



Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

May 2008

445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054
518.439.4955

www.townofbethlehem.org

Town Board

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



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



Bicycle Day and Rodeo, Saturday, May 10

From 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Elm Avenue Park



Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 11



Community Clean-Up Day, Saturday, May 17

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



Town Offices Closed, Monday, May 26

Observance of Memorial Day

Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 26

Kick off at 11:00 a.m.



Property Assessment Grievance Day, Tuesday, May 27



Pool Passes may be Obtained Beginning May 27 - EVERYONE needs a NEW pool pass

The new pool pass management system means that ALL residents will need a NEW pool pass for 2008! **Avoid the long lines on hot, sticky days and get your passes early!**



Albany County Rabies Immunization Clinic at Elm Avenue Park, Tuesday, JUNE 3



Town Park Pool Complex Opens, Saturday, JUNE 7

May Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

Planning Board

Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.

20/20 Advisory Committee

Friday, May 9, 7:30 a.m.
at the Elsmere Fire Dept.

Town Board

Wednesday, May 14, 6:00 p.m.

Development Planning Committee

Thursday, May 15, 10:00 a.m.

Open Space Plan Public Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 7:00 p.m.

Industrial Development Agency

Tuesday, May 20, 8:00 a.m.

Planning Board

Tuesday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m.

Town Offices Closed

Monday, May 26

Town Board

Wednesday, May 28, 6:00 p.m.

Noise Ordinance Task Force Public Meeting

Thursday, May 29, 7:00 p.m.

For agendas, please see:

www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/agenda/agenda.asp

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

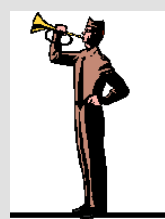
Some discoloration may be seen during this flushing program, which could result in staining of laundry.

Run water until it clears before doing laundry



All Town offices will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day

The annual **Memorial Day parade** will kick off at 11:00 a.m. at the Elsmere Fire House and will proceed down Elsmere Avenue to a right on to Kenwood Avenue to a left on to Adams Place to a right on to Adams Street to a right on to Delaware Avenue and will end with a ceremony at the [Bethlehem Veterans Memorial Park](#)



Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Computer Recycling Day, Saturday, May 3



Each spring, the Town of Bethlehem 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 florescent tubes, and outdated computers and their components.

Household Hazardous Waste and Computer Recycling Collection Day will take place on Saturday, May 3, 2008, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Town Highway Garage, 74 Elm Avenue East, Selkirk, rain or shine.



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. For your safety please remain in your vehicle. Workers will unload the wastes. For more information, contact the Town's Recycling Coordinator at 439-4955, extension 1510, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon or see [2008 Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Computer Recycling Day Information](#)

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

Proper disposal 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).

For up-to-date recycling and waste reduction information, watch for articles and advertisements in the *Spotlight* and *News Herald* newspapers and on *TV Channel 18*, Bethlehem's public access cable station.



Did You Know?



Did you know that if every household in America replaced ONE incandescent light bulb with an Energy Star CFL (Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb) light bulb that it would, in one year, reduce green house gas emissions by the equivalent of 800,000 cars?

Because they contain small amounts of mercury, CFL bulbs should not be placed in your regular trash. Rather, you should hold on to them and recycle them at [periodic household hazardous waste collections](#).



Property Assessment Grievance Day Tuesday, May 27, 2007

HOURS

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon AND 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION

Town Hall Auditorium
445 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

The Tentative Assessment Roll will available in the [Assessor's Office](#), Room 114 at Town Hall and will be filed on May 1st

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Telephone: 518-439-4955, ext. 1101

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 21st 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday May 17th 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon



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](#)

Open Space Plan Public Orientation Meeting – May 15, 2008 7:00 p.m.



The Department of Economic Development and Planning, in association with the Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation (CACC), will hold a public orientation meeting to kick-off the development of the Open Space Plan on May 15, 2008 at 7PM at the Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. Phase 1 of the Open Space Plan entails identifying the needs and issues of the community regarding Open Space. Behan Planning Associates LLC, a consulting firm



experienced with open space planning in the Capital Region, will facilitate the community discussion. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the community to define open space, establish a vision, and identify opportunities and needs. All interested parties are strongly encouraged to attend

Senior Services News

"Legal Checklists" presented by Attorney Margaret Z. Reed

On Friday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library, this program will include information about health care decision making, guardianship issues, wills and probate. This program includes a lunch-out component available by signup in person in the senior office or by telephone at 439-4955, extension 1176. Cost for the program - donations are accepted.

