BCMS presents "Tom Sawyer"

Lots of dancing and singing mark the upcoming middle school production of "Tom Sawyer," as well as a hands-on learning experience for all middle school students interested in theater. Of the 85 students involved in the production, only half are part of the cast.

"There are a lot of kids who auditioned, and many of them would rather work as part of the crew," said Mary Katharine Daly, musical director and general music teacher. See story on Page 9.

Break out the old 8-Tracks

You'll want to set aside just a few hours but hustle to Albany's Capital Repertory Theater to catch "8-Track: The Sounds of the '70s," running now through Feb. 12.

See story on Page 15.

Boys hockey

See story on Page 30.

Spotlight

VOLUME L NUMBER 4 75¢ JANUARY 25, 2006

Reval doesn't mean higher taxes

New Scotland assessor updates residents on process

By LISA PETT

Around 70 residents of the town of New Scotland gathered at the town hall last Wednesday to attend an informational session that Town Assessor Julie Nooney hosted to bring residents up to speed on the revaluation of properties currently under way in the town. Nooney said the purpose of her presentation was to educate residents on all the stages of the revaluation process.

By definition, a revaluation is "the reassessment of all properties in a municipality using a mass appraisal technique to determine the fair market value of those properties." The last town-wide reassessment took place in 1997.

Nooney explained that the current revaluation is necessary to preserve equity in homeowners' assessments and taxes. Pointing out that she is also a town resident and homeowner, Nooney said, "I put in many extra hours here in town hall to make a conscientious effort to do this as fair as possible."

By ROB JONAS

Football fans are everywhere. Throwing a football onto a crowded city sidewalk, chances are it will be caught. What about a New York Jet jersey in the middle of a rural town? Chances are at least half the people that pass by will recognize it (and at least a few will give a sympathetic gaze in your direction).

Superalternatives on page 31

By ROB JONAS

"The intent is to give students tools and tips on how to think and learn best."

Les Loenitis

The program will be a three-year integrated process that combines physical education, health classes and family and consumer sciences.

"Instead of a separate class in sixth grade, it will be incorporated over the three years of middle school," said Monroe Supervisor Paul Sausville.

"In the local high school sports scene, many coaches cheer for the NFL teams closest to the Capital District — the Giants, the Jets, and the Patriots and the Philadelphia Eagles."

"I started liking the Eagles because everyone I knew were Cowboys fans," said Guild- land wrestling coach Regan Johnson. "Growing up in San Francisco 49ers, Seattle Seahawks and Tampa Bay Buccaneers."

The same likely holds true at any office or place of business. Just ask any co-worker. Chances are, they have a favorite NFL team, whether it's one they grew up watching or one they picked up because they like their coach or a particular player.

Even politicians have their favorite teams. Malta town supervisor Paul Sausville and Clifton Park supervisor Phil Barrett are both Patriots fans, though Barrett said he hasn't actively followed football for the last five years, while Bethlehem Supervisor Theresa Egan loves the Giants.

"I also grew up a Yankees fan, so it's a New York sort of thing," Egan said of her reason why she chose the Giants.

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

A wellness program, a literacy study skills program and accelerated studio art for eighth grade students are three of the new curriculum choices that will be available to middle school students in the 2006-07 school year. The board of education approved all three at Wednesday's meeting.

"We meet with the students extensively to get their thoughts and ideas about the classes," said Judy Monroe, principal at the middle school. "We've also had a lot of parent and teacher input."

By next year, all schools in the state will be required to have a wellness program, said Michael Tebbenho, assistant superintendent for instruction.

The program will be a three-year integrated process that combines physical education, health classes and family and consumer sciences.

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Coaches' choices

In the local high school sports scene, many coaches cheer for the NFL teams closest to the Capital District — the Giants, the Jets, and the Patriots and the Philadelphia Eagles.

"I started liking the Eagles because everyone I knew were Cowboys fans," said Guild- land wrestling coach Regan Johnson. "Growing up in
Fire Company hosts pancake breakfast

The Oneonta Volunteer Fire Company is having an all-you-can-eat breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon at the Claraville Firehouse. The cost is $6, and is free for children age 5 and younger.

To Life and Seton Health to offer women's program

To Life!, a breast cancer education and support organization, and Seton Health, a comprehensive integrated health care system anchored by St. Mary's Hospital in Troy, teamed up to present "No Bones About It!" an educational program that will examine topics in women's health.

The program, which is free to the public, will take place on Thursday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. at the Mary's Hospital in Troy, Plaza, and Sunday, Jan. 29, at 10 a.m. at the MagInfo Corporation Assembly Room in RPI Technology Square, Delaware Plaza.

In the last few years, major studies conducted on hormone replacement therapy (HRT), a standard treatment for menopausal symptoms such as hot flashes, night sweats and osteoporosis, have yielded conflicting results, including some alarming findings concerning breast cancer, strokes and heart disease. These inconclusive findings have instilled a level of fear and confusion for women considering this treatment option. There is also a growing concern that new pharmacologic developments that treat osteoporosis encourage women to overlook the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, including diet and exercise.

With these issues at the forefront, "No Bones About It!" will offer an update on hormone replacement therapy, bone building drugs, exercise and diet, heart disease, breast cancer and osteoporosis. Joyce M. Stein, D.O., Ob-Gyn, and Sharon Wright, chief clinical dietitian at Seton Health will present.

Pre-registration for the program is requested. Check-in begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 439-5975 or e-mail info@tolife.com to register or for directions.

Group seeks board members

The Friends of Bethlehem Public Library would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to serve as a board member to attend the upcoming meeting Monday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at the library.

The Friends of Bethlehem Public Library are a nonprofit organization founded in 1985 to support the library through fundraising, advocacy, and sponsorship of cultural and educational programming. The Friends recently furnished the new children's reading nook and the local history section of the library. Each year, the Friends sponsor a variety of lectures, concerts, children's programs and author talks.

In order for the Friends to maintain its current activity levels, it needs its members to volunteer on its board to help improve the library. Come and support the library by attending this meeting.

Local office to offer free health lectures

Dr. Ron Stein, a prominent doctor in integrative medicine, and his complimentary practitioner staff including naturopathic doctors, acupuncturists, massage and therapeutic touch practitioners are offering free health lectures every Thursday of each month. All events will be held at the Center for Integrative Health and Healing at 7:30 p.m. Registration is recommended. For information, call 480-2244 or visit www.cihh.net.

The Feb. 16 lecture topic is chronic pain syndrome. Learn about techniques available to reduce headaches, chronic back pain, and fibromyalgia, such as craniosacral therapy, acupuncture, and manual medicine.

'Eleven Days in Paris' at Main Square

Local artist Glenn Cormier is showing his photography at Main Square, 318 Delaware Ave., in Delmar through Feb. 7. "Twelve Days in Paris" can be viewed Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. The gallery will also be viewed on Monday and Tuesday by appointment. Call 415-1853 for information, or visit www.exposedartphotography.com.

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School books needed for hurricane relief

Clarksville Elementary sends relief to hurricane-ravaged school

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Cleaning up after last fall's book fair at Clarksville Elementary School, co-chair Abby Mouzakes had an idea — why not send some of the leftover books to victims of Hurricane Katrina?

"We just wanted to die when we saw the classrooms. Even though it's gotten better, it will still take two or three years for things to be back to normal," Abby Mouzakes, said.

Mouzakes and Zimmerman wanted to give kids at Clarksville a real sense of giving that doesn't come from writing a check. Children and parents scoured their bookshelves looking for books they didn't want anymore. Each class also decorated a backpack to give to the students of Sharon with decorations the kids thought they would enjoy.

"We've got the whole classroom of books and we had to use discretion in the selection that we sent," said Mouzakes. "We don't want to send all Sponge Bob and Batman.

Sharon Elementary School is similar in size to Clarksville, which was part of the goal. Finding a school comparable in size and student population would help the kids relate,

"This gives the kids the idea that they have really done something, and it's fun for them," she said.

Kelsey Bohl, a fifth grade student at Clarksville, said she felt really bad when she heard about the disaster.

"I wanted to do something about it, and I was really happy that the school donated all those books," Bohl donated about 15 of her old picture books.

Mouzakes and Zimmerman wanted to help Sharon Elementary rebuild its library.

"It's gotten better, it will still take two or three years for things to be back to normal," she said.

Clarksville Elementary School is helping Sharon Elementary School in Jones County, Miss., rebuild its library. Above indicates the number of books donated so far.

"Sharon Elementary is 125 years old and located in Jones County, about 100 miles north of the Gulf Coast. Jones County was the hardest hit intercoastal county, with 115 tornadoes reported and lots of destruction, Ishee said.

The school came back to the school to check the damage, and we would just think 'how in the world will we ever rebuild this?' But it's getting better," she said.

"We've been helping kids, and we are so excited to see books again. Clarksville school has been great."

Sharon Elementary School is helping it rebuild its library.

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Drainage slow at Kenwood

Kenwood traffic

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Warm weather and rain has taken the Capital District by surprise, and unfortunately for commuters and residents along Kenwood Avenue, it's also taken their cars for a swim.

"We know there is a drainage problem in that area, but right now we just don't have the means to address it," said Dave Vardigan, assistant resident engineer at the Albany County Department of Transportation.

Most of the staff is on winter and snow duty, he said, meaning less manpower and Department of Transportation workers clear some debris along Kenwood Avenue in Delmar.

"When we have a problem, but right now, all of our resources are limited," he said. "The weather has caused a real problem. The rain really threw us. If it was snow, we would have been able to handle it much better," he said.

Vardigan expects the DOT to address the problem in the spring.

In another drainage matter, work crews responded to a call from Cookies By Design, at the Four Corners Saturday afternoon after the owners discovered a flooded basement.

"We sent our crew out there, cleaned it up and then checked the street line," said Oliver Holmes, commissioner of public works in Bethlehem.

The flooding occurred about 1:30 Saturday afternoon. Work crews were able to pump out the basement with no additional problems.

"We worked very hard to fit this in the entire village scheme," said Myers. "Essentially, the actual project was approved last June. "

The design board did a really good job, because the project was being reviewed during the comprehensive plan process, and they did a good job trying to guess what negative impacts some design elements would have, was said.

"It's the town's responsibility to do what's best for the community, but right now, I see it as a balancing act. More people are also my job," she said. "I think a good job trying to guess what negative impacts some design elements would have, was said. "It's the town's responsibility to do what's best for the community, but right now, I see it as a balancing act. More people are also my job," she said.

