



Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

April 2010

445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054
518.439.4955

www.townofbethlehem.org

Town Board

Sam Messina, Supervisor
Joann Dawson, Board Member
Mark Hennessey, Board Member
Mark Jordan, Board Member
Kyle Kotary, Board Member

April Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

Planning Board

Tuesday, April 6, 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 7, 7:00 p.m.

Town Board

Wednesday, April 14, 6:00 p.m.

Development Planning Committee

Thursday, April 15, 10:00 a.m.

Planning Board

Tuesday, April 20, 6:00 p.m.

Industrial Development Agency

Monday, April 21, 8:00 a.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wednesday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Thursday, April 1 - Last day for anyone who owns, possesses or harbors a [wild or exotic animal](#), to report its location to the Town Clerk's Office

Thursday, April 1 - Town Clerk's Office open on Thursdays until 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 2 - Last day to apply for seasonal [Compost Facility Attendant](#) position

Thursday, April 8 - Free Senior Legal Services Program at Town Hall, appointment 439-4955 x1176

Friday, April 9 - Last day to apply for part-time [Recycling Coordinator](#) position

Monday, April 12 - Food Stamp Assistance and Medicaid Representative at Town Hall, appointment 439-4955 x1176

Thursday, April 15 - Last day of the Town's No Parking Ordinance until November

Friday, April 16 - Historic Trolley Tour of Bethlehem

Saturday, April 17 - Garden Day, free compost at the Town's Compost Facility with permit, see below

Tuesday, April 20 - Albany County Veteran Services Representative at Town Hall, reservation required

Thursday, April 22 - Earth Day

PaTHs Committee

Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.

Town Board

Wednesday, April 28, 6:00 p.m.

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

Diamond is the birthstone for April and the flower, Sweet Pea.

Saturday, April 24 - WNYT Electronics and Room Air Conditioner Collection Day, see below

Friday, April 30 - Historic Trolley Tour of Bethlehem

Friday, April 30 - Arbor Day

Saturday, May 1 - Household Hazardous Waste and Computer Recycling Day, see below

Saturday, May 1 - last day to submit an application for Summer volunteer opportunities with the Parks and Recreation Department

From the Supervisor



What is Bethlehem? We are a Town, incorporated in 1793, covering 52 square miles, including the hamlets of Delmar, Elsmere, Selkirk, Glenmont, Slingerlands, South Bethlehem and North Bethlehem. Our total population in the year 2000 was 31,304 (16,398 females and 14,906 males), with 12,459 housing units, 8,677 people enrolled in school, more than 50% of residents holding bachelor degrees (Check the Town website for more information, <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/about/about.asp>.)

My first reason to talk about the statistics is to make a pitch for every person receiving a 2010 census survey to please mail it in. Data from the census will directly impact Bethlehem, because census results will determine how \$400 Million in federal funds are allocated to states and localities for roads, schools and other critical services. To be counted will ensure that Bethlehem receives its fair share of Federal funds.

For me, and the thousands of residents I have been privileged to meet as a Bethlehem Town Board member and now your Town's Supervisor, the question of "What is Bethlehem?" goes well beyond statistics. The heart and soul of the question and answer is guided by what we want Bethlehem to be for our families, and our neighbors, now, and for the legacy we shall leave, as stewards of our town.

And there is no better description of what we want for our future and or Town's than the Vision Statement in Bethlehem's Comprehensive Plan completed in August 2005: *"In the Year 2020, the Town of Bethlehem is a community of attractive residential neighborhoods, vibrant hamlets, successful mixed-use commercial centers, modern industrial facilities and productive rural lands. These are well connected by regional highways and local streets, adequately serviced by public transportation, and linked by a network of sidewalks and trails. ... It is recognized for the excellence of its schools, the quality of its public safety and community services, the abundance of its recreational opportunities, the productivity of its*

local businesses, ten miles of Hudson River waterfront, and the beauty and health of its natural environment. This exceptional quality of life contributes to the economic growth and prosperity of the town and the region, assuring that the community can continue to meet the increasingly diverse needs and expectations of its residents in a fiscally sustainable manner."

