



SURROUNDED BY FRIENDS - Josephine "Jo" Ernstein celebrated her 93rd birthday on January first at her Conlon Road home with friends and family. Pictured are Jeanette, Allison, Hal, Aggie and Margie May of Boston. Jo taught French at Ithaca High School and was instrumental (thanks to the May family) as a teacher trainer, fund-raiser and advisor for more than 30 years in supporting a school for Haitian children who would not have otherwise received an education.

Editorial Corner

- The editorial column of the Lansing Community News is available to all community members for the courteous expression of varying points of view.

'96 Town Planning Board Report

During the 1996 business year the Lansing Planning Board has focused its attention on four basic areas of work.

The first area, of primary concern to most property owners who regularly do business with the Planning Board, is the area of subdivision management and regulation. This is where the Board functions as an administrative body to assure that subdivisions of property by individual landowners or developers follow the appropriate ordinances. During 1996, subdivisions of property in the Town of Lansing were few, compared to past years, probably as a result of a comparatively soft housing market in our area.

The second area is the review and upgrading or revision of existing subdivision regulations. Regulatory ordinances should be held up to an ongoing review process. At times, State ordinances and case law as well as new developments in planning methods, or even our new comprehensive plan document, will suggest revisions to existing Town regulations that will streamline the regulatory process and enable the Board and the Code Enforcement Officer to better serve the community.

As directed by the Town Board, we continued the work of rewriting the existing zoning ordinance. The Planning Board has been working on this project since the Comprehensive Plan was adopted. We have used input from the various "Lansing 2010" committees, resources from the New York Planning Federation, various community planning and land use ordinance specialists, the Tompkins County Health Department as well as work performed by the Town's own consultants *Planning and Environmental Resource Consultants* and *T.G. Miller, P.C.* (Engineering Division).

This work has been completed and is being reviewed by the Town Board in its draft form. After the Town board comments and the ordinance has undergone a legal review, public information meetings will be held leading up to a public hearing on the proposed ordinance changes. After the public hearing, the Town Board will act on the proposed changes.

The final area of work was coordina-

tion of planning in the Town of Lansing with the rest of the county, notably the continuation of our work on "paper roads." This will help us coordinate efforts with the county on regional transportation issues. We are also working with the county on waterfront development in conjunction with the N.Y.S. Barge Canal Comprehensive Plan, with two Planning Board members alternately acting on the planning committees.

For 1997, we expect to finish our immediate work with the zoning ordinance revisions following the Town Board's action. We will then continue with the on-going work of the Planning Board in other areas.

We expect a busy and productive year and continue to welcome public participation in the projects and attendance at all public meetings.

For the Town of Lansing Planning Board,

Larry Sharpsteen, Chair



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How Do You Finance An Education?

(Continued from page 1)

-rate folder with the deadlines written on the front. Send for the application using a #10 envelop with a stamped self addressed #9 envelope included. When the application arrives fill it out and return it paying attention to the deadline

This process is too complicated to leave entirely to the student's responsibility especially since they are already under a heavy school load and at the same time are dealing with college applications. It should be a family project which makes sense since any scholarship dollars received will be dollars

the family will not have to spend.

The chances of getting a scholarship vary from the CocaCola scholarships (122,000 applicants, 151 scholarships) to scholarships where maybe only ten students apply and they all get something. Certainly the scholarship never applied for is one that will never be awarded.

A neat, organized, timely, effort will help the student raise his or her chances of getting some help. There are millions of dollars awarded every year.

Useful Financial Aid Publications

The Scholarship Book by Daniel Cassidy, Prentice Hall (about \$22) A big thick book with lots of scholarships listed but with a lot of duplication and a not so great cross reference.

Chronicle Financial Aid Guide, Chronicle Guidance Publications available to read or borrow through the High School guidance office. Very good, complete and up to date. **Need a Lift? Educational Opportunities, Careers, Loans, Scholarships, Employment.** The American Legion National Emblem Sales, PO Box 1050, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

The guide costs \$2. and in it is a form and instructions to get the CACHE computerized scholarship search done. Cost about \$13. and worth it though much of this information is available on the internet scholarship search engines.

College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook, The College Board (about \$16) An

OK guide in printed form but much of this information is available at their web site.

America's Best College, US News and World Report - The controversial bible of college rankings. Who's telling the truth? But you probably should at least read it. Very accessible ranking information. About \$6. **Money Magazine College Guide Issue, September Issue** Money Magazine ranks colleges for value as well as quality. So SUNY Binghamton ranks #10 nationally, SUNY Albany is #15, SUNY Geneseo is #21 and the first Ivy League school to make an appearance is Yale at #25.

TIME/Princeton Review - The Best College for You - Some interesting articles and a unique Counselor-O-Matic system which allows you to rate your qualities against different schools. Might or might not be useful, but could be a good wake up call for someone reaching too far. \$6.

Helpful Internet Financial Aid Sites

[* = Sites have free scholarship search engines. They are as good or better than anything you get when you pay money for a scholarship search. With the exception of the CACHE scholarship search, I would advise you not to pay for scholarship information.

www.collegeboard.org (*) A site run by the College Board/ Educational Testing Service, known to many high school students as the organization from hell, with a lot of good information and the ExPAN scholarship search engine. Click on "scholarship search" at the site.

www.collegenet.com (*) A graphically "way cool" site with the Collegenet Mach 25 scholarship search engine and lots of other good information.

www.finaid.org (*) A site chock full of information and the Fastweb scholarship search engine. This site will give you a free scholarship mailbox where its computer will update scholarship searches for you periodically and you can check in with a password to see the results. This site also has the ExPAN and the Collegenet Mach 25 search engines.

www.rams.com/SRN/search.html (*) SRN Express scholarship search engine.

www.mit.edu:8001/people/cdemello/univ.html Christina Demello from MIT brings you a linked alphabetical list of 3000 college home pages.

www.salliemae.com From the people who make bonds out of college loans, a site

that has a lot of college loan and financial information.

www.collegeview.com A site with a lot of general information; might be useful.

www.metlife.com/lifeadv/brochures/college/docs/links.html A good list of "going-away-to-college" links.

You may also want to check out specific college home pages. Most colleges have good-to-great home pages. Use the MIT site or Collegenet site described above to get links to any college. Many colleges' home pages list college-specific scholarships or financial aid options not available (or listed) elsewhere.

Please let us know how you use this information and what other types of features can help your family.

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