

Town Talk



Issue 106

IN THIS ISSUE

Fall Brush Pickup	2
Leaf Pickup	2
Water/Sewer Billing Schedule	2
Hunting Season	3
"Wall of Bears"	3
Community Center Rental	3
A Message from the Assessor's Office	4
TOB Vol. Fire Co.	5
Dog Control News	5
Free Fishing Day	5
Election Day Info.	6
Broome County's Hazardous Collection Dates	6
Review of Winter Parking Ordinance	6
News from your County Legislator	7
Did You Know? Hawleyton UMC	7
Phone Directory & Event Calendar	8



TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL
279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903

October 2022



Elizabeth Rounds, Town Supervisor
E-mail: supervisor@townofbinghamton.com



It's budget time again! The Town Board will be finalizing the budget by the end of October, and we are on track to once again reduce the tax rate for our residents. We were able to accomplish a tax decrease without cutting any services and still able to move forward with a major project, replacing the Orchard Park Water Tank. The construction of the tank should be completed by November of this year.

One new large tank will replace the two older tanks, which were beyond repair.

The "Municipal Cleanup Days" continue to be very successful. This year, the Town of Binghamton offered its residents "cleanup days" in the spring and in the fall. The feedback that is received is overwhelmingly positive. As long as the County continues to waive the tipping fees, the Town will continue to offer this free service to our residents.

As my fourth year as your Supervisor comes to an end, I can honestly say I enjoy being the Town of Binghamton Supervisor more today than when I started. My four-year term will be over at the end of this year, and I will be seeking re-election for a new term starting in January of 2023.

Thank you all for your support, and please feel free to call me at the Town Hall at (607) 772-0357 and press option #2. Thanks.

Elizabeth Rounds



A MESSAGE FROM THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Bob Rolston, Highway Supt.
865 Hawleyton Road, Binghamton, NY 13903

E-mail: highway@townofbinghamton.com

HOURS: 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Phone: (607) 669-4323

FALL BRUSH & BRANCH PICKUP IS UNDERWAY. ENDS OCT. 21, 2022

The Town of Binghamton Highway Dept. began its fall brush and branch pickup in mid-September, and it's still underway. We're picking up brush and branch piles only; **specifically tree branches only. No cuttings from any kind of bushes.**

Please call the Highway Dept. at (607) 669-4323 to have your name placed on the list. Due to the overwhelming response to this service, you will not be given a specific time or day when your brush will be picked up. Simply call, then place your pile at the curb and wait for a pickup.

There are certain guidelines to be followed:

1. Tree branches must be from your yard only.
2. Put branches neatly along the curb/roadside in front of your home.
3. Place the large end of the branch towards the road, and leave the branches as long as possible.
4. No brush from clearing your lot.
5. No brush from contractors or landscapers. (This means if you hire someone to maintain your lawn, they need to dispose of the debris; we will not take it.)
6. Large piles must be approved.

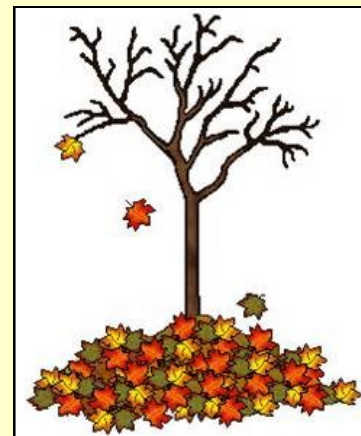
The following items will NOT be accepted and will be left behind: tree trunks; roots of any sort; clippings from lawns, flower beds, or vegetable gardens; thorny brush and small twigs; leaves, and animal waste.

FALL LEAF PICKUP: TENTATIVELY SET FOR OCT. 17 TO NOV. 23, 2022

Fall is the only time we collect leaves; we don't pick them up in the spring. Here are the details:

- Call the Highway Dept. at 669-4323 to be placed on a list for this service.
- Rake your leaves (with no debris) into a pile in front of your home by the curb line. No pinecones, rocks, branches, flowers, or animal waste can be mixed in with your leaves.
- Do not place leaves in bags!
- Do not rake leaves into your ditch or roadway because this can be very hazardous to traffic.

NOTE: If you hire a landscaper or contractor to clean up your leaves, THEY are responsible to take the leaves away. If we see a landscaper or contractor raking or blowing leaves from your property to the curb or to the ditch, the Town will NOT remove them. It is the landscaper's or contractor's responsibility.

**WATER/SEWER BILLING SCHEDULE**

(These are approximate mailing dates.)

