

Town Talk



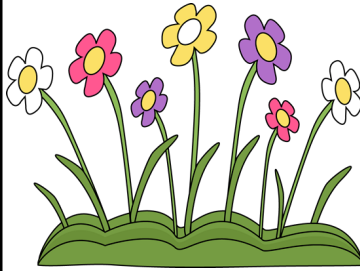
Issue 108

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

May 2023



HELLO
Spring



Our very popular "Municipal Cleanup Days" are back again this year. Reminder postcards will be sent to residents in mid-May. This is a great opportunity to clean up around your house and get rid of your junk for FREE. Proof of residency is required. Here are the details:

"MUNICIPAL CLEANUP DAYS"

Fri., May 19, 2023 — 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sat., May 20, 2023 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Drop your items off at:

Town of Binghamton Town Hall — 279 Park Ave.

ELECTRONICS DROP OFF ON FRIDAY ONLY — 9 A.M. TO NOON.

Electronics include TV's, computers, laptops, printers, fax machines, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, GPS units, gaming consoles, and much more. **NO SPEAKERS.**

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON BOTH DAYS:

- **TIRES: \$1 per tire - CASH ONLY** Unlimited number, with or without rims. **NO LARGE TRUCK TIRES**
- **WHITE GOODS:** washers, dryers, stoves, etc. **NO FREON APPLIANCES.**
- **FURNITURE** including wooden and metal cabinets
- **HOUSEHOLD TRASH** (items from cleaning basement, garage, etc.):
**MATTRESSES & BOX SPRINGS, CARPETS, HOT TUBS,
WATER HEATERS, MICROWAVES, MIRRORS, TOILETS,
CLOTHING, POWER WASHERS, PALLETS, FENCE POSTS,
METAL ITEMS, SCREEN DOORS AND SIMILAR.**

THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE DUMPSTER FOR "METAL ONLY"

ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED:

**NO APPLIANCES WITH FREON! NO CHEMICALS! NO GARBAGE!
NO PAINTS! NO YARD WASTE! NO FOOD ITEMS! NO SPEAKERS!**

For a more detailed list, visit our website at www.townofbinghamton.com
If you have any questions, call Becky at (607) 772-0357, press option 1.

**NOTE: We'll be offering this service again in the fall on the weekend of
September 22 & 23 so mark your calendars now.**

Highway Dept./Water & Sewer Dept.**Hours: 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.****Mark Leighton, Highway Supt. - (607) 669-4323 Email: highway@townofbinghamton.com**

Wow! What a winter. Our heads are spinning here at the Highway Department. We couldn't tell if it was going to rain, ice, snow, or melt, but we all made it through together. Thank you to those who gave us a friendly wave as we passed. It is always a boost to know that the town's folk are there for us. But now, faster than a magician's slight of hand, it's spring, and it's road season! We have an aggressive schedule of repairing and renewing. The plan is to stone and oil Spaulding, Gardner, Noyes, and Coleman. And for paving, the team is going to tackle Oswego and Seneca. There are some other roads we will hire out to the great contractors in our area who do paving all the time (we just need the Governor to release the budget).

We'll be coming around for brush weekly or more. Please follow the instructions below for branch and brush pickup. Sanitary sewer lining in the neighborhood of Mill St. has begun. Please be careful of the workers in that area.

I would also like to thank everyone for their best wishes. I have just begun my term as Superintendent of Highways, and I have some big shoes to fill. Also, thank you for the support of the team here at the Highway Department. No matter who I speak to, there is always a good word for the hard-working crew that maintains the roads. Remember, it's the roads that link us all. May they be smooth and easy going. ~ All the best,

Mark Leighton

TREE BRANCH & BRUSH PICKUP IS NOW UNDERWAY. ENDS FRI., MAY 26, 2023.

The Town of Binghamton Highway Dept. is currently picking up branches. The last day for pickup will be Friday, May 26. This pickup is for TREE BRANCHES ONLY. No cuttings from any kind of bush. Due to the overwhelming response to this service, you will not be given a specific time or day when your tree branches will be picked up; simply place your pile at the curb or edge of the road. CALL ONLY IF YOU HAVE A LARGE PILE THAT NEEDS TO BE APPROVED - (607) 669-4323.

