAMILY

Butterflies on the loose

By MICHAEL HALLISEY

halliseym@spotlightnews.com

SCHENECTADY - Snow is on the ground, and more is in the forecast, but miSci has relief planned for those opposed to the cold.

Butterflies, an exhibit of hundreds of native butterflies fluttering about in an indoor butterfly house, opened, Feb. 14 at the Museum of Innovation and Science. Opening Day activities include planetarium shows, electricity and pocket tech demos, and science game show challenges in the Science Zone.

"It's a perfect time of year for us," said miSci President Mac Sudduth. "It really lifts your spirits. It's really a good exhibit for people of all ages. It's good for families with kids. We have senior citizen who come in to enjoy it. If you compare to being inside a lush garden space with lots of monarchs flying around to snow... unless you like

to ski."

Visitors can escape winter's chill and discover hundreds of brilliantly colored native butterflies kept within an indoor butterfly house. The butterfly house, resembling a greenhouse in relative size the Iroquois Long House in the New York State Museum, will be populated by Monarchs, Black Swallowtails, Buckeyes, Painted Ladies, Tiger Swallowtails and Spicebush Swallowtails. Visitors can witness the entire lifecycle of native butterflies - from eggs, the caterpillars, chrysalis, and ultimately, the butterfly.

The backdrop of the exhibit is a re-creation of the butterflies' natural, outdoor habitat with plants and flowers the butterflies need for food, all tended by master gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension.

The habitat is built by miSci Vice President Chris Hunter. "He's a Jack-of-

"It really lifts your spirits. It's really a good exhibit for people of all ages. It's good for families with kids."

— miSci President Mac Sudduth

all-trades," said Susan Whitaker, vice president of communications for the museum. Whitaker said that once the idea was first shared amongst the team three years ago, Hunter was able to run with the project. His nephew had a prior interest in butterflies, and the two had visited butterfly houses across the region. "He's a quick study," said Whitaker. And, the exhibit has been a success each year.

"Someday we hope to do an addition to the

Continue on B3

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Guilderland - 7/6 - 7/10
Lynnwood Reformed Church

Averill Park - 7/13 - 17
Algonquin Middle School

Colonie - 7/20 - 7/24
Christian Brothers Academy

Halfmoon - 7/20 - 7/31
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Schenectady - 8/3 - 8/7
Schenectady JCC

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Submissions are subject to approval and may take up to 24 hours to be approved.

MUSIC

Domo arigato

Styx teams up with Def Leppard and Tesla on tour this summer

SARATOGA — Last week, fans of the largest rock ballad acts in history received a treat when Def Leppard announced they will tour with Styx and Tesla this summer.

The three bands hit the Capital District July 24 at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

The Love Nation-promoted tour kicks off in June and is scheduled to hit 50 cities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Def Leppard singer Joe

Elliott has already made it clear in a recent interview with Billboard fans should not expect to see the three jam together at the end of shows.

This summer's tour for De Leppard follows on the heels of last year's tour with KISS.

Styx returns to the stage on this tour. Their hay day goes back to the '70s with hits like "Come Sail Away," "Lady," "Babe," and later in the '80s with "Mr. Roboto."

Dennis DeYoung, the lead vocalist on those early hits is not scheduled to join the band on this tour. He left the group in 1999. Tommy Shaw, who has been with Styx since 1972, has been the lead vocalist since ever since.

Tesla comes out in support of their latest studio album, "Simplicity."

Tesla helped define the metal sub-genre in the '80s with power ballads, catchy guitar riffs and plenty of hair spray.

Michael Hallisey



Styx, shown above, will hit the road with Def Leppard and Tesla this summer. The three rock ballad acts are scheduled to stop through a total of 50 cities starting in June, including a stop at Saratoga Performing Arts Center on July 24.

Photo by Jim "JT" Gilbert/JTGPhotos.com

From page B2 ...

Butterflies on the loose

building that would be a permanent butterfly house, but we're not quite there yet," said Sudduth.

Butterflies opened at miSci Feb. 14 and will run through April 19. It is sponsored in part by The



Kelly Adirondack Center at Union College, Solar City, and Freihofers.

miSci is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 12:00 to 5:00 pm Sunday. miSci is closed Easter Sunday, April 5.

miSci is located at 15 Nott Terrace Heights in Schenectady. Admission is: Children (3-12) \$6.50; Seniors (65+) \$8; Adults \$9.50. Add \$5 for a planetarium show. General admission includes admission to all exhibits including Butterflies and Notion of Motion, demos and Science Zone activities.



Butterflies, the popular miSci exhibit has returned. Visitors can escape winter's chill and discover hundreds of butterflies.

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■ ARTS CALENDAR

THEATER

The Complete History of America (Abridged)

A fast-paced comedy covering the history of the United States. Presented by Home Made Theater, Feb. 20-22, 27, 28 and March 1, Spa Little Theater, Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs. Shows: 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$24-\$27. Information: 587-4427 or www.homemadetheater.org.

Out of Sight ... Out Of Murder

Original play about an author whose characters come to life in an old mansion while writing a murder mystery. Presented by Schuylerville Community Theater, Saratoga Town Office, corner of routes 29 and 4, Schuylerville. Shows: 8 p.m. Feb. 21; 2 p.m. Feb. 22. Tickets: adults \$18, students/seniors \$15. Information: 695-5480 or www.scctheater.org.

The Three Little Pigs

Opera Saratoga's performance of a children's tale. Feb. 28,

2:30 p.m., Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 South Church St., Schenectady. Free. Information: 382-2081.

MUSIC

This Land is Your Land at 75

Michael Eck leads a tribute to Woody Guthrie. Feb. 20, 8 p.m., WAMC Linda Norris Auditorium, 339 Central Ave., Albany. Tickets: \$12. Information: 465-5233, ext. 158.

Socks in the Frying Pan

Shane and Fiachra Hayes on accordion and fiddle/banjo, with Aodan Coyne on guitar and vocals. Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Old Songs Community Arts Center, 37 South Main St., Voorheesville. Tickets: \$23. Information: 765-2815 or oldsongs.org.

Albany Symphony Orchestra

Philadelphia Orchestra tubist Carol Jantsch makes her regional debut by performing Ralph Vaughn Williams'

"Tuba Concerto" and Michael Daughtery's "Reflections on the Mississippi." Plus, the Albany Symphony performs Brahms' Symphony No. 3. Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 22, 3 p.m., Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, 30 Second St., Troy. Tickets: start at \$19. Information: troymusichall.org.

Mavis Staples

Gospel/Americana legend performs. Feb. 22, 8 p.m., Club Helsinki Hudson, 405 Columbia St., Hudson. Information: 828-4800 or helsinkihudson.com.

