



Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

September 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 Offices closed on Monday, September 1, Labor Day

Town Park Pool Complex Closes for the Season, Monday, September 1

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Town Hall, Wednesday, September 3, 1:00-6:00 p.m. (see below)

Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School (SCREAMS) will be hosting Fun Friday on September 12 at Elm Avenue Park (see below)

Albany County Rabies Clinic at Village of Colonie Municipal Garage, Saturday, September 13 (open to all Albany County residents, see below)

Community Clean-Up Day, Saturday, September 20

Electronic Collection and Recycling Days, Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27 at the Town Highway Garage (see below)

Last day to pay School Tax bills without penalty, Tuesday, September 30, 4:30 p.m.

Halloween Hay Day at Elm Avenue Park, Sunday, October 19 (see below)

September Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

Town Offices Closed

Monday, September 1

Planning Board

Tuesday, September 2, 7:00 p.m.

Blood Drive at Town Hall

Wednesday, September 3, 1-6 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m.

Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation

Monday, September 8, 7:00 p.m.

Town Board

Wednesday, September 10, 6:00 p.m.

20/20 Advisory Committee

Friday, September 12, 7:30 a.m. at the Elsmere Fire Dept.

Industrial Development Agency

Tuesday, September 16, 8:00 a.m.

Planning Board

Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, September 17, 7:00 p.m.

Development Planning Committee

Thursday, September 18, 10:00 a.m.

Town Board

Wednesday, September 24, 6:00 p.m.

For agendas, please see:

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

Help Wanted:

SCADA Specialist (IT/IS or Industrial Automation Background)

Court Clerk

(see details further down in this newsletter)

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.



Did You Know?



RECYCLING MATERIALS VS THE USE OF RAW MATERIALS

ALUMINUM

Recycling aluminum reduces energy use by 90 %, enough to run a TV for 3 hours

Recycling aluminum reduces air pollution by 95%

PAPER

Every ton of paper recycled saves 17 trees and 380 gallons of oil

Recycling paper reduces air pollution by 74%, water pollution by 35%

GLASS

Glass is 100% recyclable and also extends furnace life & reduces energy costs

Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100 watt bulb for 4 hours

Recycling a ton of glass saves the equivalent of nine gallons of fuel oil



All Town offices will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day



American Red Cross Blood Drive at Town Hall



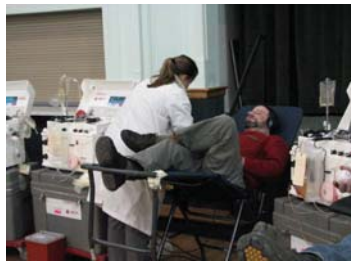
There will be a blood drive at the Bethlehem Town Hall on Wednesday, September 3 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please call 439-4955, extension 1176 for reservations. Walk-ins will be taken as time permits. Positive identification, such as a Driver's License, required.

See the Red Cross web site, <http://www.donatebloodnow.org/DonateBlood/Listings.asp?co=Albany>, for more information or to schedule an appointment (click on Refresh if the page doesn't appear the first time)

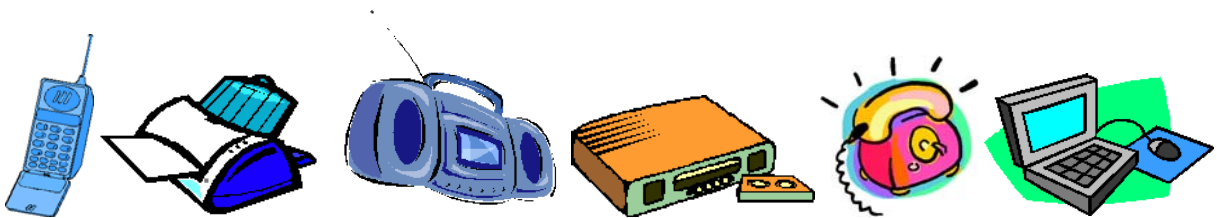
The following files may help answer any questions you may have as well as amaze you what you do by donating.

- [Blood Donation - Common Questions](#)
- [The Blood Donation Process](#)
- [Tips for Blood Donors](#)

- [Why Give Blood? What Happens to Donated Blood?](#)
- [Double Red Cell Donation Information](#)
- [50 Facts About Donating Blood](#)



Electronic Recycling Days - Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27



Clean out this fall by participating in the [Town's Electronic Recycling Program](#) on Friday, September 26, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 27 between 8:00 a.m. and 12 noon at the Highway Garage, 74 Elm Avenue East, Selkirk. Bring your old computers, printers, laptops, tabletop fax machines, cell phones, televisions (no consoles), VCRs/DVD and CD players, home phones, radios and stereos to this program. Businesses may participate but please call ahead before the scheduled dates. Regional Computer Recycling and Recovery will properly handle your discards according to state regulations and recycle approximately 98% of the items that you bring to the program.