In last's month's e-newsletter *from the Supervisor* I spoke about my dream as Bethlehem Town Supervisor being "We will clearly define the community we want to become and pursue that goal with all of our hearts and minds; We will excel in the way people want their elected officials to be; We will innovate and dare to be different when it serves our community best."

Well, in our Comprehensive Plan we have defined the community we want to become. Now what do we do to pursue that vision? I have already described a range of critical initiatives being advanced and you will hear more about these in the very near future. Now I thought it would be useful to describe major Challenges in our town, and what I believe we should do to turn these Challenges into Opportunities, to achieve our Vision. We have made some progress since 2005, but more needs to be done.

To succeed, all of us, Bethlehem Town government, citizens and business persons, will need to consider new ways of doing business, make commitments to follow through and find courage to do the right things to meet our Challenges:

1. The challenge of Fiscal Responsibility --- We need to take charge of Bethlehem's financial future, and accurately and honestly read the signs that the economy and other levels of governments will not provide a silver bullet solution for Bethlehem. We will be diligent in searching for grant funds, but we will also have to make difficult budget choices, deal with the question of essential vs. non essential services, invest in a capital program to avoid future spiraling infrastructure costs, and find efficiencies in our government and in working cooperatively with other governmental jurisdictions. THE GOOD NEWS is that we can become a fiscally sustainable community, while maintaining quality services.
2. The challenge of Quality of Life --- We need to engage both the concept and practice of balance in all that we do, particularly in planning and economic development. If we do this as we move forward with the studies, reports and recommendations in various stages of progress, and set priorities well, we will: a) achieve right sized, clean, and properly located commercial development that will be a qualitative asset to our community and generate new revenues to keep down taxes, b) support existing businesses, large and small so that they prosper, c) create pedestrian linkages, protect important open spaces and help enable our farming community to retain the value of their lands and maintain their lands as farms and open spaces if that is their choice, and d) achieve outstanding neighborhood development through diversity and hamlet design by adhering to the Comprehensive Plan and zoning design standards. (And realizing that plans and design standards are often general or minimums and that our Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals should work with developers and residents to achieve outstanding community design objectives, while also being sensitive to their design and development cost implications. The GOOD NEWS is that we can maintain and improve the quality of life in this wonderful community.
3. The challenge of Excellence in Government --- We need to engage more of the very talented people in Bethlehem as volunteers in the important work that lies ahead, primarily in the areas of economic development, intra and inter governmental economies and efficiencies, and community planning. Expanding transparency in Bethlehem Town government while at the same time reaching out to volunteers will help us attain goals that we all believe in. THE GOOD NEWS is that not only is volunteerism the most rapidly growing area of public involvement, it has been very effective in Bethlehem as residents and business persons always seem willing to give.

The final part of this article is something new. Each month I plan to showcase one of our Town programs to highlight its services and let the public know if important changes are occurring. The Town of Bethlehem government is a team that delivers many services directly and indirectly to you. Each department is an important component of that team. This month we'll hear from the Office of Town Clerk and Nanci Moquin.

The Town Clerk is the records management officer for all town records. The office is the repository of vital statistics and town records. The Town Clerk also publishes notices of public hearings and assists in voter registration.

The office also handles a variety of licenses, permits, documents and services for the Town. These include marriage licenses, birth and death certificates, emergency alarm permits, dog licenses, dog park tags, handicapped parking permits, land fill permits, bingo and games of chance permits, trailer permits, hunting and fishing licenses, certificate of residency, bicycle registration, FOIL requests, sale of lawn bags and others.

To better serve the residents who are in need of these services, the Office of Town Clerk will be open on Thursday evenings until 6:00 PM starting April 1, 2010.

That's it for now. Again, please just stop in and see me if you happen to be at Bethlehem Town Hall.

Sincerely,
Sam Messina

Position Available: Recycling Coordinator

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a part-time **RECYCLING COORDINATOR** (20 hours per week). Candidate should have good knowledge of recycling as it relates to solid waste management. The preferred candidate should exhibit the ability to establish, promote, and maintain recycling programs and initiatives. This individual will need to possess strong verbal and writing skills in order to work with other governmental agencies and to educate the general public on the Town's recycling efforts.

Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick time, and New York State Retirement.

Please send your cover letter and resume by April 9, 2010 to Mary Tremblay-Glassman, Town of Bethlehem, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.



The Town of Bethlehem received the American Red Cross Blood Services Life Share Program Silver Level Award in recognition of its achievement and its ongoing efforts in support of the American Red Cross Blood Services Program for 2009.

News from the Town Historian

Have you mailed in your Census form yet? Future historians and genealogists thank you.

Have you ever looked at old census records? It is easy to do through the [Bethlehem Public Library web site](#) using the Heritage Quest Online database (Hint: browse the Town of Bethlehem in the 1800 census. Before we were established in 1793, Bethlehem was part of the Town of Watervliet.) Historians find fascinating records of individuals that point to societal trends. Genealogists find family members, forgotten by the current generation, yet recorded for posterity in the Census.

Filling out and returning the census form is an important duty of the here and now, but also a gift to future researchers. Please return yours today.

Susan Leath, Bethlehem Town Historian, sleath@townofbethlehem.org, 439-4955 ext. 1160.

News from the Assessor

Assessment Calendar

Taxable Status Date	March 1
Exemption Filing Deadline	March 1
Assessment Change Notices Mailed	by May 1
Tentative Assessment Roll Filed*	May 1
Grievance Day	4th Tuesday in May (May 25, 2010)
Valuation Date	July 1 (of previous year)
Final Assessment Roll Filed*	July 1

*available in Assessor's office only

Check our web page for potential exemptions on your taxes, <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/depServices/assessor.asp>

News from the Department of Public Works

NOTICE SPRING 2010 WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM

The Town of Bethlehem, Water District #1 will be conducting its spring water main flushing program in your area during the times listed below. This is done as part of a scheduled preventative maintenance program to help maintain good water quality and to improve the water flow in your neighborhood.

As we flush your area, you may experience a temporary reduction in water pressure. You may also see some color and/or sand, or you may notice a slight change in the taste and odor of your water. These conditions are normal during flushing activities and are only temporary. If you should experience any of these changes or if you see some cloudiness or rust color in your water, we recommend you refrain from washing your laundry and run the water in your home until the water runs clear.

We regret any inconvenience this flushing might cause you and thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions or if you experience any persistent water quality problems as a result of this maintenance program, please do not hesitate to call the Water Department at 439-4955.

**AREA #1 – 3/29 to 4/7
Slingerlands, North Bethlehem,
Town of New Scotland**

**AREA #2 – 4/5 to 4/21
Delmar, Elsmere**

**AREA #3 – 4/19 to 4/30
Glenmont, Selkirk**

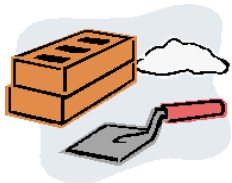


**Did You
Know?**



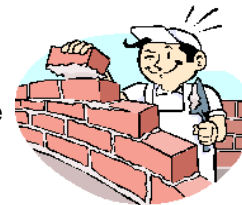
- If you have a question that may pertain to Town government or operations, you can visit our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) on our web site to look for quick references.

Straight From the Storm Drain...



Stormwater Tips: **Concrete and Mortar**

Mortar and concrete can be blown or washed into storm drains that discharge directly into nearby water bodies. This could harm the environment in that area.



- Never allow materials to enter into the storm drain
- Schedule projects for dry weather
- Minimize waste by mixing only what is needed
- Take measures to protect nearby storm drains
- Dispose of waste concrete and mortar in the trash
- Never hose materials into a street, gutter or storm drain
- Wash concrete mixers and equipment in designated washout areas

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is rain or melted snow that, instead of seeping into the ground, runs off into the storm sewer and into our waterways. It runs across rooftops, paved areas, bare soil, and sloped yards. On its way, the runoff picks up and transports soil, animal waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, debris and other potential pollutants. This polluted runoff degrades our lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and other waterways.