The Bridge Jazz Festival

Featuring the Marcus Roberts Trio, the Anat Cohen Quartet and Heard. Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m., Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, 30 Second St., Troy. Also featuring the Gretchen Parlato and Alan Hampton Duo, Cecile McLorin Salvant and the Fred Hersch Trio. Feb. 28, 6 p.m., Massry Center for the Arts, 1002 Madison Ave., Albany. Tickets: \$15-\$42 for the Feb. 27 show, \$30-\$40 for the Feb. 28 show, \$40-\$60 for two-night festival pass. Information: www.troymusichall.org or www.massrycenter.com.

FAMILIES

February Vacation Daze

Featuring a music performance by The Fourth Wall Feb. 18, Jackson Gillman's "The Magic of Rudyard Kipling: 'Just So'" Feb. 19 and magician Jim Snack Feb. 20. Steamer No. 10 Theater, 500 Western Ave., Albany. Shows: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets: \$15. Information: 438-5503 or www.steamer10theatre.org.

William A. Wellman Film Festival

"Nothing Sacred," Feb. 20; "Beau Geste," Feb. 27; "Yellow Sky," March 27; and "Wings," April 24. Follow-up reading and discussion about the work of the acclaimed director May 1. Page Hall, 135 Western Ave., Albany. Presented by the New York State Writers Institute. Information: 442-5620 or www.albany.edu/writers-inst.

LITERARY

'Stories We Tell: Tales from the Story Circle of the Capital District'

Local group presents its first written anthology. Story Circle members Betty Cassidy, Lale Davidson, Margaret French and Jeannine Lavery each share a tale from the book. Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Northshire Bookstore, 424 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information: 682-4200 or www.northshire.com.

Jennifer Jacquet

Environmental scientist and author. Feb. 24, 8 p.m.,

Continues on B5

MORE ONLINE



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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

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26 Sort of soup
31 Fax's kin
34 Spill the beans
37 Aniseed liqueur
38 *Lakme* highlight
39 State a price
40 Mouth, slangily
41 Do- ___: moolah
42 Importune
43 Be generous
44 ___ Madre
46 Java
47 Laid off
50 Montaigne opus
53 Really expensive

- 58 Suzie Wong actress
60 Gum up
61 City on the Oka
62 Shakespearean role
63 Wrest
64 Tiber feeder
65 Just makes do
66 Frogner Park city
67 Kind of party
68 Like the leaves of *Ulalume*

DOWN

- 1 Norse writings
2 Knock off
3 Ease up
4 Unsettled
5 Throw
6 Big name in politics
7 Imagine
8 McQueen or Martin
9 Animation frames
10 Fill the hold
11 Hot spot
12 Perky
15 Town near Tanglewood
21 Gush
23 King's title
27 With no holds barred
28 Atmosphere

- 29 Muslim lady's garment
30 Trot along
31 Gobs
32 " . . . ___ saw Elba"
33 Rickey need
34 Prickle
35 Record
36 Downed
39 Printer's spacing gizmos
43 . . . - - - . . .
45 Ransack
46 Circadian woe
48 ___ share
49 Bird of a feather
51 Up and at it
52 Gun-collector's prize
53 ___ buco: veal dish
54 Parisian ones
55 Straggle
56 Pasta choice
57 Olympian queen
59 Pry

Answers on Pg. B7

■ ARTS CALENDAR (cont.)

Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, University at Albany uptown campus, 1400 Washington Ave. Part of the New York State Writers Institute series. Information: 442-5620 or www.albany.edu/writers-inst.

POETRY

Sarah Michelle Sherman

Local writer, teacher and managing editor of the Pine Hills Review will read from her work. Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave., Albany. Suggested donation: \$3. Open mic follows performance. Information: 482-0262 or email dwlcx@earthlink.net.

EXHIBITS

Albany Institute of History and Art

"Triple Play: Baseball at the Albany Institute,"

featuring three exhibits about America's pastime and the sport's connection to the Capital District, through July 26; plus "Ancient Egyptian Galleries" and "The Hudson River School and the Nineteenth-Century Landscape." 125 Washington Ave., Albany. Information: 463-4478 or albanyinstitute.org.

Mabee Farm Historic Site

"Hops & Hogsheads: Beer from Colonial to Craft Brew," through February 2015; plus "Second Look: Oil Paintings by Lisa David." 1100 Main St., Rotterdam Junction. Information: 887-5073 or schenectadyhistorical.org.

New York State Museum

"REPRESENT: Contemporary Native American Art," "The Shakers: America's Quiet Revolutionaries," through March 6; "Along His Own

Lines: A Retrospective of New York Realist Eugene Speicher," through March 22. Plus, "Binghamton University Paleobotany Collection" and "The Passenger Pigeon: From Billions to Zero." Empire State Plaza, 222 Madison Ave., Albany. Information: 474-5877 or www.nysm.nysed.gov.

Sorelle Gallery

"Abroad: The European Experience," featuring works by several Sorelle artists, through March 5. Stuyvesant Plaza, 1475 Western Ave., Albany. Information: 482-2000 or www.sorellegallery.com.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Opera Saratoga

Holding auditions for the child singing roles of Virgil, Martin and Samuel in the world premiere of "The Long Walk." Feb. 22 and 23, 4-8 p.m., Parks Administration Building, Gideon Putnam Room, Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs.

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Schenectady Civic Players

Holding auditions for Steven Dietz's "Becky's New Car." Roles for three women (play age 20s to 50s) and four men (play age 20s to 60s). March 3 and 5, 7:30 p.m., Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 South Church St., Schenectady. Information: www.civicplayers.org.

Spotlighter's Theater

Holding auditions for the musical "Flapper!" March 22 and 23. Need 32 teens/adults to fill the main speaking/singing roles, as well as dancers. A small number of children ages 8-11 will also be chosen to fill roles such as party guests. Auditions are by age group and by appointment only. Information: artistic director Elyse Young, 899-4411, ext. 305, or email theater@malta-town.org.

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

Answers on Pg. B7



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

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D	E	E	P		F	O	R	T		L	E	A	V	E
D	A	L	I		G	L	E	E		E	L	D	E	R
A	S	A	N		H	E	A	V	E	N	S	E	N	T
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From page B1 ... Every woman

Albany students had begun to line up at noon for tickets to Cox's talk, which went on sale shortly before. The event, sponsored by the Middle Earth Peer Assistance program at the college, kicked off the 32nd annual Sexuality Week.

Lenny Marino, a member of Middle Earth, said that getting Cox to speak at the University at Albany had been in the works since last year's Sexuality Week.

"She was not like any other speaker," Marino said. "It was not what I was expecting. When you're hearing stories and stuff, it turns out you're just an observer. But she really inspired empathy. You were really trying to understand what she was saying."

