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Feathered Friend Wild Bird Food
• all natural ingredients •
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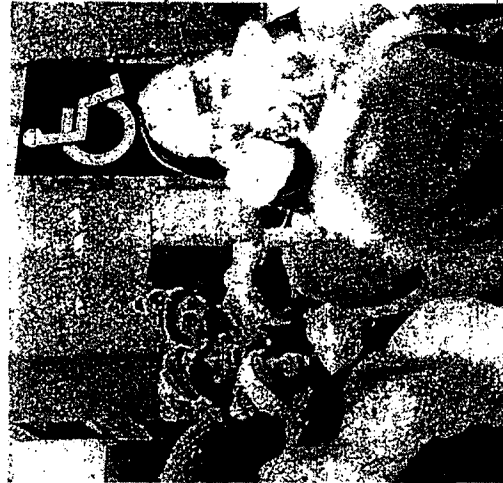
50 lbs	\$5.99
20 lbs	\$2.99
10 lbs	\$1.79

Sunflower Seed

Thistle Seed

Winter Program...

(Continued from Page 1)
grades 1-3, 11 a.m. Come ready to play, wear sneakers.
Beginners' guitar lessons will be given at 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1000 Broadway, during the first class on Jan. 6. Fee is \$1.25 per lesson.
Baton and Tap lessons for boys and girls kindergarten age and older will be held Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the former Guildersland grade school. Registration is taken the nights classes are held. Gymnastics will begin in April.
Guildersland Youth Commission Ballet: Children interested should contact Helen Moss at 456-5656 or Nancy Hughes at 356-2687. Second session will start Jan. 4.
Ski lessons for boys and girls will be available Saturdays mornings from 10 to noon starting Jan. 6. The ski school will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays during the mid-winter school vacation.
Cross-country ski trail will open as soon as weather permits.
As weather permits, figure skating rinks at Tawasantha Park, behind the Altamont Fire House, at the McKownville Reservoir (Suyvesant Plaza), and Fort Hunter will be open.
The Guildersland PTO Winter Carnival will be held at the park on Jan. 27. The park will be open from 9:30 to 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday during the winter, on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and during the mid-winter school vacation; the park will be open from 11 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. with supervision.



SANTA PASSES OUT CANDY GAMES following the lighting of the tree and songfest at Guildersland Town Hall. Kiwanian Dean Prye did a swell job.

Guildersland PTA Notes

Mrs. Pam Drake, president of the Guildersland PTA District Council, chaired the monthly meeting held at the district board office, Dec. 4. Peter Allard, superintendent of schools and Joseph Cohen, representative from the Board of Education, were present.
The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Mrs. Annabell Cocito gave the treasurer's report.
Mrs. Pat Baldoni, Mrs. Shirley Swanson, Mrs. Mary Pat Smith, Mrs. Astrid Grammanus, and Mrs. Betty Humphrey, kindergarten teachers in Guildersland, discussed the extended kindergarten concept. They presented their comprehensive study on this subject to the Board of Education in April 1975. Decisions and discussions were postponed at that time by the board because of budget and scheduling problems. Because of community interest, the Council is interested in renewing study.
Mrs. Meussen gave an update report on the Winter Carnival week-end, Jan. 26, 27 and 28. The following community organizations are now involved: Kiwanis, Elks, Lions, Old Songs, Inc., Chamber of Commerce, Guildersland Boosters Organization, Torch Key Club, Senior Citizens, Guildersland Youth Commission, Guildersland Police and Pine Bush Ski Club.

Ron Coler reported that the final copy of the adopted resolutions at the New York State PTA Convention is now available. The following dates should be kept in mind for workshops: Jan. 9, pre-workshop at the middle school; Feb. 7, discussion led by Gordon Ambach, New York State Commissioner of Education, at the Lymewood Elementary School, until Jan. 8, 7:30 p.m., at the district board office.

Christmas Concert At St. Madeleine Sophie

St. Madeleine Sophie Schools Christmas concert will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 19 in the parish center.
This concert—comprised of eight will include the direction of Michael Pryor. The program will include a play, "The Bad Guy," a play, "A Bad Joke," Debbie Lynn, a choral second grade teacher, has helped the children prepare costumes, scenery, and songs to accompany the play.
The school Christmas assembly will be Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 9 a.m. in the parish center.
Students at the school are donating new, unused Christmas cards in stamped envelopes for the use of prisoners in local jails. This will enable Christmas cards to their families to do so. The effort to extend the spirit of Christmas to

School Lunch Menu

Elementary and Middle Schools Guildersland School District
Monday, Dec. 18 — Hamburger on bun with ketchup, buttered peas, peach slices, cookie, milk
Tuesday, Dec. 19 — Baked macaroni with tomato sauce, meat and cheese, buttered roll, green beans, fruited Jell-O, milk
Wednesday, Dec. 20 — Submarine sandwich (tuna), hamburger roll, Jell-O, banana or pudding with fruit, milk
Thursday, Dec. 21 (Christmas dinner) — Oven-fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, buttered carrots, rice, cream, milk
Friday, Dec. 22 — Tuna lettuce carrot and celery sticks, applesauce and tomato salad, applesauce, cheese twist treat, milk

Guildersland Free Library News

The Guildersland Free Library is located on the second floor of the office building at 1900 Western Ave. in Westmore. Phone number is 456-2400.
Hours: The library is open Monday through Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The library will be open from 9 a.m. to noon

Soles—Heels Repaired Like New

UPTOWN SHOE REPAIR
1768 WESTERN AVE., WESTMORE, N.Y.
Tuesday thru Friday 8-6
Saturday, 8-3
456-5727

Hawaii became a United States territory in 1900.

GIOVANNI'S COCKTAIL LOUNGE

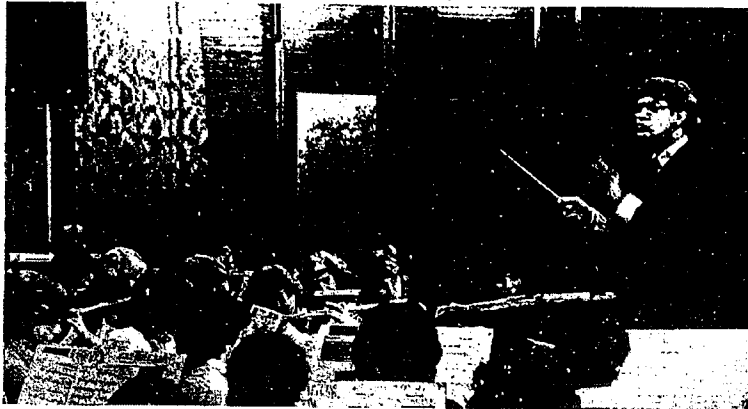
2490 WESTERN AVENUE — GUILDERLAND
ONE MILE WEST OF 20 MALL — 456-0185
NOW APPEARING THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
"STAN KAPP"

FOR YOUR LISTENING AND DANCING PLEASURE WE CATER TO SMALL PARTIES, BOWLING BANQUETS, BUSINESS LUNCHEONS, REHEARSAL DINNERS, ETC.
OPEN HOUSE — NEW YEAR'S EVE
HAT, NOISEMAKERS, LEIS — NO INCREASE IN PRICE!



Guildersland Opticians
DESIGNER LENSES
CONTACT LENSES

"WHERE FASHION AND QUALITY SEE EYE TO EYE"
SOFT CONTACT LENSES
SAME DAY FITTING ON MOST PRESCRIPTIONS
SIX MONTHS UNLIMITED VISITS
INSTANT REPLACEMENT ON LOST OR DAMAGED LENSES



GCHS symphonic band, conducted by Donald Webster, opened this month's winter concert series at the high school auditorium.

McKownville: News And Comment

(Continued from Page 2)

Washington Ave., would not need to be constructed until the third phase of mall construction. The town demanded that either Pyramid pledge to construct Driveway E prior to the opening of the first phase of the mall, or go back to the Zoning Board.

Pyramid chose to pledge to build Driveway E.

Having done so, and having provided the various bonds, construction plans, etc., required by the special use permit, the town had to grant the building permit.

But what a curious situation. The building permit is for a 150,000 square foot J. C. Penney store. Before they open the Penney's store, Pyramid also has to build a bridge over Western Ave., a bridge over the Thruway, a bridge under Washington Ave. Extension and a host of other highways. The cost of those highway improvements almost certainly exceeds the likely cost of the Penney's store — probably more like double the cost.

So obtaining the building permit for Penney's does not signal that Pyramid is really planning to build a shopping center, or at least not right away.

It seems that Pyramid sought a building permit now to be sure to have it before the special use permit expired on Dec. 16, 1982. For otherwise Pyramid would have to return to the Zoning Board and ask for an extension.

And with a somewhat different membership on the board than that

which approved the original special use permit by a 4-3 vote, and with a highway plan approved by DOT which is not at all attractive to the town in some expensive aspects, Pyramid was very well advised to get a building permit of some kind, now.

The building permit does not mean that Pyramid is ready to build. It simply kept Pyramid's options open.

Water Regulations Case
The Appellate Division upheld the right of Commissioner Flacke to issue Pyramid a SPDES permit in a unanimous decision handed down on Dec. 2.

Concerned Citizens Against Crossgates and the other plaintiffs had claimed that the SPDES permit, which regulates the amount of pollutants which Crossgates could allow to run into the McKownville Reservoir, would violate several sections of the Health Department regulations protecting the reservoir. The state and Pyramid claimed, first, that the regulations did not apply since the reservoir was no longer being used for public water, and second, that even if they did apply, the SPDES permit did not violate the regulations.

The court agreed with plaintiffs that the regulations did remain in force, protecting the reservoir. However, they also agreed with the state that those regulations should be read narrowly, and that if read narrowly, the SPDES permit did not violate those regulations.

The court narrowed the issue to a

determination of whether the water quality standards set forth in a different section of Health Department rules and regulations (19 NYCRR 170.4) would be violated by the discharge of pollutants permitted by the SPDES permit. "Review of these standards in conjunction with the SPDES permit issued to Pyramid and under attack in this action reveals that the effluent discharges authorized by DEC under the permit are well within the DOH guidelines . . ."

Concerned Citizens and the other plaintiffs had felt that the argument was stronger that the SPDES permit violated the specific regulations of the Health Department protecting the McKownville Reservoir, and did not set forth its best case that the 170.4 standards would also be violated by the issuance of the SPDES permit.

The plaintiffs felt that if the case were to come down to a determination of whether the 170.4 standards were to be violated, then the case would take on a different character, involving the weighing of technical evidence and the competence of state agencies in dealing with such evidence, rather than the interpretation of law. It is very difficult to convince a court that a state agency is incompetent.

The result of this decision is that the inch-thick volume of specific rules and regulations protecting the various reservoirs and watersheds of public water supplies around the state are worth very little in terms of protection of those waters from industrial pollution. Unless the industry happens to be a laundry or a meatpacking plant.

Environmental Permits

After waiting a week following the submission of public comment on the new DOT highway plan and DEC air quality analyses, Commissioner Flacke issued the environmental permits last Friday. These were the permits which were the cause of the 81-day public hearing at the Ramada Inn in 1980.

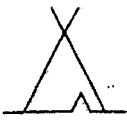
(Continued on Page 6)

Winter Activity Hours Set At Tawasentha Park

Winter sledding, cross-country and downhill skiing will start up again this winter at Tawasentha Park with the first snowfall.

Park facilities will be open during daylight hours Monday through Friday, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, there will be supervision from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. These hours will apply during the Guilderland school midwinter recess which begins two weeks from now, Thursday, Dec. 23.

The town will operate skating rinks at the park and the McKownville Reservoir in front of Skaywan Plaza every day, weather permitting. Once in operation, the reservoir rink will have lighted night skating until 9 p.m.



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Sat. 10-5
Sun. 12-5

Rt. 20
Carman Rd.

La Stella Ristorante

*** December Specials ***

Full Course Dinners

Soup, Salad, Spaghetti (or Vegetable and Potatoes), Coffee.