November 1st (1st billing in an annual cycle); due in early December

February 1st (2nd billing); *due in early March*

May 1st (3rd billing); *due in early June*

August 1st (4th billing); *due in early September*

If you have a question about your bill, please call Nadine at (607) 669-4323.

ATTENTION! All water/sewer bills should be paid in full (postmarked) no later than Sat., October 15, 2022. Any bills not paid in full will go onto your January 2023 taxes.

E-mail: TownClerk@TownofBinghamton.com - Phone: 772-0357, ext. 026
Paula Edwards, Deputy Town Clerk - Phone: 772-0357, ext. 023



Saturday, November 19 and continues through Sunday, December 11, 2022

Saturday, October 1 through Friday, November 18, 2022

Crossbow – Saturday, November 5 through Friday, November 18, 2022 (not in WMUs 4 or 8C)

Monday, December 12 through Tuesday, December 20, 2022

Monday, December 26, 2022, through Sunday, January 1, 2023

Monday, December 12 through Tuesday, December 20, 2022 (Deer of either sex)

Monday, December 26, 2022 through Sunday, January 1, 2023 (Deer of either sex)

FREE FISHING ON VETERANS DAY: Friday, November 11, 2022



You may have noticed that ‘Just the Bear Facts’ is no longer on the town’s webpage. This is due to the space required to upload all of our photos and movies of our local *Ursus Americanus*! Have no fear, though, the Deputy Clerk is here, collecting videos and photos from trail and deck cameras of our furry friends. If you haven’t stopped by the Town Clerk’s Office this year, you might want to pop in to take a look at our “Wall of Bears!” The population of bears seems to have exploded in the past few months with loads of twins and triplet cubs roaming the hills with their Mamas. From tiny little ones, to yearlings – we have pictures of them all!

The Town's Community Center is located in a beautiful country setting with ample parking. The facility accommodates up to 80 people and is perfect for your holiday gathering. We reserve on a first come, first served basis, and rental rates are as follows: A \$200 refundable security deposit is due at the time the application is submitted (which will secure your date), and a \$300 rental fee is expected at the time of key pickup. Call to secure your date today.



COMMUNITY CENTER COORDINATOR:

Zac Soboleski - 772-0357, ext. 014

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE — (607) 772-0357, press option 4
Joe Cook, Assessor / Mary Atkinson, Assessor's Assistant

Assessor's Office Hours:

Assessor: Wednesday Afternoons (Appointments suggested)

Assessor's Assistant: Tues. through Thurs.: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Drop Box Available at Main Entrance

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



This is a reminder that all exemption applications and renewals must be filed with our office before March 1st each year.

2023 Renewal Exemptions – Low Income Seniors and Disability Exemptions

The 2023 renewal exemptions and filing procedures will require income verification. All letters from the Town's Assessor's Office and/or NYS Tax and Finance should be opened, reviewed and returned, if required. **PLEASE NOTE: NYS HAS CHANGED THE INCOME REQUIREMENT. YOUR AGED EXEMPTION WILL BE BASED ON YOUR 2022 INCOME.**

STAR registration for new homeowners

Have you recently moved to a new home in the Town of Binghamton? You're probably eligible for the Basic STAR credit which lowers your school taxes. Please visit www.tax.ny.gov/star or call (518) 457-2036.

Enhanced STAR Exemption

The Enhanced STAR Exemption, which also applies only to the school tax, is a special exemption designed for **seniors only**. A senior is defined as a person who is 65, or will be turning 65, anytime during the calendar year. This exemption is different from the Basic STAR in that seniors must show proof of income. For the 2023 tax roll year, the **maximum qualifying adjusted gross income is \$93,200**. Your 2021 tax return will be used as documentation when applying in 2023. **You must enroll in Income Verification with NYS.**

Veterans Exemption

In addition to the Low Income Senior Citizens Exemption and the Enhanced STAR Exemption, there is also a Veterans Exemption. The Veterans Exemption reduces Town & County (but not school) taxes and is for veterans who served during specific dates that are available at our office. Not only can the Veteran apply, but it is also available to unremarried widows of veterans. Applications will be available in our office or on the town's website. A copy of the Veteran's DD214 form must be submitted along with a completed application.

