

# Town Talk



Issue 113

Town of Binghamton  
279 Park Avenue  
Binghamton, NY 13903

July 2024



**A MESSAGE FROM TOWN SUPERVISOR, ELIZABETH ROUNDS**  
E-mail: [Supervisor@TownofBinghamton.com](mailto:Supervisor@TownofBinghamton.com)

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Our “**Municipal Cleanup Days**” are always a hit, and we’re offering our residents another opportunity to dispose of unwanted household junk and old electronics on September 27th and 28th. We’re going with a different electronics recycling vendor this time, and he accepts certain items that weren’t previously allowed. Appliances with FREON, for example, will now be accepted. We’re hoping this change will be a big hit with our residents! Check out

Page 3 for more information, and always check out the website for the most up-to-date information. As always, postcards will be mailed to residents in advance, so watch for one in your mailbox in mid-September. If you haven’t been getting a postcard, feel free to reach out to Becky to be added to her mailing list. Send a request by email to: [info@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:info@townofbinghamton.com)

The Town of Binghamton is once again applying for a **Community Development Block Grant**. You may have heard about this highly successful grant program that we’ve taken advantage of in the past. This program has enabled many Town residents to have necessary repairs done on their homes. Specifically, the grant funds can be used to rehabilitate single-family, owner-occupied properties located in the Town of Binghamton. Occupants must be low-to-moderate in income and the property must be in need of repairs. The type of rehabilitation work includes, but may not be limited to: electrical, plumbing, heating, roofing, insulation, masonry, windows, doors, painting, flooring, and interior and exterior carpentry. This is a grant, not a loan. If you would like to request a pre-application and be placed on the waiting list for potential future funding, please call Thoma Development Consultants at (607) 753-1433, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. I hope some of you take advantage of this great opportunity!

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have. I can be reached at the Town Hall at (607) 772-0357, and press option 2. Thanks, and enjoy the summer!



*Elizabeth Rounds*



**Highway Dept.  
Water/Sewer Dept.**

**Mark Leighton  
Highway Supt.**

**Phone: (607) 669-4323**

**SUMMER HOURS  
through Labor Day:  
Tuesdays thru Fridays  
6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



**CLOSED  
ON  
MONDAYS  
through  
Labor  
Day.**

**HIGHWAY DEPT. NEWS**



**WE'RE ON SUMMER HOURS!**

**Tuesdays through Fridays - 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. thru Labor Day.**

Summer is here, and we are deep into our to-do list. The roads that we had slated to pave have been paved. Many of the ditches have been cleaned, and we have completed one circuit of mowing. But . . . we will not rest until all of the list is complete.

We have two rounds of roads we intend to chip seal, two bridges that need preventative maintenance, and for some reason that grass on the sides of the roads just continues to grow! I ask one very important thing. While you're out driving our roads, please keep an eye out for work crews. Slow down, obey the flaggers, and be mindful of the equipment and the workers.

As usual, if you're planning any projects around your house where you need to dig, please call 811 ([UDigNY](#)) and file a work plan so we know to come and mark your underground facilities. Calling 811 ensures that nothing gets damaged and you don't get hurt.

For information on these and other activities, highway projects, and notices, go to the Town's website. Thank you from all of us at the TOB Highway Department.

*Mark Leighton, Highway Supt.*

**WATER/SEWER DEPT. NEWS - We need your email addresses, please!**

For those of you who noticed that the flushing postcards came after the hydrant flushing, it was because the Syracuse Post Office was without power for almost three days which delayed the mail delivery. Obviously we had no idea at the time of mailing and only found out afterwards when the calls started coming in. Fortunately, there were no major problems.



This problem has made us rethink how to contact you, not only for flushing notices, but for water breaks, and for the possibility of emailing your bills in the future! We're thinking a mass email service is the best, so we need to begin collecting your email addresses.

**If you live in a water and/or sewer district, we're asking you to please send your email contact information to us.** In the subject line, write: HERE'S MY

EMAIL. We'll need your name, house address, and of course, email address. It may also be helpful to have your water/sewer acct. #, if you have it handy. Please send to: [water@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:water@townofbinghamton.com)



This process may take some time, but in the end, we think it will be worth it. Thanks for your help!

