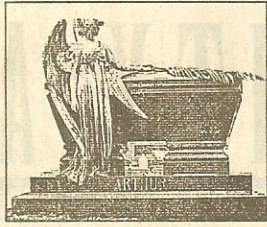


# CAPITAL REGION



Calendar  
Obituaries

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 20



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL P. FARRELL/TIMES UNION

**ALBANY COUNCILWOMAN** Carolyn McLaughlin, in front of a South End building proposed as the location of a halfway house rejected in more affluent Pine Hills, says the plans send a wrong message to the neighborhood.

## No warm welcome for halfway house

Councilwoman says facility rejected by Pine Hills doesn't belong in South End, either

By **JORDAN CARLEO-EVANGELIST**  
Staffwriter

ALBANY — A plan to put a halfway house for federal inmates in a former South End convent is stoking anger in one of the city's poorest neighborhoods, which some fear has become a dumping ground for programs other neighborhoods won't tolerate.

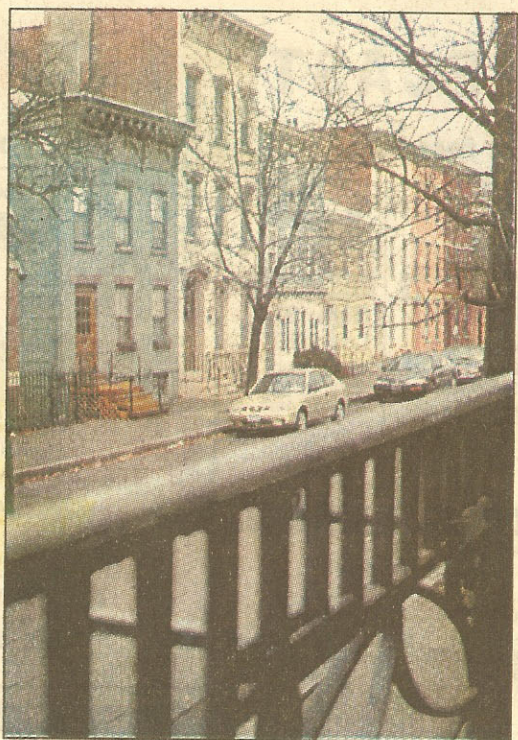
Volunteers of America has asked the city Board of Zoning Appeals to let it turn the former convent across

from St. John's/St. Anne's Church on Fourth Avenue into a 36-bed "re-entry facility" for convicts in the final months of their sentences.

The red brick building at Fourth Avenue and Franklin Street, which still has stained-glass windows, was sold by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany this fall to a Florida man after the parish opened a new outreach center across the street.

The South End has had a similar facility for more than a decade, less than a half-mile away on Elizabeth Street. But with Horizon Center's multimillion-dollar contract with the federal Bureau of Prisons for that location due to expire,

Please see **ANGER C5** ►



**THE PORCH** of the former convent on Fourth Avenue offers a view down Franklin Street.