Mon. - Thurs.	Friday																
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Veal Parmigiana \$6.95</td><td style="width: 50%;">Shrimp Scampi or</td></tr> <tr><td>Eggplant Parmigiana \$5.95</td><td>Fra Diavolo \$6.95</td></tr> <tr><td>Baked Ziti \$6.46</td><td>Broiled Lobster Tails \$9.95</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Lasagna \$5.45</td></tr> </table>	Veal Parmigiana \$6.95	Shrimp Scampi or	Eggplant Parmigiana \$5.95	Fra Diavolo \$6.95	Baked Ziti \$6.46	Broiled Lobster Tails \$9.95		Lasagna \$5.45	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Tenderloin Tips (sherry wine, mushrooms) \$6.95</td><td style="width: 50%;"></td></tr> <tr><td>Veal Scaloppine (sherry wine, mushrooms) \$6.95</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Veal Caocciatore \$5.95</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>N.Y. Cut Sirloin Steak \$7.95</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Tenderloin Tips (sherry wine, mushrooms) \$6.95		Veal Scaloppine (sherry wine, mushrooms) \$6.95		Veal Caocciatore \$5.95		N.Y. Cut Sirloin Steak \$7.95	
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N.Y. Cut Sirloin Steak \$7.95																	

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Closed Tuesday (Up to 40 People) 356-2353

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Guilderland Center News & Notes

HELDERBERG REFORMED

Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Loux, Jr.
Friday, Dec. 24:
7 p.m. Christmas Eve service;
sermon: "In the Fullness of Time."

Sunday, Dec. 26:
9:30 a.m. Worship; nursery provided.
10:45 a.m. Youth chapel.
10:55 a.m. Church school.
Monday, Dec. 27:
7:30 p.m. Bible study.

COMMUNITY NOTES

By DONNA WILLIAMS

Phone 861-6752

It's good to see Artie Frederick looking well so soon after his recent surgery. Artie gives credit to the good wishes of so many friends for his rapid recovery and wants to thank all those who sent cards to him during his hospitalization.

Congratulations to Ed Rosa who was recently installed as Senior Deacon of Noah Lodge No. 745 F.&A.M.

A Christmas pageant was presented at the Helderberg Reformed Church on Sunday, Dec. 19, under the direction of Donna Ingle. The following youngsters starred in a production of the play, "Kevin and His Guitar": Vickie Chamberlain, Scott Chamberlain, Todd Williams, Joseph Loux, Tami Ingle, Mark Relyea, Christy Purzycki, Bridget Carman, Ted Ingle, and all the children of the Sunday school as the carolers. Todd Relyea read the story of Christmas and the children of the Sunday school and other representatives from the congregation participated in "The White Gift" while Agnes Armstrong played the organ.

ence and especially to Donna Ingle. A covered dish supper followed the pageant and was complete with a birthday cake for Baby Jesus. Santa Claus surprised everyone by interrupting his last minute preparations to appear at the church. He was especially jovial Sunday evening and was obviously glad to be among people with whom he is quite well acquainted from previous Christmas visits. Santa brought gifts for all the children and some older kids as well. After he left, leaving behind much good cheer, a congregational meeting was held and the evening was completed with caroling through the village.

It's hard to believe that Santa will be ready for Christmas with all the time he has spent in the Center during the last week. On Tuesday and Wednesday, using a fire truck for transportation and members of the Guilderland Center Fire Department as helpers, Santa delivered Christmas stockings to the pre-school and elementary school-aged children of the district. He was aided in providing goodies with which to stuff the stockings by Price Chopper, Altamont Orchard, and Diagonal Food Market. Santa was also provided with appropriate apparel by the Sunday school of the Helderberg Reformed Church. Happy Birthday greetings to Robert Williams and Dean Lincoln. They both celebrated their special days during Christmas week.

To everyone, a very merry Christmas. Next week we'll have some news about how people spent the holiday. In the meantime, our hopes are that Santa was good to everyone and that each of you is

Guilderland

HAMILTON UNION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Thomas L. Duncan

Sunday, Dec. 26:

10 a.m. - Worship; Christian Student Sunday.

11 a.m. Church school.

11:20 a.m. Adult class.

Thursday, Dec. 30:

No choir rehearsals.

HAMILTON UNION NEWS

Beverly Calhoun has agreed to accept the interim position of church secretary while the search for church secretary proceeds. The pastor, through the Planning Committee, is receiving applications for the position. The pastor has expressed the desire to hire a secretary from outside the congregation and the Planning Committee and the Session have so agreed.

The Session, on behalf of the church family, presented Glendora Jacobson with a denominational pendant and sterling silver chain as a token of appreciation for the years of service as church secretary, and Howard for his sharing her.

Last Sunday at 8:30 in the morning we began the first service with a prelude of a medley of Christmas carols by Karen Deitz, on the piano.

The acolytes in the early morning service were Jeffrey Webb and Jeffrey Walker and at the later service John and James Gade served. Also assisting the pastor this morning was Elder Joseph Peck.

The lighting of the Advent candle was by the Moorman family.

The first service was particularly held to give the choice of the congregation of going to receive communion rather than being served. The purpose of going

McKownville: News And Comment

By LINDSAY CHILDS

This will be a Christmas column in a couple of paragraphs. But first a bit of news.

Mall Suit

Last Friday your correspondent lugged some 75 pounds of legal documents into the clerk of the Court of Appeals, to complete submission of the appeal of the case of Concerned Citizens Against Crossgates, et. al, v. Flacke. The documents cost about \$10 per pound.

Included in the papers was a stipulation, a formal document signed by the Pyramid Crossgates Co.'s attorney, Donald Snider, and Concerned Citizens' attorney, Joel Sachs, before Court of Appeals Justice Bernard Meyer in Mincola on Dec. 10. The stipulation arose from Mr. Sachs' attempt to stay the Crossgates environmental permits until the Court of Appeals decides the court case.

In the stipulation, Pyramid agreed that prior to Jan. 10, 1983 (when the full Court of Appeals will consider the request for a stay of the permits), Pyramid "shall not commence any construction activity involving the removal or destruction of any trees or plants identified as Pine Bush vegetation on the 3.9 acre portion of the "Crossgates Site" or any part of the regulated wetland or streams thereon (other than those required for test borings or similar, engineering-type activities incidental to its preparation of final construction plans, drawings or specifications) unless and until it shall have first given ten days prior written notice of its intent to

If we get an extended cold snap (if?), also keep an eye on the skating sign in front of the McKownville Reservoir. Thanks to cooperation between Stuyvesant Plaza and Dennis Moore of the town parks department, skating on the reservoir will be more attractive this year than ever before with lights, a warming room, better ice care, and maybe even a refreshment booth occasionally. Watch for it.

Christmas is a time of joy, a time of mystery. Joy brings forth music, especially singing, so Christmas is the most musical time of the year. Music helps express the mystery which is only hinted at by words:

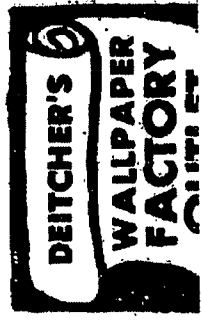
"Silent night, holy night

All is calm, all is bright . . ."

Imagine those words without the music.

Christmas music has a timeless quality which is beyond current fads or styles. We went over to Record Town recently to pick out an album of Christmas music, and were surprised with the choice. Such a variety of artists, all performing the same songs: Joan Baez, the Cambridge University Choir, Willie Nelson, Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra, Johnny Mathis, the University of Vermont Choir,

(Continued on Page 3)



A Year Of Accomplishment . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

30 years both squads operated on voluntary contributions, a source of cash that has begun to dry up for all not-for-profit organizations in the economic troubles of recent years. The tax districts were made possible by special state legislation enacted last June.

Urban Renewal Agency: The Guilderland Urban Renewal Agency, formed in the late '60s to develop the industrial park, was dissolved and its \$25,000 bank balance applied to the access road. Overall size of the town bureaucracy remained constant during 1982.

Nuclear Freeze: The Town Board adopted a resolution calling for a freeze in the growth of nuclear arsenals at its April 13 meeting.

Hazardous Wastes: The board prohibited the storage of hazardous wastes within town boundaries under Local Law 4, adopted July 13.

Property Taxes: A cut in town highway and general tax rates were established for 1983. Two weeks ago, Assessor Shirley Royak announced the town won't update its assessment roll this year.

Garbage Disposal: Groundwork was laid for Guilderland's participation in the ANSWERS (Albany, N.Y. Solid Waste Energy Recovery System) program in 1983.

Bulk Item Pickups: In 1982 the town offered to pick up discarded bulky items during the highway department's fall leaf collection drive. "About 15 people noticed the extra line in our (leaf collection) advertisements," Moss noted. "By next fall maybe a few more may notice the town is providing a new service." Labor is performed by persons in Town Court's community sentencing program at no extra taxpayer cost.

Housing Assistance: The town will receive a state grant (\$2 million over the next 15 years) to assist elderly and low-income apartment dwellers — the first assistance program of its kind for Guilderland. The town applied for funding early last year.

Nett Road Recreation Area: Grading, seeding, and installation of irrigation pipes were completed for a 3½-acre recreation area beside the Nett Road treatment plant. Soccer and baseball fields will be laid out soon.

McKowaville Reservoir: In co-

operation with nearby Stuyvesant Plaza, the town will supervise day and evening ice skating at the McKowaville Reservoir when weather permits.

Tawasentha Park: A new park sign (reflecting official name change to Carl J. Walters-Tawasentha Park) was erected at the entrance and the entrance road was repaved and widened. The pool was renovated, light poles were installed in the nearby parking lot and a concession stand constructed behind the performing arts center.

Police Department: Patrol cars were converted to operate on propane fuel.

Nine local laws (town ordinances) were adopted by the Town Board during 1982:

Local Law 1: Authorized police to enforce restrictions on parking spaces for the handicapped at shopping centers listed in the law. Adopted Jan. 12.

Local Law 2: Created new zoning classifications including light-industrial (L-I), residential-neighborhood/business (R-NB) and residential-professional office (R-PO). Advocates of the R-NB and R-PO classes saw them as a means of boosting the value and creating alternate uses for residential properties on Route 20 in the eastern part of town. Adopted April 28.

Local Law 3: Prohibited through truck traffic on Gipp Road. Adopted April 28.

Local Law 4: Prohibited storage of hazardous wastes. Ordinance was adopted July 13, two months after McKesson Chemicals Corp. proposed such a storage facility at the south end of Northeastern Industrial Park.

Local Law 5: Town dog control officers were permitted to provide emergency care to animals. Adopted Sept. 11.

Local Law 6: Set up permit system for block parties. Adopted Oct. 12.

Local Law 7: Authorized certain payroll deductions. Adopted Oct. 12.

Local Law 8: Increased the number of permitted uses of land zoned for agricultural use. Adopted Nov. 9.

Local Law 9: Adopted Dec. 30 to comply with federal flood plain insurance requirements.

Deadline for news items is the Tuesday before publication.



Altamont Enterprise—Bob Hayward

WESTERN TURNPIKE RESCUE SQUAD President James Sumner of Westmere (left) is presented framed copy of state law by Guilderland Supervisor Kevin A. Moss as Joseph J. Rose, attorney for the rescue squad, looks on. The law permitted Guilderland to create a special tax district for the Western Turnpike and Altamont Rescue Squads, who hitherto depended on voluntary contributions to stay solvent. Framed with the document is the pen former Gov. Hugh L. Carey used to sign it last year.