In addition, there are certain guidelines to be followed:

- Tree branches from your yard only; no cuttings from any kind of bushes.
- Put branches neatly along the curb/roadside in front of your home.
- Please place the large end of the branch towards the road, and leave the branches as long as possible; No piles that look like pickup sticks.
- No brush from clearing your lot;
- 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.)
- 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.

The Water/Sewer Billing Schedule for 2023 is as follows:
(these are approximate mailing dates)

November 1, 2022 (1st billing of a cycle); due in early Dec.

February 1, 2023 (2nd billing); due in early March

May 1, 2023 (3rd billing); due in early June

August 1, 2023 (4th billing); due in early September



BILLS CAN BE PAID IN PERSON, BY MAIL, OR ONLINE. ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT WILL BE DONE IN MAY.

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Tracy Tokos, Town Clerk / Paula Edwards, Deputy Town Clerk
Phone: (607) 772-0357, press option 8

**PAULA'S BEAR UPDATES - 2023**

Spring has finally arrived in the Town of Binghamton! I'm hoping this year I'll get to see one of the town bears sauntering between the trees that I view everyday from my desk in the Clerk's office. Last year, the "Bear Wall" and the map were absolutely covered with photos of our local *Ursus Americanus*, and it was almost daily that I got a report or two from local residents about a Momma with her cubs. Not one report came in of a Momma and a "singular" cub, but twins and triplets were definitely in abundance! The Bahnuk Family has the honor of submitting the first bear photos of the season to the Clerk's office. The bears must know that Jakki, Paul, and Myles have a welcoming home as the Momma made herself comfortable on their deck! It wasn't surprising that Momma came back with her three babies to show them her new favorite spot.

For those wishing to share pictures or reports of bear sightings, please let me know. Drop the pictures off at the Town Hall, or call my extension at the office (607) 772-0357, ext. 023 to leave a report with location and date. You can also send your pictures via email to me at: deputyclerk@townofbinghamton.com Have a great bear-spotting spring!

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Joseph Cook, Assessor & Mary Atkinson, Assessor's Assistant
Phone: (607) 772-0357, press 4.

ATTENTION SENIORS 65 AND OLDER:

We want to remind all current participants in the Low-Income Senior Program and those who will be turning 65 in 2024 who may qualify for the Enhanced Star exemption next year to **PLEASE KEEP YOUR 2022 TAX RETURN IN A SAFE PLACE.** Keep it accessible because eligible residents will need to bring it with them for processing their new Low-Income Senior Exemption and new Enhanced STAR Exemption for 2024.

Also, keep an eye on the mail in the fall as your annual renewal form will be mailed out at that time. Again, you'll be required to bring in your 2022 Income Tax Return for 2024. Having the required tax return will help process your application quickly. Thank you and enjoy the spring!



NOTE: You do not need to renew Enhanced Star.



Our website is our main form of communication, and we believe you'll find it to be very useful. There's a feature that allows you to subscribe to our mass email list. *If you look to the bottom right of any page on our website, you'll see "Subscribe to our email list to stay informed".* Once you subscribe, you'll be the first to receive the latest Town Board agendas and minutes. You'll also receive important newsworthy items such as the *Town Talk* newsletter, an occasional emergency alert (water breaks, road closures, etc.) and other important newsworthy items, including our annual Municipal Cleanup Days, spring branch pickup, and fall leaf pick up, to name a few. Why don't you sign up today at: www.townofbinghamton.com

From the Code Enforcement Office & Parks Dept. - Nick Pappas**Phone: (607) 772-0357, press Email: code@townofbinghamton.com**

With spring upon us, there are a lot more people in our parks enjoying the weather. We've been seeing a lot of dogs running without a leash, and we're also noticing a lot of dog poop on our Town properties. The Town of Binghamton Dog Control Ordinance, Local Law Chapter 88, Section 88-5, states: "It shall be unlawful for any owner of any dog in the Town to permit or allow such dog to: (A) Run at large and (F) Create a nuisance by defecating, urinating, or digging on public property, or on private property, without the consent or approval of the owner of such property."