For more information, please see the Town of Bethlehem's Stormwater Management web page:

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/Stormwater/dpwSWStormwater.asp>

News from the Economic Development and Planning Department

Marlyn Dunn retires after 21 years with the Town of Bethlehem on March 26, 2010



Marlyn was hired by the Town on February 13, 1989 for a position with the Senior Services Department. After a few years with Senior Services, Marlyn received a promotion and moved to the second floor to work in the Building Department where she finished her career. Marlyn's duties, in brief, with the building department were to assist the building Inspectors in their daily activities, taking in applications and inspection request, typing letters and, in the past few years, developing and maintaining the contractors' insurance file, a cumbersome task. Marlyn had great compassion for all of the residents of the town and her co-workers and will be greatly missed. Marlyn will be retiring to her home in Delmar spending more time with her husband Fred, her 8 children and numerous grandchildren. Our loss will be their gain. Congratulations and good luck.

News from the Highway Department

Seasonal Position Available

Compost Facility Attendant (Seasonal)

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a COMPOST FACILITY ATTENDANT. The successful candidate will be responsible for monetary transactions and credit invoicing pertaining to the sale of compost materials. The position is 40 hours per week, Tuesday – Saturday (7:45am – 4:15pm) from April through October. Rate of pay is \$9.75 per hour.

Please send your [Employment Application](#) by April 2, 2010 to Gregg Sagendorph, Highway Superintendent, Town of Bethlehem, 74 Elm Ave. East, Selkirk, NY 12158.

Garden Day

Saturday, April 17
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Compost Facility](#), 1244 Feura Bush Road (Route 32) beyond Elm Avenue Park, Selkirk

Free leaf compost and wood chips are available to area gardeners with a Town permit.

Residential Permits (yellow sticker on mirror) are available at the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall or the Elm Avenue Park Offices, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or Highway Department, Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Bring your vehicle registration. Both the Landfill and Compost permits are good for the lifetime of your vehicle. A valid driver's license or current utility or tax bill along with the vehicle registration is required when obtaining a permit. Only one permit is needed for town residents to utilize the Compost Facility and/or the Landfill/Transfer Station.

Spring Cleanup -- starts late March, ends late April

Acceptable items include yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, etc.) raked loose to curbside, placed in biodegradable PAPER bags or in reusable containers, brush and branches (stacked neatly), wood fencing, waste wood or lumber, wood bed frames (no mattresses or box springs), wood lawn furniture (no cushions), and wood storm windows. Unacceptable items include garbage or trash, clearing of vacant lots, any metal or plastic objects, appliances, televisions, upholstered furniture, mattresses, rugs, tires, batteries, motor oil, fuels, propane tanks, barrels, drums, stumps, sod, paints, pesticides, wood preservatives, and debris left by private contractors.

Yard waste must be placed in reusable containers or paper bags*, or piled neatly along the sides of the road, not so high or so wide as to obstruct roadways or line of sight and not in the roadway itself. Placing debris into the roadway constitutes a violation of the Vehicle and Traffic law as well as creates a hazardous situation for pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic. Please make sure that storm sewer inlets are also kept clean of leaves and branches to ensure proper drainage.

Parks and Recreation Department News

Park "PLAYBOOK" coming soon!

The Park "PLAYBOOK" is your guide to all your recreation needs. It will be mailed to all Bethlehem residents in early April and will be available on the Town's web site as well. Watch for great activities, special events and more this summer, including:

- 2009 pool pass renewal by mail!
- On-line registration for all activities!
- Non-residents now eligible for all activities!
- New camp opportunities!

SCREAMS Bowling at Del Lanes

Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School

A night of bowling at Del Lanes will take place on Friday, April 16, exact time to be determined. The event is open to all Middle School students who reside in the Town of Bethlehem or Bethlehem Central School District. For more detailed information regarding this trip visit the following link: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/parksMain/parksScreams.asp>. If interested in chaperoning please call Jason Gallo at 439-4955 x1604.