The design will be a bit different, it's a new project, a whole new building, said Myers. "I think a good job trying to guess what negative impacts some design elements would have, was said. "It's the town's responsibility to do what's best for the community, but right now, I see it as a balancing act. More people are also my job," she said.
Anniversary stirs thoughts of alternative energies

By KATHERINE McCARTHY

Last week’s news - that it had been 25 years since the Iran hostage rescue - was stimulating to me. I was 21 again, a senior in college, standing in a dim library, poring over my nation’s triumph. The news - "What’s flat-and-gloves in the dark?" - "Iran after Reagan is inaugurated." It was a time when I knew I had been損害 sunder laughter as we the flat-and-gloves in the dark - "Iran after Reagan is inaugurated." It was a time when I knew I had been a hostage; and how would he feel if he’d just been released. I want a steak and a current newspaper; somebody picked up, and it was a phrase we repeated way too often for the rest of the year - a year of mourning.

I like to think we've outgrown that sort of flippancy that comes from taking the tiny steps from the protection of our parents’ homes to the protection of the Ivory Tower. Being reminded last week that the release took place just shortly after Ronald Reagan was sworn in to the protection of the Ivory Tower.

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But the culture was the hot topic in my teen years, and I feel compelled to do my bit to save the environment.

Two summers ago, that involved the purchase of an electric lawn mower, which is awkward to use, and had me believing for the first time that the oil companies really do control the world. It should be easier to get and run appliances and devices that use renewable energy.

We are lucky in our state to have some green energy policies, but it might not be so beautiful on the landscape, but if they can reduce our remaining dependence on the earth’s resources, they might be the way to go. And Christopher - who wears his nightcap on his head, and who am I, I'm keeping the non-liquid kind of nightcap handy so I can sleep warm in my chilly house; and I'm dropping my elected officials a line, requesting strengthened development of alternative fuel sources.

I'm not the only person advocating less dependence on foreign oil, nor the one who sees the looming threat of the West as a way of fighting terrorism. In 25 years, I hope to be chatting with my grandchildren about the warmth of my solar-heated or wind-powered home.

MOM’S WORD

Trek,” I was 21 again, a senior in college, I watched hostages deplane and to watch Sunday night episodes of “Star Trek.” Our silver bowl I'd returned from the library and biggest Flfesign Theater. Americans had had Iranian Tuesday: January 31, 1994 An arctic high of -48° was low was row and coldest month on record, By KATHERINE Capital exclusive

Commentary

One for popcorn and Star Trek, “he’d say, and we’d all laugh like we were doing something worthy of Monty Python or Foreign Theater.

While we loved Star Trek, we avoided the evening news in the days when our family that's endured hardship when I saw it this afternoon. “Sorry. I’m Jonesie, over again. I like to think we've outgrown that sort of flippancy that comes from taking the tiny steps from the protection of our parents’ homes to the protection of the Ivory Tower. Being reminded last week that the release took place just shortly after Ronald Reagan was sworn in to the protection of the Ivory Tower.

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I'm not the only person advocating less dependence on foreign oil, nor the one who sees the looming threat of the West as a way of fighting terrorism. In 25 years, I hope to be chatting with my grandchildren about the warmth of my solar-heated or wind-powered home.
Bethlehem maintains it; seeks money to fix it

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

The town of Bethlehem applied for a grant to help provide funds for a study of the water system in New Salem. The money would fund upgrades to the system, which has been serving a small number of residents of New Scotland for more than a century.

"This is actually in the town of New Scotland, but the town of Bethlehem maintains it," said Supervisor Theresa Egan. "We're trying to find money to do this study, and then have the town of New Scotland take over."

The grant is new this year, said Oliver Holmes, commissioner of the Bethlehem public works department. A total of $200,000 could be granted to both municipalities, with a match of $10,000 from each community.

"We want to take a comprehensive look at the system, do some survey work on the water lines, and legal research on some of the old agreements," said Holmes. "This grant allows municipalities the money for a joint venture. In this case we would be looking at the areas in New Scotland that Bethlehem provides water to."

Although the review will be an ongoing process, initial recommendations should be completed by this year, Egan said.

"This committee provides us with benchmarking information, and we're looking forward to gaining efficiencies in the town," she said.

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New Scotland water system needs upgrades

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THE SPOTLIGHT

January 25, 2006 — PAGE 5
Beat cabin fever

For many of us the countdown to spring is well under way. January is just about over, and in between fluctuating temperatures, 30plus degrees a day is a reminder that better weather will all arrive soon.

Even the skiers must be eager for a change of season since snow this year didn’t keep many of the slopes fit for any sport. But between now and actual spring, we need to find ways to beat the blues, otherwise known as cabin fever.

The Writers Institute has a smashing lineup of authors and filmmakers which will be presented in Albany in the fall, by invitation. Call 445-7858 for more information.

Friday night in Albany was reminiscent of a “big” city or the Albany that those of us who grew up in this area have heard stories of from grandparents and parents of how everyone used to be on downtown every weekend as it was chock full of theater and music. The streets were literally packed with people and the music was all in sync, let the music play on!

In all, there is plenty to keep us occupied until spring.

Yo-Yo Ma just part of downtown excitement

By WILLIAM A. KELLETT

The writer is advertising director at Spotlight Newspapers.

What has been termed a music marathon was the experience of the entire evening ahead. The theater was beginning with a thunderstorm that rolled in right at curtain time, but to everyone’s surprise, the audience never left.

Surrounding the audience was a mixture of professional and amateur performers, coffee, and refreshments. The audience was particu-
larly impressed with the varied talent of the orchestra and the recent acquisition of world class talent, they too were inordinately impressive.

For starters, Albany and environs were treated to one of the highlights of the arts calendar’s year. Yo-Yo Ma performed with the Albany Symphony Orchestra.

The excitement in downtown Albany on Friday was electric. The street was literally packed with folks going to the Palace Theatre. Capital Rep, coming and going from the various dining and drinking establishments in the area. Friday night in Albany was reminiscent of a city or the Albany that those of us who grew up in this area have heard stories of from grandparents and parents of how everyone used to be downtown on a weekend evening as all things social emanated from there. It was great fun to be a part of the evening, greeting friends and acquaintances, getting caught up in the entire festive nature of the goings-on. The mighty Palace Theatre too was in its new life. The well-publicized renovation work long since completed, the Palace seemed to come alive all over again for the seasons in the Hudson Valley, now set to come alive all over again for the seasons in the Hudson Valley, now set to be a part of the annual festival of the same name.

The second piece was a short world premiere performance entitled “Psuedenull Pastoralie” Fan, one of Ma’s great pieces of the concert. It was all in sync, let the music play on!

Cynicism being my middle name, began to think back on some past visits with ASO, but I am loathe to talk about it, maybe 10 years ago, and began wondering whether or not our hometown group would be able to measure up to such world class talent. Mr. Ma is without a doubt one of the finest musicians of his craft in the world. In fact, after the performance I had to go and find Mr. Miller to thank him for the great job he did.

The second movement of the piece was more reflective, thoughtful and evoking. The piece spoke of the past and what is to come. The second act was a bit of a let down, but with the third movement we were all for the first time treated to the piece that followed.

Yo-Yo Ma made his entrance along with violinist Colin Jacobsen, Jacobsen is one of Ma’s group of protégés that tour with him in a group known as Silk Road Project. The piece was Brahms’ “Double Concerto in A Minor, Opus 102.” Now, this is the part that I must confess you lose me technically. I don’t know a concert performed in A Minor from one performed in A Major. I wouldn’t know Brahms’ Opus 102 from 103, but again — I feel certain that lack of knowledge or expertise extended to the better part of the audience that evening — I do know what moves me.

Ma’s emotional involvement is as exciting to watch, as his music is to hear. His fingering and legato, his bowing and tone are precisely calculated to move the listener. As one musician put it, “Yo-Yo is the greatest figure that this orchestra has ever had.”

Leaving the theater, one could not help but be impressed not only by the size of the crowd, but the diversity of ages in the group. And like leaving a rock concert, everyone was exhilarated, electrified and bewowed by what they just participated in.

Oh, and how did the ASO hold up with such world class talent? I’m proud of them, they didn’t let us down.

C Major, Opus 56, triple concerto for piano, violin and cello. Aside from Ma, the soloists that night were Yo-Yo Fan, pianist, and Jonathan Gandelsman, violinist, also of the recently mentioned Silk Road Ensemble. All three young men certainly are able to hold their own on the stage with Ma. Experienced and world class talent, will certainly help to polish their talents but they, in particular Joel, Fan, are inordinately talented performers. Beethoven’s piece toyed with the audience, as the musicians sparred back and forth, tossed the musical lead from one to the other and then to the orchestra itself. The second movement of the piece was more reflective, thoughtful and evoking. The piece spoke of the past and what is to come. The second act was a bit of a let down, but with the third movement we were all for the first time treated to the piece that followed.

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#6GPC65, BLUE / 28K
PRIVACY GLASS, KEYLESS, CRUISE
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Look familiar?

Editor, The Spotlight:

Customers leave their personal valuables at Perfect Blend all the time. For the most part, we can identify whom to call based upon names and phone numbers in wallets, or cell phones, in book bags, or inside pocketbooks. For clothing items, we sometimes recognize an article of clothing someone had on and let him or her know they left their sweater or jacket here. More often than not, we can call a customer, or if we can't reach them, they retrace.

We are stumped with a package that was left at Perfect Blend last week. Someone left it here under one of our front tables the afternoon of Monday, Jan. 9. The package contains several black and white family photographs from the 1950s and 1960s. Also found were bus tickets, a Mass card and cash in a bank envelope. We tried calling Trailways to identify the purchaser of the tickets, but they were purchased for cash and cannot be traced.

Our concern is that this package belongs to an elderly individual who may not remember where they were last week, or where they left the package.

If any of your readers can help us find the owner of this package, we would greatly appreciate it. Please have them call us at 439-6537 or stop by and ask for Roberta or Rhonda.

A special thanks to our night managers for their honesty and concern. Thank you.

Roberta Bastow
The Perfect Blend
Delaware Avenue, Delmar

Writer urges meat and dairy-free diet

Editor, The Spotlight:

Dec. 26 marked the tragic anniversary of the world's worst natural disaster, when a giant tsunami extinguished the lives of nearly 200,000 people in Indonesia, Thailand, India, Sri Lanka, and other countries on the Indian Ocean.

Yet, each year, seven times as many Americans die of heart disease, stroke, cancer, and other chronic killer diseases that have been linked conclusively with consumption of meat and dairy products. Meat consumption also dumps animal waste in our waterways, destroys wildlife habitats to grow animal feed, and tortures innocent animals in factory farms and slaughterhouses.

