



# Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

April 2008

445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054  
518.439.4955

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

## Town Board

Jack Cunningham, Supervisor  
Joann Dawson, Board Member  
Mark Hennessey, Board Member  
Kyle Kotary, Board Member  
Sam Messina, Board Member

## April Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

### Planning Board

Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

### Town Board

Wednesday, April 9, 6:00 p.m.

### 20/20 Advisory Committee

Friday, April 11, 7:45 a.m.  
at the Elsmere Fire Dept.

### CACC

Monday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

### Planning Board

Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.

### Development Planning Committee

Thursday, April 17, 10:00 a.m.

### Industrial Development Agency

Tuesday, April 22, 8:00 a.m.

### Town Board

Wednesday, April 23, 6:00 p.m.

### IDA - Public Hearing

Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m.

For agendas, please see:

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

With the arrival of Spring, here are some "green" ideas:

### Saturday, April 12 is Garden Day at the Town Compost Facility

Bring a shovel and containers for FREE compost and wood chips at the [Town's Compost Facility](#) located at 1244 Feura Bush Road (Route 32), beyond Elm Avenue Park, Selkirk from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (town permit required.)

### Community Clean-Up Days Begin April 19

To volunteer, please [visit our web site](#) or call 439-4955, extension 1164.

### Tuesday, April 22 is Earth Day

<http://www2.earthday.net/~earthday/>

### Friday, April 25 is Arbor Day

Arbor Day is a nationally-celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. Founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1872, [National Arbor Day](#) is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April.

### WNYT Earth Day Electronics and Air Conditioner Collection, April 26



From 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Taft Furniture, 1960 Central Avenue (1 mile west of Route 155), you can drop off your computers, televisions and more for recycling. In order to participate in the 5th Annual Capital Region Collection sponsored by WNYT, Advanced Recovery, Inc., NYSEDA, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and other sponsors, you will need a coupon. For more information or to get a coupon, Town of Bethlehem residents may call the Town's Recycling Coordinator at 439-4955, extension 1510 from 8:00 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday. Bring the equipment loose. Recycle boxes, throw away foam blocks please!

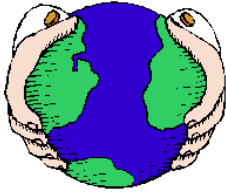
DATE and TIME: Saturday, April 26, 2008. 7:00 am to 1:00 pm (sharp)  
PLACE: Taft Furniture, 1960 Central Ave., 1 mile west of Route 155  
ACCEPTABLE ITEMS: Computers + computer parts, Televisions (NO CONSOLES), Telephones, VCRs, Room Air Conditioners



### Town Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Computer Recycling Day, May 3



Each spring, the Town holds a [household hazardous waste \(HHW\) and computer recycling collection day](#). Residents can bring unwanted paints, thinners and solvents, unused pesticides and lawn chemicals, as well as properly bagged asbestos, used fluorescent tubes and outdated computers and their components. Residents who attend this program must bring proof of residency such as a driver's license or current tax bill. Please make sure all lids are secure and cans and bottles or containers are in boxes to prevent spills. Do not smoke near chemicals or leave these products in a hot, unventilated vehicle for an extended period of time.



DATE and TIME: Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., rain or shine

PLACE: Town Highway Garage, 74 Elm Avenue East, Selkirk

### **Compost Facility Opened Monday, March 31**

Compost and wood chips available. Yard waste accepted. See the [Compost Facility page](#) on the Town's web site for more information.

### **More Recycling Ideas**

[The Town's Recycling Coordinator](#) has a [Donating Reusables brochure](#) listing organizations that welcome donations of good, reusable appliances, furniture, clothing, books, toys, eyeglasses, hearing aids and more. Copies of the brochure are available at all town facilities or [by clicking here](#).

Proper disposing of home "sharps" (needles, syringes and lancets) is available through St. Peter's Hospital (525-1163), Albany County Nursing Home (869-2231 x240) or Albany Medical Center (262-8000).

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension Announces Healthy Lawns, Healthy Water Classes**

Growing a lawn you can love while protecting water quality and the environment will be the theme for Healthy Lawns, Healthy Water. Proper lawn care can positively impact water quality and the environment. This class will address some of the most common lawn problems and what you can do about them using the most environmentally-friendly methods available. Each participant will receive a free lawn care packet containing information on how to maintain a healthy lawn without polluting our watersheds. You are welcome to attend any of these **FREE** programs, not just the one in your county. You do not have to be a resident of Rensselaer, Schenectady or Albany County to attend. This program is **FREE** to the public, but pre-registration for planning purposes is appreciated. Walk ins welcome. Call Cornell Cooperative Extension at (518) 272-4210 to pre-register or for more information.