Please visit our website at <https://www.townofbinghamton.com> for all applications and further information regarding all exemptions. As always, if you have any assessment questions, please call our office at (607) 772-0357 (press option 4) or send an email to: assessor@townofbinghamton.com





TOWN OF BINGHAMTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

The Chief's Corner - Jerry Emmons

E:mail: tob.fire.chief@gmail.com

Phone: (607) 761-1218

THANK YOU to all Town residents for your continued support of our Annual Chicken BBQ! It was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without you!

With fall and winter soon approaching, I'd like to discuss some very important topics:

- **Fall is the time to check/change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.**

Don't Forget!

Test your CO detectors when you're testing your smoke detectors. Every bedroom **MUST** have a smoke detector and one on each level of your home. For example, if you have three bedrooms on the second floor, you need four smoke detectors (one in each bedroom and one in the hallway) plus a carbon monoxide detector on every level as well. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that is slightly less dense than air. Carbon monoxide poisoning symptoms are often described as "flu-like." Symptoms include headache, dizziness, weakness, vomiting, chest pain, confusion, etc. **DO NOT** assume that it's a battery issue. Whether it's 3 a.m. or 3 p.m., we cannot help you if we are not called, and your life may be in danger. We are just a phone call away. When in doubt, call 911! Also, check or have your chimney inspected **BEFORE** the heating season begins. A clogged chimney can lead to a chimney fire and/or CO (carbon monoxide) poisoning.

- **Deer are more active at this time of year.** October through December is breeding season for deer. Do not swerve in an attempt to avoid hitting the animal. You could hit another vehicle head on, making the situation even worse. Use your brakes, depending on how close the cars are behind you, or take your foot off the gas. Be especially vigilant at dusk and dawn.

Thanks, everyone! Please be safe out there and have an enjoyable fall season!



A MESSAGE FROM RICK MURRAY, DOG CONTROL OFFICER (607) 772-0357, press option 7

KNOW WHERE YOUR DOG IS DURING HUNTING SEASON!

Hunting season is soon approaching, and you may not realize that a dog chasing deer is considered a legal violation. Conservation Officers have the authority to destroy any dog found chasing a deer. If you love your pet, please keep it tied or penned up, especially during hunting season.



PLEASE PUT LICENSE TAGS ON DOGS

Dog tags or licenses are your lost dog's only hope for getting home. I will gladly bring your lost dog home if I find him, but if I can't identify him as yours, the dog will be taken to the Broome County Humane Society. Help me bring your dog home by putting the license tag on its collar. Also, if you have a non-emergency complaint, please leave a message on my Town Hall extension (above) and I'll return your call. If you're trying to reach me because you've found a stray dog that's in your possession and you'd like it picked up, please call my cell at (607) 217-8857.



FREE FISHING DAY IN NEW YORK STATE!

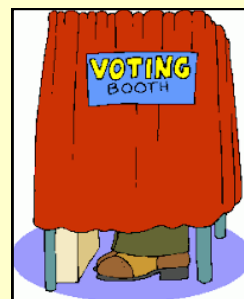
The New York State DEC is offering a FREE FISHING DAY on Fri., Nov. 11, 2022 (Veterans Day). No fishing license is required, and you can fish in all fresh or marine waters in New York State. What a great way to enjoy fall in NY!



ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The following polling places will be open:
 TOB Town Hall - 279 Park Avenue
 TOB Community Center - 1905 Coleman Rd.
 Hawleyton United Methodist Church - 901 Hawleyton Rd.

If you have questions, please call the BC Board of Elections at
 (607) 778-2172 or visit <https://www.broomevotes.com>



A MESSAGE FROM NICK PAPPAS, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

E-mail: code@townofbinghamton.com - Phone: 772-0357, press option 3.



We had a great turn out at our "Municipal Cleanup Days" on September 16th and 17th. The Town offered a special electronics drop off on those days, and many people commented that it was nice to be able to get rid of their electronics. We were surprised to hear that many of you didn't know there is a special electronics recycling event at the Broome County landfill on a regular basis where the County takes them for FREE. All you need to do is take them to the landfill and as you enter onto the scales, let them know you have electronics to drop off. You'll be directed to a specific drop-off site where you will show them your driver's license, and they'll take them from you. The following information about "Hazardous Waste Collection Dates" is always posted in this newsletter, but I thought I would make a special reference to it in this issue.

Broome County Landfill's Fall Hazardous Waste Collection Dates

The Broome County Landfill continues to accept hazardous waste, including household and auto batteries, propane tanks, fluorescent bulbs, driveway sealers, paints, solvents, stains, cleaners, pesticides, and pool and photography chemicals AND old electronics including computers, printers, stereos, TVs, copiers, fax machines, mobile phones, etc.