Patronize Enterprise Advertisers



EARLY BIRD SPECIALS

Monday - Friday 4:00 to 6:30 P.M.
Hot Roast Beef Sandwich with baked stuffed potato. \$4.95
Seafood Casserole \$4.95

Petit Filet with mushroom sauce \$7.95
8 oz. Chopped Sirloin Steak with mushrooms and baked potato \$4.95
Sautéed Boneless Chicken Breast

Guiderland Center News & Notes

HELDERBERG REFORMED

Sunday, Jan. 30:
 9:30 a.m. Communion service; nursery provided. Sermon: "Memorials."
 10:45 a.m. Youth chapel.
 10:55 a.m. Church school.
 6:45 p.m. R.C.Y.F.
 Monday, Jan. 31:
 6:30 p.m. Prayer group.
 7:30 p.m. Bible study.
 Tuesday, Feb. 1:
 9:30 a.m. Prayer group.
 Wednesday, Feb. 2:
 6:50 p.m. Helderberg Choristers.
 7:50 p.m. Senior choir.
 Thursday, Feb. 3:
 8 p.m. Sunday school teachers and officers.
 Saturday, Feb. 5:
 7:30 a.m. Prayer breakfast.

COMMUNITY NOTES

The Helderberg Home Bureau will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at the home of Mrs. Paul Plue. Besides hostessing, Mrs. Plue will serve as the instructor for the craft of the evening, the butterfly collage. In addition to working on the craft the members will take part in an envelope sale.

Vi Empie enjoyed the company this past weekend of Reg Empie of Carmel. Her son, Paul, escaped the record setting snowfall here in Guiderland Center by spending the weekend of the storm in New York City.

Speaking of the Empies, one sure indicator of the severity of the winter weather is the schedule Vi Empie is able to maintain for her golf games. While we all know that the snow has reached beyond the two-foot mark, the temperatures have dropped to the frigid zone, and ice has coated everything during the past few weeks. The

their good wishes for a happy birthday and many more to come.

Last week's headline article in the Enterprise highlighted a woman who was able to save the life of a neighbor because she had been trained in CPR. When her neighbor suffered a heart attack and his heart stopped beating, she began CPR immediately, and was able to maintain an adequate blood flow until assistance arrived, making it possible for his own breathing and heart beat to be restored. Anyone can learn CPR. Last week's story makes it clear that your knowing it may really make a difference.

The Altamont Rescue Squad is sponsoring a CPR course for all residents of the district served by the squad. This Red Cross course takes three evenings to complete and will take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 24, Tuesday, March 1, and Thursday, March 3, at the Altamont Fire House. There is no fee for participants as the squad will absorb all costs. All you have to do is register, which you can do by calling George Williams at 861-5752 or Rick McHugh at 861-5082. The class is open to anyone 15 years of age or older.

Please call me at 861-6752 or drop me a note (Box 206, Guiderland Center, N.Y. 12065) with your news or your organization's announcements.

Epilepsy Chapter Will Meet Feb. 5

"Biofeedback In Reducing Stress" will be Dr. Len Ochs'

Guiderland

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Thomas L. Duncan
 Sunday, Jan. 30:
 10 a.m. Worship.
 11 a.m. Sunday school.
 11:20 Adult class.
 6 p.m. Youth club.
 Monday, Jan. 31:
 7 p.m. Bell choir.
 Wednesday, Feb. 2:
 7:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee.
 Thursday, Feb. 3:
 6:30 p.m. Junior choir.
 7:30 p.m. Senior choir.
 7:50 p.m. Property Committee.
 Saturday, Feb. 5:
 7 p.m. Faith and Folic cross-country skiing at Beresford Farms.

HAMILTON UNION NEWS

Of course you've heard about the snow up to here, so if you aren't a skier or a sledder or a snow person of some kind you would just as soon not hear about it any more. Well, since I find it a bit hard to walk in as you can imagine I'll be glad when the walking, at least, gets back to normal. I am glad for all those of all ages who now have their snow.

As you remember, the Hamilton Union church school, grades one through senior high, presented a Christmas program, "A Blessing Comes Down." The thanks of all of us go to the Rev. Duncan for his directing, Nelda Polansky for accompanying the hymns, and Ginny Crouse for serving refreshments. Thanks should also be given to the teachers for helping the children learn their parts, and to the students for a job well done. All together it was a well chosen piece with a well appreciated final curtain.

McKownville: News And Comment

By FRED B. ABELE

We've had prolonged, unusual, fall-like weather, snowless and warmer than normal to which we had become accustomed, julling us all into a sense of false security.

Well, it ended abruptly the weekend of Jan. 15 with an onslaught of snow which buried everything in its path. The snow and the frigid weather which followed, plunged us back into the world of reality and added the dimensions of winter problems to the regular ones of everyday living.

Firefighters, too, have added problems created by such weather. When answering an alarm for a structure fire, the crew of the first-in, responding truck must determine from maps carried on the truck the location of the closest hydrants. On the approach to the fire scene, the crew must "size up" the situation which includes a visual search for those hydrants.

After a winter storm such as the recent one, the chances are good that most hydrants have become buried in snow either from the fall itself or from plowing and clearing. If the buried hydrants must be searched out, valuable time is lost. Fire may quadruple its size for every minute elapsed.

If a hydrant is located in front of your house or that of a neighbor physically unable to shovel it out, take a few minutes to shovel it out so that it is visible and accessible for a quick hose hookup. This suggestion is for your own protection and that of your neighbors whose protection depends upon that same hydrant. A few minutes

of your time spent now or after future snowstorms may have critical minutes later.

Stuyvesant Plaza mobilized its snowfighting and removal forces immediately after the storm and the accumulated snow disappeared at an amazing rate.

The big letters which spelled out the name "Deaby's" have been taken down at the plaza and the second occupant of the department store section of that building in the 19 years since its completion has passed from the scene.

The frivolous whims of the winter weather seem to have frustrated up to now any plans for ice skating on the McKownville Reservoir. The delayed arrival of the cold weather prevented formation of ice to any safe thickness and the snowstorm negated the cold weather which followed, followed by the rain of last weekend. At this late date, interest will probably wane in such a sport anyhow.

One of the first signs of approaching spring is the display of seed packets for flowers and vegetables which have now appeared in the garden centers and our own local stores. The annual half-price sales on seeds are taking place at many of the garden centers.

A small but stalwart group of members of the Guiderland Historical Society turned out on Jan. 20 for the regular monthly meeting and heard Mrs. Mary Maybee of the Guiderland Garden Club describe the origins of that organization and history. With the

(Continued on Page 3)

'76 Search And Rescue Plans Membership Drive

dents during the six-day period. An officer is on duty at St. Mark's after 8 p.m. every Thursday evening. Prospective members may stop by at that time. Or, for an appointment at a different time or day, phone 889-7676 between 5:30 and 7 p.m.

'76 Search and Rescue is affiliated with the Albany County Civil Defense office, the State Federation of Search and Rescue Teams, and the National Association for Search and Rescue.

'76 Search and Rescue will recruit new members during February and March at its office in St. Mark's Community Center, Guilderland Center.

As its name implies, this all-volunteer organization performs search-and-rescue operations in the Capital District. Over the past two years it has responded to 27 calls (12 last year) in 17 counties in three states. Members manned the first aid booth at last year's Altamont Fair, handling 27 inci-

Nancy Cozean Will Address Town GOP Women's Club

The Women's Republican Club of Guilderland will sponsor a talk by Nancy Cozean, co-anchor of the 6 and 11 p.m. news casts on WNYT (Channel 13), Monday, Feb. 14 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the community room of Regency Park Apart-

ments, Western Ave., Guilderland. She will present a behind-the-scenes look at news production. The talk will be followed by refreshments and is open to the public at no charge.

Ms. Cozean's talk will be preceded by the club's monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m., which will highlight programs to be offered for the coming year. All interested in-becoming members are urged to attend.

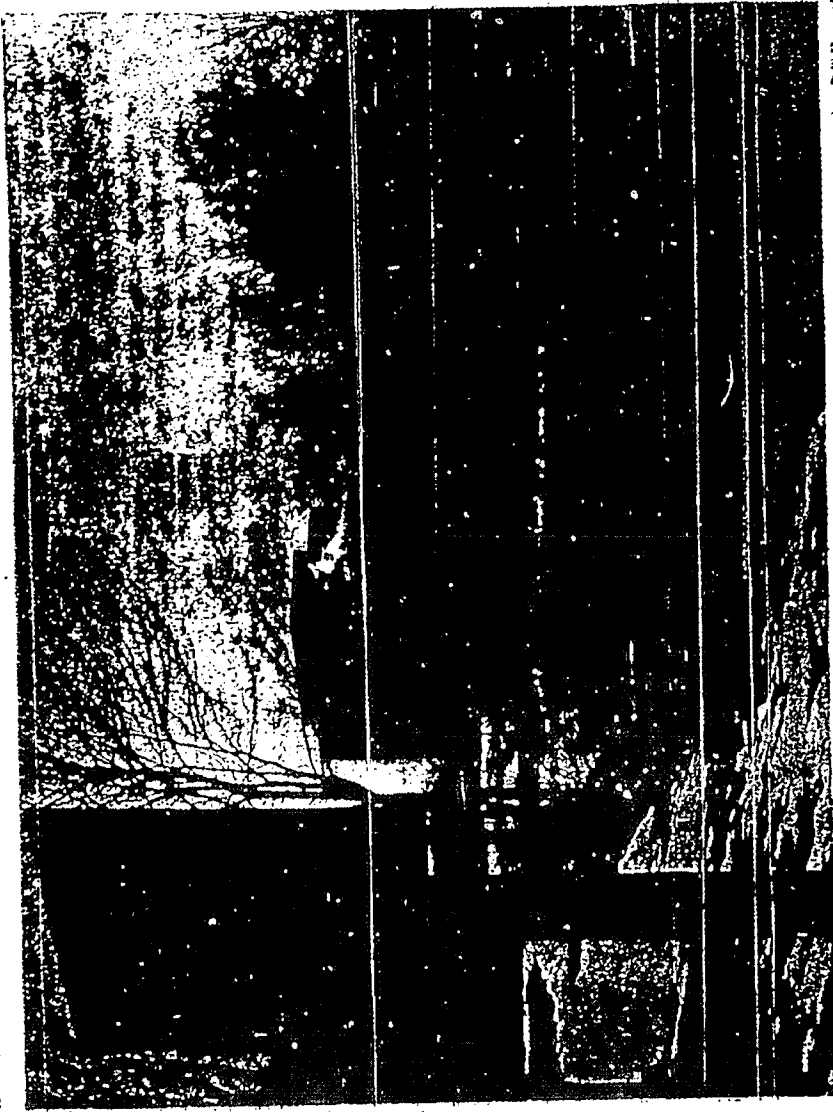
Ms. Cozean was honored in 1977 in the St. Louis Magazine readership poll as an "all-star news team" member for her accomplishments as an anchorwoman and reporter during her two-year tenure for KTVI there.

Fullers

Mr. and Mrs. James Murray are moving from Clifton Park to a home near Fuller Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Wormer of West Chesterfield, N.H., spent the weekend in this vicinity. On Sunday they were dinner-guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie A. Wormer of

The Altamont Enterprise — Thursday, February 10, 1983



Altamont Enterprise — Bob Hup and

First the weather was too warm for Town of Guilderland-sponsored public skating at the McKownville Reservoir, in front of Shuyvesant Plaza. Then came last month's storm, bumping the pond in two feet of snow. Then it was two weeks of sunshine, taking away the snow—and most of the ice with it, as shown here, hours before this week's storm which put another two feet on the ice surface. This is the first year the town has offered public skating at this site, something that's been talked about for years. They'll open the reservoir for skating yet, once the weathermaker cooperates.

perception will be helpful, even in these most serious days for all of us

receipts of oil companies is passed. Information is in New York

Capitol Hill



McKownville: News And Comment

By LINDSAY CHILDS

With spring upon us, it is worth noting that, according to Bill Butler, the McKownville Reservoir was supposedly safe and suitable for skating only two days all winter — the Saturday and Sunday of Super Bowl weekend.

Back in the fall a number of people had big plans for skating on the reservoir. The town put up lights and a portable john, Andy's was thinking about renting skates, the McKownville Improvement Association was tossing around the idea of providing refreshments.

