



Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

June 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

ALL Pool Passes must be updated - 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!**

June Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

Planning Board
Tuesday, June 3, 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals
Wednesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.

CACC
Monday, June 9, 7:00 p.m.

Town Board
Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 p.m.

20/20 Advisory Committee
Friday, June 13, 7:30 a.m.
at the Elsmere Fire Dept.

Industrial Development Agency
Tuesday, June 17, 8:00 a.m.

Planning Board
Tuesday, June 17, 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals
Wednesday, June 18, 7:00 p.m.

Development Planning Committee
Thursday, June 19, 10:00 a.m.

Town Board
Wednesday, June 25, 6:00 p.m.

For agendas, please see:
www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/agenda/agenda.asp

Town Offices Closed
Friday, JULY 4



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



Town Park Pool Complex Opens, Saturday, JUNE 7

EVERYONE needs a new pool pass



Flag Day, Saturday, June 14



American Red Cross Babysitting Course, Saturday, June 14



Fathers' Day, Sunday, June 15



Community Clean-Up Day, Saturday, June 21



Family Fun Day at Elm Avenue Park on Friday, July 4

Town Board meetings can be seen on public access channel TV-18 every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., every Friday at 7:30 p.m. and every Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Help Wanted: Stormwater Management Engineer and SCADA Specialist (IT/IS or Industrial Automation Background) (see details further down in this newsletter)



**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.](#)



Did You Know?



Lost Animals

To report a lost animal, please call the Bethlehem Police at 439-9973. Please note, dogs seized and impounded are taken to Reigning Cats and Dogs, 759 Route 9W, Glenmont, NY 12077, (518) 767-9718.

When searching for a lost animal and after contacting the Bethlehem Police at 518-439-9973, please also think about how close you live to one (or more) of the town's borders. If you think it is possible your animal wandered into another jurisdiction, contact them as well; Albany 518-434-5091, Coeymans 518-756-2059, Guilderland 518-861-6855 or New Scotland 518-475-0385.

For more information, please see the Animal Control section of the Town's web site at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/police/headDivision.asp#AnimalControl>



TOWN of Bethlehem *Economic Developments*

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](#)

and keep up with economic development in the Town.

Town Holds Open Space Plan Public Orientation Meeting



The Department of Economic Development and Planning, in association with the Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation (CACC), held a public orientation meeting to kick-off the development of the Open Space Plan on May 15, 2008 at Bethlehem Town Hall. Over eighty (80) residents attended the two-hour public meeting which was held to identify the needs and issues of the community regarding open space, develop an open space definition as it relates specifically to Bethlehem, and draft a vision statement for the future of open space in the Town.



Supervisor Cunningham welcomed those in attendance and indicated the development of the Open Space Plan is a result of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan. He emphasized that the meeting was an opportunity for participants to listen and learn what open space means to residents of the Town. Cunningham stated "The framework of the Comp Plan as it relates to Open Space can very much be summed up in the following goal:

"Work with willing landowners to conserve quality open spaces throughout the Town and create a network of open lands to provide wildlife habitat and potential recreational trail corridors."

Following a brief presentation by Behan Planning Associates regarding the planning process and examples of other municipal Open Space Plans, participants were divided into six working groups. Representatives from Behan Planning Associates LLC and American Farmland Trust, and Town Planning Department staff and CACC members were assigned to the various groups to facilitate a community discussion on Open Space. Results of the group discussions are currently being summarized and are anticipated to be available for the CACC's review in early June.

The CACC was identified as the Study Advisory Committee for the development of the Open Space Plan. The CACC meets on the second Monday of each month, where further discussions on the Open Space Plan will take place. Please visit the CACC's webpage at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/AdvisoryComs/advCACC.asp> or e-mail cacc@townofbethlehem.org for information on the Plan's development.

Town Planning Department Holds Wetlands Workshop

On April 30, 2008 members of the Town's Planning and Engineering Departments and Planning Board participated in a wetlands workshop conducted by representatives of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) – New York District. During the workshop's morning session, Andrew Dangler and Brad Sherwood of the USACOE discussed the agency's jurisdiction of waters of the U.S., and provided an overview of the agency's general, nationwide, and individual permits as they relate to various land use projects. In the afternoon, the group participated in a field visit to North Bethlehem Town Park where the USACOE representatives identified the steps in conducting wetland delineations. Participants learned that the three main indicators of USACOE jurisdictional wetlands consist of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology. Members of the Town's Planning Board received 4 hours of education credits toward their continuing education goals as mandated by New York State.



