



Volume V Issue 8

Town of Bethlehem e-Newsletter

September 2011

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

September Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise indicated

Planning Board

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

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Town Board

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

Development Planning Committee

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

Planning Board

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

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

20/20 Implementation Committee

Thursday, September 22, 7:30 a.m.

PaTHs Committee

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

Industrial Development Agency

Wednesday, September 28, 8:00 a.m.

Town Board

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

For agendas and to verify locations and times, see:

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

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Monday, September 5 - Last day Town pool complex is open

Monday, September 5 - Town Offices closed

Wednesday, September 7 - **Blood Drive at Town Hall**, 1-6 p.m.

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

Thursday, September 8, 9:00 a.m. - Deadline for residents to be in the lottery spin for activities in the Fall Parks programs

Thursday, September 8, after lottery spin - First day telephone, walk-in and non-residents can register for remaining openings for Fall Parks activities

Friday, September 9 - SCREAMS Fun Friday

Saturday, September 10 - Emergency Preparedness Fair - vehicles, equipment, information and presentations at the Bethlehem Public Library

Sunday, September 11 - Grandparents' Day

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

Tuesday, September 13 - Car Seat Check, free, reservation required, 439-9973

Tuesday, September 13 - Primary Election Day, polls open noon - 9 p.m.

Saturday, September 17 - Albany County Rabies Clinic at Village of Colonie Municipal Garage

Saturday, September 17 - Community Clean-up Day

Friday, September 23 - Free! Fall Electronics Recycling Program, 8 am - 3 pm at the Town Highway Garage

Saturday, September 24 - Free! Fall Electronics Recycling Program, 8 am - 12 noon at the Town Highway Garage

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

Saturday, October 1 - Fourth Annual Youth Golf Tournament at Colonial Acres

Friday, October 21 - Pharmaceutical Collection Program, 10 am - 1 pm at the Elm Avenue Town Park near the pool complex

Friday, October 21 - Community Health Fair for all ages including flu and pneumonia shot clinic

From the Supervisor

Sundays are usually a day of rest. Unfortunately, Sunday, August 28th, was far from that for anyone in Bethlehem, and many other communities. In fact, hurricane Irene was severe enough for me to issue a Declaration of Emergency, following that of the County of Albany.

Irene caused 6,300 locations to be without power in our Town on Monday at 10:35 a.m. These locations included homes; businesses; schools; water and waste water plants; pump stations and other types of facilities.



Also, as I write this, at noon on Wednesday, August 30th, there are 1800 locations without power in Bethlehem. The bottom line is that significant progress has been made in a short amount of time. Although I fully appreciate that when the power is out for a couple of days or you cannot stay in your home, even a couple of days seem like an eternity.

As I write this, National Grid is advising that almost all power will be restored in Bethlehem by the evening of September 1st at the latest. National Grid just advised me that there are approximately 50 crews working in Bethlehem. That is a lot of focused effort, and I can tell you that I have seen National Grid trucks and crews and their subcontractor trucks in Bethlehem.

By the time you read this, it is my hope that for as many people as possible in Bethlehem, life will be back close to normal. I want you to know that all of us here at Town Hall, and those outside of Town government, have done all that we can in these most extraordinary circumstances, and we are sympathetic to the impact Irene has had on your lives, and the patience you have shown.

In addition to the damage and hardships hurricane Irene has caused Bethlehem, and even greater severity in other surrounding communities, I thought it would be good to reflect on how our Town came together to respond to this emergency.

It is amazing to see the quality and the ability of our town workforce and volunteers, whether they are within our government departments, or within the volunteer Fire and EMS squads. Throughout the day Sunday all town departments were staffed and deployed at emergency sites throughout the town. The Police Department Telecommunications Unit answered and dispatched over 500 emergency calls through town departments and our emergency responder forces. Fire departments answered over 400 calls for assistance, mainly wires down, electrical fires and pump outs. EMS units were busy throughout the day and night responding to medical emergencies, heightened by the lack of power within the town. Our Police Department responded to multiple calls for auto accidents, trees and wires down across highways, and an increased number of calls due to power outages.