Colonial Acres Season Passes and Punch Cards

Season Passes and Punch Cards are now available for golf at Colonial Acres for the 2010 season. For a season pass, click on the link below, complete the application and return it to the Parks Office. Photo passes can be issued at the park office now or at the golf course when it opens.

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2010GolfCourseSeasonPassApplication.pdf>

Punch cards are also available for \$125 and are good for 10 rounds!

Colonial Acres is scheduled to open Friday, April 2 (weather permitting.) Check out the Town's web site for course opening details. For more information, visit the Park office or call, 439-4955 option 3.

Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer applications are currently being accepted for summer programs. Applicants are required to be at minimum entering 8th grade. All volunteers are giving extra consideration when applying for future employment with the Parks and Recreation Department. Pick up an application at the park office or download it by clicking the link below. ***Please note that in order to secure a volunteer opportunity, applications are due by May 1st.***

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/Parks/2010ParksVolunteerApp.pdf>

Additional volunteer information can also accessed by clicking the link below.

http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/YES_StudentGuideToVolunteerOpportunities.pdf

Gift Cards now Available for all Your Recreation Needs

Gift cards in any denomination are now available at the Park office and Colonial Acres Golf Course. They may be used for any Parks and Recreation purchase including pool fees, activity fees, pavilion rentals, golf course fees, etc. Give the gift of FUN!!

Renew Your 2009 Pool Pass for the 2010 Season by Mail Now!

It's not too early to renew your 2009 pool pass. Take advantage of our "renew by Mail" opportunity! It's easy and you can avoid waiting in line. Town of Bethlehem residency will be verified using 2009 property tax rolls. If you are not a Bethlehem property owner, you must provide proof of residency. Complete the form at the following the link:

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2010PoolPassRenewalForm.pdf>.



Did You Know?



Free Beanie Baby

Because of the many problems created by impulse rabbit and chick purchases around Easter, for the second year in a row, the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society is encouraging kids to take the Easter Pledge. Any kids who come to the Humane Society from now until the Easter can sign a pledge that they will not buy a baby bunny or chick for Easter will get a free Beanie Baby. So kids will still have something soft to cuddle this Easter, but won't have the responsibility of lifelong care of a living animal.

News from the Police Department

Bethlehem Animal Control is now posting photographs of found or abandoned animals that are available for adoption on the Town's web site under [Community News](#). The dogs are held for owners to reclaim them; after that allotted time, the dogs are available for adoption. For more information, contact the Animal Control Officer at 439-9973.

On 03/16, the Town's Animal Control Officer picked up two Rottweiler dogs near the Henry Hudson Town Park. One is a large male, the other is a good sized female with a multi colored nylon collar. Both are friendly and easy to handle. Because of the facts that they stayed in one location for hours, had nails that are too long and, nobody has claimed them it is believed that they were abandoned. There was no identification on either dog.

From our Animal Control Officer: Other area Animal Control Officers are also seeing an increase in abandoned dogs. We all have to be more aware of people in remote areas (where it is easy to abandon an animal) with animals. I have been told that they are even being tied outside pet stores. Make notes of descriptions of people, the animal(s), vehicles and license plate numbers. If abandoned animals turn up, this will give authorities a starting place. Also tell the police in your area what is happening so they can watch and maybe catch some of these low lives. We'd like to get cooperation in catching some of these people as it is not only animal cruelty but a financial drain on the municipalities and rescue groups.

On 03/10/2010 between 1:46 & 3:05 p.m. there was a smallish grey and white male Husky running loose in the area of Feura Bush Rd between Hasgate and Wesphal in Delmar. The dog was turned in to the Town's Animal Control Officer and is very timid. At one point, he was being pursued by a white male on foot and a white woman in a small red car. The dog has a patch on the top of his neck that has re-grown hair on it but looks like it was shaved not too long ago possibly for a procedure.

On the afternoon or early evening of 3/11/2010, a small tricolored female Beagle was found on Rarick Rd in Selkirk. She appears to be young but has had a litter. She was smelly when found and was given a bath. She is a little timid but very friendly and craves human companionship. She was curled up next to the Animal Control Officer while he did the paperwork on her case. This appears to be an abandonment case as an unknown pickup truck was seen stopped on the road just

before the dog was seen.