In case you didn't know, dogs are to be on leashes at all times during visits to our parks, and it's your responsibility to clean up after your dog. We've noticed that some people are bringing plastic baggies and using them, but they're not disposing of them properly. Instead, we're finding the baggies filled and placed along the fence. There are garbage barrels throughout our parks for you to use. Please use them. With the number of people attending our park activities, the last thing anyone wants to do is step in your dog's poo.

**A Message From Rick Murray, Dog Control Officer****Office Phone: (607) 772-0357, press 7 Cell Phone: (607) 217-8857****Email: DCO@townofbinghamton.com**

Spring is here, and even our pets know it. They get spring fever, too, and that means they'll soon want to spend even more time outdoors. As your Dog Control Officer, I'd like to give you a few reminders about spring so that you and your dog can enjoy everything that this season offers.

- Make sure your dog is protected with flea, tick, and heartworm treatments.
- Avoid allowing your dog on any lawns that have been treated with fertilizers. Many people don't know that these chemicals are harmful to our four-legged friends.
- If you're taking your dog out for a spring ride, make sure they're properly restrained. Don't allow them to ride in the back of a pickup truck or to hang out an open window as they could fall out or get debris in their eyes.
- Most importantly, don't allow them to run loose off your property. We all know that sometimes dogs do get loose, but for your dog's safety, please take all precautions to avoid it. If they do get loose, please call me immediately to report them missing. Be sure to put an ID tag on your dogs collar with your phone number to help him/her get home quickly, if found.
- I wish you a PAWS-ITIVELY wonderful Spring.



Broome County Landfill's Spring/Summer 2023 Electronics and Hazardous Waste Drop-Off 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 (such as computers, printers, stereos, TVs, copiers, fax machines, mobile phones, etc.) You can drop these off at the landfill on the

following days FREE OF CHARGE from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.:

Sat., May 6 / Sat., May 20 / Sat., June 3 / Weds., June 7 / Sat., June 17 / Weds., July 5

The Broome County Landfill is located at 286 Knapp Rd. (near the airport). Phone: (607) 763-4450

SPRING EVENTS AT THE HAWLEYTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**Address: 901 Hawleyton Road, Binghamton, NY 13903****CHICKEN BBQ FUNDRAISER - SAT., MAY 6, 2023 - 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

The Hawleyton & Conklin Forks United Methodist Mens Group will be holding a Chicken BBQ on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 11:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. (or until sold out). ALL MEALS WILL BE DRIVE THRU / TAKE-OUT ONLY. Cost is \$13 per meal. Meal includes: Half chicken, baked beans, macaroni salad, roll, and dessert.

**SPRING RUMMAGE SALE
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

**Fri., 5/26 and Sat. 5/27
from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

THE CHIEF'S CORNER by Darin Lewis, Fire Chief, TOB Vol. Fire Co.

Phone: (607) 761-1218 Email: chief@tobfire.org

**OUR MEMORIAL DAY PARADE is scheduled for
Monday, May 29, 2023.**

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Fire Station #1 in Hawleyton and will proceed to the cemetery. Come out and witness small town America at its finest!

Brush Burn Ban is currently in effect. Absolutely no burning through May 14th.

**EASY-TO-SEE 911 HOUSE NUMBERS SAVE LIVES!
MAKE SURE YOUR HOUSE NUMBERS ARE VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD.**

When an emergency happens, most everyone knows to call 911. The 911 dispatcher (Broome County Emergency Services) then provides the local responders with the specific 911 address associated with the emergency. We immediately get in our vehicles and head to the location that dispatch has provided. On a couple of recent emergency calls, we could find no house numbers or mailbox numbers displayed to identify the house. The lack of house numbers delayed us in getting assistance to those in need.

The New York State Building & Fire Code (*Section 505 - Premises Identification*) states, "The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. The house numbers should be a minimum of 4" high. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole, or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure." We suggest that your house numbers be adhered to both sides of the mailbox, made out of reflective material, and/or placed visibly on the property, near the front, by the road. Putting house numbers visibly on your property could save your life.