Our Highway Department began preparations for the storm late Saturday night into early Sunday morning. All hands were on deck throughout the day Sunday and into Monday and Tuesday, busy clearing roads of downed trees and keeping traffic safe where roads were flooded. Our Department of Public Works, both sewer and water divisions, having made preparations prior to the arrival of Irene, were ready and it was a 24/7 operation for them too. Our sewer and water systems and our water storage facilities have sustained damage, but have been kept on line and functioning due to the tremendous efforts of our DPW employees.

Our Senior Services Department, prior to and during the storm, reached out to their senior clients to ascertain their well-being and ability to cope with the storm and its aftermath.

During the storm we maintained constant communications availability for our residents through our information phone line and our website. We were also able, with the help of our sheltering partners, the Bethlehem School District and the Ravena, Coeymans and Selkirk School District, to open shelters for the temporary use of our town residents.

While the Town suffered damages and delays, the lives and safety of our residents were protected. In some ways we emerged from this hurricane stronger and better able to handle occurrences like this in the future. With coordination provided by our Bethlehem Emergency Management Office Director, it was heart-warming to see the dedication that was put forth by all of our employees and town volunteers who worked and struggled through whatever hurricane Irene threw at us.

No, it was not a day (or week) of rest for anyone who had their life impacted by hurricane Irene. Nor for the employees and volunteers within the Town of Bethlehem, emergency service providers beyond our borders, or National Grid and other utility contractors, who did their best under the most trying circumstances.

Thanks to everyone for all of the support and patience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Supervisor Sam Messina

**Drive.
Give.
Thrive.**

Wednesday, September 7 - Town Hall!

Come in to give blood in September and receive a coupon for a \$12.99 oil change and free tire rotation, redeemable at any Monro Muffler/Brake location.



Blood Drive at Bethlehem Town Hall

**Wednesday, September 7
1:00 - 6:00 p.m.**



**American
Red Cross**

Appointments preferred but walk-ins welcome as time permits

Please call **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)** or visit **redcrossblood.org** to make an appointment today!

Call 439-4955, extension 1176 to make an appointment for the September 7 Drive at Town Hall

Offer available to all presenting donors at the American Red Cross. Coupon is not redeemable for cash and non-transferable. ©2011 The American National Red Cross NED.MONRO.08.V1.06242011



Did You Know?



It is now illegal to attend any animal fights

Bill # S.3237-A was signed by Gov. Cuomo on August 3. The attendance at an animal fight is now punishable by imprisonment, a fine or both.

Recycling News

FREE! FALL ELECTRONICS RECYCLING PROGRAM

**Friday, September 23, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and
Saturday, September 24, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

Bring your old computers, TVs, and other electronics out of the basement, as the opportunity to do the right thing with this equipment is approaching.

Town of Bethlehem residents and pre-registered businesses can bring their obsolete electronics to the Highway Garage, 74 Elm Avenue East, Selkirk, NY on **Friday, September 23 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** Accepted items include televisions, computers, monitors, computer peripherals (printers, scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, etc.), VCRs, DVD players, stereos/radios, video game consoles, fax machines, portable digital music players, cell phones and telephones. Do not bring stereo speakers, vacuums, lights or other electric items or household appliances.

Why recycle electronics? Many of these items contain heavy metals and other toxics that should be kept out of the landfill. They also contain valuable metals and other materials that should be reclaimed.

What happens to your old electronics? Our electronics recycling company, RCR&R out of Victor, NY is able to refurbish and resell a good percentage of electronics, and recycle about 97% of the other materials. (Computers that can be refurbished will have the hard drive data destroyed prior to resale; RCR&R is a NAID Certified & Licensed New York State Data Destruction Contractor. No electronic scrap is shipped overseas).

NOTE: In addition to the Fall and Spring Electronics Recycling Collection Days, free electronics recycling is on-going throughout the year at our Rupert Road Transfer Station.