Family members, caregivers and friends who are concerned with issues facing elderly relatives, friends or neighbors are urged to join us for a series of presentations on health care choices, Medicaid and Hospice services. The presentations will be presented by aging specialists and will be held at the Bethlehem Public Library Community Room from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Setting Your Course: What Older Adults Should Know about Health Care Choices, Tuesday, May 6

Change is a part of life, but changes in your health and health care can be complex. The Capital District Senior Issues Forum developed this printed guide and slide presentation to provide guidelines, answer key questions and help you understand some of the choices you may face.

Medicaid: What's It All About?, Tuesday, May 13

Growing old at home is the ideal but sometimes it's not possible, and long-term care may be needed. Learn about accessing Medicaid benefits for the payment of nursing home care or long-term care in your own home, including eligibility requirements and the application process.

Facts and Myths about Hospice Services, Tuesday, May 20

Hospice is more about living than dying. . . Community Hospice has many services to offer to its patients and families. Come to this presentation to learn about hospice services, such as nursing, respite care, massage therapy and bereavement counseling.

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> .

Sunday, May 11 is Mothers' Day



Did You Know?



Approximately 85% of bottled water containers never get recycled and end up as litter or in our landfills.

(source: <http://health.usnews.com/usnews/health/articles/070726/26petplastic.htm>)

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 for the 2008 season. For a season pass, complete the application by clicking on the following link and returning it to the Park office or Colonial Acres:

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2008GolfCourseSeasonPassApplication.pdf>



A photo MUST be taken for each member on the pass.

Punch cards are also available for \$120 and are good for 10 rounds! 18-hole daily rates are \$13 weekdays and \$15 weekends/holidays. For more information call or visit the Park office, 439-4955 option 3 or visit the [Colonial Acres web page](#) on the Town's web site.

Summer Program Registration!

Summer program registration has already begun for some programs. Please review the important registration dates and deadlines listed below. Remember, your best chance to get into a desired program is to submit your registration by the lottery drawing date. To view the Summer Brochure visit and obtain a registration form go to:

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2008Summer.pdf>

April 14: Adult Tennis Lessons and Softball 50+...REGISTER NOW!

May 13: General program registration lottery drawing.

May 21: Phone and in-person registration will begin for all programs.

Bike Expo

Saturday, May 10, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



This event is dedicated to safety and fun. Activities include a bike rodeo, bike inspections, bike licenses, bike sales and assorted vendors with give-a-ways. There will also be a chance to win a new bike when you participate in the Bike Rodeo! This special event is co-sponsored by the Bethlehem Police Youth Bureau.



SCREAMS - Rock and Bowl at Del Lanes, Saturday, May 17, 2-4 p.m. 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 8th 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?



Vehicles and bicyclists in a roundabout have right-of-way over vehicles entering or exiting the roundabout.



From the Bethlehem Police Department



As you may already be aware, construction in the Route 85 area in Slingerlands restarted on Monday 4/7. This is going to intensify and be divided into three phases for the 2008 season:

PHASE 1 - Began Monday 4/14/08 and will last 2-3 weeks. **Maher Road** between New Scotland Road and the Route 85 Roundabout **will be CLOSED** for reconstruction. People coming from Albany to Price Chopper on Route 85 will need to continue to the Route 140 Roundabout, go completely around it and head back east on Route 85 to enter the parking lot. To get to the doctors' offices at 1220 and 1240 New Scotland Road, they will need to take the same route except head east on New Scotland Road back toward Albany. An alternate route for 1220 and 1240 New Scotland Road would be to exit Route 85 at Krumkill Road in Albany and come out to New Scotland Road.

PHASE 2 - Is scheduled to begin after Phase 1 is completed - **New Scotland Road will be CLOSED** from the Route 140 Roundabout east to the Price Chopper entrance. This will require all through traffic to use the new Route 85 divided highway. This *should* only last 14 days. The New Scotland Road entrance to Price Chopper will remain open and accessible from the Albany side. The curbed island at this entrance will be removed to allow traffic exiting Price Chopper to turn left on New Scotland and go east. Police are aware this will increase traffic through Thoreau / Teasdale neighborhood and will monitor accordingly.