**THE BINGHAMTON TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL MUSEUM WILL BE
OPEN ON MEMORIAL DAY
(Monday, May 29, 2023)**

HOURS: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Why don't you stop by before or after the Memorial Day parade? We'd love to take you on a tour of our museum!

A Message from Christopher Streno, Director of Youth Activities

Phone: (607) 772-0357, ext. 048

E-mail: tobyouthsports@gmail.com



Around 110 kids participated in our basketball programs this season which wrapped up at the end of February. Thirty-four kids registered for our K-2 Skills & Drills program with at least eight parents who volunteered their time to help introduce the kids to the game of basketball and to teach them the skills of the game. Seventy-three boys and girls made up our eight competitive teams from the grades 3-6 levels.

After another successful basketball season, we have moved swiftly into the baseball & softball season. Practices have been ongoing for a few weeks, and our games are scheduled to begin the week of April 24th. This year we have two Minors & two Majors Softball teams, two Coach-Pitch, one Minors and three Majors Baseball teams representing the Town of Binghamton.

This season one of our Majors Baseball teams will be the Rumble Ponies. We have partnered with the Binghamton Rumble Ponies to help sell some General Admission tickets that can be redeemed for any home game this season. In return, the Rumble Ponies are providing official jerseys and hats for the team as well as official Rumble Ponies polos for the coaches. Please consider purchasing one or more of these vouchers to help support our program. For more information, contact their coach or please contact me.

Once again, our Coach-Pitch, Minors and Majors levels of both softball and baseball will be playing in our Tri-Town League with the Towns of Conklin and Kirkwood. The Town of Windsor Softball program returns to our league again, after joining last season.

Tee Ball will begin in a few weeks in order to ensure good weather and field conditions. With over 35 players signed up for Tee Ball this year, we will need all the parent volunteers we can get to help run that program.

We are always looking for volunteers to help run our programs as well as participate with the Booster Club who are a tremendous help to our teams and players in every sport. Please contact your player's coach or feel free to contact me via email, Facebook message, or phone if you're interested.

Please join our Facebook page, "Town of Binghamton Youth Sports", for more up-to-date information regarding TOB Youth Activities. Thank you.



News from Our County Legislator Kelly Wildoner

As the warm weather approaches, I wanted to take a moment to update residents in the Town of Binghamton on the various activities going on in the County and the Town.

At the conclusion of our budget process in November, we approved a 5th tax cut in a row for the residents of Broome County. Not only did we cut taxes, but we were also able to maintain all the County's critical services that are used by the people in our area. We have continued to make strategic investments in our community, including investments in public safety, infrastructure, and parks, to name a few. We are very proud to be able to provide these much-needed services and investments to the people in Broome County!

In the Town of Binghamton, I have worked closely with my colleagues on the Legislature and the County Executive to secure funds for various projects in the town. At the end of last year, we secured \$32,500 from the Small Community Fund Program to support the Community Center Parking Lot Paving project. During our April session, a resolution was passed to authorize agreements with various vendors and agencies for funds to support economic development and community projects. One of the projects being considered is for funding to help the Town of Binghamton Volunteer Fire Company purchase a dry hydrant for our rural water supply. This will assist the volunteer firefighters by avoiding the complexity and inefficiency of long-distance water shuttle operations when there's a fire. Being able to help members and organizations that keep our community safe is a top priority. I appreciate my colleagues on the Legislature and the County Executive for their support to help all our municipalities in Broome County.

At the end of last month, a staple in our tight-knit community retired from their many years of dedicated service to the people of Broome County as owners of our weekly newspaper, the *Country Courier*. I wanted to take a moment to congratulate Don and Liz Einstein on their retirement. They have served the community for over 43 years through the publishing of the community weeklies. You would be hard pressed to find someone in the area that didn't enjoy the stories each weekly newspaper brought with it. I enjoyed being able to submit updates and news for our area to Don or Liz and have it published the next week. I'm happy to hear that Don and Liz will be staying local and that Liz will continue to be involved with the community weeklies. Congratulations again to both Don and Liz Einstein on their retirement. Thank you both for all you have done for our community. We appreciate it!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (607) 778-2131, kelly.wildoner@broomecountyny.gov or on Facebook by searching "Broome County Legislator Kelly Wildoner."