Businesses in the Town of Bethlehem may participate for FREE as well, but *must* pre-register. Please call 439-4955, extension 1510, Monday through Friday (except Wed.) from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to pre-register or for more info. You may also visit www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/Recycling/recycling.asp for more recycling information.



Town is looking for a Commissioner of Public Works

The Town of Bethlehem, New York is seeking a Commissioner of Public Works. Candidate should have knowledge of the principles and practices of sustainable engineering and a good knowledge of design and construction of water mains, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, highways, buildings and other public works facilities including water and sewer plants. The candidate performs work of considerable complexity and difficulty, including staff supervision of a large department and project management.

Requirements are a Bachelor's degree and Five (5) years of experience in the construction and maintenance of infrastructure and related public works activities of which four (4) of the years shall have been in a responsible supervisory capacity, or an equivalent combination of experience and training. A Professional Engineer's license issued by the State of New York at time of appointment is preferred but not required.

Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick time, medical and dental insurance, and New York State Retirement Program.

Please send your cover letter and resume **by September 15, 2011** to Mary Tremblay-Glassman, Human Resource Manager, 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054 or at [mtremblay @ townofbethlehem.org](mailto:mtremblay@townofbethlehem.org).

Vacancy on Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency

The Town Board will soon be making one appointment to a vacancy on the Town of Bethlehem's Industrial Development Agency (BIDA). The overall membership of the Agency should include individuals with experience and skills in public and private finance, economic development, business management, public policy, and other areas the Town Board considers relevant.

The Governance Committee of the BIDA recommends that the Town Board consider qualifications which include: personal and professional integrity, good business judgment, demonstrated commitment to the community, and relevant experience and skills which will enable the agency to carry out its mission of enhancing economic development in the Town. For more details on the functions and responsibilities of the BIDA please visit bethlehemida.com

Please send your cover letter and resume **by September 15, 2011** to Mary Tremblay-Glassman, Human Resource Manager, 445 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054.

Parks and Recreation Department News

Fall Activity Registration

The Parks and Recreation Department is currently accepting on-line and mail-in program registrations for our Lottery Spin registration drawing. To be entered in the lottery spin, registrations are due to the Park Office by Thursday, September 8 at 9:00 a.m. All remaining types of registrations (phone-in, walk-in, and non-resident) will begin on that same day, after the lottery spin, at approximately 1:00 p.m. Inside the Park Playbook one can find the complete fall schedule of activities and special events. The Park Playbook can also be accessed through the town web site at: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/images/parks/2011FallActivityPlayBook2.pdf>. Don't forget, if you have obtained your user Password and ID you can register for any of our programs on-line, simply visit: <https://www.townofbethlehem.org/parksonline>.

Please remember, online or mail-in registration prior to the lottery spin deadline is the best way to secure your participation in a given activity.

Pool Open Until Labor Day

Pool hours are Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. AND Saturday, Sunday and Labor Day 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

SCREAMS Club – Fun Friday

Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School (SCREAMS)
Friday, September 9 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

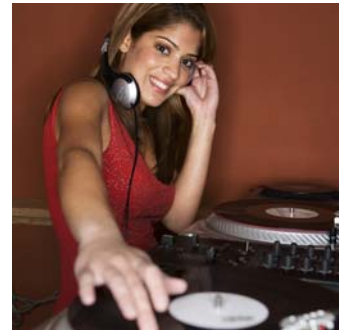
Students Craving Really Exciting Activities at the Middle School (SCREAMS) will be hosting its first event for the 2011-2012 school year on Friday, September 9, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Elm Avenue Park Warming Area. Fun Friday activities will include an outdoor rock climbing wall, DJ, refreshments, games and more! SCREAMS is for all students in grades 6-8 who reside in the Town of Bethlehem or the Bethlehem School District. Join SCREAMS now!

\$10 includes membership in the SCREAMS Club

<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/parksMain/parksScreams.asp>

If interested in chaperoning, please call Jason Gallo at 439-4955, extension 1604.

Upcoming events include visits to a Corn Maze, Guptills Skating and the Great Escape Indoor Water Park!