PHASE 3 - Is scheduled to begin after Phase 2 is completed. There is a possibility that Phase 3 will be done before Phase 2. They (the State) are not sure yet. This involves the **replacement of the Route 85 bridge over Berkshire Boulevard in Albany**, between Krumkill Road and Route 20. This will involve **one lane traffic** in each direction for 3 to 4 weeks and is anticipated to cause long delays / back ups in both directions at rush hour. The intent is to complete one phase before another begins to minimize the impact. Please plan alternate routes of travel when possible avoid the area with the delays and congestion.

Just a reminder: this is a **STATE** construction project.

GLENMONT JOB CORPS OPENS REFURBISHED FACILITY

The Bethlehem Job Corps Academy, with the assistance of Bethlehem Supervisor Jack Cunningham, recently opened a totally refurbished and modernized gymnasium in the Recreation Center at their Glenmont location. Center Director, Dennis Lamberd advised that this construction is part of a comprehensive and far reaching \$12 million modernization of the recreation complex, dormitories and plant infrastructure. Supervisor Cunningham was on hand to open the facilities and congratulate the Center personnel for their great work assisting the many resident students prepare to enter the work force



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



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](#) or by calling (518) 447-7324 or by e-mail, Natarsha.Horton@albanycounty.com or Moira.OBrien@albanycounty.com. All youth nominated must reside in Albany County.



[Albany County Department of Health](#) Immunization Clinics, 4-6 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, call for appointment or more information, 447-4602 for infants and children, 447-4589 for college immunizations. For May, the clinic dates are May 7 and May 21.

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



**The 60th Albany Tulip Festival will
be held May 9 - 11, 2008 in**

**Washington Park, Albany, New
York**

For more information, please visit
http://www.albanyevents.org/tulip_festival/index.cfm





**Rabies Vaccination Clinic
Tuesday, June 3
Elm Avenue Park**

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 for cats and ferrets
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 for dogs

Donation is \$5.00 per animal



It's the Law! All Dogs, Cats and Ferrets in NYS MUST Have a Current Rabies Vaccination

The Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets has been arranged by the Albany County Department of Health in cooperation with the Capital District Veterinary Medical Society. All dogs, cats and ferrets 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. Any inquiry can be directed to Division of Environmental Health Services, (518) 447-4620 or 447-4625.

The remaining Albany County clinics will be held as follows:

Saturday, September 13

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. (1-2:30 cats and ferrets, 2:30-4 for dogs)
Colonie Village Hall, 2 Thunder Road, Colonie

Saturday November 8

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. (1-2:30 cats and ferrets, 2:30-4 for dogs)
Public Works Garage, Cohoes Road, Green Island

[Go to the Albany County Department of Health web site for more information and directions.](#)



10 Fuel Saving Tips

Use the correct octane for your vehicle

Properly inflate tires

Maintain your ride

Slow down!

Maintain constant speed over long distances

Lessen the load

Ease up on the air conditioning

Raise the windows and lose the rack

Keep the tailgate up

Avoid idling

(source: <http://www.myride.com> - <http://www.myride.com/research/editorial/makeandmodel/mixedsources.html;jsessionid=?editorialId=949>
and

Consumer Reports - http://autos.yahoo.com/consumerreports/article/tips_for_saving_fuel.html)

Department of Public Works News

NOTICE
MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
WATER DISTRICT NO. 1

The use of water for sprinkling of lawns and shrubs, filling pools, etc. shall be allowed **only before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.**

Water Conservation – Saving Water Makes Cents!

Although the northeast is considered to be water-rich compared to other areas of the country, careful conservation and efficient use of our water resources is very important. Using less water around your home saves money and protects our water resources by reducing demand.

Did you know that irrigation of lawns and landscaping during the summer increases the Town of Bethlehem's water consumption by as much as 20 percent? One of the many ways you can conserve water is by gardening smartly:

- 8 Follow the Town of Bethlehem Water Conservation requirements
- 8 Water during the coolest part of the day and avoid windy days
- 8 Water deep-rooted trees and shrubs longer and less frequently
- 8 Water shallow-rooted flowers with less water and more often
- 8 Use mulch to keep soil moist and cut weed growth
- 8 Raise mower cutting height and minimize lawn fertilizer
- 8 Remove thatch and aerate turf to move water to the root zone
- 8 Consider using landscaping techniques and plants that demand less water

For more information on water-wise landscaping techniques, like Xeriscaping, go to the following web address: <http://wateruseitwisely.com/outdoor/xeriscape/index.shtml>

For more information on low water use plant materials suitable for our region go to the following website: http://www.bbg.org/gar2/topics/sustainable/2002su_drought.html#plants



- 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

[Click here for a printable version of this e-Newsletter](#)

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