Cats

Cat owners are encouraged to put collars with ID tags on their cats for identification purposes.

If you find a stray cat or have lost your cat, rescue groups will more likely accept an animal if the caller will foster the animal until it is adopted. With a dog or a cat the people can also see if a rescue will do a courtesy listing, that is if the rescue is signed on with www.petfinder.com, the rescue may post a picture and information about the animal as a courtesy to the finder/foster/person who can no longer keep the animal.

Cats are not controlled by town or Agriculture and Markets law and Animal Control has no authority to seize one. They may only be seized by a police or peace officer under A&M Article 26 (animal cruelty) laws. We are under orders that under no other circumstances (no exceptions) will we accept a cat.

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.

News from Our Recycling Coordinator

WNYT Electronics and Room Air Conditioner Collection

Saturday, April 24, 2010

7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

An Electronics and Room Air Conditioner Collection will be held at Taft Furniture, 1960 Central Avenue. Sponsors of this event include WNYT, NYSERDA, NYSDEC, Maven Technologies, Interstate Refrigerant Recovery and other municipalities. **You must have a coupon in order to participate.** Town of Bethlehem residents can participate by registering at the [Town Clerk's Office](#), [Highway Garage](#), or by e-mail to recycle@townofbethlem.org. Electronics allowed include computers and their components, televisions (no consoles), VCRs, all telephones and room air conditioners.

Garden Day

Saturday, April 17

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Compost Facility](#), 1244 Feura Bush Road (Route 32) beyond Elm Avenue Park, Selkirk

Free leaf compost and wood chips are available to area gardeners with a Town permit.

Household Hazardous Waste and Computer Recycling Collection Day

Saturday, May 1, 2010

8:00am to 1:00pm

Town Highway Garage, 74 Elm Avenue East, Selkirk

Residents who attend this program must bring proof of residency such as a driver's license or current tax bill. Please make sure all lids are secure and cans and bottles or containers are in boxes to prevent spills. Do not smoke near chemicals or leave these products in a hot, unventilated vehicle for an extended period of time.

For your safety please remain in your vehicle. Workers will unload the wastes. See the [Spring Cleanup Brochure](#) for complete instructions.

Senior Services News

Senior Services Director Retires



Karen Pellettier, Director of the Town of Bethlehem Senior Services Department, is retiring after 32 years of service to the Town. She began volunteering for the Town's Parks and Recreation Department in 1978 as a liaison between the Town and its Town sponsored senior citizen social groups, Bethlehem Senior Citizens Organization and later, Sunshine Senior Citizens. She was hired by the Town the following year to begin developing services for the older residents of the Town. With the support of the Town, services grew quickly, and by 1980 several volunteers had begun helping in the services.

Bethlehem Senior Services Department now has seven full-time and several part-time employees, over 200 volunteers and runs many programs and services with its not-for-profit partner, Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc.

During her years with the Town, Karen has received many commendations and awards, including the Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award in 1987, the 1st Annual Good Samaritan Award in 1994, AARP's National Women's History Month Woman of the Year by Bethlehem AARP Chapter 1598 in 1994 and the DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award for Community Service in 1999. Karen served as co-chair of the Bethlehem Senior Housing Committee in the mid-1980's which was instrumental in bringing senior housing options to the Town and was a founding member of Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., a 501© (3) corporation in 1988, and has served on many community based boards.

Karen and her husband John have three grown children and are awaiting the birth of their fifth grandchild. Karen looks forward to spending more time with her family.

There will be no Senior transportation on Friday, April 2. The Bethlehem Town Hall is open regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 2.

Senior Legal Services Program

Thursday, April 8

Where: Bethlehem Town Hall
Appointments: 439-4955 #1176

The Senior Legal Services Program provides legal services for residents of Albany County who are 60 years of age or older. The program is funded by the Albany County Department for Aging and is staffed through the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. If you cannot make this month's date, this program generally has dates once per month, contact one of the Outreach workers for more information.

There is no cost for this program.