But for an outdoor winter sports fan, this was a marvelous winter for jogging and terrible for anything else outdoors. Even when it was supposedly safe to skate on the reservoir, it wasn't, really. I'm told that on Super Sunday, when the sign said the ice was safe, someone ventured out on the reservoir and broke through. Skaters had to find artificial ice this year.

Maybe next year.

The McKownville Improvement Association's spring paper drive is set for the weekend of April 23 and 24, in the 1450 Western Ave. parking lot, courtesy of Norstar Bancorp. Save your papers.

Rezoning North Of Plaza

Perhaps the final chapter in the case of 50 Fuller Road will take place on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:45 p.m. That is the time of a public hearing before the Town Board concerning a change in the zoning boundary which separates the residential zoning on Providence St. and the commercial zoning of Executive Park. The boundary presently cuts through the back yards of the residences on the eastern block of Providence Street, and bisects the lot at 50 Fuller Road.

The proposed zoning change would move the boundary south 50 feet to coincide with the property boundaries between Executive Park and the adjacent residences; 50 Fuller Road would then lie entirely in the residential zone, thereby ensuring that 50 Fuller Road would be continued as a residence, as it has always been.

Consideration of this zoning change was recommended in February by the town zoning board following its denial of a variance to Charles E. Bryant to permit the use of 50 Fuller Road as an insurance agency. The zoning change was supported by the town planning board on March 21.

The public hearing on April 12 will take place at Town Hall.

DOT Hearing

A respectable crowd showed up at the State Department of Transportation's Thruway Exit 24 public

hearing at the Ramada Inn's notorious Squire Room on March 15. (The Squire Room was the site of the 81 day Crossgates hearing, and revisiting it brought back a lot of bad memories.)

Many of the attendees came to find out what the various alternatives looked like, and some came to comment. Among the Region 1 DOT officials on hand were Region 1 Director Donald Geoffrey, and Richard Carlson, Walter Kippen, Raymond Gardeski and Clarence Fosdick. Also on hand were Richard Bovee of Clough, Harbour Associates, the consulting engineers for the project, and a representative of the State Thruway Authority.

The first hour of the hearing consisted of presentations concerning the project and the various alternative designs, by the officials on hand.

Mr. Carlson discussed the background and need for reconstructing the Thruway/Northway/I-90 interchange.

Mr. Bovee then gave a long, carefully rehearsed presentation of the four alternative designs, featuring slides of maps and retouched aerial photographs.

Mr. Kippen described the procedures involved when DOT takes over land from private individuals for highway projects by eminent domain. Fortunately, in this project no residences and only one commercial storage shed would be taken under any of the design alternatives.

Following the DOT presenta-

(Continued on Page 5)

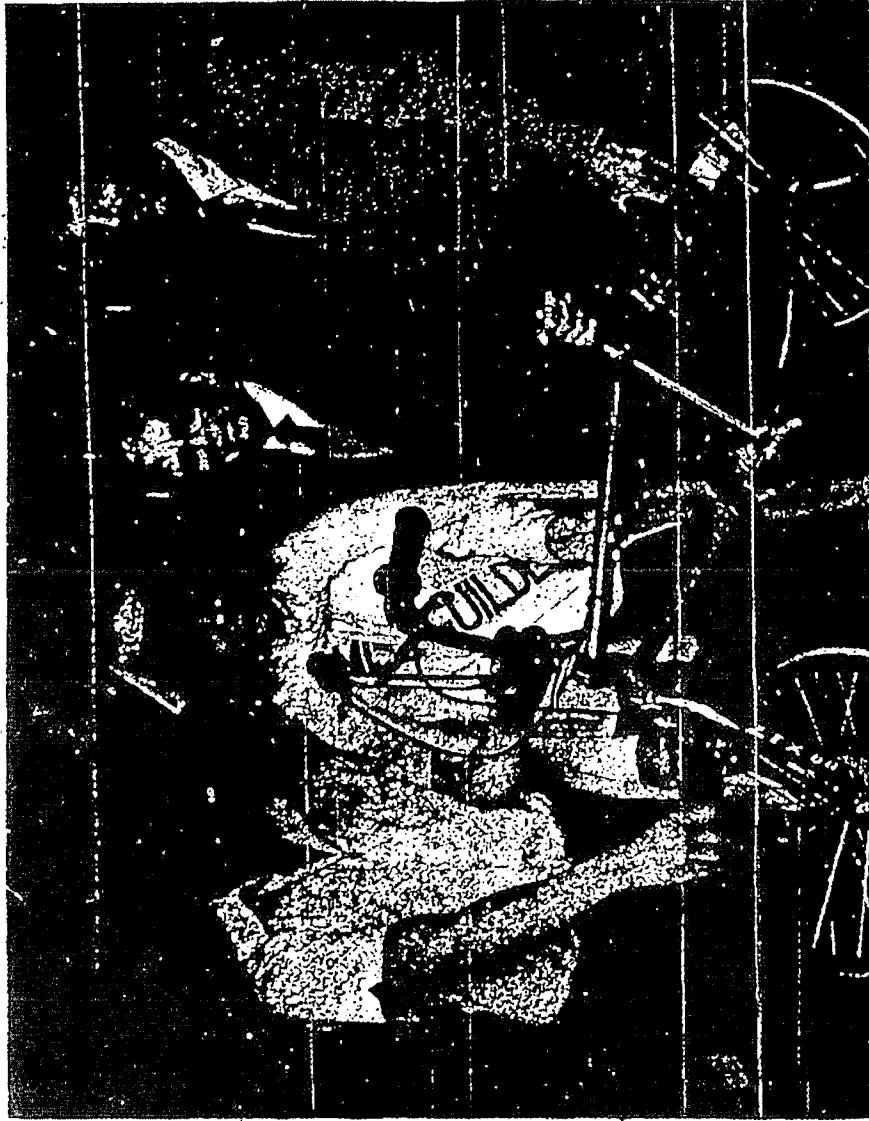
May the
Joy of Easter

throughout the Year.



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C & D Bicycle Shop is now open at 1755 Westers Ave. On hand for grand opening are from left: Charlie Rheades, owner; Kelly Benedetto, Miss Guilderland; Stan Roberts, Guilderland Chamber of Commerce PR; and Kevin Moss, Guilderland Town Supervisor. The shop specializes in repairs and sales of new and used bicycles.

Agency in railroading through its tax revenue it would have generated approval of a bond inducement of \$86 million for the Crossgates Mall. The purpose of the IDA should be

McKownville

mere Fire Department, with Gus DiNovo, assistant chief; Ted LaMountain, first captain; Tony Lance, captain; John Lutz, first lieutenant; Bruce Seron, second lieutenant; and Paul Desjardins, third lieutenant. Also installed were Robert DiNovo, president; Ted Raymond, vice president; Leo Nolan, treasurer; Kevin Phillips, secretary; John Lutz, Jr., financial secretary; and Paul Godfrey, five-year director.

Officers of the ladies auxiliary, also installed, were Carole Seron, president; Arlene Leto, vice president; Henrietta Pryor, treasurer; and Carol Goodwin, secretary.

We look forward to seeing the restored 1937 International pumper in action as a parade piece when restoration is completed.

Last trip to Stuyvesant Plaza on Saturday was timed properly to witness the publicity shots being made by the news media of the winners of the Mother's-Day essay contest sponsored by the plaza merchants association. Media representatives Liz Bishop and Ken Screvin were much in evidence and all seemed to be enjoying the episode.

On the previous Saturday we were just in time to witness a fleet of canoes at the McKownville Reservoir as Andy's Sporting Goods Store prepared to demonstrate them. The only known previous boat to appear at the reservoir was the rowboat used by the water department to treat the algae growth.

On May 2 the long-awaited post office opened on the south side of the plaza. A fully automated facility, it is located next to Marcus Decorators. It will be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. The facility will sell all stamps and supplies at cost. A postal employee will be on hand from 8 through 10 a.m., Monday through Saturday to hand out accountable mail such as certified letters and to sell rolls and sheets of stamps.



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McKownville: News And Comment

By FRED B. ABELE

Residents of the McKownville, Westmere and North Bethlehem area should be thankful for a fire-safe Christmas holiday season, which may have set some sort of record.

During the period from one week before Christmas until last weekend McKownville had not a single alarm and the Westmere and North Bethlehem Fire Departments were likewise unusually quiet. The extreme cold weather experienced during the period was a perfect vehicle for fires, preventable and unpreventable that are usually triggered by such conditions.

We should be grateful that McKownville and neighborhood hamlets were spared from fire tragedies during the holiday season. Congratulations are in order

to residents of the area whose precautions must have contributed to the lack of incidents, proof positive that such precautions do pay off.

If you had a live Christmas tree and are interested in recycling it, bring it to the Garden Shoppe on Carman Road (Route 146) where a chipper will be available on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can leave your tree and pick up bags of mulch for next years garden. Bring your own bags. It is a fine way to make your no longer useful evergreen continue to perform a useful function.

The Association of Fire Districts of the Capital Area, comprising seven counties, meets tomorrow night at the North Bethlehem Fire House. Officers for the coming year will be chosen by election. Candidate for the presidency of the

Association is Guilderland Center Fire Commissioner Arnold Crouse.

Two other of the town's fire commissioners who will be candidates this year to head other associations are Albert Spawn of Westmere, up for presidency of the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York at the annual convention in May, and James Buckley of Westmere, up for presidency of the New York State Fire Chief's Association. Both Spawn and Buckley have been past chiefs in the Westmere Fire Department.

It is a rare occasion when two men from the same fire district are elected to head such influential organizations of the fire service. It is even more rare to see three men from the same town heading three such organizations.

When the Guilderland Fire Commissioners Association meets at the North Bethlehem Firehouse on Thursday, Jan. 26, it is expected that town officials will be present to discuss the impact and enforcement of the new fire safety provisions of the building code, effective Jan. 1 and which are proposed to become mandatory Jan. 1, 1985. These codes adopted by the State of New York and which have been adopted by our Town of Guilderland provide much greater emphasis on sprinklered construction and mandatory smoke alarms for fire prevention and early detection.

Stop and think how many lives have been lost in recent fires because of the absence of early warning devices. Recently, actor Gene Kelly and his family escaped from their burning California home uninjured. The home was destroyed. Escape was credited to warning by a smoke alarm.

It is unbelievable how many homes are not yet equipped with one of these simple, inexpensive devices. Have you installed yours yet? What are you waiting for, to become a statistic? The life you save may be your own.

The traffic situation dilemma on Western Ave. at the Northway entrance is another product of the construction of Crossgates Mall. More will come to light as that project continues to unfold and is opened. We are happy to note that State DOT Region One Director Don Geoffroy is considering advance signs in the vicinity of Ponderosa Steak House which will guide eastbound motorists into the proper lanes. A major current problem is the lack of warning to make such a lane change possible.

In this writer's opinion (for what that's worth), these signs should be large and mounted on an overhead sign structure. They should direct motorists in a positive manner, i.e. "This Lane East on 20 Only" and "This Lane North on I-87 Only." Nothing much can be done about

nearly all my life it was also directed to history of ground transportation, i.e., railroads, trolleys, steamboats, canals, covered bridge roads, with boxes full of card files of accumulated data.

The appointment makes it an official position to aid and augment Town Historian, Roger Keenholts. Association with our highly esteemed, now retired, long time former Town Historian Arthur B. Gregg opened the door to me on much of the town's rich history.

Now in the Guilderland Center Nursing Home, Mr. Gregg has just celebrated his 88th birthday. Congratulations and heartfelt good wishes to you Arthur. You, too, have earned an important place in the history of the Town of Guilderland.

Do you like covered bridges, those timber structures of yore whose demise is now being accelerated by age and the weights of modern vehicles? If you do, you are welcome to attend the next meeting of the Guilderland Historical Society on Thursday evening, Jan. 19 at the Mynderse-Frederick House in Guilderland Center at 8 p.m. This writer will present a narrated slide program on covered bridges including some from our town and area. The public is invited.