**WATER / SEWER BILLING SCHEDULE FOR 2024**

*These are approximate mailing dates:*

November 1st (1st billing of a 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**



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If the August bill is not paid in full by October 15th, the unpaid amount is turned over to the Broome County Real Property Tax Office as unpaid and will be relieved onto next January's Town & County tax bill. If you have a question about your bill, please call Nadine at (607) 669-4323.

**Office of the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer****Nick Pappas: Phone: (607) 772-0357, press 3****Email: [code@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:code@townofbinghamton.com)****Zack Soboleski: (607) 772-0357, ext. 014****[codeassist@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:codeassist@townofbinghamton.com)**

Summer is the busiest season for our department. Building projects are always in full swing, and it's also the time of year when people are wanting to clean up their unwanted junk, including old vehicles. Here's some information I thought you might find helpful:

- **BUILDING PERMITS** - Building Permits are required for most projects, including sheds, pools, decks, porches, additions, pole barns, garages, houses, political signs, cellular towers, TV towers, and now, house generators and solar related projects. Please call our office before starting any project so that we can fill you in on any rules and regulations. If you don't have time for a call, go to [our page on the Town's website](#) to get most of your questions answered. Also, feel free to contact us via email if you have any questions. You're also more than welcome to submit your building permit application via email. Our email addresses are listed above.
- **JUNK VEHICLES** - If you have a junk vehicle that you want to get rid of, the best and easiest way is to call *Gary's U-Pull It* at (607) 775-1900. They'll pick your vehicle up or you can drop it off at their location at 230 Colesville Road. If they pick it up, they'll deduct a towing fee from the price they'll give you. Car pricing is based upon the make, model, condition, and weight of the vehicle. A car can generally bring anywhere from \$200 to \$600. Call *Gary's U-Pull It* if you have questions.
- **MUNICIPAL CLEANUP DAYS** will be held for the second time this year in September. Here are some details. This is a great opportunity to get rid of your junk for free!

**MUNICIPAL CLEANUP DAYS**

Fri., September 27, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.\*

Sat., September 28, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

NON-ELECTRONIC ITEMS will be accepted both days.

\*Electronics drop-off is Friday only. New vendor! Hours to be determined.

**WE MAY HAVE A SEPARATE DROP-OFF LOCATION FOR ELECTRONICS THIS TIME.****DETAILS WILL BE POSTED ON THE [TOWN'S WEBSITE](#) WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.****PROOF OF RESIDENCY IS REQUIRED.**

The items in this box will be accepted on Fri., Sept 27 only:

TV's, VCRs, computers, laptops, printers, fax machines, cell phones, radios, stereos, GPS units, gaming consoles, speakers, and more. **NEW this time: Any item containing FREON; Lithium Ion batteries, speakers.** (No standard alkaline, flashlight type batteries).

**NON-ELECTRONIC ITEMS INCLUDE:****TIRES: NEW PRICE: \$2 per tire (with or without rim) -- CASH ONLY****CAR BATTERIES****WHITE GOODS** (washers, dryers, water heaters, stoves, microwaves, etc.)**HOUSEHOLD ITEMS** (furniture, cabinets, mattresses, box springs, disassembled hot tubs, carpets, wire fencing, toys, miscellaneous household trash, and more)**NOT ACCEPTED: NO PAINTS, NO CHEMICALS, NO YARD WASTE, NO FOOD ITEMS.**

**Office of the Town of Binghamton Justice Court****John Petito, Court Clerk****Phone: (607) 772-0357, press option 5**      **E-mail: [japetito@nycourts.gov](mailto:japetito@nycourts.gov)**

The Binghamton Town Court is part of the independent Judicial Branch of New York State government and plays a vital role in the Unified Court System of New York State. The Town Court has limited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters, as well as some of the local town laws including code enforcement and dog control violations.

In the **civil part**, the Town Court hears litigant actions seeking money judgment awards up to \$3,000 in more relaxed small claims part proceedings. The court also hears landlord/tenant matters that may result in an eviction, an unlimited monetary judgment for back rent that is due, or a court order mandating property repair.