Cox grew up in Mobile, Ala., with her mother and twin brother. She said that the first identity she claimed was African American. She then said that throughout school, she was bullied by other kids for her femininity and constantly told by her mother and teachers how boys were meant to act.

One of the most defining moments in her childhood, Cox said, was her third grade teacher calling her mother and saying, "Your son is going to end up in New Orleans wearing a dress if we don't get him into therapy right away." Cox had been dramatically fanning herself with a hand-held fan in class, a souvenir from a church field trip to Six Flags.

"I was sitting in the therapist office, and the therapists asked me if I knew the difference between a boy and a girl. In my infinite wisdom as a third grader, I said, there is no difference.... The way I reasoned in my mind at the time was that everyone was telling me that I was a boy, but I knew I was a girl. I knew in my spirit that I was really a girl, so I reasoned that there was really no difference," said Cox.

The moment led to "gender policing" by her

"She was not like any other speaker. It was not what I was expecting. When you're hearing stories, it turns out you're just an observer. But she really inspired empathy. You were really trying to understand what she was saying."

— Lenny Marino
UAlbany student

mother as her mother yelled at her for saying there was no difference. However, Cox said that her mother took her out of therapy once testosterone injections were suggestion.

Much of Cox's talk centered around the concept of being "policed" by others about her gender and shamed into the role of a boy. Gender policing stems from an overall education that most people are taught at a young age, which teaches what is and isn't expected based on the birth-assigned gender.

These expectations, she said, have led to the culture where transgender people are not free and welcomed, and are denied womanhood or manhood.

Eventually, Cox said, she attempted suicide in sixth grade out of the fear of disappointing her grandmother, who had just passed away, with thoughts of liking boys, as well as her mother and teachers.

"Shame does kill," Cox said. When she woke up ill but alive after swallowing a bottle of pills, she said she made a push to hide her gender and sexuality until going to high school at the Alabama School of Fine Arts, and from there, the Marymount Manhattan College.

"My femininity could not help but bubble over the surface," she explained. She began wearing and altering clothes from the women's section of Salvation Army,

coining the term "Salvation Armani."

"New York City for me represented this place of ultimate possibility, not only in my career aspirations, but in my pursuit of becoming more myself. A huge part of my education happened in the night-club scene of New York," said Cox.

There, she met other transgender women, who dispelled misconceptions Cox had gained from the media and her teachers about transgender people not being successful. Cox said without the club scene, where androgynous and transgender women were celebrated in the 1990s, she would not have begun her medical transition.

What Cox had hoped

was that there would be a point when no one would know she was transgender, but she found that years down the line, people were still mis-gendering her as a man.

"What was I not doing right that they couldn't look at me and see the woman that I know I am? It's a crazy disconnect when people look at you and don't see yourself," said Cox. "It took me years to internalize that if someone can look at me and tell that I am transgender, that is beautiful. Because being transgender is beautiful."

Her message was one

that students took to heart. Students like Marino and Cassie Orlan said the talk was not like what they expected.

"She's a really good speaker and it was really inspirational. It's just an interesting story that I guess students don't normally think about. It was really great. She was amazing," said Orlan.

Cox said that in order for transgender rights to become more widespread, changes need to be made, specifically in education and creating a safe space. Justice was also needed, she said, as well as a change in

how people view gender and sexuality.

Cox later shared with the audience that her mother now corrects people when they refer to her daughter with male pronouns.

"It is my belief that one of the biggest obstacles in the transgender community are points of view that disavow identities," said Cox. "Points of view that suggest no matter what we do, we are just and only the gender we were assigned to at birth. Points of view that suggest, no matter what I do, I'll never be a woman. And yet, ain't I? Ain't I a woman?"

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February 18, 2015

Spotlight on Sports

www.spotlightnews.com PAGE 9

Weekly poll

Which girls basketball
team will win the
Section 2 Class AA title?



Go to spotlightnews.com and click on
"Sports" to cast your vote, as well as see
results of previous poll questions.

■ PLAYER OF THE WEEK



ANDREW PLATEK

For the third time this season, Guilderland's Andrew Platek is the Spotlight Player of the Week. The junior guard drained eight three-pointers as part of a 33-point night in the Dutchmen's 71-64 Suburban Council South Division game Friday, Feb. 13.

• • •

If you have a high school athlete you'd like to nominate for our Player of the Week, please e-mail Sports Editor Rob Jonas at jonasr@spotlightnews.com.

■ INSIDE



Taber qualifies

Bethlehem's Alex Taber won the 100-yard backstroke at the Section 2 Division 1 boys swimming and diving championships Saturday, Feb. 14..

Page 11

■ BOWLING



Bethlehem's Jenna and Melanie Lemke qualified for the Section 2 team heading to the state bowling championships next month in Syracuse. It's Jenna's third trip to states, while Melanie is making her first trip as a competitor.

Rob Jonas/Spotlight

Sisters qualify for states

Bethlehem coach Marvin Sontz, right, talks things over with some of his young bowlers during the Section 2 Class A championships Wednesday, Feb. 11, at Schenectady's Boulevard Bowl. The Eagles finished 12th at Sectionals, while Guilderland placed eighth.

Rob Jonas/Spotlight



Bethlehem's Jenna Lemke leads the way at the Section 2 championships

By **ROB JONAS**

jonasr@spotlightnews.com

SCHENECTADY — Bethlehem sophomore Jenna Lemke is heading back to the New York State Public High School Athletic Association girls bowling championships, and she's taking her younger sister with her.

Jenna had the highest six-game score at the Section 2 championships with a 1,273 series, while her sister, Melanie, had a score of 1,161 pins.

Jenna — who has been to the state tournament each of the past two years — said having her sister competing with her is big.

"It's amazing. I almost cried (when she qualified), it's so good," said Jenna.

A freshman, Melanie has seen her older sister compete at the state tournament before. Now, she has the opportunity to bowl against the best

Continues on page 11

■ BASKETBALL

Eagles tame Flying Horses in finale

Giacone, Sica have big games for Bethlehem

By **ROB JONAS**

jonasr@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM — The Bethlehem boys and girls basketball teams wrapped up their regular seasons by sweeping a doubleheader from Troy Friday, Feb. 13.

In the early game, the Bethlehem girls ran their winning streak to 11 games and avenged an earlier loss to Troy by beating the Flying Horses 58-47. The Lady Eagles (17-2) built a 25-15 halftime lead and fended off several Troy rallies to win by 11 points.

Gabby Giacone scored 28 points, and Kaylee Rickert added 11 points for Bethlehem. Alliyah Gillespie had 20 points for Troy.