While on the subject of covered bridges, this writer, browsing at the Stuyvesant Plaza Book House, picked up a copy of a new book entitled "Old North Country Bridges" by an acquaintance of many years' standing, Richard Sanders Allen. In the first chapter were text and photos of the Western Turnpike covered bridge over the Normanskill at Sharp's Corners and the last of Guilderland's covered bridges, that at French's Hollow. The latter was taken down in 1933, 50 years ago last year, and the present steel and concrete bridge erected in its place.

Skating on the McKownville Reservoir pond seems to be faring no better this year than last year. While the cold spell around Christmas made ice, the thaw which immediately followed last week which indicated that the ice was not safe for skating.

Those responsible for parks and recreation for the Town of Guilderland should closely monitor the condition of the ice as the depth of this pond makes it more treacherous than flooded sinks. Parents should monitor the skating expeditions of their children at this time of the year to make sure that their chosen skating sites are safe.

Hudson Valley Chapter, Steamship Historical Society of America, of which this writer is chairman, will hold a meeting on this coming

Saturday evening, Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. at the Key Bank Community meeting room on Delaware Ave., Delmar (near the four corners). Speaker will be Captain Peter Wiles of Mid-Lakes Navigation Co. of Skaneateles, who will present an illustrated program on the comparison of passenger travel on English canals in contrast to those of New York State.

Captain Wiles is well known in this area as master of the canal packet *Ermita II*, a frequent visitor to Albany during the warmer months when she takes passengers through the Erie and Champlain divisions of the State Barge Canal System. Hudson Valley Chapter has chartered *Ermita II* each summer for several years for a trip on the Hudson River.

The public is cordially invited and encouraged to attend. There is parking at the rear of the bank and entrance to the community room is from the parking lot. What better way is there to forget the cold than to take a leisurely boat trip 'by canal'?

In Westmere, the Enterprise is sold at Star Supermarket, Star Plaza; Westmere News Variety and Stewart's Ice Cream Shop, both at the corner of Routes 20 and Gipp Road.

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January 13 & 14

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- Daily Lunch Specials -

Sunday, January 15 at 3 p.m.

Jam Session

Channel 16 TV taping, most Sundays.
Entertainers invited to join in.

Thanks to the following for a great job on Sunday:

Slywhite, Dehitt, Mark Davenport, Buck Rogers, Joni Sommers, Dan Dephillips, Debby Schaffer, Patty Salerno, Shari Rendo, Ben Ruchalski, Craig Shave and Michelli Derose for photography, and Channel 16 for taping.

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McKownville: News And Comment

By LINDSAY CHILDS
The Pyramid Crossgates Co. has submitted a revised request for signs along Western and Washington Aves. for the 10-theatre cinema complex at the Crossgates Mall.

The Zoning Board in December denied a variance for 18 by 22 foot cinema signs at the Western and Washington Ave. entrances to the Crossgates Mall, permitting instead a 4 by 22 foot "Crossgates Mall" sign at those locations.

Pyramid has returned with a new request for signs for its cinemas. The new proposal offers somewhat smaller signs, but the new signs would contain the same information as those previously proposed, namely, a listing of all 10 of the movies being shown.

The request comes before the Town Zoning Board on Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Proposed Civic Center

This coming Monday the plans for the proposed SUNY/Albany County Civic Center are scheduled to be unveiled.

The McKownville Improvement Association's concerns about the proposed Fuller Road site, noted in this column two weeks ago, reached the mass media last week with a story in the Times-Union and a Channel 10 interview with Association officer Dorothy Ellin.

At the second semester at the university begins this coming Monday as well. The Stuyvesant Plaza merchants will be happy to see them back, and drivers along Fuller Road will find themselves competing with quite a few more pedestrians than they have seen since the winter's first big snowstorm. As usual, the sidewalk between Mercer St. and Executive Park Drive is buried. So until, if ever, the responsibility over the clearing of that sidewalk is resolved, please be on the look out for pedestrians on the highway on Fuller Road.

Two Restaurants

The latest estimate for the opening of Friday's, McKownville's newest restaurant, at the first week in February. Friday's has started advertising for staff. We finally visited Coco's recent-

ly. We may have been the last holdouts in the Capital District, to judge by the business they have attracted. We tried their salad bar, washed down by some Newman's Albany Amber. The Amber came in an impressively large glass and tasted authentic. The salad bar had lots of items to choose from, and it wasn't hard to find enough things to fill us up. Our table had a lovely view of scenic downtown McKownville.

More exciting (and expensive) was our recent visit to Oceans Eleven, on Western Ave. near Gipp Road. While Coco's and Friday's are competing for a market of more or less informal dining, with a menu which mixes hamburgers, potato skins, Mexican items, and surf and turf — something for every appetite — Oceans Eleven is competing in the elegant full-course culinary experience category.

Our party of nine ordered such items as steak au poivre, braised fresh swordfish, veal francese, veal marsala and chicken piccata. All the dishes have sauces of various kinds, and perhaps not untypical was the swordfish, which came smothered in a sauce containing black peppercorns, tomato, Bermuda onions, capers, anchovies and white wine. The sauce was rather spicy and very flavorful, and whether the fish was swordfish or halibut or any other whitefish hardly would have mattered.

Everyone was pleased with the visit to Oceans Eleven, and the consumer of the steak au poivre was more than satisfied, calling his dish the finest steak he had eaten in a restaurant in years. The setting is very nice, and rather astonishing if you had previously visited that building when it was a food warehouse outlet or a hardware store.

The restaurant business is made to order for gamblers, and Oceans Eleven is playing for high stakes. But so far it is on a roll.

Ice Skating.
The ice skating rink went up at the McKownville Reservoir shortly after New Year's, just in time to announce that the ice was not safe

because of the thaw. But by last weekend the cold weather had made the ice safe again, so last Sunday Nathan and his dad walked over to check it out.

We found that while a rather large stretch of the reservoir had been plowed after the big snowfall, the four inches of snow which fell two days before was mostly still on the ice, and only a small section was clear. So we walked back home, picked up a shovel and a scoop, and went back to do some clearing.

Shortly, Tricia and her brother and father arrived. Tricia, aged maybe 5, had just inherited a pair of single-runner skates and was on the ice trying them out for the first time. While her dad (with no skates) walked along, holding her hand, her brother saw that Nathan had brought two hockey sticks and a puck, and so the two boys, Tricia's brother without skates, Nathan with, began shooting goals on each other. Then their friend, Mr. Walker arrived, with his son, both skateless, and right away pitched in with the clearing. Mr. Walker took the scoop, Nathan's dad the shovel, and the two of them did a passable imitation of a Zamboni, clearing off quite a lot of ice. The three boys by then were rotating the two hockey sticks.

After a while, Tricia decided she could do quite well without her hand being held. So the scoop became a goalie stick, the handle of the shovel became another stick, and the three men and three boys played an erratic game of free-wheeling hockey, six players with two pairs of skates, two real hockey sticks (one of which broke early into the game), and two makeshift substitutes.

After a while Mr. Walker took a tumble which dampened his enthusiasm just a bit, and Tricia lost her balance and fell, and decided she didn't want to skate by herself anymore. Then a single woman came by, put on a pair of figure skates and tried out some figures, turns, backward movements, while the sun dropped behind the pump house and the spotlights mysteriously came on.

In a few minutes Tricia's entourage had to leave, the woman completed her exercises and departed, and after a few rushes back and forth down the ice passing the puck back and forth, we called it an afternoon, leaving the ice empty for the day.

The condition of the ice in the areas we cleared off was rather rough and slow, very nice for hockey players without skates but not ideal for skating. Someone suggested that it would be nice if the fire department were to hose the area down some evening, maybe on Mondays when it is out on maneuvers anyway.

But even as it was, the ice was good fun. Nathan, who is used to skating indoors and can be highly critical of poor outdoor ice, had no complaints. And imitating a Zamboni makes for a good workout.

Thruway, and a half hour's drive from the airport.

Undeniably, McKownville has a higher noise level than a quiet suburb ought to have. But how noisy is McKownville, really?

We recently obtained a copy of a Guilderland Noise Survey which helps answer that question. The survey was prepared last summer by Don Rittner, the town's natural resources manager and Conservation Advisory Council member, and Barbara Allen of the Division of Air, State Department of Environmental Conservation, with the assistance of Earl and Marion Tanis and Dean Harding of the Conservation Advisory Council.

The authors selected 20 sites around the Town of Guilderland and measured the levels of noise during six visits to each site in 1982 and 1983. The sites were chosen to represent all parts of the town and all types of land use.

Noise is measured in A-weighted decibels, abbreviated dB(A). This is a measurement of sound level which weighs different frequencies by a relationship which approximates the sensitivity of the human ear. Thus the A-weighted decibel measures approximately the relative "noisiness" or "annoyance" of noise to people. The survey was done with a standard sound level meter loaned from the Department of Environmental Conservation which measured noise levels in A-weighted decibels.

Decibels are measured on a scale from 0 to over 110 dB(A). Audible sound levels range from the rustling of leaves, which has a level of around 20 dB(A) at ear, to a chain saw at the operator's ear, which has a noise level of around 110 dB(A).

In terms of the effect of noise levels on humans, the report indicates that sleep interference occurs with sound levels of 45 dB(A) or more; outdoor noise in residential areas is noticeable when it exceeds 55 dB(A). Interference with speech occurs with levels of 65 dB(A) or more; and hearing damage begins with long-term exposure to levels of 78 dB(A) or more. As a comparison, a vacuum cleaner from five feet away has a level of 80 dB(A), and a power lawn mower is about 100 dB(A) at the operator's ear.

Each of the 20 sites was visited six times, and at each visit the surveyors made 50 readings at 10 second intervals. The sound level exceeded by 10 percent of the 50 readings, or so-called L-10 noise level, was determined for each visit. The 36 L-10 levels were then averaged, to get an overall noise level for each location.

Guilderland turns out to be rather noisy for a suburb. The federal Environmental Protection Agency recommends an average level of at most 55 decibels for outdoors in residential areas. Of the 20 locations, 14 had a noise level which exceeded 55 dB(A) at least 10 percent of the time. The Federal Highway Administration design

and Route 146 in Guilderland Center, all had a noise level of 67 dB(A).

A knoll by the State University entrance onto Western Ave. in McKownville, and a location on Whispering Pines Way just off Carman Road, both had a noise level of 65 dB(A).

The intersection of Old State Road and Kings Road, near the Thruway and next to the newest section of preserved Albany Pine Bush, had a level of 64 dB(A).

A house on Morningside Drive near Town Hall, a location along Carman Road, and the intersection of Route 146 and School Road in Guilderland Center all had a level of 63 dB(A).

Lydius St. near Carman Road had a level of 62 dB(A); a location at Maple Ave. and Western Ave. in the Village of Altamont, not far from the Enterprise office, had a level of 61 dB(A); and the alley behind a house on the corner of Glenwood St. and Western Ave. in McKownville had a level of 60 dB(A).

A dirt road by the First National Bank of Scotia's branch near the junction of Route 155 and Western Ave. had a level of 56 dB(A), and the intersection of Old State Road and Miller Road, just west of the railroad, had a level of 55 dB(A).

The five quietest locations measured by the survey were at Turnpike Lane, off Gipp Road in Westmere, 53 dB(A); the intersection of Settle's Hill Road and Linnhart Road, also 53 dB(A); the intersection of Gardner Road and Voorheesville Road (Route 155) between Altamont and Indian Ladder Orchards, 52 dB(A); the north end of Gabriel Terrace, just adjacent to the southwest corner of the Crossgates site, also 52 dB(A); and the intersection of Route 155 and Dr. Shaw Road, 50 dB(A). That last location had the lowest L-10 reading on any one visit, 42 dB(A), at 2:29 p.m. on Nov. 14, 1982, a Sunday. By contrast, the highest L-10 reading on any visit occurred at Grace Weatherby's house, 74 dB(A), at 3:55 p.m. last June 6, a Monday.