The Town Justice is authorized to conduct civil marriage solemnizations.

In the **criminal part**, the court is authorized to fully adjudicate matters involving the prosecution of misdemeanors and violations that are committed within the town's geographic boundaries.

This Town Court has preliminary felony jurisdiction, and the Town Justice presides in the Broome County Central Arraignment Part on a rotational basis.

The Court hears Vehicle and Traffic Law misdemeanors and traffic infractions.

Jury and non-jury trials are held in the Town Courtroom on an as-needed basis.

The Court Clerk is responsible for maintaining all court-related records and calendars.

The Town Justice is an elected official with a four-year term that must annually complete twelve (12) hours of mandatory Judicial Continuing Education offered by the State Office of Court Administration. The Justice is subject to the canons of Judicial Ethics.

For additional general information about New York Town and Village Courts, please [click here](#).

**For further information regarding the Town of Binghamton Justice Court, go to the [Court's web page](#) or call the Court Clerk at (607) 772-0357, option 5.**

**BROOME COUNTY LANDFILL'S HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DATES**

The BC Landfill is once again accepting 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 for FREE on the following days from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.:



Sat., July 20 / Sat., Aug. 3 / Weds., Aug. 7 / Sat., Aug. 17  
 Wed., Sept. 4 / Sat., Sept. 7 / Sat., Sept. 21  
 Wed., Oct. 2 / Sat., Oct. 5 / Sat., Oct. 19

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

**GRASS CARP HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE TOWN POND ON JACKSON ROAD**

If you've been to the Jackson Park pond lately, you've probably noticed that it's full of weeds and algae. We've been monitoring the problem and took action this spring by adding some grass carp. Grass carp will feed on the grass and weeds which will help to reduce the vegetation in the pond. Without the assistance of the carp, the grass and weeds will eventually take over, and we certainly don't want that to happen. If you catch any carp, please release them back into the water immediately so they can do their job. If you see anyone else catching them, please share this information.

## News from County Legislator Kelly Wildoner - Summer 2024



I hope everyone has been staying cool during this very hot summer. I wanted to give an update on some things going on in the Town of Binghamton and our community.

The Broome County Land Bank is an essential partnership we have at the County. They do great work renovating or demolishing eye sores in our community. In the Town of Binghamton, a number of years ago, the Land Bank, in partnership with the Legislature, renovated a home on Burdick Road so that it could be sold to someone in our community and returned to the tax rolls.

The Land Bank's Affordable Homes Program is a great way to address dilapidated properties in our community and give someone the chance to turn the property into a home. The Land Bank also works on demolitions for properties that are too long gone, to help clean up our neighborhoods. A property on Margery Street, in the Park Terrace area, was demolished thanks to help from the Land Bank and the Legislature. Keeping our neighborhoods clean and safe for families is a top priority.

In my last column, I touched on the new Veterans Resource Center that will be located at 530 State Street in Binghamton. This Resource Center will be great for all of our Veterans in Broome County. Additionally, in May, the Legislature held its 14<sup>th</sup> annual *Veterans of Distinction Ceremony*. This is a ceremony we hold at our May Legislative Session meeting to recognize the great Veterans in our area. It truly is a ceremony I look forward to each year, and it's such a great way to honor the brave men and women who served their country and community. Thank you to everyone who participated. I'm excited for next year's ceremony.

Summertime is the perfect time to take advantage of all our County Parks. There are a number of great parks to visit in the County, including Aqua Terra Wilderness Area, which is perfect for hiking and fishing. I wanted to also remind everyone of the family fun events the County is hosting this summer. As I talked about last time, the Spiedie Fest will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Be sure to get a ticket and stop down at Otsiningo Park August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> to experience the fun.

Broome County Department of Public Works Highway Division will be resurfacing and paving 5½ miles of Powers Road, running through the Town of Binghamton and Conklin. Please keep an eye out as this may affect your travels.

This is just a small sampling of what's happening in Broome County. I appreciate the opportunity to be your County Legislator and work for you. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (607) 778-2131, [kelly.wildoner@broomecountyny.gov](mailto:kelly.wildoner@broomecountyny.gov) or on Facebook by searching "Broome County Legislator Kelly Wildoner."