A.A.R.P. Tax Counseling Service

Bethlehem Senior Services will offer A.A.R.P.'s Income Tax Assistance Program on Tuesdays from February 2nd through April 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue in Delmar.

Appointments may be made by calling 439-4955, ext. #1176. Please bring copies of your 2009 Federal and State returns with your W-2, 1099 forms and receipts for contributions, interest, medical bills and property/school tax receipts.



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>.

Not just for Seniors!

Some programs may have age restrictions, many do not (for example, Food Pantry, LawHelp/NY, volunteers, Caregiver programs), please call for specifics, 439-4955. In order to participate in any programs or to volunteer, an [Intake Form](#) MUST be filled out first. Intake forms are available in the Senior Services office or [on the Town's web site](#).

Town Clerk News

The Office of Town Clerk will be open on Thursday evenings until 6:00 PM starting April 1, 2010.

Coupons for the WNYT Electronics and Room Air Conditioner Collection to be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. are available at the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

An Electronics and Room Air Conditioner Collection will be held at Taft Furniture, 1960 Central Avenue. Sponsors of this event include WNYT, NYSEDA, NYSDEC, Maven Technologies, Interstate Refrigerant Recovery and other municipalities. **You must have a coupon in order to participate.** Town of Bethlehem residents can participate by registering at the [Town Clerk's Office](#), [Highway Garage](#), or by e-mail to recycle@townofbethlem.org. Electronics allowed include computers and their components, televisions (no consoles), VCRs, all telephones and room air conditioners.

Youth Employment Service

Need part-time help?

The [Youth Employment Service \(YES\)](#) has a large database of reliable teens eager for part-time work. Town of Bethlehem residents needing help with housework, yard work, baby-sitting, animal care or handyman work should contact YES. Bethlehem businesses can also contact the service for help finding part-time staff.

Want some extra cash?

The [Youth Employment Service \(YES\)](#) is a free, year round job matching program for teens. Town of Bethlehem residents, ages 14-21, can register with YES at the Parks and Recreation office located at Elm Avenue Park. Office hours are Mondays and Thursdays from 12:30-4:30pm

For more information, contact Julie Sasso, YES Director at 439-4955 ext. 1608 or jsasso@townofbethlehem.org

Attention Veterans

[Albany County Veterans Service Bureau at Town Hall](#)



A Veterans Service Officer will be available by appointment, the third Tuesday of each month between 12:30 p.m. and 2:15 p.m., **at the Bethlehem Town Hall**, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, to meet with veterans and/or family members to present information about various veterans' benefits such as

Disability & Education Benefits, Burial Allowances, Headstones and Flags, Pension and/or Compensation Benefits, Aid and Attendance Benefits, Upgrading Military Discharges, Certificates of Eligibility for VA loans to purchase homes or business needs, Obtaining copies of lost discharges (DD-214) and medical records

The officer will be at Town Hall Tuesday, April 20. For an appointment, please call 439-4955, extension 1176

**DONATE
BLOOD**



Upcoming Local American Red Cross Blood Drives

Selkirk Fire Company 2, Saturday, April 17, 2010
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
301 Glenmont Road, Glenmont

Bethlehem Central Middle School, Friday, April 23, 2010
11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
322 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar

Appointments appreciated, 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543). Walk-ins will be taken as time allows. Positive ID, such as a driver's license, is required.

If you choose and are eligible, you may donate double red cells at these drives.

See the Red Cross web site for more information or to schedule an appointment (click on Refresh if the page doesn't appear the first time)

http://www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation?distance%5Bpostal_code%5D=12054&distance%5Bsearch_distance%5D=10&date%5Bmin%5D%5Bdate%5D=&date%5Bmax%5D%5Bdate%5D=&distance%5Bsearch_units%5D=mile

or

<http://www.redcrossblood.org/NYP>

Blood can also be donated at almost any time at the American Red Cross Donor Center, 33 Everett Road, Albany

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. College immunizations are available for a fee. For this month, the clinic dates should be April 7 and April 21, call ahead for confirmation of date and time.

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



- 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

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