The Gabriel Terrace location was also monitored for noise by the consultants for the Pyramid Crossgates Co. in 1978, and found to have an L-10 noise level of 66 dB(A). So the Crossgates results, and the results of this newer survey, are reasonably close.

The survey is a bit problematical in that it reports 32 noise levels, that level of noise which is exceeded 10 percent of the time. But the survey compares those noise levels with the EPA recommendation of 55 dB(A), which is an average noise level, rather than a "highest 10 percent" noise level.

However, it is safe to assume that when the L-10 noise level is above 60 dB(A), especially along highways, then the L-60 of average noise level is above the 55 dB(A). For example, the Crossgates noise

Join Your Friends and Neighbors



Save March 17 for a Fun Dance and

McKownville: News And Comment

By LINDSAY CHILDS

The McKownville Improvement Association held its annual "Meet Your Neighbor" dinner on Thursday, Feb. 21 at the Tom Sawyer Motor Inn. The featured guests were Jeff Pfeil and Deane Lieberman of Stuyvesant Plaza, and Town Supervisor Kevin Moss. All three had interesting things to say.

Mr. Moss began with a tribute to Fred Abele. He noted that since the 1950s, Guilderland has increased in population from around 5,000 residents to its present 28,000. This means that there are a great many persons in the town who have only a minimal sense of the history of the town and of the area. He felt that Mr. Abele had performed a very valuable service by helping to provide that sense of history.

Mr. Moss then commented briefly on three important developments which are taking place this year and will affect McKownville.

One is the Route 20 study. He indicated that in terms of the zoning in McKownville, the north side of Western Avenue would continue to be zoned residential, according to the Route 20 study, and the study also recommends rezoning the south side of Route 20 between Tusang-Barhydt and the McKownville Fire House from B-1 to residential. So some of the fears of local residents that the north side of Western Avenue would become apartments and offices should be allayed.

The second is the new zoning law. Mr. Moss expressed his feelings that the zoning law was a very positive step towards protecting and preserving the neighborhoods of the town, for example, by making it much more difficult for a developer to place townhouses and multifamily dwellings within or next to existing neighborhoods of single family homes. He said he had already heard some negative comments about the law from developers, which he felt was misplaced. He cited as an example the protracted set of hearings which culminated in the Planning Board turning down the townhouse proposal at Haven Hills, between Maywood Avenue and the Hungerkill off Old State Road, and suggested that the new zoning law would have prevented the townhouse proposal from coming up in the first place, thereby saving the developer a great deal of expense as well as saving the neighbors a great deal of aggravation.

Third, Mr. Moss noted the progress of the park off Schoolhouse Road ("How could I come to McKownville and not talk about the park?"). When asked about skating on the reservoir, he blamed the weather. There was some speculation that the reservoir was less safe for skating this year than in the past because of the siltation caused by the Crossgates construction.

The reservoir is shallower, with less capacity, and so there is more rapid flow of water near the surface, making the ice thinner and less safe. He said that he and Association President Jim Lane were cooperating in contacting the State Department of Environmental Conservation to urge them to study the siltation problem.

Stuyvesant Plaza

Jeff Pfeil, the manager of Stuyvesant Plaza, began by telling us how to spell his last name, which was rather mistreated in some of

professional office building on that site would not alter that character in any way.

Most of Mr. Pfeil's remarks were centered on Stuyvesant Plaza. He characterized the Plaza in the late 1970s as a "sleepy community center," and discussed how the Plaza decided to respond to the anticipated competition from Crossgates.

He observed: "There are only so many retail dollars out there, as the Association pointed out many times. "Faced with Crossgates, the normal fate of a mall such as the Plaza was in 1979 would have been to become an off-price area, like Westgate and Northway Mall. But Stuyvesant Plaza decided on a different approach — to become what he called a "community specialty center."

As a result, the number of stores in the Plaza has increased from 39 in 1979 to 59 today, of which 32 are holdovers from the original 39. Of course, much of that increase in the number of stores is because of the demise of Denby's. But Mr. Pfeil felt that the Plaza had provided a mix of stores which was fairly equivalent to Denby's, and expected to improve the mix further in the near future.

The Plaza was very proud of the fact that about 50 percent of the stores are locally owned. This is a very high percentage, and is comparable only to downtown specialty centers such as Quincy Market in Boston.

Was the specialty center concept working? Mr. Pfeil noted that sales had grown 20 percent per year for the past five years, a sign of robust health. Most significantly, during the past year, which included the opening of Crossgates in March, sales increased 23 percent from 1983.

For the future, Mr. Pfeil anticipated that the Plaza would attract more specialty shops, but expected that the Plaza would always have a grocery store.

Deane Lieberman is the marketing director of Stuyvesant Plaza. She also discussed the way the Plaza has responded to the challenge of Crossgates during the past five years. She felt that Stuyvesant Plaza was a true community shopping center, and, in fact, the primary market area of the Plaza was, and remains, the 12203 zip code area, the area between the west Pine Hills area of Albany and Route 155 along Western Avenue. She felt that the "community" aspect of the center was particularly evident in the personal service provided by the merchants, many of whom live in the area.

She discussed some of the kinds of activities and promotions supported by the Plaza. These are designed to enhance both the uniqueness of the Plaza as a specialty center, and the community aspect of the Plaza. She cited such events as the arts festival, which won for the Plaza a national award from the International Council of Shopping Centers; the Mother's Day essay contest; the Christmas music, using local talent (such as the Empire State Youth Orchestra); and the Western Avenue beautification project, for which the Plaza has planted "thousands" of tulips.

She mentioned the support the Plaza provided to the Guilderland League of Arts, the Guilderland

"downtown" business community. Stuyvesant Plaza has taken great strides in recent years to improve its standing in the local retail scene by moving in the direction of quality, while retaining its community orientation.

It is ironic that near the beginning of the Crossgates environmental hearings, the image which the Crossgates developers wished to present to the public, that of a mall which contained a substantial mix of "high-fashion", unique, new-to-the-area merchants, is one which Stuyvesant Plaza has in large measure succeeded in becoming.

Reservoir Skating

As noted above, this has not been a good year for skating on the McKownville Reservoir. Despite nearly a month of subfreezing weather in January and early February, the town's parks and recreation director, Dennis Moore, was uncomfortable about permitting skating on the reservoir, because of concern about the safety of the ice.

But on the first day of winter vacation, the kids and I got our skates together and went looking for a place to skate. As we drove by the reservoir, we noticed that for the first time, the sign said "Ice Safe for Skating." So after checking out Tawasantha's ice and finding it very rough and full of skaters, we returned to McKownville and tried out the ice.

We may have been the first skaters on the ice all year.

We found the ice a little soft, and a bit wet around the edges, as might be expected for a day which was well into the 30s. There was a large open patch at the western end of the pond, where the stream comes into the reservoir, and a small open patch next to the outlet. But elsewhere, the ice was moderately smooth, if very slow.

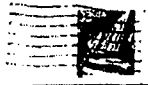
We skated around a bit, grabbed the sticks and a puck and played a little one-on-one and two-on-one hockey. After a bit, Ashley, who was using her mother's 25-year-old skates for the first time, found them too uncomfortable, and replaced them with boots. You experts will understand the character of the ice if I tell you that she got around at least as well on the ice in her boots as she did on skates.

After skating for a bit under an hour, we headed off for lunch, just about the time when another car drove up with two mother-young daughter pairs who put on their skates and stepped out on the ice just as we left.

The next day, another above freezing, we drove by and saw the "Not" back up on the sign. Mr. Moss mentioned that someone had called Town Hall sometime after we had skated on the reservoir and mentioned that their family's skaters had spent more than a little time knee-deep in sludge at the bottom of the pond. Apparently either the edges of the pond melted substantially in the early afternoon or else those skaters had ventured too close to the western edge of the pond, near the open area by the stream.

In any case, the "Not Safe" sign stayed up for the remainder of the school vacation, and at this point it appears that the skating season on the reservoir is over. It was perhaps the shortest season ever.

To the editor



Forbes is a fine choice

To the Editor:

This note is in response to Martha A. Crisafulli's letter published Jan. 23. I understand the feelings generated by not being reassigned to the Board of Assessment and Review, but I must take exception to the comment that "it's not what you know, but who you know." Ms. Crisafulli implies with this statement that the newly-appointed member, my friend Kevin Forbes, does not have knowledge of the real-estate market in Guilderland.

Kevin is a Certified Home Inspector and assesses thousands of commercial and residential properties yearly for the insurance business. In addition to this professional experience, Kevin has been involved in vari-

ous volunteer activities in the town for many years -- coaching town children in football, baseball, and basketball at various levels and organizations. He was also a member of the town's traffic safety committee.

This dedication to people and volunteerism demonstrates that he has the drive, will, and patience required to work with the town residents and relate to their issues. Coupled with his professional expertise, he has the tools necessary to provide independent judgment of assessments.

I believe that this is the goal of the Board of Assessment and Review and that Kevin is a fine choice for this Board.

Jim White
McKownville

Find peaceful solutions

To the Editor:

I would like to add my voice to the growing opposition to the planned war in Iraq. We destroyed much of Afghanistan, killing approximately 3,000 innocent civilians.

And yet, we continue to hear regular warnings about imminent terrorist strikes in our country. Terrorizing Iraqi civilians is not going to make us any safer either. Military actions only

strengthen the resolve of would-be terrorists to strike back at us.

We need to reexamine our foreign policy to insure that we are not cultivating more and more anti-American sentiment. Let us use the collective wisdom of our friends and neighbors around the world to find peaceful solutions to our problems.

Paul Scillipoto
Altamont

Getting improvements done right

To the Editor:

All are invited to attend the Jan. 30 meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association; it will be held at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express.

At the December meeting, much was accomplished. The Town Board members announced that the financing for sidewalks on Western Avenue has been secured through Assemblyman John McEnery and that construction will begin as soon as possible. In addition the town officers, Ken Runion, David Bosworth, Michael Ricard, and Bruce Sherwin (Patty Slavick was held up because of awful weather, if you remember what that night was like) gave us other great news.

The tree planting program will go forward and financing has been provided. The vest pocket park near Ann and Mercer streets has its financing secured and will be constructed. The "Don't block the side street" signs for Providence, Mercer, and Warren are to get action from Supervisor Runion's office.

The McKownville reservoir/pond at Stuyvesant was going forward as soon as possible. The planned improvements do not appear to be as expensive as expected.

Since the December meeting, Creighton Manning Engineering (CME) issued its draft report on the McKownville Corridor Study. The ideas that the McKownville Improvement Association put forth concerning Western Avenue and the ideas that many of you expressed at the public meetings with CME were generally followed.

It appears that the feared widening of Western Avenue is not going to happen and that

there will be a rebuilding of sidewalks and the installation of curbs and the planting of trees and so forth as we urged.

In addition to Western, McKown and Schoolhouse roads would get sidewalks and better pedestrian access. The report is nearly 100 pages with many complex colored maps so there is no inexpensive way to provide paper copies to each McKownville resident but we will discuss the report at the meeting.

What is needed now are groups to work with town and state officers and others while the plans for each of these needed improvements are put into place. For example, when the sidewalk is being put in along McKown, somebody -- more than one somebody -- has to make sure that the design and so forth is what is desired. The same for the tree-planting and the vest pocket park and the speed limit and on and on.

We need McKownville Action Committees to take the time to make sure that the plans are being developed on time, with care and where our concerns are given due consideration.

Besides discussion of the CME Report, this is the agenda item for the meeting -- to get volunteers, under the direction of association officers and board members ready to meet with those doing the real work of designing the sidewalks or whatever, willing to gather information from neighbors and others, and generally taking on the responsibility of getting the improvement done and done right.