The Bethlehem boys (16-3) needed extra time to edge Troy 84-80 in their game. The Eagles saw a six-point halftime lead evaporate into a 64-64 tie,

but they pulled away at the end to secure an important non-league win heading into the Section 2 Class AA tournament.

John Sica — who missed nearly three weeks of action with an ankle injury — scored 29 points to guide Bethlehem to the victory. Zane Thompson contributed 23 points.

Troy's Zach Radz had 26 points, and Dyaire Holt added 22 points for Troy.

League finales

Bethlehem entered Friday's doubleheader off convincing Suburban Council victories over Colonie.

The Bethlehem girls began their game on a 19-6 run, and they pulled away for a 72-42 victory at Colonie. Gabby Giacone netted 24 points, and younger sister, Jenna Giacone, added 19 points.

Aliyah Wright's 16 points paced Colonie.

In Bethlehem, the boys team used a 23-14 second-quarter run to pull ahead for good in a 68-57 victory over Colonie. Kevin Weber netted 13 points to lead a balanced scoring attack. Justin LaClair contributed 12 points, while Thompson and Sica — in his first game back from his injury — each added 11 points.

Colonie's Nolan Smith led all scorers with 17 points.

Hockey

The Bethlehem hockey team earned its biggest win of the season Wednesday, Feb. 11, by defeating Shenendehowa 4-3 in a CDHSHL contest at the Bethlehem Area YMCA.

Riley Corbett, Ned Englebride, Brian Harder and Hayes Meredith all tallied a goal to help the Eagles (8-5-1 league, 9-9-1 overall) pull out

the victory against a Shen team that was at the top of the league standings. Goaltender Carl Cusack made 18 saves to pick up the win on Senior Night.

Chris Aarons, Tyler Lesniewski and Peter Russo scored for Shen (9-2-0, 13-7-0).

Bethlehem followed up that performance by tying Burnt Hills/Ballston Spa 3-3 Friday, Feb. 13. Thomas Liebold scored twice, and Michael Lemieux had the other goal for the Eagles.

Bethlehem begins the Section 2 Division 1 playoffs Wednesday, Feb. 18, against LaSalle.

Track and field

The Bethlehem girls indoor track and field team finished third at the Suburban Council Championships Sunday, Feb. 15, at the University at Albany's SEFCU Arena.

Bethlehem finished with 58 points, while

Shenendehowa was second with 85 points. Saratoga Springs claimed the team title with 143.5 points.

Grace Smith led Bethlehem with a victory in the high jump after she cleared the bar at 5 feet, 2 inches. Tedi DeMaria was third after she cleared the bar at 4 feet, 10 inches.

DeMaria was also second in the pole vault after she cleared the bar at 10 feet. Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake's Kalli Manly won the title by clearing the bar at 10 feet, 6 inches.

Samantha Gifford was second in the long jump and triple jump for Bethlehem. Gifford leaped 16 feet in the long jump and 33 feet, 6.5 inches in the triple jump.

Holly Machabee finished fourth in the 1,000-meter race, and Julia Nugent placed fifth in the 55-meter hurdles for the Lady Eagles.

On the boys' side,

Bethlehem's 1,600-meter relay team earned a league title with a time of 3:40.24. Top individual honors went to Luke Dutcher in the pole vault and Simon Powhida in the 1,000-meter race, as they each finished fourth.

Bethlehem placed eighth in the boys team standings with 26 points.

Special honor

Bethlehem Central High School was named the winner of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's "Battle of the Fans" contest following a three-day vote on social media sites last week.

Bethlehem, Skaneateles and Pittsford were the three finalists for the award, which goes to the student section with the most school spirit. Fans voted based on video nominations showcasing the student sections.

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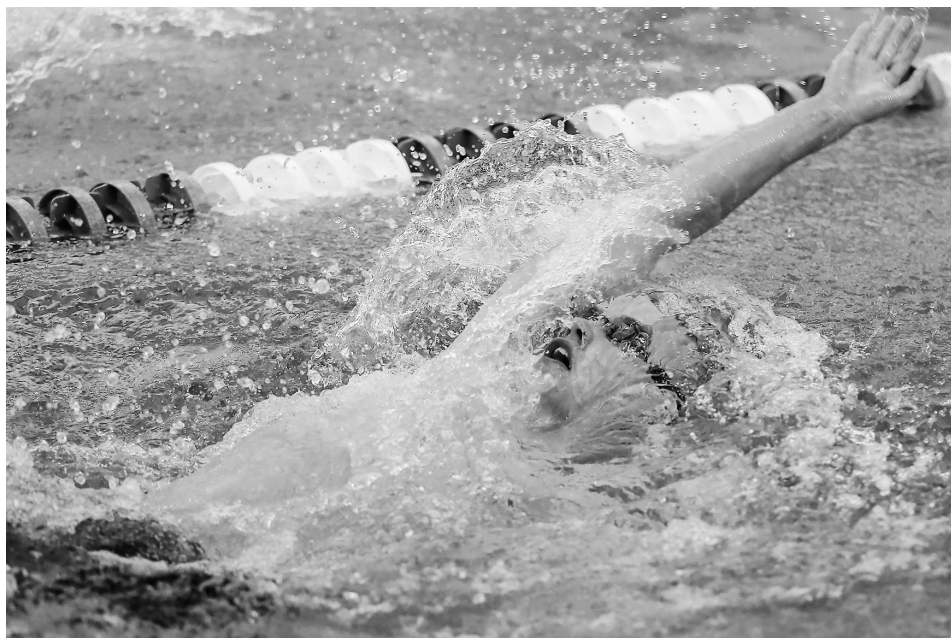
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■ SWIMMING



Bethlehem's Alex Taber competes in the 200-yard individual medley finals at the Section 2 Division 1 boys swimming and diving championships Saturday, Feb. 14, in Clifton Park.

Robert Dungan/Special to the Spotlight

Bound for Ithaca

Taber qualifies as an individual and with a BC relay team

By **ROB JONAS**
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

CLIFTON PARK — The Bethlehem boys swim team placed fourth in the Division 1 standings at the Section 2 championships Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Shenendehowa Aquatic Center.

The Eagles finished with 260 points, 40

points behind third-place Niskayuna. Shaker edged Shen 506-505 to win the Sectional championship.

Alex Taber won one individual event and qualified for the state meet in another to lead the Eagles. Taber claimed the 100-yard backstroke title with a time of 52.39 seconds, and he finished fifth in the 200-yard individual medley with a qualifying time of 2:00.07.

Taber is also competing in a relay at states with three of his Bethlehem teammates. The 200-yard medley relay team of Taber,

Connor Doyle, Stephen Marks and Brendan Cartwright placed second to Shaker with a qualifying time of 1:40.17. Shaker won with a time of 1:37.92.