Because of the many benefits it brings to us and our planet, let's make a New Year's resolution to replace meat and dairy products in our diet with wholesome, delicious vegetables, fresh fruits, and whole grains. With every supermarket featuring a large variety of these foods, as well as a rich assortment of soy-based veggie burgers, soy-dog, delicious, ready-to-eat frozen dinners, and soy milk and ice cream, it's got to be the easiest resolution we'll ever keep.

Richard Tokarski
Delmar

Thanks to Delmar Fire Vols

Editor, The Spotlight:

We recently had occasion to call upon the Delmar Fire Department. We wanted to publicly thank them for the way they handled our crisis.

We were particularly impressed by the professionalism they showed throughout the whole ordeal. From the time I called to report the situation until the time they left, everyone we interacted with was helpful and kind.

Even though our problem turned out to be minor, everyone was concerned about our well-being. Both the firefighters and medics were respectful and caring.

We are happy to have volunteers like this in Delmar.

Billie and Ernest Dy
Delmar

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The Perfect Blend on Delaware Avenue in Delmar. Do you know the owner?

A collection of photos and expired bus tickets was found last week at The Perfect Blend on Delaware Avenue in Delmar. Do you know the owner?

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America's favorite fictional rascal at BCMS

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Lots of dancing and singing marks the upcoming middle school production of "Tom Sawyer," as well as a hands-on learning experience for all middle school students interested in theater. Of the 85 students involved in the production, only half are part of the cast.

"There are a lot of kids who audition, and many of them would rather work as part of the crew," said Mary Katherine Daly, musical director and general music teacher, who is new to the district. "The great part about this show is that it's not just about the people on the stage. There are students who are sewing costumes and learning the tech parts of putting on a show. It's really hands-on."

Workshops to train the cast members in music and dance took place in mid-October, and rehearsals started in November.

The musical version of the Mark Twain novel is set in 1840 in St. Petersburg, Mo. In the course of the story, Tom Sawyer, played by Christopher Barron, matches wits with his stern Aunt Polly, falls in love with feisty Becky Thatcher, played by Adi White, and goes on the adventure of his life with Huckleberry Finn. Along the way, the audience meets the terrifying villain Injun Joe, Tom's bratty half-brother Sid, and all the other boys and girls in the village.

Frank Leavitt, director and producer, has an easier job this year with the addition of Daly and choreographer Alixa Fardella, a graduate of Manhattanville College and an intern at the school. As educational outreach coordinator for Capital Repertory Theater in Albany, Leavitt also worked as the musical director in addition to his directing and producing duties. The additional help this year leaves him time to really concentrate on character development.

Ian Dembling, SeanMar Barrett, Chris Barron, Nathaniel Edgar and Matt Greenberg got ready for Tom Sawyer.

Education is first and foremost in Leavitt's mind, which means, ironically, that the focus is not on putting on a good show. Having a good time and educating the students about theater production is the main focus. The rationale is if the students learn to develop their skills and enjoy doing it, they will walk away with knowledge of how a theatrical production works.

"Otherwise, there would be a lot of yelling, and that's not going to teach them anything," Leavitt said.

Much of the music in the show is three- and four-part harmony, said Daly.

"What's nice about the middle school is the range of voices," she said. "It fits them really well."

Performances will be at the middle school at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 2; Friday, Feb. 3; and Saturday, Feb. 4. A snow date is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 5 at 3 p.m. Tickets are $5 and may be purchased at the door or in advance and will be available beginning Jan. 31 in the school cafeteria during lunch periods. For ticket information, call 430-8697. For general information, visit the Web site at http://home.ncyap.rr.com/kcms/tom Sawyer/.
**Service group seeks worthwhile community projects**

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

The Delmar Rotary just can’t find enough to do.

There are about 20 members of the Delmar Rotary, and they are currently looking for some hands-on projects to do around the area.

"Things like fixing shelves, or other kinds of things that would take about a day or two and would require about eight to 10 people," said Tom Burdick, president-elect, of the projects the Rotary’s seeking.

In the next two months, the Rotary is hoping that people in the community will help them with some ideas of what can be done to improve the town, said Rotarian Vicki Floresky.

Part of Rotary’s commitment is to do four kinds of service: international, local, vocational and community, or hands-on. Although the Rotary holds annual fund-raisers to benefit local organizations, Floresky said a series of hands-on projects would help build a stronger sense of community.

"We haven’t been able to swing the hands-on projects in previous years," said Floresky.

The Rotary hosted a breakfast last Wednesday and invited town Supervisor Theresa Egan to speak and offer suggestions of work that could be useful to the town.

"There are certainly things that will be coming up in the future that we will need some help with," said Egan.

Currently, Egan is circulating the Rotary’s petition to the town’s department heads.

One of Egan’s ideas is to coordinate all the service clubs in town. Creating a council that would periodically meet to discuss projects to work on is something she will encourage, and pooling resources for grand-scale projects is a possibility.

"We have the Rotary, the Kiwanis, the Lions, and so many more," she said. "There are a huge number of volunteers, but we don’t have great organization among them. They do great individual projects, but it would be great to do something in a grand way."

Many beautification projects could receive the Rotary’s help, including landscaping near the traffic rotaries being built for the planned Slingerlands Bypass on Route 8.

Project proposals should include a one-page description of the project, and other details like cost and special skills required, and the expected improvements.

The Delmar Rotary host two major fund-raisers each year: Now through February the Rotary sells oranges and grapefruits, and in June, it holds a Teeling for Charity fund raiser at the Normansville Country Club.

For information, contact Ginger Landry, club president, at 424-9204 or by e-mail at vlandy@syacap.com.

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**You Are Cordially Invited**

**To The Annual**

**Bethlehem Republican Party**

**Cocktail Party**

**Thursday, February 9, 2006**

**Normansville Country Club**

165 Salisbury Rd., Delmar, NY

5:30pm-8pm

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Capitol Chamber artists in concert at the library

The library’s winter concert series, “A Little Sunday Music,” continues Sunday, Feb. 5, with a performance by the Capitol Chamber Artists. On the program are works by J.S. Bach, John Dowland, Paul Paray, Passacelbel and others.

Celebrating its 38th season, Capitol Chamber Artists has established a national and international reputation for musical excellence in live performance and recording. In 1988, the ensemble made its New York City debut to critical acclaim at Weil Hall. CCA received one of the first National Endowment for the Arts individual music composition grants to commission composers Andrew Imrie and George Walker.

CCA’s 1991 recording (Centaur Records) of commissioned works is distributed throughout the U.S., Europe, Asia, Canada and Australia. In 1985, Albany Records released CCA’s performance of Pulitzer Prize-winner George Walker’s Poes for soprano and chamber ensemble. The New York State Council on the Arts awarded CCA a Challenge Grant to record Haydn’s 12 London Symphonies for Centaur Records.

Funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and the Vermont Arts Council, CCA performs more than 100 concerts a year in New York and Central Vermont. The ensemble has been heard on NPR’s Performance Today.

The artists
- Flutist Irvin E. Gilman, CCA’s cofounder, holds music degrees from Oberlin Conservatory and the Manhattan School. He was assistant principal flutist with the Detroit Symphony for 12 years and principal flutist with the Albany Symphony for 15 years, during which time he held professorships at University at Albany and Bennington College.

- Violinist, violist and CCA cofounder Mary Lou Saetta holds music degrees from the Eastman School. A Tanglewood Fellow and past faculty member of Union College and The College of Saint Rose, she has performed with notable orchestras including the New York City Ballet Orchestra, SPAC Orchestra, and Albany Symphony, and recorded with Centaur and Albany Records.

- Cellist Hiene Annas is also a graduate of the Eastman School. A guest artist with Lukas Foss’ Creative Associates series at Carnegie Hall and Buffalo, she has performed with the Albany Symphony, Williams College String Quartet and Northeastern New York Philharmonia. She was a faculty member at SUNY College at Buffalo, UAlbany, Simons’s Rock College and the Fittsfield Community School, teaching cello and chamber music. She has performed with CCA for more than 15 years.

- Tenor and pianist Dan Foster was trained at Westminster Choir College as a singer; pianist, organist, and conductor. He has sung at the Spoleto Festival International and Austria’s Fitten Festival, toured in Europe and Asia, and performed and recorded extensively with the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Orchestra of Saint Luke’s, and the early music ensemble Fuma Sacra. He is founding artistic director of the Aoede Consort.

“A Little Sunday Music” is sponsored by Friends of Bethlehem Public Library. It is free and open to the public. The series concludes March 12 with the Erichth Chamber Players.

Additional programs
Book Discussions
- DayBooks. Monday, Feb. 6, 1:30 p.m. The Hamilton Case by Michelle deKretser.
- After Dinner Books. Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. Light On Snow by Anita Shreve.

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Bothered by frequent trips to the RESTROOM?

Bellevue Woman’s Hospital is currently recruiting male and female volunteers for participation in a clinical research study for individuals with overactive bladder.

Overactive bladder symptoms may include:
- Frequent urination
- Urinary leakage
- Difficulty in controlling the urge to urinate

If you are 18 years of age or older and have experienced any of these symptoms for at least six months, you may be interested in learning more about this clinical research study. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication designed to control overactive bladder. All qualified participants will receive study-related medical care including health assessments and study medication at no charge.

Potential study volunteers should call: (518) 489-9434
increases in all segments of local government, such as school, county, town, and utilities.

One important source of information that the town uses to verify the accuracy of the data being used to value property is on the data mailers sent to all town residents almost one year ago. Residents were asked to either confirm that the information about their property was correct, or update the data to reflect any changes or improvements, and then mail them back to the town.

Concerns came up during the meeting about responses that might be less than truthful. "There isn't much we can do about that," Nooney said. "It's basically your taxes will be about the same," Kitchen estimated. The notice will contain reassessment fraud. Nooney then same,'" Kitchen estimated.

There are using accurate data. March. These hearings will be held in February and March. These hearings will be

PAGE 12 — January 25, 2006

Ho~e
MEADOWVIEW
or update the data to reflect any your total tax bill, the three
increases in all segments of local staff to make that feasible.

as part of the final phase of this process, all property owners can expect to receive an assessment disclosure notice from the town on or around Feb. 9. This is the first notification of new assessments.

Project Monitor Bob Kitchen spoke about the taxes shown on the disclosure notice.

It shows about 95 percent of your total tax bill, the three main parts," he said. Those three parts are county taxes, town taxes (general fund and highway), and school taxes.

"If your assessment changes by 55 percent (from last year), your taxes will be about the same," Kitchen estimated.