Don Reeb, President
McKownville Improvement Association

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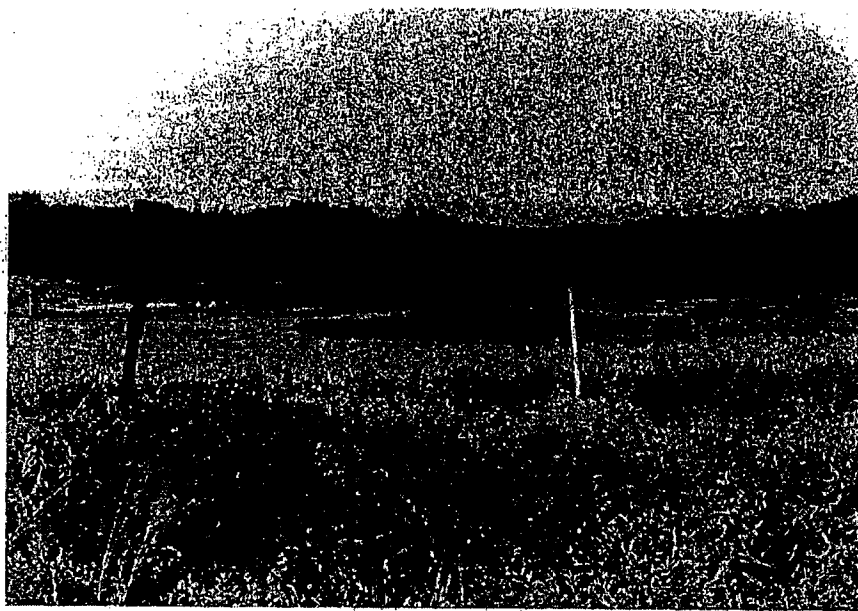
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The Enterprise — Nicole Fay Barr

Preserving the battleground: The Guilderland Town Board has applied for a grant to purchase the site of the Battle of the Normanskill, on Route 146. The area will be used as parkland, although the town will not build on it.

Waiting for state funds

Park, pool, and battlefield site

By Nicole Fay Barr
GUILDERLAND — It's springtime, and the town board's fancy has turned to parks.

Tuesday, the board decided to apply for grants to build a small park in McKownville, to improve the pool area at Tawasentha Park, and to preserve the site of the Battle of the Normanskill.

The grants would come from the state's Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

The site of the proposed "McKownville Reservoir Park" is near T.G.I. Friday's at Stuyvesant Plaza. Owned by the town, the land for the park will surround a body of water that, 40 years ago, was a reservoir.

If the town is awarded the \$97,450 grant, it will add fountains, a foot trail, a gazebo, picnic tables, and a foot bridge over the Krumkill River, said Donald Csaposs, the town's grant writer and development director.

"It's a potentially nice resting area for the residents and the people who work at Stuyvesant Plaza," he said.

But, Csaposs told *The Enterprise*, the town isn't doing this for the plaza. The McKownville Improvement Association has been requesting the town build a park here for a while, he said.

At the end of Tuesday's town board meeting, association President Don Reeb thanked the town for applying for the grant.

If the town is awarded a grant for its pool at Tawasentha Park, almost everything above water will be improved, Csaposs said. The pool's changing and restroom facilities and the pool apron need to be reconstructed, he said.

The pool house was built cheaply 40 years ago, he said.

"The floor is settling to one side

The \$105,500 grant, which the town would also match, will be used to pay for the land, Csaposs said.

"The town will add it to its park system," he said. "It won't be used for anything active."

People can use the land in the winter for sledding or in the summer for running, but there will be nothing built on the land, Csaposs said.

"A long lost battle of the Revolution," occurred on the site, former town historian, the late Arthur B. Gregg, wrote in his book, *Old Hellebergh, Scenes from Early Guilderland*.

Schenectady militia and 40 Rhode Island troops, on their way to Schoharie, had an unsuccessful battle against the British there, Gregg wrote.

"There is an interesting tradition that those Tories who were captured in the barn where hidden under the hay, but that several forceful bayonet jabs in the mow brought forth bitter howls of pain and a quick surrender," Gregg wrote.

The town won't be notified that it has been awarded the grants until late in the fiscal year, probably next February or March, Csaposs said.

"We believe all of these projects are worthy of consideration by the state or we wouldn't bother to file the grant applications," he said.

Other business

In other business, the board: — Heard from Jim Donovan, of Wilbur Smith Associates, about a study the Guilderland Pathways Committee did on the need for sidewalks and bike paths in Guilderland. Through a grant, Donovan was hired by the town to analyze the volunteer group's study.

land and the town paid its heating bills. In 2003, Mill Hill was foreclosed and auctioned off due to what Quadrini called "unforeseen conditions."

Jane DeRook, director of the ballet, worried about its future and asked the town to bid for the land, but it did not. Abode Blue Chip LLC bought the land at the auction and the new owner told DeRook he was willing to negotiate, letting the ballet stay on the land. Tuesday, it was announced that the company is donating the land to the town.

"We've all realized what a significant part of the community the ballet is," said Will Powers, of Abode Blue Chip;

— Authorized the retention of CBIZ Valuation Group and the purchase of software for the town to comply to the state comptroller's requirements based on Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) recommendations;

— Authorized allowing Delaware Engineering to review projects to loop dead-end water lines in western Guilderland and Guilderland Center.

Looping these water lines will improve water quality for the whole system and save money, Runion said, because the water will be less polluted and not need as much chemical treatment;

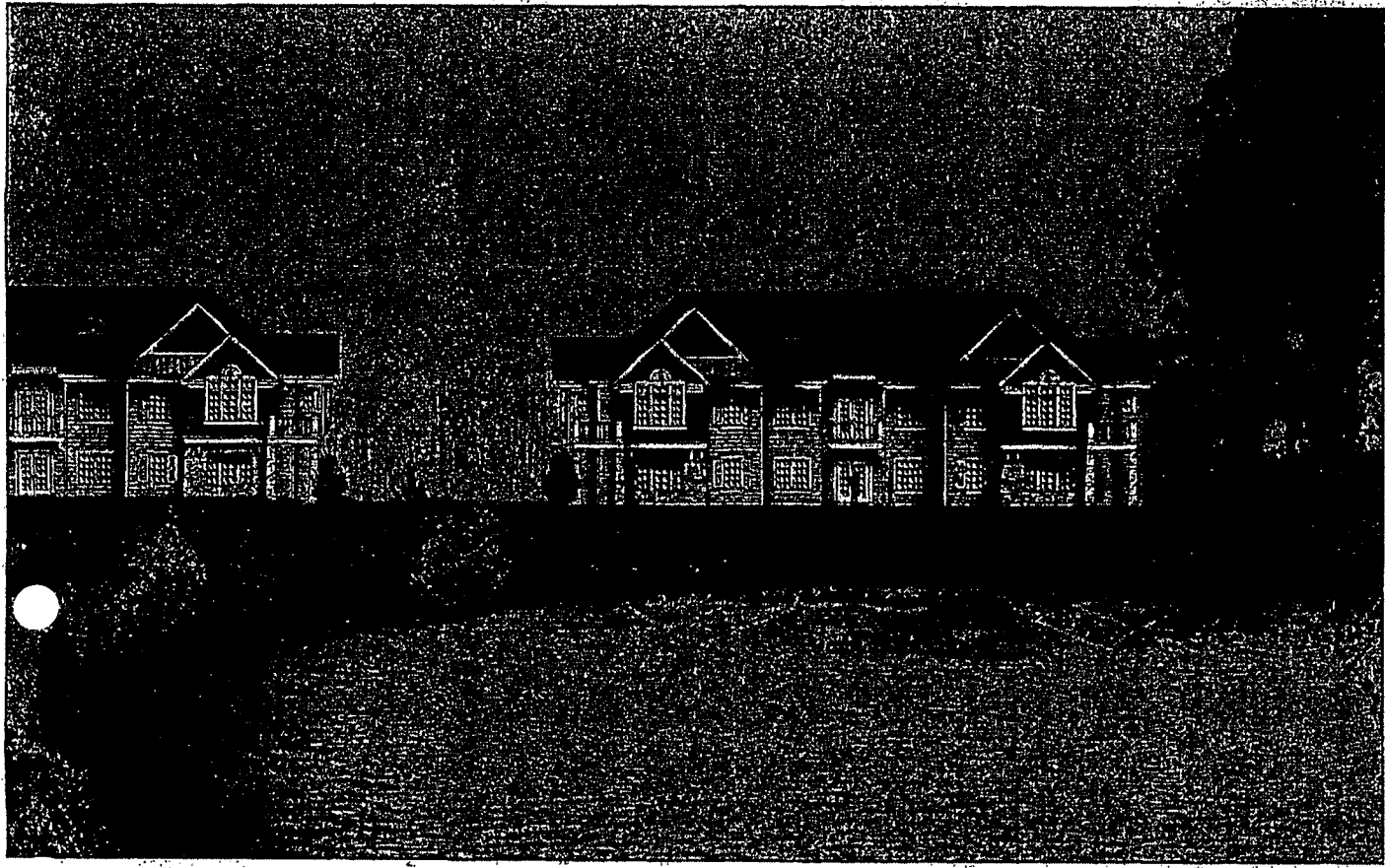
— Changed its bid for a ton of chlorine gas from Slack Chemical to JCI Jones. The original low bidder, Slack Chemical, was not able to deliver the gas in a safe manner, Runion said. JCI Jones, the next lowest bidder, will be paid only 10 cents more, he said;

— Waived a building-permit fee for a pavilion at St. Madeleine Sophie church;

— Accepted sewer and water infrastructure for the Aliberti

2006

as offers senior center for zone change



— Provided by Jeff Thomas

Lake front view from gazebo: This rendering of Jeff Thomas's proposed senior housing development on the former Bavarian Chalet site shows what the view will be if Thomas is allowed to build. In order to build the development, Thomas needs to receive a zoning change and a density variance. Thomas has offered the town of Guilderland a senior-citizen's center for public use if he is allowed to go forward with the project.

Knox. He is planning to build a senior-housing complex in the Hilltowns, in the hamlet of Berne.

Over a year ago, Thomas proposed a 72-unit senior-housing project, located on Brandle Road, just outside the Altamont Village line. The Guilderland Town Board quickly approved a rezoning for that project in the same

structural aspects would have to be cleared through those boards before the project could commence.

"Once appropriate density is determined by examining the environmental and site restraints, a final rezoning could be recommended based on that approved site plan," said Weston in her memo.

\$293,000 renovation of the bath house and pool apron at Tawasentha Park, \$97,450 for the creation of a passive park surrounding the former McKownville Reservoir property, and \$105,100 for the purchase of the "Battle of Normanskill" property.

"These are three projects we've been contemplating for a couple of years," Runion told *The Enterprise*. "We've been applying for the Normanskill property since the mid-1980's." According to Runion, the town wants the property, which is adjacent to Tawasentha Park, to keep as a

Department of Water and Wastewater Management;

— Appointed election machine custodians and representatives for the 2006 primary and general elections. Those named were evenly distributed between the Democratic and Republican parties;

— Approved the order and stipulation of settlement for two tax proceedings at 4770 Western Ave. and 3905 Carman Road; and

— Appointed Collin Gallup to the position of town park foreman. Runion applied to the Al-

'We're looking for housing for the common senior citizens'

Enterprise & Albany County Post

No. 22 - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2006

For 122 years Albany County's independent newspaper

Out of order?

State Trooper at Rville meeting

By Tyler Schuling
 RENSSELAERVILLE — Meetings have turned hostile at town hall in past months, with residents catcalling, yelling, and verbally attacking each other and the supervisor.

Last Thursday, at the behest of the supervisor, a State Trooper showed up just before the meeting's public comment period.

"I see we've got a cop here now in case democracy breaks out," said Jeff Pine, husband of Democratic Councilwoman Sherri Pine, and one of the town's assessors; he has been critical of Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg since he took office in January.