Do NOT bring small appliances such as irons, vacuums, and hair dryers that can go in regular trash. Do NOT bring air conditioners or dehumidifiers, these can go to the [Rupert Road Transfer Station](#).



Tax Office Information

School Tax Bills and Bank Changes

The [Bethlehem](#), [Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk](#) and [Guilderland](#) school tax bills have been mailed to Town of Bethlehem property owners. The bills of those that have an escrowed account have been mailed to the Mortgage Institution the Town has on record. If you did not receive the tax bill, and should have, please call us at 439-4955, ext. 1178. Also, if you received a tax bill that you expected your escrow to pay, please forward that bill to the bank and give us a call so that we can change our records. It is the homeowner's responsibility to notify [the tax office](#) of any mailing change for tax bills due to satisfactions of mortgage, bank mergers, refinances or new escrow accounts. New York State laws state that a municipality cannot waive penalties on taxes received after the due date for any reason. Often a homeowner will refinance and expect the bank to notify us of the change of mailing address. Eventually the bank usually does notify the tax office, but sometimes the penalty has already been applied. It's best for you to call us and make sure that we are aware of the change and that the bill was mailed to the correct address.

This year's school taxes are due on or before Tuesday, September 30, 2008, 4:30 p.m. Payments can be made in person at the Town Hall, mailed, or placed in the new Drop Box by the bicycle rack by the Town Hall - NO cash payments in the drop box, please. The drop box will be emptied at 4:30 p.m. on the due date. Any payments received or collected after 4:30 p.m. on September 30 will have the late penalty added. The drop box is great for off-hour payments during the month or to drop your envelope in on the way to work. The drop box can also be used to pay your water bills. Please call Nancy Mendick, [Receiver of Taxes](#), 439-4955, ext. 1178, if you have any questions.



RAVENA ★ COEYMANS ★ SELKIRK Central School District

Proper Disposal of Propane Cylinders and Tanks

Summer is for barbecues and camping. We light our grills, lanterns, and varied other camping equipment with either the small 16.4 oz. propane or the 20 lb. tank.



The small 16.4 oz. cylinders are a problem because they cannot be refilled. They are often used for welding and other small appliances including camping equipment. Take the cylinder outdoors away from any structure, open flame or ignition source, attach the cylinder to an appliance, open the control valve and light the burner(s). Operate the appliance until the flame completely extinguishes. Detach the now EMPTY cylinder and dispose of the EMPTY cylinder in an outdoor trash container on the next normal [trash collection](#).



The larger barbecue grill operates with 20 lb. propane tanks that can be refilled repeatedly for 10 years or more depending on how the tank is protected from foul weather. When ready to dispose of the tank, attach it to the grill or another appliance, light the burners and let it burn until the flame completely extinguishes. Detach the EMPTY tank and recycle it at the [Rupert Road Transfer Station](#). The fee for disposal of a 20 lb. propane tank is \$3.00.





TOWN of **Bethlehem** *Economic Developments*

[Subscribe](#) 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.



Did You Know?



You can receive a **free Child Identification Kit(s)** from the Town's Police Department. In the event a child is missing, this information can be provided to law enforcement immediately, saving precious time in the investigation process. Each ID kit gives parents an easy-to-use compact kit with instructions to record and maintain a complete identification record of their child. To obtain your free kit(s), please stop by the Police Department at 447 Delaware Avenue or the Town Park at 261 Elm Avenue. For additional information, you may call the Bethlehem Police Family Services Unit at 439-3373.

[Parks and Recreation Department News](#)

Town Park Pool Complex Closes for the Season, Monday, September 1

Fall Program Registration



We are currently accepting mail-in program registrations for our new Lottery Spin registration drawing. To be entered in the lottery spin, registrations are due to the [Park Office](#) by Wednesday, September 3. Phone-in registration will begin on Monday, September 8. Inside the Parks and Recreation brochure you will find the complete fall schedule of programs, activities and special events. The fall brochure can also be accessed through the town web site at:

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



Please remember, mail-in registration is the best way to secure you participation in a given class.

S.C.R.E.A.M.S. – Fun Friday



[Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School \(SCREAMS\)](#) will be hosting its first event for the 2008-2009 school year on Friday, September 12, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Elm Avenue Park. Fun Friday activities will include an outdoor rock climbing wall, DJ, basketball on the courts, refreshments and much more! SCREAMS is for all students grade 6-8 who reside in the Town of Bethlehem or the Bethlehem School District. This event is FREE!