Members of the Town's Planning and Engineering Departments and Planning Board listen to Andrew Dangler and Brad Sherwood of the USACOE discuss the agency's process for delineating wetlands.

Sunday, June 15 is Fathers' Day



Father's Day Pops Concert and Fireworks Sunday June 15th, 2008 | 7pm-9pm Albany Riverfront Park

The City of Albany's annual Father's Day celebration hosts a highly acclaimed theatrical performance featuring the Albany Symphony Orchestra and David Alan Miller, Music Director/Conductor. 2008 presents "*Frank and Mario, Together Again for the First Time*", a tribute to Frank Sinatra and Mario Lanza. Food and beverages available. Fireworks conclude this fabulous event. Rain location: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Eagle St. Admission is FREE. For more information call 518-434-2032 or visit www.albanyevents.org



Did You Know?



You can recycle rainwater

To illustrate how important and how limited a resource freshwater is in our world, consider the following. More than 70 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by water, but only 2.5% of this supply is considered fresh water. The rest is found in the form of salt water in the oceans. Of the fresh water that exists, most is locked up in glaciers and ice caps. Water can also be found in the form of clouds and humidity in the soil. That leaves us 3/10 of 1 percent found in the form of lakes, rivers and streams.

Collecting rainwater for use during dry months in rain barrels or other depositories is an ancient and traditional practice. More and more homeowners in our own modern society are turning to the harvesting of rainwater to save money and protect this precious natural resource. Rain barrels can be part of the solution. For more information, please visit our Stormwater Links page at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/Stormwater/dpwSWLinks.asp>.

Parks and Recreation Department News

Obtain Your Pool Passes Now!

The ID room at the Parks Office has opened and you may now obtain your pool passes. **Remember**, with our new pool pass system **ALL residents (including senior citizens) will need a new pass**. Proof of residency is required (see link below for details). Residents are encouraged to obtain their pool pass early to avoid waiting in line on hot days! Details on residency requirements, fees and hours are available in the recently mailed Bethlehem Report or on line at: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2008Summer.pdf>

Avoid the long lines on hot, sticky days and get your passes early!

Summer Program Registration!

Summer program registration has begun. Some programs begin this month so don't wait... register now! We are currently taking registrations over the phone at 439-4955, option 3. To view the Summer Brochure visit and obtain a registration form go to: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2008Summer.pdf>

Special Event - Concert at Henry Hudson Park

Playin' With Fire - FREE!

Concert (rock genre) at Henry Hudson Park, Saturday, June 28, 2:00 p.m. Elsmere firefighters perform all your favorites. Bring a picnic and a chair, and kick back for a concert by the river. Please, NO alcoholic beverages. Rain or shine.

For more upcoming special events, please see the recently mailed Bethlehem Report or the Parks calendar on the Town's web site at <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/news/showParksCal.asp>

SCREAMS - Teen Luau, Friday, June 20, 8-10 p.m.
Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School

Our end of the school year *Teen Luau* will be held at the Town Park Pool, 8:00 –10:00 PM. Festivities will include late night swimming, DJ music and games. The snack bar will remain open for this event. Parents who wish to volunteer please call Jason Gallo, at 439-4955 x 1604. 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, see <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/parks/parksPgms.asp#SCREAMS>



Colonial Acres Season Passes and Punch Cards!

Season Passes and Punch Cards are 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.



Did You Know?



Town Office staffing hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. from July 1st to Labor Day

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.**

DIG SAFELY NEW YORK

May has been designated "National Safe Digging Month" as a way to remind homeowners and contractors that New York State law requires them to call one of the state's toll-free one-call centers before starting any excavation or digging. The One-Call Notification System was established as a fast, easy, and comprehensive way to ensure underground facilities are properly marked before a digging or excavation project begins. Homeowners, contractors, or excavators who damage underground facilities due to the failure to follow the regulations are not only subject to civil penalties, but also are liable for repair costs.

Dig Safely New York covers all of New York State. The toll-free number (outside of New York City and Long Island) is 1-800-962-7962, or simply dial the national abbreviated dialing code of **811**. Whether dialing the 1-800 number or 811, there is no charge for the call. For more information about Dig Safely New York, go to <http://www.digsafelynewyork.com> or call 315-437-7394. For more information on 811, visit the <http://www.call811.com> Web site.