The notice will contain information about informal meetings the town will hold in February and March. These hearings will be scheduled by appointment for residents who have any questions or wish to review their preliminary assessment. Residents can sign up for 15-minute blocks of time.

Nooney said that anyone who believes there is an error in their assessment, must bring in any supporting documents they have to support a request for an adjustment.

Nooney said the step after that would be that "property owners will be notified by mail of the determination of the assessor's review from support supplied at the informal meetings."

What happens if a resident does not agree with the assessor's determination? Nooney said that at this point a grievance application must be filed with the assessor's office and an appointment scheduled for the grievance to be heard before the board of assessment review. She stressed that all applications must be submitted no later than the fourth Tuesday in May.

Regarding the availability of information on this entire process, Nooney emphasized, "There is tons of information. I'm always available in my office if anyone has any questions. residents can reach Nooney at 439-9020 or by e-mail: nooney@townofnewscohtland.com. Additional information about the assessment process is available at town hall, 2029 New Scotland Road, or online, www.townofnewscohtland.com. By going online, residents can view digital photos of all town properties as well as information on details such as size and improvements.

The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for space, style and length. All letters must contain the writer's name, address and phone number.

Letters to the Editor: Spotlight, 255 Main Street, PO Box 160, Delmar 12054.

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Delmar $315,000
- 2800 sq ft contemporary, open floor, cathedral ceilings, 2 fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, hardwood floors, very private yard, 2 sided deck.

Delmar $294,900
- Totally updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath colonial in Old Delmar. Hardwood floors, new kitchen and bath, 2 car garage. Glenmont $529,000

Glenmont $529,000
- Fabulous river views, 2-sided FP, hardwood floors, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, small greenhouse, walkout basement on Historical Van Wie's Point Rd.

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Blog makes its debut on library Web site

The Fied Piper of Books has made its debut on www.voorheesvillelibrary.org. Fied Piper is a blog written by Joyce Laiosa and Gail Brown of Youth Services. To find it, visit www.voorheesvillelibrary.org and click on the Youth Services link at the right of the screen, then pick Teen Spaces, which will lead you to the blog, as well as some other great resources.

The blog contains a schedule of nonfiction, and make a code of viewers to post their comments. Terrific, or make a link at the right of the screen, on the blog is that readers start www.voorheesville.org can’t wait for you to check it out.

Pied Piper made its debut on January 25, 2006. The blog contains a schedule of nonfiction, and make a code of viewers to post their comments. Terrific, or make a link at the right of the screen, on the blog is that readers start www.voorheesville.org can’t wait for you to check it out.

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The workshop covers the best way to reduce your energy bills. “Save Energy, Save Dollars” will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is a must. Call 765-3557 to register.

Free energy workshop planned

Corelli Cooperative Extension of Albany County is offering a free Energy Workshop at the Voorheesville Public Library at 102 Washington Ave. The workshop covers the best way to reduce your energy bills. “Save Energy, Save Dollars” will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is a must. Call 765-3557 to register.

www.spotlightnews.com

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Relay for Life kickoff planned

All are invited to attend a kickoff for Albany, Rensselaer and Voorheesville Relay for Life events Wednesday, Feb. 8.
The meeting will be held at the NYSUT Headquarters, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham. Complimentary food and beverages will begin the kickoff at 5:30 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring a friend to learn more about Relay for Life.

RSVP to Carol Bishop-Paepiche at 518-4935 or carolbishop@nysut.org by Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Winter concert set for elementary level

The Elementary School will be holding its winter concert Wednesday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m. All are invited to attend this free event.

Food for fines in January

The month of January allows you to bring in your overdue books, tapes and videos with a donation for the New Scotland Food Pantry. Replace each $1 of a fine with a non-perishable food item - up to a maximum of $3.

Kindergarten registration scheduled for March

A Voorheesville elementary school kindergarten-registration meeting is set for Thursday, March 9, at 7 p.m. (PARENTS ONLY).
Parents are asked to call Mrs. Donohue at 765-2382, ext. 514, if they have a child who will be entering kindergarten in Sept. Children must be five years of age on or before Dec. 1, 2006 to register.

The kindergarten registration and screening program will be explained and parents will be able to schedule an appointment to have their child screened March 21 or 22.

Garden Club to meet

The first meeting of the new year for the Helderberg Garden Club will be held Thursday, Feb. 2, at 6:45 p.m. at the Voorheesville Legion Hall. The topic will be Daylily’s by Melanie Mason, national speaker from the North Country Daylily Society.
The public is welcome to attend.

For information, call Beverly MacMillan at 765-2880.

Thatcher Nature Center plans snowshoe walk

A snowshoe walk will be held at Thatcher Park Thursday, Jan. 26, at 10 a.m. Plan to meet at the park office for a scenic snowshoe walk along the escarpment.
For information, call Jo at 872-1237. Program fee is $1 per person.

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BETHLEHEM INTRACLUB SOCCER REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2006 SEASON

General Registration:
Sunday, January 29, 2006, Bethlehem Town Hall, 6p.m. - 8p.m.
Saturday, February 4, 2006, Bethlehem Town Hall, 2p.m. - 4p.m.
Cost: $65/child if registered in person
$85/child if received after February 4, 2006 or received by mail
Eligibility:
Children residing within the Town of Bethlehem or within the Bethlehem School District may participate at the appropriate age level. To be eligible, children must have been born prior to December 1, 2001
For more info, please visit or website www.bsc-online.org

Planetarium explores ancient Egypt

The Henry Hudson Planetarium, located at the Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center in Albany announces a new program examining ancient Egyptian astronomy. The program is being presented to enhance trips to the only Northeastern U.S. exhibit of “Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archeology” on display at Albany Institute of History and Art through June 4.
The program incorporates 3-D images of the stars and planets on the dome of the planetarium with the flat screen movie version of “Stars of the Pharaohs” and a live presentation by the Henry Hudson Planetarium’s education staff. The program explores how ancient Egyptians used the horizon to tell time, make a workable calendar, create early zodiacs and align the tombs and temples of their leaders.

Hands on family activities follow each show. The premiere showing is Saturday, Jan. 28, at 1 p.m.
The cost is $3 for adults and $2 for students.
**Frank Boehlke**

Frank E. Boehlke Sr., 93, died Jan. 10. Born in Gray, Maine, Mr. Boehlke spent most of his life in the Selkirk and Hannacroix area and was a self-employed mason contractor with Anthony Scott of Boehlke and Scott for 25 years. He was a communicant of St. Patrick’s Church of Ravena all his life.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Mabeln Boehlke; four sons, Frank Boehlke Jr., Darrell Boehlke Sr., Thomas Boehlke and William Boehlke Sr.; 21 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at St. Patrick’s Church in Ravena on January 16 with interment in St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Coeymans. Services were from Babcock Funeral Home in Ravena. Contributions be made to St. Patrick’s Church, 21 Main St., Ravena 12143.

**Beulah Domermuth**

Beulah McMillen Domermuth, 78, of Clarks ville died Friday Jan. 13. Mrs. Domermuth was born and raised in Clarks ville.

She was the widow of Wendell Domermuth.

Survivors include; four sons, Robert Domermuth of Slat ington, Pa., Wendell Domermuth Jr. of Clarks ville, John David Domermuth of Knox, and Alan Domermuth of Westerlo; a daughter, Deborah Forster of Colonie; 19 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services were at the Applebee Funeral Home. Spring burial will be in Oneida crows Bay Cemetery in Clarks ville. Contributions may be made to the Community Hospice of Albany, 445 New Karner Road, Colonie12205.

**Hydeia Pizarro**

Hydeia Pizarro, 82, of Delmar, died Wednesday, Jan. 11.

Survivors include a daughter, Ivette Ceders; a son, Luis Pineda; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren. Services were from Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Interment was in Albany Rural Cemetery, Menands.

**Pamela Johnson**

Pamela A. Johnson, age 56, formerly of Delmar, died Sunday, Jan. 15.

She was a lifelong area resident. She was an administrator at Albany Medical College before retiring several years ago.

Survivors include a brother, Robert Johnson; and a sister, Lynn Arnold.

Services were private. Burial was in Albany Rural Cemetery. The family wishes to express their sincere thanks to Dr. Thomas Smith, Dr. Jonathan Rose and the nursing staff on floor ES at Albany Medical Center. Contributions may be made to Very Special Cats for Very Special People.

**Garnet Nelson**

Former Delmar/Elsmere resident Garnet Nelson died Thursday, Jan. 12.

Originally from Delmar, she resided at Emerson Square Personal Care Home in Indiana Pa., for the past 10 years. While living in Delmar, Mrs. Nelson was very active in the community and First Methodist Church and was a successful businesswoman, owning and operating The Fabric Garden.

Survivors include a daughter, Beth Crawford of Fryeburg, Maine; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association First United Methodist Church, 428 Kes wood Ave., Delmar 12054.

**William Rundell**

William Sidney Rundell, 80, of Selkirk, died Saturday, Jan. 14.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Rundell; two sons, William Rundell Jr. and Gary Rundell; two daughters, Ruth Ann Rundell and Rebecca Rundell; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Interment will be at Saratoga National Cemetery at a later date. Contributions may be made to Community Hospices, 445 New Karner Road, Colonie12205.

**Frances Winne**

Frances Winne, 85, of Clifton Park, formerly of Delmar, died on Jan. 21, at the Schuyler Ridge Health Care Facility.

She was the wife of the late John Winne and a lifetime member of Delmar Reformed Church and Delmar Senior Citizens.

Survivors include a daughter, Ann Buckbee of Rexford; a granddaughter; and two great-grandchildren.

Services were from Durant Funeral Home in Glenmont. Interment was in Bethlehem Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to the Schuyler Ridge Health Care Activities Dept., 1 Abele Blvd., Clifton Park 12065.

**Daniel E. Sego**

Daniel E. Sego, 45, of Ravena, died Tuesday, Jan. 17. Born in Norfolk, Va., he was raised in Tacoma, Wash. and came to New York 11 years ago. He worked for Janitors Inc. at GE and presently for Environmental Services of Rensselaer.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Gravel Sego; three children, Corrieann, Joshua and Amis Sego; his sisters, Barbara Seck and Janet Sego, both of Latham.

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Obituaries in the Spotlight

Donna Fern Moran

Donna Fern Moran, 93, of Delmar died on Tuesday, Jan. 17. Born in LaHarpe, Kan., she was a longtime resident of Delmar. Prior to moving to Delmar, she had lived in Niagara Falls for many years. Mrs. Moran had been a real estate agent with Paganos Weber in Delmar prior to retirement. She was a lifetime member of the Albany Yacht Club and a member of the Power Squadron. She enjoyed music, playing bridge and was an avid gardener.