Cartwright came close to qualifying for states in the 50-yard freestyle. Cartwright placed fourth in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.27 seconds — .08 seconds off the pace he needed.

Taber and his 200-yard medley relay teammates will compete at the state meet Feb. 27 and 28 in Ithaca.

■ TRACK AND FIELD

Dutch dominate field

By **ROB JONAS**
jonasr@spotlightnews.com

GUILDERLAND — The Guilderland boys track and field team finished third at the Suburban Council Championships Sunday, Feb. 15, at the University at Albany's SEFCU Arena.

The Dutchmen dominated the triple jump and the high jump on their way to finishing with 67 points. Zaviir Berry won the triple jump with a distance of 43 feet, 8.75 inches, while teammate Clarence Skipper placed

second with a distance of 42 feet, 8.25 inches. Berry and Harry Bickmore tied Saratoga's Nick Anderson for first place in the high jump after they all cleared the bar at 6 feet. Bickmore won the title in a jump-off.

Skipper (long jump) and Drew Burns (1,000-meter race) each picked up third-place finishes for Guilderland, as did the Dutchmen's 800-meter relay team of Andres Torres, Sean Murphy, Tyler Fusco and Jon Feil.

The Guilderland girls were eighth in the team standings at the

Suburban Council meet with 15 points. Emily Burns led the way with a second-place finish in the 1,500-meter race and a fourth-place performance in the 3,000.

Gymnastics

Guilderland's Kayla Morris qualified for the state gymnastics. Morris placed second in the all-around competition at the Section 2 championships Wednesday, Feb. 11, with a score of 35.00. Saratoga's Julia Van Horne won the all-around title with a score of 36.60.

From page 9 ...

Jenna Lemke rolls a 693 series

in New York, too.

"It's really exciting. I'm kind of nervous," said Melanie.

Jenna also recorded the high three-game series score of the girls

Sectional tournament with a 693. The next-highest score was a 653 rolled by Colonie's Tierra Gulum.

Colonie won the Class A and overall Sectional titles with a team score of 5,391

pins. Bethlehem was fourth among Class A teams with a score of 5,062 pins.

On the boys' side, Guilderland placed eighth in Class A with 5,435 pins, while Bethlehem finished 12th with a score of 5,134 pins. CBA earned the team title and a trip to the state tournament with a score of 6,084 pins.

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NOTICE OF FILING OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK BY A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Name: R.B.R.E. Holding Company, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with sec. of state of NY(SOS) on 1/20/15. Office location: Albany County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS shall mail copy of process to P. O. Box 31, Newtonville, NY 12128. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. Ad#71760

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Pursuant to Section 206 of the New York Limited Liability Law a. The name of the Limited Liability Company is 1801 Western Avenue LLC. b. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on January 28, 2015. c. The office of the Limited Liability Company will be located in Albany County. d. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him or her is: 1801 Western Avenue LLC c/o William D. Pfeiffer, Esq. Girvin & Ferlazzo, P.C. 20 Corporate Woods Blvd. Albany, New York 12211 e. The Limited Liability Company is formed for any lawful business purpose or purposes. Ad#73019

LEGAL NOTICE

2899 Ocean Ave., LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/08/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 2656 E 23 St., Brooklyn, NY 11235 General Purposes. Ad#72497

LEGAL NOTICE

2906 Enterprise, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/19/14. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 2940 W 12th St., Brooklyn, NY 11224. General Purposes. Ad#72490

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation 30 Heron LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/9/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#73616

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

397 Patterson LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/05/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 837 Father Capodanno Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10305. General Purposes. Ad#72494

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) The name of the LLC is 431 Broadway LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on February 4, 2015. 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 302 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203. Ad#73097

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: 444 SCAE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, February 6, 2015. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: in Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to 444 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205. Ad#73356

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: 444 SCLE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, February 6, 2015. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: in Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to 444 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205. Ad#73358

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: 444 SCSE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, February 6, 2015. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: in Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to 444 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205. Ad#73359

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 496 Dune Road, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/14/15. Of-

LEGALS

fice location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful purposes. Ad#71741

LEGAL NOTICE

4RWEB LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/08/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 102-30 66th Rd., 11F, Forest Hills, NY 11375. General Purposes. Ad#72500

LEGAL NOTICE

749 Nostrand Realty, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/02/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 749 Nostrand Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11216. General Purposes. Ad#72495

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 99 North Sixth Partners LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/8/15. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1 North Oaks Court, Warren, NJ 07059. Purpose: any lawful activity. Ad#71210

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Albany Arthritis Associates LLP. Certificate of Registration filed with New York Secretary of State (SSNY) on 11/6/2014. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 23 Winthrop Ave., Albany, New York 12203. Purpose any lawful activity. Ad#70769

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK BY A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Name: Albany Theatre Supply, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with sec. of state of NY(SOS) on 12/31/14. Office location: Albany County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS shall mail copy of process to 445 N. Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12204. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. Ad#70767

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Alpps Holdings LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/5/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of

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LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#73093

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Apple Stone, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 2/3/15. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 2/2/15. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 5550 Maricopa Street, Torrance, CA 90503. DE address of LLC: 615 S. DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. Ad#73343

LEGAL NOTICE

ATLB LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/23/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, c/o Vlad Tsirkin CPA, 150 Broadway, Ste. 900, NY, NY 10038. General Purposes. Ad#72513

LEGAL NOTICE

Bay Sub Shop LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/24/14. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 290 Baychester Ave., Bronx, NY 10475. General Purposes. Ad#72491

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation BM Markets LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#71337

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Cactus Pear, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/3/14. 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 The LLC, 320 Amsterdam Avenue, NY, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful activity. Ad#72541

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Carlton HSE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/16/15. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Capitol Services, Inc.,

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1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. Ad#72251

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Center Blvd P LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/2/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#70418

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Limited Liability Company (LLC) 1. The name of the LLC is: CHOPPA & SON FORMAL WEAR, LLC 2. The date of the filing of the Article of Organization with the Secretary of State of the State of New York (SSNY) is: 12/31/14 3. The office within New York State of the LLC is located in Albany County. 4. The SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 1020 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205. 5. The purpose of the business of the company is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the Limited Liability Company Law. Ad#71574

LEGAL NOTICE

Clifton Av LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/09/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 313 Sand Lane, Fl. 2, Staten Island, NY 10305. General Purposes. Ad#72512

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CMG MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/26/15. 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 at, 1495 Carroll Street, Brooklyn NY 11213. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. Ad#73449

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Corfu Property LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/3/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC,

LEGALS

911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#73090

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CT MARKETING SERVICES, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 1/21/15. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/6/15. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011. DE address of LLC: The Corporation Trust Company, 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. Ad#72253