18th Annual Halloween Hay Day



On Sunday, October 19 from 1-3:30 p.m. the 18th Annual Halloween Hay Day will be held at Elm Avenue Park. Come out in costume for hayrides, trick or treat bag decorating, games and much more. This event is FREE for the whole family!



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

Colonial Acres Golf Course!

Come out and enjoy this beautiful 9-hole course. Punch Cards are available for \$120 and are good for 10 rounds! 18-hole daily rates are \$13 weekdays and \$15 on 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.

HOLE-IN-ONE at Colonial Acres!

On Sunday, August 17, 2008, Curtis Burden scored a hole-in-one on hole #9 (120 yards) using a 7 iron at Colonial Acres Golf Course. The accomplishment was witnessed by Jaraed DeFazio.



Did You Know?



Do You Know What The Extra Helpings Program Is?

Extra Helpings is a cooperative buying program that provides a pre-selected menu of groceries to individuals through a host site. Extra Helpings has been in operation for 12 years. There are no income limits for this program. Food is purchased at wholesale prices and consists of quality, wholesome foods. Purchase as many orders as you like with no obligation to purchase monthly. The Extra Helpings menu changes month to month and includes a variety of meat packages from which to choose at varying prices. For information about this program, please call 439-4955, option 4

Department of Public Works News

In the Town of Bethlehem, there are two systems of drainage, the Sanitary Sewer System and the Storm Drainage System.

The Sanitary Sewer System takes household wastewater (such as water waste from sinks, toilets, washers, etc.) and carries it through a home's plumbing and into an underground sewer pipe. From there it ultimately goes to the Town's wastewater treatment plant, where the wastewater is treated and discharged into the Hudson River.



On the other hand, the Storm Drainage System carries discharge off streets and routes it into curbside catch basins. From there, it also enters another underground, but completely separate system.

The Storm Drainage System discharges directly into multiple streams and water bodies without treatment.



Water from precipitation, lawn irrigation and other discharges of clean water should drain into the drainage system. If water pools in places and does not drain into the drainage system, there is a drainage issue. If you have a surface water drainage issue you wish the Town to investigate, please fill out the form on the [Town's Drainage Issue page](#). If you believe liquids or materials are being released into the drainage system that are not clean water, and should not flow untreated into our streams and rivers, please notify us on the [storm water management site](#).

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.**

Town Clerk News

2008-09 Game license sales began August 18, 2008. Hunters must bring previous hunting license or hunter training certificate to get a hunting license for the new year. Any questions, call Town Clerk at 439-4955, ext. 1183.

Quadracentennial neckties now available at Town Clerk's office, \$30, cash only. Celebration of 400th Anniversary of Henry Hudson's historic 1609 voyage up the Hudson River to be held in 2009.

HELP WANTED

Court Clerk

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a Court Clerk. Candidate utilizes independent judgment in performing clerical functions for the Town of Bethlehem court system. Preferred candidate should have a working knowledge of New York State criminal procedure and basic accounting and bookkeeping. Prior Court experience is preferable. Work is performed under the general supervision of the elected judicial official, court of the civil division, and the governing body of the civil division where the incumbent is employed.

Requirements are a Bachelor's degree and/or 5 years court 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 by September 10, 2008 to Barbara Hodom, Court Clerk Human Resources Manager, 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054.

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

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](#).

Senior Services News



Weather permitting, Senior Transportation will be visiting a local Farmers' Market on Tuesday, September 9 and Tuesday, September 23. Please call 439-5770 for transportation.



There will be no Senior Transportation on Monday, September 1 or Monday, October 13.



The deadline to file for your Economic Stimulus Plan credit has been extended to October 15, 2008. Bethlehem Senior Services Outreach workers can provide forms and assistance for filing for the rebate. To schedule an appointment, please call 439-4955,

extension 1176.



Do you like to sing? Practices for the Senior Chorus begin on Tuesday, September 23 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. To add your name to the list, please call 439-4955, extension 1176.

A Community Health Fair is set for Friday, November 7, 2008. There will be screenings, information, flu shots and more. Please see the [September-October Senior Newsletter](#) for more information. **ALL ages are welcome!**

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> .

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 this month, the clinic dates are September 3 and September 17.

Albany County Rabies Clinics 2008

Saturday September 13 1:00-4:00pm	Village of Colonie Municipal Garage 2 Thunder Road - Colonie	cats/ferrets 1:00-2:30 dogs 2:30-4:00
Saturday November 8 1:00-4:00pm	Village of Green Island Public Works Garage Cohoes Avenue - Green Island	cats/ferrets 1:00-2:30 dogs 2:30-4:00

Low cost immunizations. All dogs, cats and ferrets in New York State are required, by law, to have current rabies vaccinations. For more information, visit the Albany County Department of Health web page at http://www.albanycounty.com/departments/health/programs_services.asp?id=747

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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