Mrs. Moran was the widow of Paul W. F. J. Moran.

Survivors include three grandchildren, Kathleen Moran Doskos of Simsbury, Conn., Major Thomas P. F. Moran of Newport News, Va. and Karen Moran Pickard of Bel Air, Md.; and five great-grandchildren. Calling hours were at the Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar. Burial will be in White Haven Memorial Park in Pittsford at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to the Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 12054, ATTN: Senior Services Department.

John M. Rankin

John M. Rankin, 69, of Slingerlands, died Tuesday, Jan. 17. John graduated from Bethlehem Central High School, earned a bachelor's degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and did doctoral work at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. After retiring from the state Department of Environmental Conservation, he was an active member of the Bethlehem Art Association as well as a published poet. His love of family and friends was apparent in every aspect of his life, and his influence will continue to be felt.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Elaine Rankin; two daughters, Jeanne of Austin, Texas and Jennifer of Providence, R.I.; and a sister, Margaret Westfall of Port St. Lucie, Fla.

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the staff of the Community Hospice, Inc. for their tender care and support during John's illness. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m., Feb. 4, 2006 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Elmere Avenue and Poplar Drive, Delmar. Contributions may be made to the American Institute for Cancer Research, P.O. Box 97127, Washington, DC 20090-7127.

Doris M. Rowe

Doris M. Roberts Rowe, 59, died on January 19, at the Hospice Inn at St. Peter's Hospital.

Survivors include her three daughters, Dale Clark, Melinda and Donna DeChambro; siblings, Harvey, Arthur, Lee, and Marie. Funeral Monday at 1 p.m. in Hall & Higgins Funeral Home, 457 NY 43 Stehentown. Burial in Garfield Cemetery.

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January 29, 2006 — PAGE 17
Milestones in the Spotlight

Smith, Hurson marry

Abigail Marie Smith, daughter of Michael and Martha Smith of Delmar, and Brendan Abell Hurson, son of Daniel and Meg Hurson of Davidville, Md., were married Sept. 10.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. James Walsh at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar.

A reception followed at Apartments in Altamont.

The matron of honor was Kyle Smith, sister-in-law of the bride. Bridesmaids were Haley and Seton Hurson, sisters of the groom.

The best men were Daniel and Devin Hurson, brothers of the groom. Groomsman was Kevin Smith, brother of the bride.

Owen Smith, brother of the bride served as cantor.

Michael Smith, Jr., brother of the bride served as acolyte.

The bride is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Providence College, and Catholic University School of Law. She is an attorney with the Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities in Columbia, S.C.

The groom is a graduate of Providence College and University of Maryland School of Law. He is a law clerk for the Honorable Margaret R. Seymour of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C.

After a honeymoon to Kiawah Island, the couple resides in Columbia, S.C.

Dean’s List

Lehigh University

Diana Thysen of Delmar.

St. John Fisher College

Corey McDermott Glath of Voorheesville.

SUNY Cortland

Roxanne Piegare of Glenmont.

Class of ’05

SUNY New Paltz

Carrie Holligan of Delmar, master’s of arts in English.

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Berle, Ernye engaged

Amy Berle, daughter of Paul Berle of Rotterdam and Susan Curran of Clifton Park, and Sean Ernye, son of Gay and Judith Ernye of Delmar, are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Shaker High School.

She is a medical records director at Bethelhem Family Practice in Stingerich.

The future groom is a graduate of Bishop Maginn High School and Hudson Valley Community College.

He is a manager at Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Colonie.

The couple plans a May 26 wedding.

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• Creating a Network of Trusted Decision Makers
• Protecting Assets From the High Cost of Care
• How and Why a Long Term Care Plan Should Coordinate With Your Legal Plan
• How to Save Money With Long-Term Care Insurance

Legal Overview - Louis Pins, Esq.
Mr. Pins, an experienced Elder Law and Estate Planning Attorney, will present the Legal Overview. A frequent author and lecturer, he has been selected to provide members of the bar with an update on the major changes contained in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2001.

Financial Overview - Philip C. Gallant, CFA, CLTC
Mr. Gallant, President of the Financial Overview, will present the Financial Overview. Mr. Gallant has devoted 26 years to educating clients on allocating investments to preserve assets and increase income while also reducing estate taxes.

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Admit it, you once owned clothes like those. Liana Young, Toddey Brown, Nik Rocklin and Tonya Phillips reenact the 1970s at Capital Repertory Theater.

Tonya Phillips, the show's soprano, picked up the task of choreographer for the Cap Rep production. "I choreographed it as a singer, thinking about how I would dance if I were singing," Phillips said. "I watched a lot of Earth, Wind and Fire." Phillips, 32, also drew on her own childhood.

"I was a pre-teen in the 1970s," the Orlando, Fla., native said. "My whole family was into music. The older kids in our neighborhood would take the younger kids to the gym, play music, and teach us these songs and how to dance to them. I also love to watch "Good Times" and "What's Happening." Phillips' favorite songs in the show are "Take 'im to the streets" and "Until you come back to me."

Toddey Brown added soul to the show, with an Afro that looked like it needed scaffolding and striped denim bell bottoms in the early part of the show, wide-side curtains and a skirt with horizontal stripes later in the show. His winsome facial expressions drew the audience in completely, and we laugh at ourselves as much as the numbers he sang well.

Liana Young brought a charming twang to a lot of her songs, and her costumes reminded us that yes, too many patterns can be a bad thing. Her mini-skirt in the first act was a reminder to every 1970s-era Catholic school girl about why uniform skirts had to be long enough to touch the floor when you knelt.

"The show takes people away," she said. "It sets them free."

That's exactly what audience members Danielle Boudreau, 43, and Eddie Guibault, 42, found.

"I knew every word to every song," Boudreau said. "It was a carefree and easy time, and now we're remembering it."

"There were some classics in there," Guibault said.

You can check out the classics on Cap Rep's stage, and as the theater always does, it's offering events around the show. This Saturday, Jan. 28, and next Saturday, Feb.4, after the 4 p.m. show and before the 8:30 p.m. show, Jennifer Girard of the Arthur Murray Latham Studio, will offer mini-dance lessons upstairs at the Victory Cafe. Cost is $5 per person.

Discussion nights with Mancinelli-Cahill are scheduled for Jan. 25, Feb. 1 and Feb. 8, after the show, and on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 1:30 p.m. with a complimentary continental breakfast.

Regular performances are at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 4 and 8:30 p.m. on Saturdays; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets range in price from $34 to $42, and discounts are available for teachers, those under 30, over 65, and for groups of 10 or more.

Capital Repertory Theater is located at 111 North Pearl St. in Albany. For information or to purchase tickets, call 445-7469 or visit the Web site, www.capitalrep.org.

By KATHERINE McCRATHY
SOUNDS OF NEW YORK

Slate Theatre, 111 North Central Avenue, Albany, $15.

THEATRE

New York Slate Theatre, Jan. 28, 8 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, $15-$18. Information, 475-1853, ext. 4.

KELLY WILLIAMS AND THE KEELS


LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO


JOHN RANKIN

Bassist, Feb. 10, 8 p.m., WAMC/Linus-Laura Performing Arts Center, Central Avenue, Albany, $15. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

PAUL STONEHOUSE

One of the top femaile comedians in the region, Feb. 11, 8 p.m., Empire State Plaza, Albany, $20. Information, 475-1845.

BILLY COSBY

Comedian, Feb. 11, 8 p.m., Empire State Plaza, Albany, $15-$18. Information, 475-1845.

MARSHALL CERESTA

Alternative pop rock singer/songwriter, Feb. 4, 8 p.m., WAMC/Linna-Norah Performing Arts Center, Central Avenue, Albany, $15. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

THE WAYBAND

Inventive acoustic band, Feb. 5, 4 p.m., WAMC/Linna-Norah Performing Arts Center, Central Avenue, Albany, $15. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

ROBERTA ELLIOTT


DREADZONE

One of the top female comedians in the region, Feb. 12, 8 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, $15. Information, 475-1845.

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**BETHLEHEM**

**BETHLEHEM DELMARTA**

Nassau Media Club, 7:30 p.m. Information, 767-2393.

**PLAYGROUP MEETING**

First United Methodist Church Playgroups will meet from 10:30 to noon in the nursery. Playgroup provides opportunities for children to develop skills and socialize in a relaxed atmosphere. Information, call 439-9976, ext. 299.

**MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (NOPS)**

Christian Islamabad Church for mothers of preschooler children, in the Bethlehem Rec Center, 365 Delaware Ave., nursery care provided, 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Information, call Jennifer 439-9929, ext. 4.

**NEW SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS**

The Bethalhium Lunal Grotto, 7:30 p.m., Information, 439-4857.

**BETHLEHEM ELSA LODGE 2233**

1916 River Road (Route 144), Coats Hill, 7 p.m. Information, 187-2866.

**TESTIMONY MEETING**

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 505 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

**BOARDING SCHOOL OF APPEALS**

Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4655.

**BINGO**

Blankfield American Legion Post, 16 Maple Drive, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 58**

Elm Avenue School, 247 Dela­mar Ave., 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Information, 439-1142.

**NEW SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS**

First United Methodist Church, 365 Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Information, 439-9929, ext. 4.

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Notices of Formation of Limited Liability Companies.
Booster club resurfaces tradition

By ROB JONAS

The Bethlehem Central Swimming and Diving Booster Club celebrated its first anniversary by presenting two new banners last week, an event that had been in the works for more than a decade ago.

Prior to the start of last Thursday's boys meet between Bethlehem and Saratoga, the booster club presented two banners with the names of this year's swimmers and boys' and girls' teams.

"It's a tradition that we're resurrecting," said booster club co-chairman Beth Gilchrist. "It's a lot of fun for a lot of people and it honors their commitment to the sport."

The new banners will eventually join others that adorn the walls of the school pool hall, a spot that had been reserved for more than a decade ago.

The coach has a great deal of support, I think it's great and it's that's it's being recognized."

The fact that the Bethlehem Central Swimming and Diving Club has only been around for one year is surprising, since it's the signature sport at the school.

According to parents who have been involved with the team for years before the club began.

"Swimming and diving is one of the sports where parents have a deep connection, and it allows the coach to coach," she said.

"We're certainly pleased that we're finally organized," added coach Dave DeLucco. "Last year, we had five people who were saying, 'Let's have a club.'"

Along with the team banners, another sign was debuted at the Bethlehem Central meet last week, one that simply says "Eagles Nest." That sign will hang wherever the swim team competes, whether at home or on the road.

The booster club has other programs planned.