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Deepika Bajaj Realty LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/3/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. The reg. agent is: Glass & Blum, PC, CPAs, 585 Stewart Ave, Ste. 409, Garden City, NY 11530 Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#73091

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, ALBANY COUNTY NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York will hold a public hearing on February 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY to consider a proposed Local Law amending the Code of the Town of Bethlehem, Chapter 128 to establish the Delaware Avenue Hamlet Overlay District. All parties in interest and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard at the said hearing. BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD TOWN OF BETHLEHEM Nanci Moquin TOWN CLERK Dated: February 11, 2015 Ad#73617

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of DP HARMONY HOUSE LLC, Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on January 29, 2015. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, P.C., 677 Broadway, Suite 500, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activity. Ad#73502

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of DWHY, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/31/01. 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, 54 State St., #103, Albany, NY 12207. The registered agent is: USA Corporate Services Inc. at the same address. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#70583

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Fifty Two Rooms LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/5/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#73092

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Fine Point Accounting LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/2/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#70420

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of First Southwest Company, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 1/16/15. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/10/03. 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 Street, 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. Ad#72246

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Articles of Organization of GCOM International, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on January 28, 2015, effective on the date of filing. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 24 Madison Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203, which is the principal business location of the LLC. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability

LEGALS

companies may be organized under the NYS Limited Liability Company Law. Ad#73365

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Graebel Van Lines, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 1/21/2015. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Wisconsin (WI) on 9/18/1981. 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: Capitol Corporate Services, Inc., 301 S. Bedford St., Ste. 1, Madison, WI 53703. Arts. of Org. filed with WI Secy. of State, 201 W. Washington Ave., Madison, WI 53703. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. Ad#72252

LEGAL NOTICE

Herbal Face Food - East Coast, LLC (the LLC) filed Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/10/14. The LLC office is in Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served to the LLC to 1 Peacham Road, Watervliet, NY 12189. Purpose of the LLC is any lawful act or activity. Ad#71132

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Heron Drive LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/2/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities. Ad#70417

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of HickoryLedge LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/2/2015. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail service of process to HickoryLedge LLC c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 11228, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful activity. Ad#72668

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company is IHLL, LLC. (hereinafter referred to as the "Company"). SECOND: The Articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the New York Secretary of State on December

From page 5 ...
Hail Mary possible...

there could be a lot more than just local residents watching the process. Mackay said a downstate television show producer contacted him about filming, or even taking part, in relocating the barn.

Securing funds to relocate the barn has been the biggest hurdle, which is estimated to at least cost \$500,000.

The “most viable” local scenarios, he said, would involve a non-profit or public ownership of the building, which allows access to grants or a bonding authority to cover costs. One funding option,

he said, includes the Albany County Industrial Development Agency providing immediately needed funds for deconstruction expenses.

“Some of what we are looking at now we would have access to some immediate money to move the building out of harm’s way and put it where it will have potential multiple options for reuse,” Mackay said. “We would love to keep it close to the Rail Trail. ... If we can keep it close to where it is right now there are some interesting opportunities that are beginning to coalesce.”

Icing over



The eagle at Bethlehem’s Veteran’s Memorial on Delaware Avenue reflects the breadth of the winter weather the region has received over the past several weeks. Snow and ice, everywhere.

Michael Hallisey/Spotlight

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events to our
online calendar

To submit an event to run in our online calendar, simply go to **www.spotlightnews.com/events/submit/**, become a registered user and fill out your event’s information in the provided form.

Submissions are subject to approval and may take up to 24 hours to be approved.

** News briefs for our community page must be sent via email to news@spotlightnews.com and may not appear online.*

LEGALS

22, 2014.
THIRD: The County within New York State in which the office of the Company is to be located is ALBANY.
FOURTH: The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process is P.O. Box 3 Voorheesville, NY 12186
FIFTH: The purposes of the business of the Company is The Company's purpose is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the New York Limited Liability Law.
Ad#70613

LEGAL NOTICE

The name of the limited liability company is JIM CRISPINO SYSTEM LLC. The Articles of Organization of LLC were filed with the New York Department of State on OCTOBER 31, 2014. The office of the LLC is in SCHENECTADY county and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process served is to STEVEN M SARGENT; 20 S CHURCH ST; SCHENECTADY, NY 12305. The purpose of this LLC is to engage in any lawful activity to which the LLC may be organized under the LLCL of New York State.
Ad#73101

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of K-Fab Services, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 2/5/15. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in New Jersey (NJ) on 1/28/15. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: In-Corp Services, Inc., One Commerce Plaza, 99

LEGALS

Washington Avenue, Ste. 805-A, Albany, NY 12210-2822. Principal office of LLC: Jill Ruitenber, 1710 Barclay Blvd., Princeton, NY 08540. Arts. of Org. filed with NJ Div. of Rev. PO Box 450, Trenton, NJ 08646. Purpose: design company.
Ad#73522

LEGAL NOTICE

KASTR POS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/22/14. Off. loc.: Albany Co. SSNY des. as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 60 Feeks Lane, Lattingtown, NY 11560. Purpose: General.
Ad#71107

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Kaymow LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/12/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities.
Ad#72259

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation LACERAK LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/3/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Accumera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities.
Ad#73085

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation: MALLAH FAMILY PARTNERS LLC Arts of Org. filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/15. Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY

LEGALS

shall mail process to: Katz Law Firm, PLLC, 77 Spruce Street, Suite 201, Cedarhurst, NY 11516. Purpose: Any lawful act.
Ad#73436

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF PALATIAL BUILDERS, LLC On January 12, 2015, Palatial Builders, LLC (the “LLC”) filed Articles of Organization with the New York State Department of State. The principal business location of the LLC is 12 Maria Drive, Albany County, Loudonville, New York 12211. The New York Secretary of State is designated as the agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to the LLC, is 12 Maria Drive, Loudonville, New York 12211. The LLC is organized for the purpose of any and all lawful business.
Ad#72543

LEGAL NOTICE

PANASOVSKIY, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/21/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 120 Oceana Dr. W, 4C, Brooklyn, NY 11235. General Purposes.
Ad#72514

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: PARC V, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, December 19, 2014. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to Gold-

LEGALS

man Attorneys PLLC, 210 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203.
Ad#70585

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Park Condominium LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/16/15. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Capitol Services, Inc., 1218 Central Ave., Ste. 100, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.
Ad#72249

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company Pursuant to Section 206 of the New York Limited Liability Law
a. The name of the Limited Liability Company is Patio LLC.
b. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on December 5, 2014.
c. The office of the Limited Liability Company will be located in Albany County.
d. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him or her is: Patio LLC c/o Patricia O’Keeffe 343 Loudon Road Loudonville, New York 12211
e. The Limited Liability Company is formed for any lawful business purpose or purposes.
Ad#72257