Colonial Acres Golf Course is Open!



Come out and enjoy this beautiful 9 hole, par 3 course 7 days a week until late October, weather permitting. The course opens at 8:00 a.m. daily. To confirm opening and closing times or for more information, call 439-2089. Punch cards are available for \$125 and are good for 10 rounds during the 2011 season! Mondays and Thursdays are Senior Days (\$11 for those age 62+)

Gift Cards Are Here!

Give the gift of fun! Gift Cards can be used for golf passes, recreation activities, pool passes and all your recreation needs.

Pavilion Reservations for 2011

Residents of the Town or Town based organizations may reserve the pavilions at Elm Avenue Park, Henry Hudson Park and Maple Ridge Park for recreational functions. Permit forms and fee information are available on the town website. Permits for all users will be issued on a first come, first paid basis. Pavilion availability may be viewed online via our new system www.townofbethlehem.org/parksonline.

Beginning January 3, 2012, pavilions can be reserved for 2012.

The Pit

An after school meeting place for Middle School students, the Pit is operated by the Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the Bethlehem Central School District. It is open weekdays Tuesday-Thursday from 2:45 - 3:55 p.m. beginning in October. The Pit features a snack bar, billiards, ping pong, foosball, music and offers a comfortable, safe place for students to hang out.

Admission is FREE!

Youth Golf Tournament

On **Saturday, October 1**, Colonial Acres will be host to the 4th Annual Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Youth Golf Tournament. The participation fee is \$25 (\$35 for non-residents) and all youth in grades 4-12 are eligible. Prizes and food included!

Check-in will be at 2:30 p.m. with a 3:00 p.m. shotgun start. All golfers will be placed in a foursome predetermined by the Parks and Recreation Department. All golfers must have their own bags and clubs. Rain date is Sunday, October 2.

Pre-register by October 1. Refer to your [Park Playbook](#) for more registration details.



Tobacco Free Zones in Parks

Playgrounds, athletic fields, tennis and basketball courts, and the pool complex are off limits to the use of any tobacco products. Thank you for your compliance.



Dogs in Parks



Please remember that for the safety of our residents and the cleanliness of our parks, dogs are not permitted in any park or playing field area. The Dog Park located on the bypass extension is the perfect place for dogs to run and socialize. A permit from the Town Clerk is required. For more information follow this link: <http://www.townofbethlehem.org/pages/parkElm/parkElmDog.asp>

SPECIAL EVENT

Halloween Hay Day

Sunday, October 16, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.



The 21st Annual Halloween Hay Day will be held Sunday, October 16, from 1:00-3:30pm. Activities include hayrides, trick or treat bag decorating, a "Count" Dracula contest, face painting, balloon magic, games and much more! Held at the Elm Avenue Park, this event is free for the whole family!!

Rain or Shine!



Did You Know?



Cell Phone Tip - In Case of Emergency

Since no one programs the word "husband" or "sibling" into a cell phone, rescue workers can waste precious time sifting through a patient's phone book in cases of emergency. British paramedic Bob Brotchie helped launch a national campaign to get fellow Brits to add the acronym "ICE" (for "in case of emergency") before the name of their closest friend or relative (for backup, ICE1 and ICE2). Now it is catching on in America. Matt Levy, a U.S. director at the International Association of EMTs and Paramedics, says to make sure your contacts know your medical conditions, allergies and what medications you are on.



Upcoming Local Blood Drives

Town of Bethlehem, Wednesday, September 7
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 445 Delaware 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>

If you can't make a local donation, consider visiting one of the Red Cross Donor Centers

33 Everett Road, Albany

Route 7 and Watt Street, Schenectady

1-800-RED-CROSS

Because of Hurricane Irene, supplies are at critical levels.

Blood Drive at Town Hall, Wednesday, September 7 from 1-6 p.m.

Youth Employment Service

Need part-time help?

The [Youth Employment Service \(Y.E.S.\)](#) 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 Y.E.S. Businesses can also contact the service for help finding part-time staff.