"We'd like to replace the old record board, and we'd like to purchase a new electronic timer for the pool," DeLucco said.

Eagles swim by Streaks

The Bethlehem boys swim team celebrated the banner presentation last Thursday by beating Saratoga 106-81 to raise their season record to 1-0.

Larry Glueckler and Sean Kenny led the Eagles by winning two individual events each.

The Eagles got their first place in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:51.06 and the 500 freestyle with 4:53.60. Kenny won the 200 individual medley in a time of 2:06.49 and the 100 butterfly in a time of 55.53.

Drew Acquivita and Tyler Dudas also won individual events for the Eagles. Acquivita won the 100 backstroke with a time of 58.78 seconds, and Dudas took first place in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:50.10.

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BY ROB JONAS

The Bethlehem girls basketball team started this year, but what the Lady Eagles accomplished last Friday was a giant leap.

Last Friday, with five points left on the clock, the Lady Eagles fought with 19 seconds left in the fourth quarter to help Bethlehem defeat Colonia in a Suburban Council Gold Division game. It was the Lady Eagles' first win over the Colonia Indians since 1995.

"It was a big relief," said Bethlehem coach Mark Nealon. "They beat us by 24 points the first time. This was a huge swing."
Dear Valued Customers:

...for all your pets needs

The sudden loss of a best friend causes sadness and anger. When any of us experiences the loss of a pet, we feel comparable emotions to the loss of a loved one. This is for certain because that pet is a family member. We locked ourselves in the morning to care for Ollie and Junior over Christmas weekend, the owners and staff did so without reserve. Some kennels do not board pugs, but we've made no such distinction. The pugs were boarded in our kennel along with 51 other loved animals. They were bathed and dried along with 11 other dogs on December 26 in preparation for returning to their family, the Luries. The accidental death of the pugs was determined to be just that, an accident. Junior and Ollie were placed in the usual wall units for drying. The dogs were under the heated dryer for only about thirty five minutes. This is standard procedure. In the time between the pugs being placed in the drying unit and their distress, their bather, Fran, was bitten by another dog. She was advised to go home by the kennel manager, Danielle. Danielle was fully aware that Fran had left Reigning Cats and Dogs that afternoon. She was also well aware of her responsibility in monitoring the dogs that were drying in the downstairs grooming area. Danielle and Fran returned to the grooming area in preparing for Fran to leave. At that time, Ollie and Junior had been drying for 35 minutes with a dryer set on a 3 heat; given a 1-9 range. A dryer was removed from their drying cage. Two small fans and two standing fans were rearranged on all of the drying dogs. One dryer remained on a German Shepherd situated below Ollie and Junior. Ollie and Junior were fine at this inspection and in their bath. One hour later, Danielle, our kennel manager, found Ollie and Junior in distress. Emergency procedures were followed by taking the two dogs to the vet, and subsequently to the emergency clinic, since the Delmar Animal Hospital was not open for business that day.

We are deeply saddened by this unfortunate set of circumstances. However, on that day, Reigning Cats and Dogs followed the exact procedures that are in place 365 days a year to safeguard each animal in its care. Ollie and Junior showed no obvious signs of being in distress when they were first checked by Danielle, Ollie and Junior were left in the dryer to overheat in an attended, unsupervised situation.

As the owners of Reigning Cats and Dogs, we can only relate to you the incident as it occurred. We have nothing to hide as evidenced by our immediate cooperation in the Bethlehem police investigation. We assure you that a consistent level of care and attention is given to each of the animals cared for at our facility for grooming or boarding. Our dedication to the animal community as well as to the individual care of animals has never wavered in our sixteen years of business.

Sixteen years of caring for our customers and their best friends has been a job which we have taken very seriously and with great responsibility. Our safety record verifies our commitment to our customers and their pets. We have had only one insurance claim filed by us during these years. This was for an injury to a pet's leg when he jumped from the grooming table. These sixteen years of service translates into approximately 116,800 boardings and 48,000 grooms for our trusting customers. Our facility is also one in which any dissatisfaction or problems are often settled through discussion and negotiation. In the case of the Luries, such discussion was abbreviated with the threat of a lawsuit, and monetary claims by the Luries' lawyer, Mr. Warden, on December 27. Even after the threatened lawsuit, we asked for the autopsy report emergency records so we could understand the details of the tragedy and then respond to the Luries' questions. We have never received the reports. The day after the incident, December 27, Richard Pulice spoke to the lawyer and Michael Lurie. He clearly expressed his sorrow as well as his interest in finding out what had happened to Michael Lurie. Mr. Lurie stated that we would go through this.

Our facility has been one of the only USDA certified kennels in the area since 1995. This certification holds Reigning Cats and Dogs to a higher standard than most other boarding facilities since we are subject to random USDA inspection visits. These standards include the quality care of animals in every respect. Our family and staff are proud of that certification and we have promised ourselves and our customers to live up to it every day. Man's best friend deserves that consideration in the kindest care that Reigning Cats and Dogs will continue to offer. In this way, we fulfill the goals that got us into this business sixteen years ago.

Sincerely,

Maureen and Richard Pulice
Owners of Reigning Cats and Dogs

January 2006

Sports 
briefs

'Birds break losing streak

The Voorheesville boys basketball team rode a new-game Colonial Council losing streak with a 54-53 victory over La Salle Prep Friday.

Nick Dunnam scored 19 points and added 10 rebounds for Voorheesville, which maintained a one-game lead on Poughkeepsie, Rensselaer Academy and Schalmont for first place in the Colonial Council.

In other Colonial Council action last Friday, the Ravena-Cohoes-Selkirk combination posted a 45-29 win over the Tigers entering the fourth quarter, but Cohoes outscored RCS 21-11 in the final period for the 16-point victory.

In one of the more notable local games, Jordan Tressler and Joe Costi each scored 11 points to lead Cohoes.

Indians split at N/S Duals

The Ravena-Cohoes-Selkirk wrestling team split its four matches last Saturday's North/South Duals in Hudson Falls.

In addition, the Cohoes-Gloversville-Colonial Council powers are both undefeated in the league.

The Indians defeated Scotia-Glenville and South Glens Falls.

Joe Pugliese (150 pounds) and Nate Graham (160) won all of their individual bouts to lead RCS. Andy Yan (146), Griffin Hott, Mark Hernandez (112), Cody Legg (140) and Dillon Ruxton (171) wore their fours of match.

The losses to Queen City and Eachophysical Falls were only the second and third dual matches that RCS has lost since 1986.

The Indians are undefeated in Colonial Council matches.

In other wrestling action, when action scammed last Saturday, the Voorheesville Blackbirds placed third at the Menands Tournament.

Seven Blackbirds placed in the tournament, led by Alex Zaccalini's victory in the 171-pound finals. Taylor Tredgold (103) and Matt O'Brien (119) both won their opening matches and finished second after losing in the finals, while Andrew Clark (125) placed third after winning the consolation bracket final. Frank Kaus (119), Jim Sheedy (130) and Jake Marks (152) were fourth.
BOYS BASKETBALL
RCS 63, Albany Academy 59
RCS leaders: Conor Hendy 17 points, Jeff Muncada 13 points.

Lansingburgh 66, Voorheesville 53
Voorheesville leaders: Andy Catel­
tier 14 points, Evan Christman 14 points, Greg Klipper 13 points.

Ballston Spa 55, Bethlehem 47
Bethlehem leaders: Craig Orner 12 points, Kevin Stenspey 14 points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Holy Names 36, RCS 33
RCS leaders: Jessica Byerwalter 12 points, Jeanine Rider 11 points.

BOYS BOWLING
RCS 23, Watervliet 9
RCS leader: Anthony Perez 26 game, 719 series.

GIRLS BOWLING
RCS 31, Watervliet 1
RCS leader: Rene Rohr 24 game, 641 series.

Wednesday, Jan. 18

BOYS BOWLING
Mechanicsville 29, Voorheesville 3
Voorheesville leader: Chris Thomas 224 game, 511 series.

RCS 24, Cobleskill 8
Ravens leader: Jordan Carubucci

233 game, 674 series.

GIRLS BOWLING
RCS 28, Cobleskill 4
Ravens leader: Ashley Carboni 278 game, 692 series.

WRESTLING
Niskayuna 54, Bethlehem 12

Cohoes 69, Voorheesville 18
Voorheesville winners: Taylor Treadgold (103 pounds), Matt O'Brien (160), Alex Zivkovsky (171).

Thursday, Jan. 19

Gymnastics
Guilderland 162.725, Bethlehem 160.95
Top three all-around: Dana Goodkind (G'Land) 35.225, Chandler Smith (BC) 34.45, Kendall Day (BC) 33.95.

Boys Swimming
Bethlehem 105, Saratoga 81
Bethlehem individual winners: Larry Glesedler (200-yard freestyle), Sean Kennedy (200 individual medley), 100 butterfly,
Drew Asquiva (100 backstroke), Tyler Dudas (100 breaststroke).

Wrestling
RCS 72, Mechanicville 9
Ravens winner: Andy Lyman (96 pounds), Joe Persico (103), Emmanuel Hernandez (112), David Shihers (119),
Jordan Lane (125), Doug Winnie (130), Tyler Lane (135), Cody Legg (140), Joe Clancy (145), Nate Graham (160),
Dillon Ruxton (171), Chris Sted (275).

Ravena leader: Andy Lyman (96 pounds), Joe Persico (103), Emmanuel Hernandez (112), Dave Shihers (119),
Jordan Lane (125), Doug Winnie (130), Tyler Lane (135), Cody Legg (140), Joe Clancy (145), Nate Graham (160),
Dillon Ruxton (171), Chris Sted (275).

TJ Caswell 32.

Wrestling
Kossman Tournament
Team scores: Maple Hill 183, Mechanicville 99, Voorheesville 87, Schenurare/Middleburg 78.

Voorheesville place winners: Taylor Treadgold (second place, 103 pounds), Frank Kaus (fourth, 119),
Andrew Clark (third, 125), Jim Sheedy (fourth, 130), Jake Marks (fourth, 152), Matt O'Brien (second, 160),
Alex Zivkovsky (first, 171).

Friday, Jan. 20

Boys Basketball
Cohoes 52, RCS 36
RCS leader: Conor Hendy 19 points.

Voorheesville 55, Mechanicville 37
Mechanicville winners: Nick Duncan 19 points, Greg Klipper 11 points.

Colonie 68, Bethlehem 40
Bethlehem leaders: Craig Orner 14 points, Bill Yates 10 points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Mechanicville 47, Mechanicville 26
Bethlehem leader: Birttany Vogel 14 points.

RCS 36, Cohoes 33
Ravens leader: Trish Norton 9 points.