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of RuthManor, LLC, a domestic limited liability company, the purpose of which is to engage in any lawful activity. Arti-

LEGALS

cles of Org. were filed with NY Secretary of State (“NYSS”) on February 3, 2015. Offices are located in Albany County. NYSS is designated as agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS shall mail service of process to RuthManor, LLC, c/o Morgan Ruthman, 1 Juniper Drive, Delmar NY 12054. The LLC shall exist in perpetuity unless dissolved by its members.
Ad#73080

LEGAL NOTICE

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC) Name: SAN NICOLA PROPERTIES, LLC Articles of Organization filed by the Department of State of New York on: 03/22/2011 Office location: County of Albany Purpose: any and all lawful activities. Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: c/o Business Filings Incorporated 187 Wolf Road, Suite 101 Albany, NY 12205
Ad#70423

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SCE Sports, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/3/15. 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 David Schultz, 37 Thoreau Drive, Slingerlands, NY 12159. Purpose: any lawful activity.
Ad#73345

LEGAL NOTICE

SJPV, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/19/14. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY

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shall mail process to: The LLC, 48 W 38th St., NY, NY 10018. General Purposes.
Ad#72492

LEGAL NOTICE

SLATO LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/07/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 3860 Poplar Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224. General Purposes.
Ad#72506

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SLS Advisory LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/22/15. 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 United Corporate Services, Inc., 100 State St., 8th Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activity.
Ad#72540

LEGAL NOTICE

SPEEDHOSTING LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/08/15. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 143-36 Barclay Ave., #2B, Flushing, NY 11355. General Purposes.
Ad#72501

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Spirit Master Funding IX, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 1/7/15. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/8/14. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011,

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the registered agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.
Ad#71093

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Steven Girvin Properties LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/15. 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 The LLC, 30 Cherry Tree Road, Loudonville, NY 12211. Purpose: any lawful activity.
Ad#73582

LEGAL NOTICE

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC) Name: T-DREAMS LLC Articles of Organization filed by the Department of State of New York on: 05/22/2012 Office location: County of Albany Purpose: any and all lawful activities. Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: Northwest Registered Agent, LLC 90 State Street, Suite 700 Office 40 Albany, NY 12207
Ad#72984

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation Tigris Management LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/15 Off. Loc.: Albany Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Acc-

LEGALS

umera LLC, 911 Central Ave., #101, Albany, NY 12206. Purpose: all lawful activities.
Ad#71335

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Viking Lifestyle LLC . Articles of Org. filed with NY Secretary of State (SSNY) on 12/26/2014, office location: Albany County, SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail service of process to NW Registered Agent LLC @ 90 State St STE 700 Office 40, NW Registered Agent LLC is designated as agent for SOP at 90 State St STE 700 Office 40, purpose is any lawful purpose.
Ad#73377

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company. Name: Vogt Enterprises, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/14/2015. 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, 7 Fairway Court, Albany, New York, 12208. Purpose: any lawful activity.
Ad#71579

LEGAL NOTICE

ZEL properties llc the purpose for which the Company was formed on October 14 2014 in Albany County is to engage in any lawful act or activity under Section 203 of the LLC of the state of New York. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served at 45 Rapp Rd. Albany NY 12203.
Ad#67299

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February 18, 2015

Spotlight on Opinion

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**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

Don't be a baby

Sigmund Freud, the brilliant mapmaker of the human mind, could still only describe *id* through the use of analogies. Liking the basic human personality structure to a “cauldron full of seething excitations.” Chaos. A primitive instinct with a singular purpose but to satisfy one’s wants without thought to circumstance or to the affects on others. Freud said we’re all born “id-ridden,” and it is something most of us learn to negotiate as we grow older, more compassionate.

A “seething cauldron” is the analogy one could use to describe one Atlantic City elevator exactly one year ago. The same elevator Ray Rice walked into with his then-fiancée, Jayna, in the early

morning hours immediately following Valentine’s Day. A verbal argument fueled by alcohol and a disagreement over wedding plans turned to blows. The end result was the crumpled body of a young woman knocked unconscious by a vicious left hook from a professionally trained athlete; a lightning-quick, primal reaction, to dismiss what another person deemed a nuisance.

The actions of all involved, from the National Football League to law enforcement to the owners of the hotel could be best described by ESPN’s Chris Berman as “fumbling, bumbling, stumbling.” From February to September, the details of the event were left to

public speculation. Though the argument could be made that the public need not know the details of the incident, it was the manner in which the fallout was handled by people of authority that still troubles people today. Once TMZ released the elevator footage seven months later, the under-whelmed response Rice’s attack received up until that point became just as disturbing. Another domestic violence incident was swept under the rug.

Colleges across the Capital District recently hosted forums surrounding the violence against women. It is pathetic that we, as a modern, first world society, still have to talk about why violence against any gendered spouse is

wrong. A century apart from Woman’s Suffrage, and more than fifty years removed from the Civil Rights Movement, we are now at a time where gay marriage is reality and acceptance of transgender individuals is near. But, talk we must.

The wrong isn’t just behind the act, it’s what leads to the act. Commonly, violence is used to shut the other person down. Their view, their station in life, is insignificant or unwanted. Why? Because, someone was uncomfortable when presented with the situation. Instead of taking the chance to learn, or extending a hand to show respect, some of us still come back to chaos. The root of the problem goes back to *id*. Those of

us who walk the path of treating our fellow man with respect and compassion have learned to negotiate with *id*. Those who resort to violence, give in to vices, continue to shun people who fail to fit a mold – are nothing but a baby.

TALK BACK

The Spotlight welcomes feedback on this editorial or any other hot topics in the news. Email us at news@spotlightnews.com.

GET TO KNOW ...

Jeff Ayers
Owner,
Permian Productions

• Hometown: Saratoga Springs

What are you listening to on the radio?

“I like a lot of what our local scene has to offer. So, I love WEXT 97.7 and WEQX 102.7.

What are you watching on TV?

“I find myself being able to watch less t.v. than I used to be able to. I am a big fan of Entertainment. The “Walking Dead” is a great show. I’ve been hooked on that. I have really been digging, I’m one of the few, but I’m a big fan of the Marvel properties that have been out there, like “Agents of S.H.E.I.L.D.” and “Agent Carter.”

What books have you been reading?

“Book wise, at the this moment, I haven’t actually read a novel in awhile, which makes me sad. I’ve just been too busy.

“I review graphic novels for GraphicNovelReporter.com and I just

finished George O’Connor, he does The Olympians series... He just release Ares: Bringer of War. It’s all about the Trojan War, but from Ares’ point of view. I’m a huge comic book fan, so when I have the chance to read, most of the time it’s comic books.