Want some extra cash?

Town of Bethlehem residents, ages 14-21, can register with Y.E.S. in several ways:

- Download the [student registration form from the Town website](#) (Online Services - Forms) and e-mail it to the Y.E.S. Director
- Mail the form to *Y.E.S. Director, 261 Elm Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054*
- Drop the form off at the Parks and Recreation office

For more information, contact the Y.E.S. Director, Rachel Promutico, at 439-4955 ext. 1608 or YES@townofbethlehem.org

News from the Town Historian

Do you need a speaker for your group? The Town Historian is available to present a variety of programs about Bethlehem's history. Topics include ice harvesting, Henry Hudson, the American Revolution and a general history over view. Contact Susan Leath, sleath@townofbethlehem.org.

2012 Town Budget Workshops

Workshop #1 Wed. 08-31-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - Present 2012 draft budget and department overviews

Workshop #2 Thurs. 09-15-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - Discuss 2012 draft budget

Town Board Meeting Wed. 09-28-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - Supervisor presents 2012 draft budget

Workshop #3 Thurs. 10-13-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - 2012 budget discussions

Workshop #4 Mon. 10-17-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - 2012 budget discussions

Town Board Meeting Wed. 10-26-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - Public Hearing on 2012 budget

Workshop #5 Wed. 11-02-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - Final revisions to 2012 budget

Town Board Meeting Wed. 11-09-2011 – Town Hall Auditorium - 2012 budget adoption

Senior Services News

Primary Election Day

Tuesday, September 13 from noon - 9:00 p.m.
Transportation available from noon - 2:00 by reservation only, 439-5770

Farmers' Market Coupons

If you are eligible for any of the following: food stamps, Medicaid, SSI or live in Section 8 housing or incomes below \$1678 (1 person) or \$2267 (2 people), you are eligible for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. If you are interested in receiving coupons, please call 439-4955, extension 1170 .

Shopping Center Trips

Monday, September 12 to Colonie Center and Northway Mall
Monday, October 3 to WalMart in Glenmont

The Savvy Caregiver Program

A free, six-week course designed to enhance your caregiving skills
Wednesdays, September 14 - October 19
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (noon)
Elm Avenue Park offices, 261 Elm Avenue, Delmar

A.A.R.P. 55 Alive Safe Driving Course

Wednesday, September 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
First day to register - in-person only - is September 1 at 9:00 a.m.
If space permits, phone reservations will be accepted beginning September 2, 439-4955, x1176

Caregiver's Support Group

Wednesday, September 28
Are you caring for a loved one who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or another dementia?
Join us on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - noon at Bethlehem Town Hall
Transportation can be arranged by calling 439-4955, extension 1176
The group is co-sponsored by the Bethlehem Senior Services and the Alzheimer's Association

Senior Legal Services Program

Thursday, September 8 and Thursday, October 13

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.

Senior Services Newsletter

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/Seniors/SeniorsBrochures.asp>.

Not just for Seniors!

Some programs may have age restrictions, **many do not** (for example, Food Pantry, HEAP, 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](#).

News from BEMO Bethlehem Emergency Management Office

Library, Town Cosponsor Emergency Preparedness Fair

In observance of National Preparedness Month, Bethlehem Public Library and the Bethlehem Emergency Management Office (BEMO) will co-host "A Time to Remember, a Time to Prepare"—an emergency preparedness information fair—on Saturday, September 10, 11:30am-3pm at the library.

Appropriate for all ages, the fair will feature emergency vehicles and equipment, information tables, and a variety of preparedness presentations. Participants include state, county and local organizations, including local emergency responder groups. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Michelle Waldenmaier at the library, 439-9314 ext. 3031, or BEMO director Jack Brennan, 439-4955 ext. 1166. The library is located at 451 Delaware Avenue in Delmar.

Photos from last year's Emergency Preparedness Night



Bethlehem School Supply Drive



Jack Rosano of Glenmont (left) making a donation to the Bethlehem Food Pantry's School Supply Drive to Outreach Worker Alice Parker (right)



Did You Know?