You can drop these items off for FREE on the following days from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.:

Sat., Oct. 22 / Wed., Nov. 2 / Sat., Nov. 5 / Sat., Nov. 19 / Wed., Dec. 7 / Sat., Dec. 17

*The Broome County Landfill is located at 286 Knapp Road, near the Binghamton Regional Airport.
 Phone: (607) 763-4450*

IT'S TIME TO REVIEW OUR WINTER PARKING ORDINANCE

We all know when a storm is coming. If you know a storm is on the way, don't park on the streets because the plows need to be able to navigate down the streets without dodging cars. We do put warnings on windshields but ONE time only. After that, you'll be ticketed. This is what the Town of Binghamton Winter Parking Ordinance states:



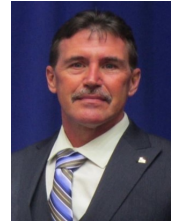
"No person shall park a vehicle on either side of any town or county highway within the Town of Binghamton between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. on each day from December 1 to the following April 1, inclusive. No owner or operator of a motor vehicle shall park the same unattended on any town street or highway within the Town of Binghamton following any snowfall of two inches or more until said street or highway shall have been plowed by, or at the direction of, the Highway Department of the Town of Binghamton. Any two-inch snowfall shall, for the purposes of this section, constitute a snow emergency. Failure by the operator of a motor vehicle to obey any of the signs erected pursuant to these provisions shall be construed as a violation and punishable upon conviction by a fine." Please abide by this ordinance. It is very difficult for the large snowplows to navigate down narrow streets when cars are parked along the roadways.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO PARK TERRACE RESIDENTS:

THERE IS NO PARKING ANYTIME ON ANY OF THE STREETS IN THE PARK TERRACE AREA.

News from County Legislator, Kelly Wildoner

Kelly Wildoner is a County Legislator representing District 3, which includes the Towns of Binghamton and Conklin along with parts of Vestal.



Fall is here, the weather is changing, and we're going to be gearing up for the holidays before we know it. It's always been my privilege to be your County Legislator and I'd like to keep you informed about what's been going on in Broome County Government.

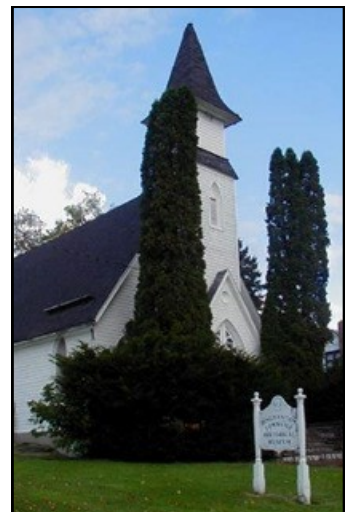
Broome County's 2023 budget is under review. As a member of the County Legislature Finance Committee, I'm currently working with my colleagues to review the County Executive's recommended 2023 Broome County Budget. We've cut County property taxes four straight years and we're working towards a fifth straight tax cut. Every little bit helps in these trying times, and I'll continue to keep a close eye on the County's financial situation. As we review the budget and work closely with department heads about their plans, please know that I'm always interested in hearing from you. If you have any suggestions or thoughts regarding the County's budget, please reach out using the contact information at the bottom of the article and let me know what you think.

Continuing to keep our children safe with the School Bus Stop Arm Camera Program. In 2019, my colleagues and I on the County Legislature adopted a Local Law to establish the School Bus Stop Arm Camera Program where we worked together with local school districts to outfit buses with cameras to hold drivers accountable for passing stopped school buses. It's hard to believe, but there were over 3,000 instances last school year where someone passed a stopped school bus with its lights on and doors open. We continue to raise awareness for this important issue because no child or parent should have to worry about safety while getting on and off the bus. I encourage everyone to stay alert behind the wheel as we make our way through the school year. If you're interested in learning more about the program or tips for what to do when you see a stopped school bus, please visit www.gobroomecounty.com/e911/Stop-Arm.

County DPW undertakes a record amount of roadwork. For two years straight, the Broome County Department of Public Works-Highway Division has conducted a record amount of roadwork. This year alone more than 72 miles of roadways will be addressed. Investing in our infrastructure is important, and I'm proud to support their efforts and advocate for the necessary funding to fix our roads and bridges. Thank you to our DPW employees for their hard work over the summer as they made repairs and upgrades. Here in the Town of Binghamton, they enhanced Hawleyton Road and completed joint repair work on the Pierce Creek Road Bridge. I know it can be frustrating to deal with detours and temporary closures, but the repairs on the bridge were necessary and now it will be safer for all who travel Pierce Creek Road.