**7:00 to 8:30 PM, Thursday Evening, April 10**, at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County's offices, 61 State St., Troy, NY

**9:30 to 11:30 AM, Saturday Morning, April 12**, at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County's Education Center, Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY

**7:00 to 8:15 PM, Monday Evening, April 21**, at Niskayuna Branch Library 2400 Nott St. East, Niskayuna, NY 12309

## **Department of Public Works News**



### **NOTICE**

**WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM  
2008**

**AREA #1 – 4/7 to 4/21**

**Slingerlands, North Bethlehem, Town of New Scotland**

**AREA #2 – 4/16 to 5/7**

**Delmar, Elsmere**

**AREA #3 – 5/5 to 5/23**

**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***



TOWN of **Bethlehem** *Economic Developments*

and keep up with economic development in the Town.

In conjunction with the Bethlehem IDA and the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Bethlehem, NY has initiated a monthly electronic bulletin to communicate information related to economic development activity in the Town. [E-mail subscribers](#) will receive regular monthly bulletins-and special edition bulletins-that contain timely and newsworthy economic development news. [Subscribe](#)



Job Postings (2)



**Stormwater Management Engineer**

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a Stormwater Management Engineer. Candidate should have knowledge of the principles and practices of engineering and construction, specifically as it relates to the design and construction of stormwater management facilities. Please send your cover letter and resume **by April 4, 2008**. For more information, please see the Human Resources page on the Town's web site at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/depServices/comptroller.asp#HumanResources> or call (518) 439-4955, extension 1127.

**SCADA Specialist**

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a SCADA Automation specialist. Candidate should have knowledge of the principles and practices of Information Systems and/ or Industrial Automation. Knowledge of support custom Citect Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) servers is preferred but not required. Please send your cover letter and resume **by April 11, 2008**. For more information, please see the Human Resources page on the Town's web site at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/depServices/comptroller.asp#HumanResources> or call (518) 439-4955, extension 1127.

**Assessment Alert**

“WHY PAY FOR SOMETHING YOU CAN DO FOR FREE?”

As a homeowner, you may grieve your assessment yourself directly with our Assessor's office. Our [Online Assessment Roll System](#) can be found on the Town's web site within the [Assessor's department page](#). This information will help you compare your assessment with other similar properties. You can then fill out the [forms provided on-line](#) by the New York State Office of Real Property Services and file your grievance directly with our Assessor's office anytime prior to, or on, May 27th. If after the Assessor's review and decision you are still not satisfied with your assessment, you still have time to explore other options. Please note, if you do not have access to a computer, the Assessor's Office provides a free, public PC to those wishing to use the Online Assessment Roll System.

**Mark your calendars**



Albany County is sponsoring a Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Elm Avenue Park, 261 Elm Avenue, Delmar on Tuesday, June 3. Immunization of cats and ferrets is scheduled from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. and dogs from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Donation is \$5.00 per animal. All pets must be on leashes or in carriers, a record of prior vaccination will be required for a three year immunization - if no record is presented, a one year vaccination certification will be issued, all clinics are open to any Albany County resident. For more information including additional clinics, please visit [Albany County's Department of Health web site](#).



**Did You Know?**



**What is Outreach?**

Senior Services Outreach workers are social workers trained to work with older adults and their families regarding issues related to the aging process. Outreach Workers are aware of the various programs and services available to you as you age. If you have questions about community resources, the Outreach workers are available by telephone, in the office by appointment or they can visit you at your home. For more information, please call 439-4955, option 4.

**Senior Services News**

**April is National Volunteer Month**

National Volunteer Week, April 23rd through April 29th, is a special time set aside to honor the people who donate their time, talent and energy to their community. It is also meant to raise awareness of the vital contribution volunteers make.

Bethlehem Senior Services staff wishes to say a special **thank you to Bethlehem Senior Volunteers** for making a positive impact on our community!

**Health and Wellness Series**

This program includes a lunch-out component available by signup in person in the senior office or by telephone at 439-4955, extension 1176. All programs in the Health and Wellness Series are sponsored by Bethlehem Senior Services, Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. and supported by the Albany County Department for Aging, the New York State Office for the Aging and the Administration on Aging. The programs are FREE and are held from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at the Bethlehem Town Hall.

"Low Fat Cooking", April 4 - Learn how to cook and bake delicious food without the fat. The program is a hands-on workshop in which you can participate and enjoy seeing how to bake and to cook foods without fat. There will be samples of recipes of low fat foods that you can take home.



To see all of the interesting activities, events, programs and services provided by Town's Senior Services department, pick up a copy of the bi-monthly Senior Services newsletter at the Senior Services Department, Room 110 at the Town Hall, on Senior Services transportation vehicles or on the Town's web site at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/depServices/seniorServices.asp#Brochures>.