What are your favorite hobbies?

“Reading and writing, for real. I’m a writer by heart. I love to write... I’m a fiction writer, and I’m actually working on a book now with my buddy, who is the artist. He’s going to illustrate and we’re going to do a graphic novel style, but it will be a collection of short stories...

“I really enjoy writing, and reading, when I can. I’m a gamer too. I’m not one of those gamers who play online or play all the shooters. I love a good fantasy RPG like Final Fantasy or something like that, where I can sink my teeth into for hours.

What three items would you need on a deserted island?

“I would need a copy of “The Collective Works of Edgar Allen Poe,” because I can read those constantly to waste away the time. I would need a pencil, a pen and scrap of paper - just something I can get thoughts down. And, the third thing would be a violin.

What would your last meal be?

“Last meal, hmmm. So many good ones. I’m going to have to say Turducken.”

“Get to know” is a weekly feature where community members are asked questions that aren’t necessarily related to their jobs. If you know of someone you think should be highlighted, email news@spotlightnews.com.

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POINT OF VIEW

Beauty 2.0

By **NICKI KERN**
news@spotlightnews.com

Ashley Graham—the plus-size model to be the first appearing in a Sports Illustrated—had written an essay for The Edit. In the essay, she writes that when she was a US size 18 it didn't hurt her bookings, but she didn't feel comfortable, didn't feel good at that size.

Now, she is a US size 14 and has been for many years. Graham confidently writes how she is comfortable now. Losing weight wasn't a way of conforming to pressures

Anatomy dictates that everyone cannot be held to the same standard of beauty. It is physically impossible to fit everyone into one tiny box.

put on her to lose weight, but rather a way for her to become comfortable in her own skin.

Human bodies are built differently. Anatomy dictates that everyone cannot be held to the same standard of beauty. It is physically impossible to fit everyone into one tiny box.

So instead we need more boxes—a lot more boxes. We need one for every person to get comfortable in. Every person in the world gets their own box, with plenty of room, to find what makes them happiest.

When I say every person, I mean every person. Not just every woman gets her own box, but every man as well. Every man gets his own box, because low self-esteem and poor body image is not just a women's issue. To pretend otherwise is sexist and demeaning to both genders. Body image is definitely more

talked about with women, but that tall, muscular, chiseled man with the perfectly coiffed hair in every menswear ad is by no means an accurate representation of the male form. Whoever Mr. Calvin Klein or Mr. Hollister are, they might be making the ladies giddy, but they have distorted men's view of what they should look like. Mr. Calvin Klein and Mr. Hollister each get their own "comfortable box" to hang out in, where they can be happy with the way they look, but they won't disturb other people's perception of beauty.

It feels as if the pressure

to be beautiful—whatever that really means—is getting more and more intense with each passing year, each passing fad. We had bikini bridges and thigh gaps, and I'm sure the coming years will have some interesting crazes to further warp the image. The image and the pressure have to shift from being "beautiful" to being comfortable.

Ashley Graham only appears in Sports Illustrated in an advertisement. It's a step in the right direction, but I'll be stoked to see a plus-size girl on the front cover, in a way that means

something—not People magazine telling us that so-and-so needs to lose the baby weight. Ashley Graham, you are my beacon of hope.

Nicki Kern is a senior at Bethlehem Central High School in Delmar, and is fulfilling an internship with us at The Spotlight. We plan to continue providing her insight on issues concerning her generation, our society and other topics of interest.

We welcome all letters and Point of View articles. Should you wish to submit one, please email us at news@spotlightnews.com

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From page 1 ... Vista lands \$1M

Legislature Chairman Shawn Morse on Tuesday, Feb. 10, sent the resolution releasing the Albany County Advantage funds to the Audit and Finance Committee for further review. Legislators did not comment on the proposal during its meeting that night.

County officials and developers have previously clashed over releasing \$1 million. Four years ago, the county was concerned about the lack of high-tech jobs at the site, which is what the money was meant to support, as reported in January 2011.

Developers eventually constructed roads and infrastructure without county funds being released. Nicolla said Vista Development has invested \$5.82 million at the site, along with roads and infrastructure costs totaling \$6.75 million.

"There was no existing infrastructure," Nicolla said in his letter. "It would be

County officials and developers have previously clashed over releasing \$1 million. Four years ago, the county was concerned about the lack of high-tech jobs at the site, which is what the money was meant to support, as reported in January 2011.

difficult to market the property unless potential occupants could actually drive around the facility to see a potential site, have available employee services nearby and picture their building in a certain location."

The roads and infrastructure at Vista were paid for through a private investor, with the Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency used as a third-party so construction could move forward.

"We undertook construction because we felt it was the best way to get anything moving with Vista," said Bethlehem IDA Chairman Frank Venezia.

The real property owners of each parcel of land within Vista are responsible to pay back the private investor, with some of the parcels held by limited liability companies of which Nicolla has principal ownership. The bond held by the investor is paid back come tax time, typically through a parcel's Payment In Lieu of Taxes agreement.

To qualify for the \$1 million, developers have to create one job per \$2,000 of grant funding. Nicolla in his letter claimed the job-to-investment ratio has been satisfied.

Nicolla said 472 jobs have been created, which includes 76 jobs at the unconstructed Monolith Solar facility, and there was a peak of 200 construction jobs. Excluding Monolith and construction jobs, the total drops to 396. The largest employer is ShopRite supermarket

at 300 jobs, according to Nicolla.

Commisso said county officials are researching the conditions of the grant funding and how many jobs have been created. The county does have money set aside for the grant.

"There is nothing so far that has been determined as far as giving the funds," said Commisso. "There are still some questions as to the criteria being met."

He said the county comptroller could have a "different opinion" on the job creation total and if benchmarks were met.

"It is just a matter of now vetting this thing in committee to make sure the 500 jobs are met. If not it remains the way it was and we continue on until they reach the 500 jobs,"

said Commisso.

Monolith Solar announced in October it would be moving its headquarters from Rensselaer to Vista. The company will construct a 16,000-square-foot administration building, a 10,000-square-foot warehouse and manufacturing building, along with an additional solar farm to potentially provide energy to Vista's other tenants.

Monolith's nearly \$5 million project is expected to retain 49 positions, with the potential to create 76 new jobs over five years.

The company is seeking \$680,000 in tax exemptions from the Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency. Empire State Development

will provide the company with a \$400,000 grant and \$400,000 in performance-based tax credits from Excelsior Jobs Program.

Breonics Inc., an Albany company specializing in organ regeneration research, was slated to be the first tech tenant in the campus. Breonics' was looking to move after its lease at the state's Harriman Research Center ended in August of 2013, but the company opted to not move to the campus.

Reporter Marcy Velte contributed to this story.

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