



# Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

April 2007

445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054  
518.439.4955

[www.townofbethlehem.org](http://www.townofbethlehem.org)

## Town Board

Terri Egan, Supervisor  
Dan Plummer, Board Member  
Sam Messina, Board Member  
Kyle Kotary, Board Member  
Joann Dawson, Board Member

## April Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

### Planning Board

Tuesday, April 3, 7:00 p.m.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 4, 7:00 p.m.

### CACC

Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

### Town Board

Wednesday, April 11, 5:30 p.m.

### Industrial Development Agency

Tuesday, April 17, 8:00 a.m.

### Planning Board

Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

### Development Planning Committee

Thursday, April 19, 10:00 a.m.

### Waterfront Advisory Committee

Tuesday, April 24, 5:00 p.m.

### Town Board

Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 p.m.

For agendas, please see:

[www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/agenda/agenda.asp](http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/agenda/agenda.asp)

## From the Supervisor

Dear Residents-

After not having to plow for over a year, we received a year's snow in a month's time! Getting ready for a storm is a challenge for the Town Highway Department and to see what the "night before" looks like, [click on this link](#). Most of the Town Departments are space challenged and bursting at the seams. As a result, the Town commissioned a [Facility Needs Assessment](#) which was presented at the Town Board meeting on March 14th.



It's been an exciting month with official new business openings at Staples, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, and Panera Bread. Recognizing the need to continue expanding our commercial and business tax base, at the March 14 Board meeting, the Town Board moved to engage a consultant to help market our Town so that we can attractively represent the Town's attributes. In conjunction with the [Bethlehem IDA](#), we will be moving forward to solicit community compatible business to help more evenly distribute the tax burden among residents and business.

In accordance with the Comprehensive Plan's directive to consider a recreational trail system, the Town Board was presented with the proposed [Slingerlands Pedestrian Network](#). The CACC ([Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation](#)) will also be creating a comprehensive town wide listing of recreation and conservation locations that should be available before summer.

The [Route 9W advisory group](#) held a public meeting on March 22nd to specifically discuss Selkirk by-pass alternatives and the WAC ([Waterfront Advisory Committee](#)) held two forums in March to address development and conservation opportunities in the waterfront corridor.

In April, we should see some significant changes in the [Route 85 corridor](#). Construction started on the expansion last week and there is a projected completion date of Summer 2008.

As you can see, there is a tremendous amount of activity occurring in and around Town. If you have questions about anything in this e-newsletter or anything else related to Town activities, please do not hesitate to contact me. Enjoy April and hopefully there will not be too many April showers!

**Terri Egan**



## Economic Development and Planning News

### New Scotland Road Hamlet Master Plan

One of the goals of [the Town's Comprehensive Plan](#) is to develop a Hamlet Master Plan for the area along New Scotland Road, between the Captain Timothy J. Moshier Memorial Highway (former Cherry Avenue Extension) and Mahar Road. A design charette was held over a 2-day period this past September where over 100 Town residents and interested individuals shared their thoughts and ideas. The goal of this planning effort was to develop a blueprint showing how this portion of New Scotland Road could look as a traditional, pedestrian friendly, mixed use town center where residents could live, eat, shop, stay and play. To view the alternatives that were developed so you can see what the Town's consultants created go to <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/EcoDevPlan/edpPlanning.asp#HamletStudies>

### Glenmont Town Center

Marshall's is coming to Bethlehem! Interior and exterior work is moving forward on Marshall's in Bethlehem Town Center. The store is expected to open for business by late spring or early summer this year.

### Bethlehem Town Center II

Construction is substantially complete and tenants have started to occupy the new building at Bethlehem Town Center II on Route 9W. Panera Bread opened for business in February. Staples and 5 Guys (gourmet hamburgers) opened in March with additional tenants due to open for business in the next couple of months.

### Flags and Flowers Needs Your Help

Your help is needed. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, banners and baskets of flowers will again be decorating the Delaware Avenue corridor in Delmar's business district. The [Flags and Flowers](#) Committee volunteers are working to enhance the appearance of this historic area. This year's goal is to raise \$8,000 and we hope we can count on you to help. Bethlehem belongs to all of its citizens and we appreciate your interest in helping to keep our town a safe and wonderful place to live and work.

### Public Meeting Presentations Now on Web

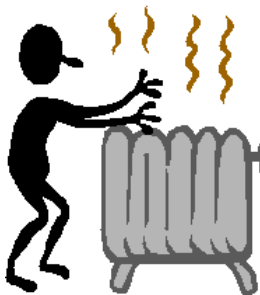
Presentations at Public Meetings will now be posted on the Town's web site. The presentations (for example, PowerPoint slides) will be posted on the Minutes section of the web site and will be listed directly under the presentations' related meeting minutes.



Trout season begins April 1, 2007 - please check that you have a current fishing license which can be obtained at the [Town Clerk's Office](#)

### Home Energy Assistance Program (H.E.A.P.)

H.E.A.P. Application Assistance available for **all** Albany County residents **regardless of age** on the following dates:  
Monday April 9th  
(Appointments preferred, but not required)



The Home Energy Assistance Program helps individuals on fixed or low incomes (approximately \$1,764 per month for 1 individual or \$2,307 for 2 individuals) with energy related bills. Lora Ricketts, with Cornell Cooperative Extension, will be available to assist you with H.E.A.P. applications in Room 110 of Bethlehem Town Hall from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Appointments are preferred but not required.