Check the Town's web site for any construction or paving projects that may affect your travel. Town projects are posted and links are provided for County and State projects (Links - Road/Weather Conditions.)

Straight From the Storm Drain...

Stormwater Tips: Pools, Spas and Fountains

Improperly draining a pool, spa or fountain can result in chlorine, suspended solids and nutrients entering surface water and eventually getting in nearby streams and lakes. This could be harmful to the nearby environment and wildlife.



- Never discharge a pool, spa or fountain into a street or storm drain.
- Before emptying a pool, let the chlorine dissipate for a few days.
- Drain pools, spas and fountains slowly.
- Make sure water used to acid wash is neutralized prior to discharging.
- Do not use copper-based algaecides.
- Never clean a filter in the street or near a storm drain.

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>

It's the Law! All Dogs, Cats and Ferrets in NYS MUST Have a Current Rabies Vaccination

If you missed the Low Cost Vaccination Clinic at Elm Avenue Park, Albany County offers two more such clinics this year

The remaining Albany County clinics will be held as follows:

Saturday, September 17 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. (1-2:30 cats and ferrets, 2:30-4 for dogs) Village of Colonie Municipal Garage, 2 Thunder Road, Colonie	Saturday November 5 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. (1-2:30 cats and ferrets, 2:30-4 for dogs) Village of Green Island Public Works Garage, Cohoes Avenue, Green Island
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[Goto the Albany County Department of Health web site for more information and directions.](#)

Proper Disposal of Propane Cylinders and Tanks

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



The small 16.4 oz. cylinders that are used for small appliances including camping equipment cannot be refilled, but they can now be recycled at our [Rupert Road Transfer Station](#) (NEVER try to recycle propane cylinders in curbside recycling bins!). If possible*, burn off any remaining propane before taking the cylinder to be recycled:



Take the cylinder outdoors away from any structure or ignition source, attach the cylinder to an appliance, open the control valve and light the burner(s); operate the appliance until the flame completely extinguishes. Detach the now EMPTY cylinder and recycle it at the [Rupert Road Transfer Station](#). The disposal of 16.4 oz. propane cylinders is FREE. (*NOTE: Even if you are not able to burn off the remaining propane, you may still recycle it at the Transfer Station. The recycling company we use will burn it off before they recycle the cylinder.)



The larger barbecue grills operate with 20 lb. propane tanks that can be refilled repeatedly for 10 years or more depending on how the tank is protected from foul weather. When ready to dispose of the tank, burn off any remaining propane if possible* using the following method: attach it to the grill or another appliance, light the burners and let it burn until the flame completely extinguishes. Detach the now EMPTY tank and recycle it at the [Rupert Road Transfer Station](#) (NEVER try to recycle propane tanks in curbside recycling bins!). The fee for disposal of a 20 lb. propane tank is \$3.00. (*NOTE: Even if you are not able to burn off the remaining propane, you may still recycle it at the Transfer Station. The recycling company we use will burn it off before they recycle the tank).



Know What's Below BEFORE You Dig

Planning a home improvement job? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck? WAIT! Here's what you need to know first:

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call –es and shrub

See this link for more info: <http://www.call811.com/>



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

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 September 7 and September 21, call ahead for confirmation of date and time.

Albany County Offers Free Prescription Discount Card to All County Residents

Program Provides Discounts Up to 20% on Brand Name Drugs, Up to 70% on Generic
Please see <http://www.albanycounty.com/departments/executive/news.asp?id=2644> for more information.

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

Tick-borne diseases on the rise



Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases are an important health concern in New York State. Lyme disease remains endemic in Albany County and, also being seen are a small, but significant, increase in other tick-borne diseases each year.

The good news is that Lyme disease can be prevented. A FREE tick removal kit is available for Albany County residents as well as information on repellants, Lyme disease in pets and more by visiting the County's Department of Health web page at <http://www.albanycounty.com/departments/health/lyme.asp> or by calling 447-4648.