**FREE FISHING WEEKEND: June 24 & 25, 2023**

New York State offers "Free Fishing Weekends" a few times a year which allows people to fish without a license. This is the perfect time to teach your kids or grandkids to fish. Jackson Park pond, located at 3317 Jackson Road, is the perfect spot for fishing. "Free Fishing Weekend" applies to all fresh or marine waters in NY. Take advantage of this great opportunity and have fun!

Town of Binghamton

279 Park Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13903

TOWN HALL MAIN PHONE
(607) 772-0357

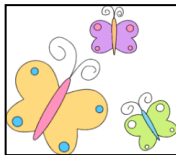
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf:
1-800-662-1220 or 711

TOWN HALL PHONE EXTENSIONS
PLEASE NOTE! WE HAVE NEW EXTENSIONS!

Check us out on the web at
www.TownofBinghamton.com

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

Assessor, Joseph Cook	Ext. 015
Assessor's Clerk, Mary Atkinson	Ext. 013
Bookkeeper, Sandra Reifler	Ext. 021
Code Enforcement/Bldg. Insp. Nick Pappas	Ext. 012
Code Enforcement Officer, Zac Soboleski	Ext. 014
Community Center Coordinator	Ext. 012
Court Clerk, Daniele Vick	Ext. 019
Dog Control Officer, Rick Murray	Ext. 022
Emergencies at Night: Dogs/Water	778-1911
Highway Supt., Mark Leighton	669-4323
Information Desk, Becky Smith	Ext. 010
Planning Board Chair, Chris Streno	Ext. 048
Supervisor, Elizabeth Rounds	Ext. 011
Tax Collection - Call Broome County	778-2169
Town Clerk, Tracy Tokos	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



FRIENDLY REMINDER: Now that spring is here, more people are outside walking, riding their bikes, and enjoying the sunshine.
MOTORISTS: Please watch for kids on bikes and other pedestrians who are out enjoying the warm weather. We care about everyone in our community!



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

Tues., May 2	Town of Binghamton Town Board Work Session @ Town Hall - 4 p.m.
Sat., May 6	Chicken BBQ @ Hawleyton UMC - 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (See page 5 for details.)
Sat., May 6	FREE Hazardous Waste Collection @ BC Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Now thru May 26	Tree Branch & Brush Pickup (See page 2 for details.)
Tues., May 16	Town of Binghamton Town Board meeting @ Town Hall - 6 p.m.
Fri., May 19	MUNICIPAL CLEANUP DAYS! (See front page for details.)
Sat., May 20	MUNICIPAL CLEANUP DAYS! (See front page for details.)
Fri., May 26	Rummage Sale at Hawleyton UMC - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (See page 5 for details.)
Sat., May 27	Rummage Sale at Hawleyton UMC - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (See page 5 for details.)
Mon., May 29	Memorial Day Parade in Hawleyton at 10 a.m./Museum open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Mon., May 29	All Town offices are closed for the Memorial Day holiday.
Sat., June 3	FREE Hazardous Waste Collection @ BC Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tue., June 6	Town of Binghamton Town Board Work Session @ Town Hall - 4 p.m.
Weds., June 7	FREE Hazardous Waste Collection @ BC Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Sat., June 17	FREE Hazardous Waste Collection @ BC Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tue., June 20	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall - 6 p.m.
Sat., June 24	FREE FISHING WEEKEND in New York State. No fishing license is required.
Sun., June 25	FREE FISHING WEEKEND in New York State. No fishing license is required.
Mon., July 3	All Town offices are closed in observance of the Independence Day holiday.
Tue., July 4	All Town offices are closed in observance of the Independence Day holiday.
Weds., July 5	FREE Hazardous Waste Collection @ BC Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Thurs., July 6	Town of Binghamton Town Board Work Session @ Town Hall - 4 p.m.