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:

- Follow the Town of Bethlehem Water Conservation requirements
- Water during the coolest part of the day, preferably early morning, and avoid windy days
- Water deep-rooted trees and shrubs longer and less frequently
- Water shallow-rooted flowers with less water and more often
- Use mulch to keep soil moist and cut weed growth
- Raise mower cutting height and minimize lawn fertilizer
- Remove thatch and aerate turf to move water to the root zone
- 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/xeriscap/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

TEEN DRINKING TIP LINE



Late spring and early summer are the times of year when underage drinking parties are most likely to occur. Experience indicates such parties often take place when the temperatures are mild and the days longer. Too often, however, these happy and well-intended gatherings result in serious injury or loss of life because young people under the age of 21 are partaking of alcoholic beverages. To help avert potential tragedy, the Bethlehem Police are requesting that anyone who is aware of an underage drinking party taking place contact them at 439-1503. All calls received will be treated in the strictest of confidence. So don't be afraid to call. *Your call could save a life.*



Senior Services News



"DTV" is coming and sooner than you think!

Beginning February 18, 2009, federal law requires that full power television stations in the U.S. turn off their old technology using analog signals and broadcast only in digital format, potentially leaving millions of televisions displaying nothing but "snow."

The majority of consumers - anyone whose television is hooked up to a cable or satellite service or owns a digital set - will *not* be affected. Anyone who owns an older television that gets its signal via antenna, however, will need a converter box which the government will help finance. The converter boxes are expected to cost between \$50 and \$70 and will be available at most electronics stores. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration is accepting requests for two \$40 coupons per household to be used toward the purchase of the boxes. You can apply online at <http://www.dtv2009.gov>. The government has also set up a 24-hour hotline to take requests, 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009.)

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>.

HELP WANTED

SCADA Specialist (IS/IT &/or Industrial Automation background)

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.

Requirements are an Associates degree in Information Systems or related field and one year experience.

Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick time, full medical and dental insurance, and New York State Retirement Program.

Please send your cover letter and resume to Mary Tremblay-Glassman, Human Resource Manager, 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054

For more information, please see [the Human Resource section of the Comptroller's web page](#).

Stormwater Management Engineer

The Town of Bethlehem 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. The candidates primary duties are to assist in the coordination of the Town's Stormwater Management program including public education, public outreach, illicit discharge, training, enforcement, reporting and construction and post-construction best management practices. In addition, the candidates duties will include the review of Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans for proposed projects and to perform field inspections of regulated construction activities within the Town.

Minimum Requirements are a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, or a minimum of 4 years of related experience. Possession of a CPESC certification or a New York State Professional Engineer's license issued by the State of New York at time of appointment is preferred but not required.

Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick time, full medical and dental insurance, and New York State Retirement Program.

Please send your cover letter and resume to Mary Tremblay-Glassman, [Human Resources](#), 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054.



All Town offices will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day

Sergeant Paul Roberts retires from the BPD

Sergeant Paul Roberts retired from the Town of Bethlehem Police force on May 30, 2008 after over 30 years of service.

The following is from Police Chief Louis Corsi:

"First Sergeant Roberts has served the Town of Bethlehem since his appointment as a road patrol officer on December 17, 1977. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1986, Master Sergeant in 1992 and First Sergeant in 2002."

"Paul was instrumental in the development of the agency's fire investigation unit and has set the standard by which fire investigations are conducted today."

"Please join with me in wishing Paul a long and healthy retirement and extending a sincere thank you for his contributions to the Town of Bethlehem."



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, 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 will focus along New Scotland Road and with the reconstruction of Maher Road (between New Scotland Road and Route 85). **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.



City of Albany News

The city's Alive at Five concert series begins Thursday, June 5. See <http://www.albanyny.org/Government/Departments/GeneralServices/SpecialEvents/AliveAtFive.aspx> for more information.

The 9th annual Lobster Festival will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at Washington Park in Albany from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. Not only an awesome lobster (or steak) dinner, but also music, children's activities and the 4th annual Microbrewery Competition. The Lobster Festival will raise money for Albany Rotary Foundation projects and the Albany High School Booster Club. Free and open to the public- reservations/tickets required for Microbrewery Festival and lobster/steak dinners. For tickets and information, call 518-867-4100 or visit www.albanyrotary.org

Albany County News



[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 June, the clinic dates are June 4 and June 18.

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



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

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

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