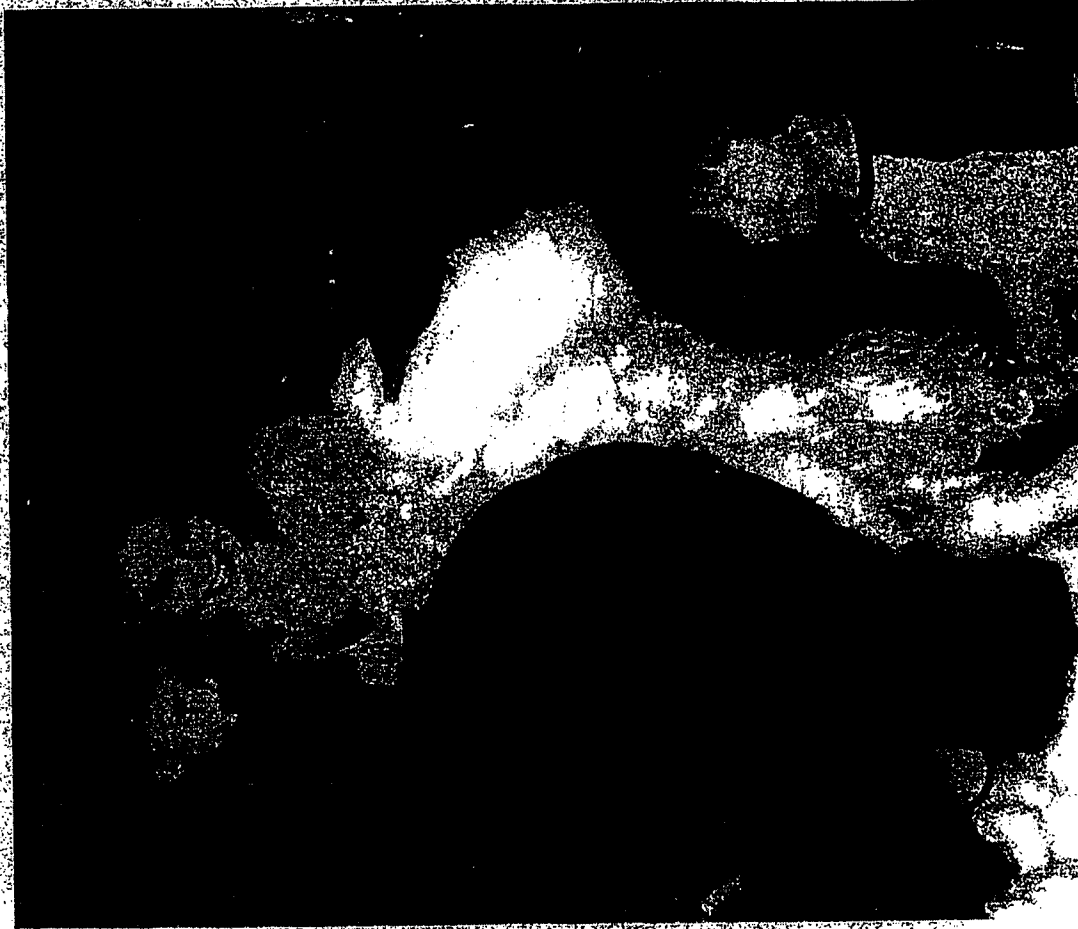
It was a measure to "keep order" in what has become a hostile environment, Nickelsberg told *The Enterprise* this week. The addition of the officer is also in response to the comments of concerned residents, he said.

Nickelsberg, a Republican who presides over a politically divided board, told *The Enterprise* this week that residents "many of them in the Democratic party," have contacted him and told him they no longer attend meetings because of audience "haranguing" and "bad behavior."

(Continued on Page 24)

One of the best

Merry Christmas



Free park

New use for old reservoir

By Jarrett Carroll
 GUILDERLAND — Next year, the land around the old McKownville reservoir will be a park thanks to a \$99,000 state grant; residents living in Guild-erland's west end may have municipal water, and, if they do, they'll be able to pay their bill through the town's website.

A new residential park, bringing water to the west end of town, and paying municipal bills on-line, rounded out the last town board meeting of the year on Tuesday.

The board unanimously authorized the supervisor to sign a contract with the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for a grant to turn the McKownville reservoir, which is a pond near Stevesant Plaza, into the McKownville Reservoir Park.

According to Supervisor Kenneth Runion, the \$99,000 grant was written by the town's economic development director, Donald Csaposs, and won't cost the town a dime.

With most state grants for a public works project, local municipalities have to match the funds of the grant. In this case, Runion said, the town is using the assessed value of the land, which is more than the \$99,000, as consideration for the grant instead of paying actual money.

(Continued on Page 26)

... Free park and more water for G'land

(Continued from page 1)

"The value of the land will substitute as the match instead of money," Runion said at the meeting. "It takes it out of the water system and puts in the parks department."

The money, he said, will go to developing walking trails and paths around the pond. There

Runion said the reason why the public hearing is set several months away is to ensure all of the analysis and final studies needed will be completed before submitting the final plans to the public.

The town board is the lead agency in the project and has authorized the retention of

needed is under the federal limit.

Runion said the April 3 hearing will be open to the public and allow residents to discuss any grievances over the final plans for the project.

Cash or credit?

The town board authorized the supervisor to contract with East Ink to establish a system for residents to pay municipal bills using credit cards, debit cards, and electronic checks.

The system, which will be available on the Internet, will eventually allow residents to pay all of their town bills on-line or at the Town Hall with the swipe of a card.

First Niagara Bank is sponsoring the system.

"It will be for all of the departments eventually. First, the receiver of taxes; then the courts, and eventually the rest," Runion said at the meeting. "We will be able to take payments over our newly-designed website as well as two terminals in Town Hall: one in the court and one upstairs."

Runion said that a link to a "secure site" from the town's website will ensure the safety of any transactions over the Internet.

'It's a wonderful Christmas present, Hanukkah present, and holiday gift all in one.'

will also be a footbridge, a pavilion, and some benches built on the land.

The area where Stuyvesant Plaza is today used to have several ponds before development, and is susceptible to flooding. Runion said the flooding that sometimes washes out Western Avenue will be dealt with separately.

Funding from the grant will only cover the development of the park and not flood control, the supervisor said. State Assemblyman John McEneny, who represents Guilderland, has been vocal in getting funding to control the flooding problem in the area.

The McKownville Neighborhood Improvement Association has for years pushed for the park designation.

"It's a wonderful Christmas present, Hanukkah present, and holiday gift all in one," the association's president, Donald Reeb told *The Enterprise* yesterday. Referring to the town's economic development director, he went on, "Don Caspess has done great things for the town and so has the board; we're very pleased."

Reeb said he can remember when the land now occupied by Stuyvesant Plaza was just a series of ponds.

"Before Stuyvesant Plaza, there was a series of ponds...After it got developed the ponds became less and less in number," said Reeb. "We've been fighting to save this pond ever since."

Reeb used the example of Buckingham Pond in Albany, just over the town line, east of McKownville near Western Avenue, for what he envisions for the McKownville Reservoir Park.

"Back in the '60's, it wasn't much to look at, but, little by little, it became the great little location it is today," said Reeb. "Hopefully, years from now the McKownville Pond will also get better and better."

Buckingham Pond is in a partially wooded site. A walking trail circles the pond and benches and picnic tables as well as a small playground are nearby. The Albany pond is also stocked with fish by the state's Department of Environmental Conservation and maintained by the city's department of general services.

"We can start in the spring and hopefully have it finished by the fall," Runion said about the McKownville Reservoir Park.

West end water

Plans to expand the town's municipal water system into the

Birchwood Archaeological Services to perform a required cultural resource assessment."

According to Ed Hernandez of Delaware Engineering, there will be a flat fee of \$457 per year to all residents living in the proposed water district.

Residents who want to hook up to the system will pay a one-time \$1,750 fee in addition to paying a usage fee for the water, Hernandez said.

Runion told *The Enterprise* yesterday that most of the residents in the area to be served

'We can start in the spring and hopefully have it finished by the fall.'

are in favor of bringing in water; he described the current water situation as "problematic."

Runion said in September that, "Chandler and Wagner roads are areas with very poor water."

Some are opposed, however.

Patti Percoski claims in a letter to *The Enterprise* editor this week that it is "unfair" to raise taxes for residents like herself who won't use the new water supply.

"I don't intend to 'hook up' to the line, and I didn't ask for it," writes Percoski. "Why, then, should I have to pay for it?"

Hernandez said the charge to residents not using the water is for bringing a municipal service into the area. He cited the example of a town road not used by everyone but still paid for with taxpayers money, and, he added, municipal water increases the value of property in an area simply by being available.

"It basically pays for the bonds on the water system for the area," said Hernandez of the \$457 fee. "Otherwise, you could never have water districts."

There will also be a \$9.87 increase for town residents currently using municipal water.

Attorney Dennis Feeney told the board the town does not need approval from the state comptroller for the bonding portion of the project because the amount

"It's all done through a secure website, not the town's website," he said.

Visa, Mastercard, and Discover cards will be accepted, but not American Express.

There will be a \$1.50 fee for all electronic checks and a credit-card fee will be charged to the customer. The credit card fee is proportional to the amount spent.

Runion said that the town court has been asking for a credit card system in order to expedite the payments of fines and fees that are imposed.

There will also be a desk with a computer available at Town Hall for residents to make payments on-line, said Runion.

"There's some convenience to it, like if it's the last day to make a tax payment and you can't make it down here," said Runion.

The board members voted unanimously in favor of the system.

Ending the session, Runion acknowledged that the meeting was the last of the year. The board unanimously canceled its Dec. 28 and Jan. 2 board meetings and set Thursday, Jan. 4, as the town's re-organizational meeting, at 7 p.m. in town hall.

"As this is the last meeting of the year, we want to wish everyone a happy holiday and a happy new year," said Runion.



Beat the Rising Cost of Home

...McKownville cellar break

(Continued from page 1)
crews have been investigating the drainage lines in that area, Supervisor Kenneth Runion said. In some places, clay-tile pipe is deteriorating with age, he said, but the town installed new drainage on Providence Street three or four years ago.

Within the next week, the McKownville Neighborhood Improvement Association will distribute questionnaires to resi-

Plant quoted from a contractor's recent estimate.

"It's not like a refrigerator going," she said. "It's a little over the top, budget-wise."

Added to the cost of fixing the foundation are things like rebuilding the fence that had been connected to the house; reseeding the yard that was torn up; and fixing the driveway, which the family had repaved last summer, said Plant.

"Bad things aren't supposed to happen to good people."

dents so that the town can gauge where the biggest problems are, Runion said. "This will tie in with what we're going to be doing at Stuyvesant Plaza," he said.

With a total of \$600,000 from the state's Office of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Transportation, a grant through Assemblyman John McEneny, and funds from Stuyvesant Plaza, Runion said, the town will dedicate the land around the McKownville reservoir as parkland and expand it to hold another half-million gallons of water, which is about what spills onto Route 20 during a 10-year flood.

The town is to pay for any additional costs, beyond \$600,000, Runion said, and the town's engineers don't expect that it will exceed \$100,000.

Since their insurance won't cover any of the cost, the Plants will likely have a bill between \$13,000 and \$15,000, Laura

"It's so much more than what you think," she added, after listing the related repairs.

Her family is grateful for the help it has gotten from friends and neighbors, Plant said. "Everybody's been great."

Lindsey Plant's cheerleading squad has organized to help the family, Plant said. And one parent has donated a week-long time-share to be raffled off at a fund-raiser that the McKownville Neighborhood Association has planned at Sutter's Mill restaurant on Aug. 24. Tickets for the party, which will be from 4 to 6 p.m., are \$10 and there is a Key Bank special deposit account in Ken and Laura Plant's name that is currently accepting donations.

Plant, who volunteers with The Fresh Air Fund and The Ride for Missing Children, said with a shake of her head, "Bad things aren't supposed to happen to good people."



A rush of mud and storms, leaving the fa-



Good Samaritan rescues