## Parks and Recreation Department News

### Colonial Acres Season Passes and Punch Cards!

Season Passes and Punch Cards are now available for golf at Colonial Acres during the 2008 season. For a season pass complete the application by clicking on the following link and returning it to the Park office:  
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2008GolfCourseSeasonPassApplication.pdf>



Punch cards are also available for \$120 and are good for 10 rounds!

Watch the town website for course opening information in early April. For more information call or visit the Park office, 439-4955 option 3.

### Summer Program Information Coming Soon!

The *Bethlehem Report* containing our entire summer program, pool pass, golf course, and special event information will be mailed to all Bethlehem residents in late April. Watch for great changes this summer including:

- Tiny Tot Swim now open to 3 year olds!

New *Camp Adventure* for grades 4-7 will replace Camp Whatablast and feature a home base at Elm Avenue Park and more field trips!

### SCREAMS

#### Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School

These events are 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. For the complete SCREAMS schedule visit:

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/parks/parksPgms.asp#SCREAMS>



### 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/2008ParksVolunteerApp.pdf>



#### **Did You Know?**



The [Trolley Tours](#) have been so popular, another tour date has been added. There are now two dates remaining, Sunday, April 6 and Sunday, April 27 from 12:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is still time to take a tour, have lunch and learn about the historical significance of our town.

**News from BEMO**  
**Bethlehem Emergency Management Office**

**Special Needs Registry Program**

This program is designed to assist the special needs community during an emergency that requires an evacuation within Albany County. Registrants must be physically unable to evacuate themselves from their residence without assistance. [Applicant information](#) will be entered into the County's E-911 system for retrieval during an emergency.

**National Grid Company - Life Support/Critical Care Program**

*A listing of persons who would be at risk during extended power outages or evacuations.*

**Life Support/Critical Care** is a program available to National Grid customers who submit written documentation from their physician confirming that they or another member of the household requires electrically operated "life sustaining" medical equipment to maintain life. Examples of such life support medical equipment are:

- Apnea monitors
- Kidney dialysis devices
- Continuous ventilation devices
- Suction/aspiration equipment

Once National Grid receives written medical certification from the physician the company will conduct a home visit to verify the medical status and contact information. Once completed, National Grid will then take steps within its system to appropriately identify the customer's meter, the Customer Services System database and the company's Storm Board Operations and Regional Control Operations database, called NewLife. All Life Support customers are notified on a regular basis to verify correct program information and continued need.

For information and/or enrollment in National Grid Life Support program call: **1-800-932-0301**

**Tax Office Information**

**Drop Box at Town Hall**

Receiver of Taxes Nancy Mendick of the Bethlehem Tax Office has added another option for paying in person - but without the wait. A Drop Box is available for tax and water payments. This drop box is located by the bicycle rack, near the playground of the Town Hall at 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar.

Payments can be deposited in this secure drop box 24 hours a day. You can stop by after work and early in the morning to deposit your payments in the drop box. Please follow these guidelines:

1. Absolutely **NO cash** payments will be accepted.
2. The box will be emptied daily and at 5:00 pm on the due date. Any payments placed in the box after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will be subject to the penalty.
3. Payments should be placed in an envelope. Please put your property location or account identification number on your check.

Avoid the lines and save the stamp. Please contact Nancy Mendick, Receiver of Taxes, at (518) 439-4955, extension 1177, for any questions or concerns.

**From the New York State Department of Transportation**



The Variable Message Boards on Cherry Ave. Extension (Route 140) and Route 85 currently informing the traveling public of work to begin April 7th, refer to the second year of construction of the Slingerlands Bypass Project. Last year's work focused on the new Route 85 alignment along with four (4) new Roundabouts. This year's work, which will begin in early April, will focus along New Scotland Road and with the reconstruction of Maher Road (between New Scotland Road and Route 85). Around the middle of May, the NYS DOT will overlay the existing bridge deck over the Normans Kill in the East Bound direction of Route 85.

Please note, **this is a STATE construction project** and, as such, all inquiries should be directed there. Please see <https://www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/regional-offices/region1/contacts> for contact information.

**Albany County News**

A Real Property auction will be held on Saturday, April 12. The auction and all information regarding it, including properties, is handled by [the Division of Finance within the Albany County](#) Department of Management and Budget.



Each year the Albany County Youth Bureau hosts the [Youth Recognition Awards](#), an exciting initiative designed to recognize students who have overcome adversity and demonstrated positive development. This year, ten middle and high school students will be recognized. Nominations are due by **May 2, 2008**. You can get more information including a nomination form by going to the [Albany County web site](#).



Foster and Adoption Families Needed! For more information go to the [Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families web site](#).



**REMINDER:** Every year, the town has a "NO PARKING" ordinance that begins on November 1 and continues through **April 15**. The law prohibits vehicles from parking on town streets and highways between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Vehicles parked in violation of the "NO PARKING" ordinance may be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense.



**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)

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