As we continue through the fall, I hope you all stay safe and I wish you all the best with the holiday season. If you have any questions or concerns about County government, please don't hesitate to contact me at (607) 778-2131, kelly.wildoner@broomecounty.us or on Facebook by searching "Broome County Legislator Kelly Wildoner."

Did you know? We thought we would share some information about the Hawleyton United Methodist Church that you may not know but might find interesting. The "Old" Hawleyton Church and parsonage were built in 1856 and completed in 1857. James Stanton Hawley (son of Major Martin Hawley) donated one acre of land for a Methodist Episcopal Church. Local farmers used lumber they logged and split themselves to build the structures. The church was dedicated on January 1, 1957. In the past, the church served as a gathering place and activity center, not only for the church members but also for the general population, especially the youth. This continued through WW I and WW II and beyond. As the Town population grew and church membership increased, a new larger Hawleyton United Methodist Church was built on adjoining property in 1967. Today, the "Old" Hawleyton Church is known as the "Binghamton Township Historical Society Museum" and houses local artifacts and historical information. To schedule a visit, call Phyllis at (607) 669-4186.



Town of Binghamton

279 Park Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13903



If you'd like to receive this newsletter and other important news items via e-mail, go to:

www.townofbinghamton.com

Scroll down and look to the bottom right on any page to sign up.

The Town of Binghamton is an equal opportunity employer and provider. To file a complaint of discrimination, write:



USDA — Director
Office of Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave.- SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410

TOWN HALL PHONE NUMBER

(607) 772-0357

Telecommunication Device for the Deaf:

1-800-662-1220 or 711

NOTE: TOWN HALL PHONE EXTENSION NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED.

Assessor, Joseph Cook	Ext. 015
Assessor's Clerk, Mary Atkinson	Ext. 013
Bookkeeper, Sandra Reifler	Ext. 021
Bldg. Inspector/Codes, Nick Pappas	Ext. 012
Community Center Coordinator	Ext. 014
Court Clerk, Daniele Vick	Ext. 019
Dog Control Officer, Rick Murray	Ext. 022
Emergencies at Night: Dogs/Water	778-1911
Highway Supt., Bob Rolston	669-4323
Information Desk, Becky Smith	Ext. 010
Plan. Bd. Chair., Christopher Streno	Ext. 048
Supervisor, Elizabeth Rounds	Ext. 011
Tax Collector (call Broome County)	778-2124
Town Clerk, Vickie Conklin	Ext. 026
Town Clerk's Deputy, Paula Edwards	Ext. 023
Town Justice, Hon. Lawrence Brinker	Ext. 019
Water/Sewer Maint., Lee Cooper	669-4323
Water/Sewer Billing, Nadine Pappas	669-4323
Youth Activities, Christopher Streno	Ext. 048



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON

Sat., Oct. 15	Postmark deadline for delinquent water/sewer bills.
Mon., Oct. 17	Fall Leaf Pickup Begins. See page 2 for details.
Mon., Oct. 17	ZBA Public Hearing @ Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. - Sigma Solar - 930 Powderhouse Rd.
Mon., Oct. 17	Planning Board Meeting @ Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.
Tues., Oct. 18	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall at 7 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 22	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Tues., Nov. 1	Town of Binghamton Board Work Session @ Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 2	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Sat., Nov. 5	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Tues., Nov. 8	Election Day. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. All Town offices will be open.
Fri., Nov. 11	Town Offices are closed for Veterans Day.
Fri., Nov. 11	Veteran's Day: FREE Fishing Day in New York State. No license required!
Mon., Nov. 14	<i>Tentative</i> ZBA Meeting @ Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.- Sigma Solar - 930 Powderhouse Rd.
Tues., Nov. 15	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall at 7 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 19	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Sat., Nov. 19	Opening Day for Deer Season in the Southern Zone. See page 3.
Thurs., Nov. 24	HAPPY THANKSGIVING! Town offices will be closed.
Fri., Nov. 25	Town Offices are closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.
Tues., Dec. 6	Town of Binghamton Board Work Session @ Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 7	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Mon., Dec. 12	<i>Tentative</i> ZBA Meeting @ Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 17	Hazardous Waste Collection at County Landfill. See page 6.
Tues., Dec. 20	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall at 7 p.m.
Dec. 23 & 26	MERRY CHRISTMAS! All Town offices will be closed.