Bethlehem 44, Colonie 43
Bethlehem leaders: Meg Olsen 13 points, Alex McCullough 10 points.

Hockey
Shaker-Colonie 3, Bethlehem 0
Bethlehem saves: Tim Crowley 24 points.

Saturday, Jan. 21

Hockey
Burnt Hills/Scotia 7, Bethlehem 5
Bethlehem scoring: Eric Vincent 1-1, Tom Doll 1-0, Ron Marshall 1-0, Garrett Freuh 1-3, Jordan Lane 1-1,

Hudson Falls 37, RCS 22
RCS winners: Lyman (96), Persico (103), Emmanuel Hernandez (112), Jordan Lane (119), Legg (160), Ruxton (171).

RCS 52, Scotia-Glenville 31
RCS winners: Persico (103), Hernandez (112), Tyler Lane (130), Garrett Fresh (135), Joe Clancy (145),
Frank McDonagh (152), Graham (160), Ruxton (171), Nick LaMountain (189).

RCS 64, South Glens Falls 12
RCS winners: Lyman (96), Persico (103), Hernandez (112), J. Lane (119), Winnie (128), T. Lane (130),
Fresh (135), Legg (140), Clancy (145), McDonagh (152), Graham (160), Chris Massa (212), Sted (275).

Shaker places third in NYC

Bethlehem Central High School senior Matt Shaler chal­
enged for the lead before fini­
shing third in the boys invita­
tional mile at last Saturday's New
Balance Games in New York City.
Shaler finished with a time of
4:16.81. 1.14 seconds behind run­
ner-up Charles White of Garden
School. Shenehendehowa's Don Mc­
Manamon won the race with a

time of 4:13.17.

Kristin Peck also competed at the New Balance Games. Peck
placed 10th in the girls invitational
mile with a time of 5:12.21.

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EOE

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**Eagles fight to the bitter end**

By MIKE CIOFFI

It was "Big Orange Freakout" night at the Bethlehem Area YMCA for the Bethlehem Eagles hockey team last Friday night and they came out ready to play against a tough Shaker/Colonie team.

The end result was not what the Eagles had hoped for in trying to give their enthusiastic fans a win, as the Jets defeated Bethlehem 3-2.

"It was one of those nights where we had to grind it out," said Jets’ coach Sean Williams. "We had a lot of scoring chances that we didn’t put in." The Jets got on the board at the 8:52 mark of the first period. Andrew McDonald took a feed from fellow team captain Gary Berberich and put a shot past Eagles’ goalie Tim Crowely, who stopped 24 shots in the loss.

"Tim was great tonight," said Bethlehem coach Mike Griffiths. "He’s been a back-up, and we decided to switch, things up and it worked out. The guys really got behind him."

The Eagles (28-3, 4-10-3) had a number of opportunities to tie the game up in the third after a scoreless second period. They continued to battle hard, but could not get past BC goalie Eric Woan, who stopped all 17 shots he faced to earn his first career shutout.

"The kids showed tonight that they’re still working hard out there, even though our record isn’t the best," said Griffiths.

The 1-0 game carried into 30 after the Eagles pulled Crowely in favor of an extra skater. The Jets tallied two empty net goals—one at the 13:55 mark by Ryan Tibbits, and one at 14:41 by Denyers.

The Jets, who were winners of five in a row, didn’t play their best game coming off wins against Burnt Hills and Scotia, but they still got the victory at Shen.

"The puck just didn’t bounce our way tonight," said Williams. "It’s certainly a bittersweet win for us because we can play better."

"You’re going to have these nights, and I credit our kids for that. I thought they did an excellent job of continuing to battle and fight, and they pulled it out in the end," added Williams.

**Rally falls short**

The Eagles followed up their loss to Shaker/Colonie with a 7-1 win against Burnt Hills/Colony last Saturday at Uni College. Bethlehem fell behind 6-1 before beginning a furious period rally to make it close. The Rams had a 5-on-3 after a goal off an assist from Eric Russell at the 13:55 mark. Then, Mike Dolfi converted an Andrew Vincent pass into a goal at 8:29 to bring Bethlehem within three.

Eric Russels tallied three seconds later to give Burnt Hills/Colony a 7-3 lead, but Vincent at 1:29 made Russell score goals 3 and 4. There wasn’t much opportunity for Bethlehem to finish the game.

Tom Dolfi added a first-period goal for the Eagles, who were out-shot 45-25. Crowely stopped 31 shots before being replaced by T.J. Caswell, who made 23 saves for the Eagles.

Bethlehem faces Mohonk in the Section 9 championship on Sunday at the Bethlehem Area YMCA. Both games start at 7:50 p.m.

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**Steelers prove this ‘expert’ wrong again**

By ROG JONAS

So many thoughts, so little space in this column to put them all in.

Let’s start with Kobe Bryant. Well...maybe not. I don’t want to give him top billing, even if he scored 81 points against a hapless Toronto Raptors team. Let’s wait a bit before we get to him.

Remember I said Pittsburgh was hectic to get to the AFC Championship game? I take that back. After what the Steelers did to Denver in the Broncos’ home stadium Sunday they aren’t lucky — they’re good. Really, really good. And I’m not just saying that because they’re two Pittsburgh fans in the office telling me that I was off base.

All anyone has to see to find out how well the Steelers are playing right now is the halftime score — Pittsburgh 24, Denver 3. They took Denver’s vaunted crowd out of the game, just like they did in Indianapolis, by completely shutting down the Broncos’ offense and taking advantage of a pair of Denver turnovers. By the time the Broncos got going, it was too late. No one is going to come back from a three-touchdown deficit against a Bill Cowher-coached Pittsburgh team.

I do have one piece of sobering news for Steeler fans, though (and believe me, I am smiling as a type this): the Los Angeles Lakers (24-26) won three consecutive road games to get to the Super Bowl was the 1985 New England Patriots. And as any Patriot or Chicago Bears fan will tell you, that Super Bowl was no pretzel. But the fact that William “the Refrigerator” Perry scored touchdowns for Chicago as part of the 46-10 blow-out makes it ugly (and by the way, this is the 20th anniversary of that game).

Meanwhile, I don’t mind saying that I’m happy to see Seattle finally reach a Super Bowl. However, it just reinforces the fact that Cleveland hasn’t been to one since the game began in 1967. And at their current rate, it’s more likely that we’ll see a Super Bowl between Arizona and Houston before we see the Browns go there. Between the fact that Cleveland plays in a tough division (Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Baltimore — oh crud!) and how much roster cleanup is left to do, it’s far fetched before the Browns can actually contend again, I don’t see a lot of hope for my Browns. At least, not before the 2010 season.

Now, back to Kobe Bryant. The fact that he scored 81 point in a game on 28-of-46 shooting from the field is quite impressive, but it also reinforces the fact that Bryant is the only good player the Los Angeles Lakers have. For as long as Bryant hadn’t scored 55 second half points, the Lakers might...
**Spirit**

*(From Page 1)*

Ballston Spa, the Eagles were the first team I knew that beat the Cowboys on a regular basis, so I sort of stuck with me.

The New York area teams are the ones I usually go for, but I follow the Giants the most," said Guideler girls soccer and Nordic ski team coach Barbara Bender.

So, they kind of stuck with the defending Super Bowl champions, the Baltimore Ravens.

Bender grew up in Pennsylvania, Scotia-Glenville wrestling coach Saratoga's Anthony Weaver.

Ron Ashcraft's love for the Eagles or the Steelers.

For diehard sports aficionados, Feb. 5 is Super Bowl Sunday, a holy day of obligation for those of art and sport who don't find available film, "the type of football I like — hard-nosed, smash-mouth football.

Bethlehem girls lacrosse coach Dawn Austin, a die-hard Eagles fan, said last year, she had been worried that she'd miss the Super Bowl between Philadelphia and New England because she was due to give birth to her first child.

As it would have it, she gave birth one week before the game was played.

Now that her team isn't involved in the playoffs, Austin said she'll still watch the Super Bowl.

"Football is football, I'm definitely, going to watch, no matter who is in it," she said.

And that will likely be the story in every community across the United States. As much as baseball would like to claim it's the national pastime, there aren't World Series parties held in sports bars and private homes across the United States.

But when it comes to the NFL and the Super Bowl, nearly everyone is drawn into the drama.

"I enjoy watching it, no matter who's playing," said Sausville.

**Super what?**

**By STEPHEN PAUSE**

The 'museum also has an exhibit titled, "The Straight World in America in the 1950s, you'll have plenty of rental choices available, from film, "the type of football I like — hard-nosed, smash-mouth football.

Bethlehem girls lacrosse coach Dawn Austin, a die-hard Eagles fan, said last year, she had been worried that she'd miss the Super Bowl between Philadelphia and New England because she was due to give birth to her first child. As it would have it, she gave birth one week before the game was played.

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Where it all begins: the foot of Maple Ski Ridge's runs.

Weather doesn't keep students, skiers away

Winter enthusiasts travel to Maple Ski Ridge

By JIM CUOZZO

A mid-January late afternoon sun beamed over the hills of Maple Ski Ridge on Mariaville Road in Schenectady just one day after heavy rains had doused the Capital District. But those rains didn't stop 130 students of the Schalmont School District who came out four times a year to learn to ski at Maple Ridge. These students and plenty more children and adults lined up in mid-40 degree weather to snowboard and ski at the oldest family-run ski facility in the Mohawk Valley area.

The story of Maple Ski Ridge is a simple one. In 1960, George and William Mulyca enjoyed skiing at Scotch Valley.

"My dad and his father felt they could make a ski area in their backyard and they bought a tractor and built a rope tow," said Carolyn Lattart, George Mulyca's daughter. "From 1962 to 1964, the skiing was only for private use, then all their friends and family wanted to ski there and Maple Ski Ridge became open to the public in 1964," Lattart said.

The first price of admission was only $3 for a full day of skiing and the first concession stand offered hot chocolate, coffee and hot dogs. In 1970, snowmaking operations were installed and the first chair lift arrived in 1972. The triple chair lift was added in 1990.

Maple Ski Ridge now has an expanded lodge with fireplace and an array of items to eat and drink in the restaurant.

Owned and operated for three generations by the Mulyca family, Maple Ski Ridge is the only ski area less than 30 minutes from most Capital District residents.

"This is a real gem," said Lattart, who also works in the kitchen, handles catering and even works with the four member crew that makes snow daily.

"It takes 14-hour shifts to make snow," Lattart said. "It all depends on the weather."

Ninety hours of work to make snow over the past several days went very well when heavy rains rolled down the hill, melting the freshly made snow.