Please bring all of the following:

- Income:** Proof of all household income for 4 most recent weeks
- Address:** Rent receipt, or lease, or mortgage, or water-sewer bill
- Household Composition:** Social Security Card for all applicants, Birth Certificate for children under 6
- Fuel/Utility Bill:** Most recent fuel or utility bill, or statement from landlord if utilities included in rent
- Resources:** (For emergency applications only) Statement claiming zero resources, bank statement showing current balance, IRA's on day you apply

**If you are age 60 or over,** Outreach workers Jane Sanders or Will Vail are available to assist you with H.E.A.P applications Monday through Friday by appointment. To schedule an appointment, call 439-4955, option #4

### Did You Know?

On the second Tuesday of every month, the Bethlehem Police Department hosts a free child safety seat inspection and/or installation at the Delmar Fire House, 145 Adams Street, Delmar from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 439-9973.



### Department of Public Works News

#### **NOTICE**

#### **WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM 2007**

**AREA #1 – 4/9 to 4/20**  
**Slingerlands, North Bethlehem,**  
**Town of New Scotland**  
**AREA #2 – 4/17 to 5/4**  
**Delmar, Elsmere**  
**AREA #3 – 5/1 to 5/18**  
**Glenmont, Selkirk**

*Some discoloration may be seen during this flushing program, which could result in staining of laundry.  
Run water until it clears before doing laundry*



#### **If you haven't done so yet, by law, you must report all wild animals you own, possess or harbor**

Under Chapter 680 of the Laws of 2002 enacted [General Municipal Law Section 209-cc](#), requires the annual reporting of the presence of [wild animals](#). Each person owning, possessing or harboring a [wild animal](#) as set forth in Section 209-cc must [report](#) its presence to the Municipal Clerk's office on or before April 1 of each year. The form for reporting is available at <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/fire/pdfs/WARF.pdf>. For more information, call [the Town Clerk's office](#).



### Parks and Recreation Department News

#### **Spring Program Registration**

A separate one-month registration has been added for the Adult Water Workout and Lunchtime Lap Swim programs. For program details or to register for either of these classes, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 439-4955 option 3 or download our registration form at the [Community News portion of the Town web site](#)

Other spring programs that will be starting in April include Resist-a-Ball and Self-Defense. Please call for programs details and registration or visit <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2007WinterSpring.pdf>.

#### **Registration for Camp Whatablast has Begun**

You can access a camp registration flyer by clicking the following link: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2007CampWhatablast.pdf> Flyers are also available at the Park Office. Camp begins June 25 and runs until August 10, register for as many weeks as you want. Camp Whatablast is held daily from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Elsmere School. Camp Whatablast is inspected twice a season by the Albany County Department of Health.

#### **SCREAMS - Great Escape, April 27**

This event is open to all Middle School age students who reside in the Town of Bethlehem or Bethlehem Central School District. Flyers will be distributed through the school and posted on the town website in the first week of April. For the complete SCREAMS schedule visit: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/news/showParksCal.asp>

#### **Summer Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteer applications are currently being accepted for summer programs. Applicants are required to be at minimum entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade. All volunteers are giving extra consideration when applying for future employment with the Parks and Recreation Department. Pick up an application at the park office or download it at: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/Parks/2007ParksVolunteerApp.pdf>

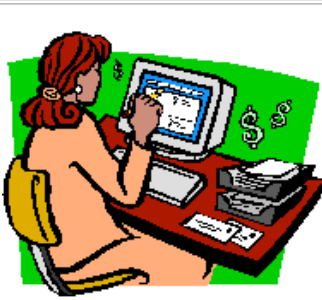


Saturday, April 14 is [Garden Day](#) at the Town Compost Facility, bring a shovel and containers for FREE compost and wood chips

Saturday, April 21; Get rid of your old computers, televisions, VCRs, room air conditioners and more at the [WNYT Earth Day Electronics and Air Conditioner Collection](#) at Taft Furniture; coupon required

Sunday, April 22 is Earth Day





**Computerized Payments**

People making tax or water payments through their home computer and associated bank should be reminded that most of the payment envelopes do not have a US postmark. The US postmark proves the timeliness of a payment. If those payments are received after the due date, and without a US postmark, a late fee must be levied per New York State Law. Some homeowners tell us that early in the month they will use the payment system from their home computer and hope that the check arrives before the deadline. To avoid paying the penalty, please write your own check and mail your payment by regular US mail or pay in person by the due date. With this knowledge, hopefully you will never have to pay a penalty. For more details, please call Nancy Mendick, [Receiver of Taxes](#) at 439-4955, ext 1177.

2007 Dog Park permits are now on sale at the [Town Clerk's Office](#) - \$30 per dog, senior citizens pay \$15; replacement tags are \$5 each



**Did You Know?**

- If you have a question that may pertain to Town government or operations, you can visit our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) on our web site to look for quick references.



**We'd like to hear from you**

Let us know what you think of this newsletter. Please use the feedback form on the Town's web site, [www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/about/contact.asp](http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/about/contact.asp)

You are receiving this e-mail because you have subscribed to our e-newsletter. If you wish to be taken off our monthly mailing, click here to [unsubscribe](#).

Town of Bethlehem | 445 Delaware Avenue | Delmar | NY | 12054

web: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org>