*Kelly Wildoner, BC Legislator*

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

## TOB VOL. FIREMEN'S ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

Saturday, August 17, 2024, from NOON until gone.



Drive thru pickup will be at the Hawleyton Methodist Church, located at 901 Hawleyton Road.

\$15 - Full Dinner includes 1/2 chicken with salt potatoes, baked beans & roll.

\$10 - Half Dinner is 1/2 chicken ONLY. No sides.

TO PREORDER, GO TO: <https://tobfire58.square.site/>

Deadline for pre-orders is Fri., 8/2/24.

## A Message from the Seniors Activities Program Coordinators

**Dennis & Susan See / Lisa Young**

**Email: [tobseniors@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:tobseniors@townofbinghamton.com)**

***Please be patient awaiting replies to our email address. We are volunteers and will check emails as often as we can.***



Our new Seniors Commission is officially off and running! Our "Meet & Greet" on May 15, 2024, went well, and we received great input from the seniors who attended and the surveys received. We met at the Hawleyton Memorial Day Parade with banners and flags to kick off our first official event. Afterwards, the Binghamton Township Historical Society graciously opened their doors to us. We all enjoyed the comradery, and it was an easy and comfortable way to become acquainted with new faces.

In June, we had two groups meet for the first time at the Town Hall; our **book club** met (lead by Sue See) and a group of **card players** met (lead by Dennis See). Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. These groups will continue to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Town Hall, located at 279 Park Avenue. The book club has chosen a book, *First Ladies*, by Heather Terrell and Victoria Christopher Murray. Please feel free to come even if you have not read the book.



Lisa will directly contact those who showed interest in the upcoming Meteor Watch Meet in mid-August (weather permitting).

We are currently in the early planning stages of the following activities. All are tentative at this point:

In **September**, we're hoping to secure a **speaker from United Health Services**.

**October** is "**National Fire Prevention**" month. We're hoping to land a speaker to educate us on fire safety.

In **November & December**, we're looking forward to the annual senior "**Holiday Luncheons**" offered at the Richard T. Stank Middle School and hope to dine-in as a group.

We're also in the planning stages of our first bus trip. We're gathering ideas and looking into possibilities but have no details yet.

We are always open to suggestions for activities. If you have any comments or ideas, please feel free to share them by using our email above. *When contacting us through the email, please be patient in the response time. We will respond as soon as we are able.*

We encourage all seniors (55 and older) to join our group! Please spread the word about us!



## A MESSAGE FROM RICK MURRAY, Dog Control Officer

**Phone: 772-0357, press option 7**

**E-mail: [DCO@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:DCO@townofbinghamton.com)**

### **DOG SHELTER LAW PROTECTS DOGS DURING THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER!**



The Dog Shelter Law is a law that applies to all seasons, including summer. Section 353-B of the New York Agriculture and Markets Law requires dog owners to provide shelter for their dogs. The shelter must protect your dog from direct sunlight, rain, snow, wind, cold weather, hot weather, and other inclement conditions. The shelter must be waterproof, insulated, and allow the dog to move around freely. The dog must be able to stand up, turn around, and lie down. Violators will receive a court citation and be required to pay a fine ranging from \$50 to \$250 and will need to show proof of shelter for the dog. If you suspect that someone is not providing their dog with adequate food

and/or shelter, call the Sheriff's Dept. at (607) 778-1911 and press 1 to speak with a Deputy or call the New York State Police at (607) 775-1241.

## A Message from Christopher Streno Director of Youth Activities

**E-mail:** [tobyouthsports@gmail.com](mailto:tobyouthsports@gmail.com)

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

Another successful Baseball and Softball season concluded in June. This season we had two Majors, two Minors, and two Coach-Pitch Baseball teams. We had one Majors, two Minors, and one Coach-Pitch Softball teams.

Our Majors Baseball Mets won their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive Tri-Town League Championship; our Majors Softball Electric team played in their Championship; and the Minors Softball Slayers and Bombers played each other for their Championship. Congratulations to the Slayers for prevailing as Champions, and congratulations to everyone for a great season!