GREEN ALBANY COUNTY

An online resource to help residents and businesses lower energy use and save money on their utility bills

[Green Albany County](#) is a one stop information resource for energy saving tips, rebates, incentives and tax credits and green products and services. The website also highlights the County's energy efficiency projects and other green initiatives.

A monthly newsletter will also be available to residents who wish to provide their email addresses on the [GreenAlbanyCounty.org](#) website. The newsletter will provide information relating to clean energy grants and incentives, as well as ongoing projects and tips on how to become more energy efficient.



**American
Red Cross**

Hurricane Irene From the American Red Cross

WASHINGTON, Monday, August 29, 2011 (excerpt) — With communities from North Carolina to New England suffering from significant flooding, wind damage and widespread power outages from Hurricane Irene, the American Red Cross is responding with shelter, food and other assistance.

“The storm may be over, but our work is far from done,” said Gail McGovern, Red Cross president and CEO. “We expect this disaster relief operation to be a very large operation that will continue for several weeks.”

Both McGovern and Charley Shimanski, senior vice president of disaster services, emphasized that flood relief operations typically extend for weeks, citing the example of Minot, N.D., where a Red Cross shelter remains open months after severe flooding overtook the city.

In addition to noting the need for financial donations to the Red Cross for the disaster operation, McGovern also noted that the Red Cross was in need of another kind of donation as well: blood donations are needed now.

“Supplies before the storm were already tight, as they are every summer, and Irene caused the cancellation of 60 blood drives along the East Coast, resulting in a shortfall of more than 2,100 units of blood,” McGovern said. “We’re expecting these numbers to go up due to storm damage in many locations, which will cause more canceled blood drives.”

The Red Cross is urging immediate blood and platelet donations in areas that were not affected by this storm, and is also asking community members in affected areas to consider donating blood once it is safe to go out. If people want to schedule an appointment, they can go online at www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Those who want to help can click or text to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Donations can be made by visiting www.redcross.org, calling 1-800-REDCROSS, or texting the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. Contributions can also be sent to local Red Cross chapters or mailed to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013.

full press release can be found at <http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.94aae335470e233f6cf911df43181aa0/?vgnextoid=48386f0492712310VgnVCM10000089f0870aRCRD>

Blood Drive at Town Hall, Wednesday, September 7 from 1-6 p.m.

10 Pet Dangers You Don't Know About

Our pets would do anything to protect us. They're more than our friends or companions. They've been known to detect cancer in humans, to get help when we fall or are injured, and to fight off and protect us from predators. But do you know how to protect your pet from the dangers in its life as well as they protect you? Our homes are full of hidden hazards that can cause serious harm to our four-legged friends. Let's take a look at 10 of these lesser-known dangers, and how we can keep our beloved pets out of harm's way.

Grapes and Raisins

I don't know too many dogs that bring you their bowls when you bust out the grapes or raisins, but there are some who will eat the fruit of the vine. This is a problem because when eaten in large amounts, grapes and raisins can cause renal failure. According to Dr. Tina Wismer, Medical Director of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, "They haven't identified the actual toxin, but we do know that it's toxic to the cells in the dog's kidney." It is especially important to keep track of those boxes of raisins you might happen to hand your kids. One or two raisins or grapes won't cause a problem, but if a dog can get into a sizable box or bunch, you can have a serious problem. If you notice any vomiting or diarrhea, call a vet immediately.

Onions and Garlic

It's safe to say that you should never season your dog or cat's food with soup mix. Like with grapes and raisins, a small amount of either of these things won't cause harm. "But if they get into the French onion soup, there's enough onions and garlic to cause anemia and destroy their red blood cells," says Dr. Wismer. Symptoms can include decreased appetite, blood in the urine, and depression. If your dog flashes you those irresistible big doggie eyes when begging for a human food treat, stick to meat, chicken, lamb, rice, or other things you might find in their food.