"As a person who makes snow, it is sad and upsetting," Lattart said of the precipitation. "Last year we bought the cold and this year we're getting the rain. It's like farming in reverse — we want cold and dry and the farmers want it warm and wet."

Snowboarding now equals the popularity of skiing at Maple Ski Ridge.

"I believe it's half and half, with 50 percent of our customers skiing and the other 50 percent snowboarding," Lattart said.

More children are learning to ski because of the improved conditions and safety equipment throughout the industry said Lattart.

"Skiing is safer now than it was 10 years ago and much safer than it was 20 years ago, plus our trails are groomed daily and conditions are usually good," Lattart said.

Maple Ski Ridge is busy now through the end of March, according to Lorraine Moyer, who handles group sales and special events. A 24-hour ski-athon to benefit the American Heart Association will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3 and 4.

"Last year we raised $3500 and we hope to double it this year," she said. The Snapple Snow Box Derby is Feb 11 and March 1 brings a Beach Party with pond skiing and a barbecue. The facility is also open yearround to cater special events. You can reach Maple Ski Ridge at 381-4700 or at the Web site, www.mapleskiridge.com.

Winter enthusiasts travel to Maple Ski Ridge.
Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

2006 Membership Directory

BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

In Business for Business

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE SPOTLIGHT

Beautiful flower baskets along Delaware Avenue went up in time for the Memorial Day Parade.
An advocate for business

Since 1957, the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce has provided services and programs to meet the needs of business people in the area. Ideas for programs came from members and the community at large. The Chamber refers hundreds of inquiries to its members each year, and answers all kinds of questions about the area. The Chamber is often the first place contact is made whenever someone is looking for information about our town. Policies and procedures are set by an eighteen-member board of directors made up of a cross section of local business and professional people.

An important service the Chamber provides is CertifiChecks, a gift certificate program that lets people purchase gift certificates that can be used JUST LIKE CASH at over 75 participating locations. This means that anyone who has a gift to buy for a hard to please person can let the recipient choose where he or she uses the gift certificate! CertifiChecks come in denominations of $5, $10, $25 and $50 and are easy to order either at CertifiChecks toll free telephone number, 1-877-770-4438 fax or at www.bethlehemchamber.com

Chamber members for many years have been offered discounts on all kinds of services. Web site hosting and design, long term care discounts, incentives for payroll processing, discounts at a local optician, employee benefits and many more member discounts. The Chamber staff, too, offers group Dental and Health Insurance to make it easier for business people to concentrate on running their business.

The Chamber honors local business and professionals all year long for their many accomplishments. By recognizing "unsung heroes" the community as a whole benefits from the continued support of volunteers who make this a great place to live, work and play.

Affiliated with the Chamber Alliance of New York State, YOUR Chamber of Commerce is the community development agency that always asks, what can we do for you?

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Bethlehem Chamber: A glimpse into our past...

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

In Business for Business

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce. Nearly 50 years later, although the Chamber is a much larger organization, its mission remains the same: to promote good business practices, a favorable business environment, community prosperity and good government relations while working to make Bethlehem and the surrounding area a better place to live.

Most of the original Chamber members represented businesses located around what was then known as the heart of the Bi-Valle area. The main focus in those days was beautification, park benches, flowers, festivals and sidewalk sales, and encouraging businesses to locate here. There was a tree planting committee—which was always active and continues to this day.

If Bethlehem back in the '50s sounds a little like Norman Rockwell's small-town America, that's pretty close to the mark. Everything you needed was here. Pharmacies, a five and ten cent store, movie theater, butcher, baker, florist, splinter shop, two bowling alleys and a roller skating rink; and the list goes on.

There was an A&P, the Empire Market, a Gulf station, Libby's restaurant (where Sweets & Treats is now), and the corner store where you could buy beer, cigarettes and penny candy for the kids. Tony and Grace Little operated the store for many years, before Nelson Ischel took it over. They had a little lunch counter in the back. Libby's was a famous hangout for high school students.

Of course, with Bethlehem still very much an agricultural community, there was Schuhr and Woods: Feed and Seed, with a mill in the back, somewhat like what Agway is today. You could buy 150-pound bags of feed. It was a mix between a hardware store and a country store, a fascinating place.

And lest one forget, there was the Three Elms, which according to some old timers didn't have a very good reputation. You wouldn't stay in business very long if you were caught in that place. It eventually burned down.

There was really no need or desire to go to Albany at that time. Where the State Dept of Health is now was the Three Elms, which according to some old timers didn't have a very good reputation. You wouldn't stay in business very long if you were caught in that place. It eventually burned down.

From 1957 until the mid-1960s, the Bethlehem Chamber was a largely volunteer organization. "It really didn't become a professional organization until we hired a CEO," said Robert Verstandig of Verstandig Florist and former member of the Chamber Board. "All that changed in 1985, when the chamber had 175 members and the Board of Directors decided to hire Marty DeLaney as its president.

Today, the Chamber has over 650 members, primarily from the immediate Bethlehem Area, and from the entire Capital Region. A full-time team of employees manage an office in Main Square on Delaware Avenue.

Ranked 9th of the 25 largest area Chambers of Commerce (Capital District Business Review 2005), the Chamber has an annual operating budget of over $200,000 and administers a nearly $2 million health and dental insurance program.

The Chamber actively participates in the Tech Valley Chamber Coalition, as well as the New York State Alliance of Chambers. An 18 member Board of Directors, representing all facets of the membership, provides expert oversight of the Chamber's goals and programs.

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What can business people and the community learn from their chamber of commerce?

Hundreds of business people gather at chamber events: During the past year, we’ve hosted Business after Hours, Business at Breakfasts and lunch seminars. "Guerrilla Marketing" was the topic in February, where attendees learned marketing secrets. "Goals with Gusto" addressed goal setting and how to make your business and personal dreams come true. We joined with other chamber members for a Day at the Track, a Dutch Apple Cruise, our very popular Golf Tournament and a Holiday Mixer, welcoming hundreds of business people and offering them a chance to network extensively in relaxed settings.

Bethlehem Town Supervisor Terri Egan gave the State of The Town address and Town Justice Frank Milano talked about "Presenting a Winning Case in Court". Our financial and investment expert, Jerry Pittz conducted a seminar about the stock market, and another member talked to us about understanding credit scores. A member attorney discussed labor laws and how to hire and fire. The Bethlehem Library staff walked us thru their wireless internet connections and services available to businesses.

In 2005 it was anchors away as members enjoyed a scenic Dutch Apple Cruise among many other chamber sponsored activities.

What’s so special about Bethlehem’s business people?

Just ask Jim Giacone, owner of the popular restaurant My Place & Company (pictured here) or Christine McCarroll, who with husband Jim owns McCarthy’s The Village Butcher; or Cathy Griffin of Re/Max Premier, and Steve Bolduc of Keystone Builders. These special people are all past winners of Bethlehem’s Business Person of the year award!

The Chamber of Commerce tracks business people who make their community special by volunteering. At the annual Chamber awards dinner, volunteers are recognized for their contributions. Knowing how important it is to give back to their community, our business leaders do so without any expectations – just the smile on the faces of the people they help.

They work with disabled residents of a cook in soup kitchens and deliver meals on wheels. They coach sports teams and serve on the boards of local not for profit organizations. They are police officers and fire fighters; town officials, teachers and mentors. They are employees of companies large and small volunteering in diverse ways with one goal in mind: selflessly helping others and we are very fortunate to have them here in Bethlehem.

Host a 2006 Chamber event

Are you looking for new customers? Interested in advertising your services? Hosting a Chamber event brings potential and existing clients right to your door. We are currently scheduling events for 2006 and would love to showcase you! Consider a mixer, breakfast, workshop or tell us about your own creative idea for an event too. Contact us with your ideas and availability at 439-0512 or by e-mail to karen@bethlehemchamber.com.
The benefits of chamber membership  
a.k.a. what’s in it for me?

- Our year round staff is dedicated to serving our members and representing your interests in the community
- Our Board of Directors meets regularly with local and state officials to put forward the needs of the businesses community
- We publish and distribute a directory of businesses and professionals by category and we have information about the community that can’t be found anywhere else
- Hundreds of callers each year ask for referrals and recommendations
- Even more people visit our website bethlehemchamber.com, where there are links to all members, community organizations, economic development organizations, a calendar of events, town information - you name it! You can post jobs, résumés, list your event or announce a new product—all on the web!
- We offer competitive discounts on group health and dental insurance as well as other discount programs for businesses and the self employed
- Our monthly newsletter features “Members in the News” and the “Employee of the Month”
- The Chamber has a library of reference books for employers such as “How to Comply with NYS Employment Laws,” the Employer’s Guide to Unemployment Insurance and publications for employees
- We welcome new firms to the area and we offer employee incentives to shop locally
- We sponsor a street map and promote local events designed to bring more business to our members
- We offer gift certificates good at 75 local stores, restaurants and offices; they’re just like cash!
- And, we’re always asking - WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU??

The success of our businesses, the success of our town!

What makes Bethlehem so special? It’s the dedicated business and professional people who make sure all the goods and services you need can be found right here in our town! Bethlehem has many accountants, acupuncturists, attorneys, automotive services, dental laboratories, diamond merchants, greenhouses, insurance specialists, restaurants, real estate brokers, septic services, web designers and everything in between.

They’re located throughout 52 square miles in the hamlets of Glemmont, Selkirk, Slingerlands, Elsmere, Delmar, North & South Bethlehem. As you know from reading this publication every month, many are second and third generation, family owned and operated. All Bethlehem’s businesses have one goal in mind: to provide the best possible customer service at reasonable prices. So even if you rise early to spend your day in Saratoga, Rensselaer, Albany or New York City you can still come home to find every product and service you need- right here! And supporting local businesses helps the tax base - ensuring a thriving business community - which means everyone benefits!

We’re continuing to “Put a Face on Bethlehem’s Businesses” so watch this space for more insights into local businesses.

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Dr. Joe Manzi at the Chamber Business Expo.

Rosanne O’Meara manager of TD Banknorth enjoys Halloween.

Marty DeLaney is joined by David Lamedola of Verizon who made a generous donation to the Bethlehem Festival Fund, represented by Greg Turner of Burt Anthony Associates.

NYSERDA presents a check to Delmar Place.

Dressed for the holidays are Claire and Janet of The Floral Garden.

Santa mixes it up with Marybeth DeCocco and Glenn Vodney at the Chamber Holiday Mixer.

We welcome New Chamber staff member Karen Kissing. Karen will be special projects manager, handling special events.

Michael Bienvenue and his friends are dressed for success at Chamber Golf Day.
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