Our Tee-Ball program was once again very strong with enough kids for four teams. All told, we had a total of 166 softball and baseball players.

We also wrapped up our second Sabers Youth Lacrosse season, adding another level to the program this year with the addition of a 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade team.

A big 'Thank You' to all of the coaches and parents for their help and support in making our baseball, softball and lacrosse programs great!



We are moving swiftly into the Football & Cheer Season with our first practices coming up on July 29<sup>th</sup> and games beginning August 25<sup>th</sup>. This year we once again anticipate having two teams at each level: K-Flag, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade Flag, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade tackle, and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade tackle.



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 consider helping out with coaching, team parent, Concession Stand, and the Press Box. Contact your player's coach or feel free to contact me via email, Facebook message or phone if you are interested.

Please join our Facebook page "Town of Binghamton Youth Sports" for more up-to-date information regarding TOB Youth Activities. Thanks, everyone, and enjoy the summer!

*Chris Streno, Youth Director*

## Town Clerk's Corner

**Email:** [townclerk@townofbinghamton.com](mailto:townclerk@townofbinghamton.com)

**Tracy Tokos, Town Clerk / Paula Edwards, Deputy Town Clerk**

**Phone:** (607) 772-0357, and press option 8



. . . that the **Town Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes are available on the Town's website?** Grab your laptop or tablet, head to your favorite recliner, click on the link below and educate yourself on what's going on in the Town of Binghamton without attending a single meeting! To view agendas or minutes, click here: <https://townofbinghamton.com/town-board/>

For those residents who have a new four-legged family member, New York State requires that all dogs four months and older must be licensed. The fee is \$15 for a spayed or neutered dog . . . just a mere four cents a day! Please stop in to license your dog, and bring your pooch along for a doggie treat! We look forward to seeing you and meeting your new furry friend! Licenses can also be renewed by mail if more convenient.

# 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

If you're interested in receiving Town news by e-mail, sign up at [www.TownofBinghamton.com](http://www.TownofBinghamton.com)  
Scroll down toward the bottom right on any page.

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 Avenue—SW  
Washington, DC 20250-9410

Assessor, Joseph Cook	Ext. 015
Assessor's Clerk, Mary Atkinson	Ext. 013
Bookkeeper, Sandra Reifler	Ext. 021
Building Inspector, Nick Pappas	Ext. 012
Code Enforcement Officer, Nick Pappas	Ext. 012
Court Clerk, John Petito	Ext. 019
Dog Control Officer, Rick Murray	Ext. 022
<b>Emergencies at Night: Dogs/Water</b>	<b>778-1911</b>
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	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

Tues., July 16	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall - 6 p.m.
Sat., July 20	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tues., July 23	Planning Board Meeting / Zoning Board Meeting @ Town Hall - 6:30 p.m.
Fri., August 2	Deadline for TOB Vol. Fire Co. Chicken BBQ Online Tickets.
Sat., August 3	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tues., August 6	Town of Binghamton Work Session @ Town Hall - 4 p.m.
Weds., August 7	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tues., August 13	FREE Rabies Clinic @ BC Humane Society, 167 Conklin Rd. - 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sat., August 17	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Sat., August 17	Firemen's Annual Chicken BBQ @ Hawleyton UMC - Noon until gone (see Page 5)
Tues., August 20	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall - 6 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 2	All Town offices are closed for the Labor Day holiday.
Tues., Sept. 3	Town of Binghamton Work Session @ Town Hall - 4 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 4	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Sat., Sept. 7	Hazardous Waste Collection @ Broome County Landfill - 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
Tues., Sept. 17	Town of Binghamton Town Board Meeting @ Town Hall - 6 p.m.
Sept. 27 & 28	"Municipal Cleanup Days" @ Town Hall. (See Page 3 for more info.)



Now that summer is here, we know many of you are out enjoying nature on your mountain bikes, dirt bikes, and four-wheelers. Please make sure you have the permission of a property owner to be on their property, and please be respectful of those landowners whose properties border the trails you enjoy. We would all appreciate a stress-free summer. Thank you.