Macadamia Nuts

When it comes to Hawaiian delicacies, your dog may love a bit of the pig roast, but stay away from the Macadamia nuts. Surprisingly, Macadamia nuts cause dogs to become paralyzed in their hind legs. Fortunately, it goes away in 12-24 hours, and there are no long term problems. But it is very scary for your furry friend! Think how you'd feel if you woke up and suddenly couldn't move your legs? Do your dog a favor and skip the nuts.

Liquid Simmering Potpourri

Many of us dearly love our dogs and cats, but not the smell that can come with them. As such, we turn to various air freshening products. Be careful if you use those liquid simmering potpourris. Holistic Veterinarian, Dr. Carol Osborne, DVM states that, "The oil has a compound that actually causes chemical burns if your cat or dog gets it on its skin or mouth. Dr. Wismer further suggests that if your dog or cat does get into the liquid simmering potpourri, promptly wash them in whatever you use to hand-wash dishes (you need something that can cut the oil), and of course call your vet immediately.

Xylitol

If you have a pack of gum or mints nearby, take a look at the label. Chances are it contains something called Xylitol. This is a popular artificial sweetener that is not only a common ingredient in many check-stand treats and breath fresheners, but it's also purchased in powder form for cooking. If dogs get into the Xylitol, it will cause insulin secretion, dropping your dog's blood sugar and causing seizures.

Sago Palms

Sago palms are a beautiful addition to any landscape, but behind the feeling of tropical relaxation awaits a grave risk to your dog. If ingested, typically by a dog chewing on the root, your dog can suffer liver failure and death. If you notice your dog start to foam or drool from the mouth, take immediate medical action. These plants are also toxic to humans, so if you're getting a new house, you may want to skip the Sago Palms for the sake of both pets and people.



Chocolate (and cocoa bean mulch)

Chocolate and chocolate products can essentially be seen as the amphetamines of the dog world. They can cause your dog to vomit, get diarrhea, and become hyperactive beyond its typical doggie hyperactivity. It does take a lot of chocolate to poison a pooch, and some people may not see the harm in succumbing to your dog's begging for a piece of milk

chocolate. The problem is that if your dog develops a taste for the stuff, he may try to get into the box of baker's chocolate in the cupboard, and that's when you have a serious poisoning risk. So if your pooch begs for a bite of your candy bar, remember to "just say no."

Floor Cleaners and Antifreeze

Many people know that antifreeze is toxic to pets (and humans). But when keeping your dogs and cats away from harsh chemicals, also keep an eye out for some floor cleaners which can contain nasty substances such as perchloroethylene and formaldehyde. Please remember that your darling doggie lives on the floor, and very often eats from it. You wouldn't serve your dog a piece of hamburger coated in formaldehyde, so try to avoid leaving a residue of harsh chemicals on your floor. If you can use a natural floor cleaner, that is best. And if your dog appears drunk, which can be a sign of chemical poisoning, take immediate medical action.

Human Medications

Would you take your cat's fur-ball medication if you felt a tickle in your throat? Of course you wouldn't, it wasn't made for your system. The same logic applies to giving pets human meds. There are some medicines such as Benadryl that can be administered with a veterinarian's direction. But one of the leading causes of poisoning in pets is through human medications. Dr Wismer mentions that, "Last year the ASPCA had 167,000 cases of possible animal poisoning. About a quarter of them were human medication calls, with ibuprofen being the leading one." Remember that your pet has a different system than a human, and our medications often do more harm than good.

Easter Lily

Easter, Stargazer, and other types of lilies are beautiful, but unfortunately they are also extremely deadly to your cat, as well as to your dog. Just one leaf ingested can cause poisoning! If your cat seems weak, doesn't seem to be urinating, or vomits, get to a vet immediately. There is a very high mortality rate with lily poisoning. If you want to get a nice plant for a feline lover, consider catnip!



Even with the best vigilance, there's always a chance of our pets getting into household hazards. But by knowing and controlling some of these hidden household dangers, you can do a lot to create a safe environment for your beloved dog or cat. You know they'd do the same for you.

Source: <http://lifestyle.msn.com/your-life/sponsored-gallery/staticslideshow.aspx?cp-documentid=29554799>1=32115>



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



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