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Vol. 49, No. 40 NEWSTAND PRICE \$1.00 Friday, May 3, 2024 SUBSCRIBE at www.TiersNews.com

Find Your Perfect Spring Escape

4 pet-friendly and affordable destinations for a spring getaway



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

(Family Features) Whether you're a family with kids or a young professional looking for a getaway, it isn't too late – or out of budget – to plan a memorable spring trip. All you need is a full tank of gas and your furry best friend to make an unforgettable getaway.

Data from online travel agency Booking.com shows that half of traveler's plan to choose vacation destinations where the cost of living is less than their hometowns in 2024. Exploring lesser-known destinations with a variety of outdoor activities, opting for a road trip with your pet rather than a large group and traveling outside of peak season can all help make adventures more affordable.

To help travelers feel confident selecting their road trip destinations this spring, Motel 6, where pets always stay for free, and Bert Sperling's Best Places recommend these undiscovered destinations that offer sight-seeing, access to dog parks, cultural experiences, green spaces, authentic cuisine, dog-friendly restaurants and affordable lodging.

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dive into desert culture in Santa Fe with stunning views of the Sangre de Cristo mountains, Pueblo-style architecture, historic landmarks and pet-friendly dining patios. With near-endless activities like shopping for handcrafted jewelry, visiting the Museum of International Art Folk or walking the Santa Fe Plaza, there are entertainment options for everyone to enjoy. There are also plenty of affordable lodging options within walking distance of downtown attractions.

See SPRING Page 7

Conklin/Kirkwood bridge by Frito Lay. One lane due to construction. Snarls traffic.



District Attorney's Office Expands School Resource Officer Program

The Broome County District Attorney's Office is pleased to announce the expansion of our School Resource Officer (SRO) program into the BOCES East Learning Center in the City of Binghamton. The SRO program is intended to enhance safety and support within our community's schools. As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering secure learning environments, we are pleased to be adding another SRO into our program. School Resource Officers play an instrumental role in promoting safety, security, and positive relationships within schools. They serve as liaisons between law enforcement agencies, schools, students, and staff, promoting trust and cooperation while addressing safety concerns proactively. By having dedicated school resources officers present on school campuses, we aim to create an environment conducive to learning and personal growth.

"With the well-being of our youth at the forefront of our mission, we are proud to bolster our SRO program," said District Attorney F. Paul Battisti.

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**VETERANS
CORNER**

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Announcement
Section
Obituaries

New York State

Burn Ban

Between

March 15 – May 15

STUDER'S
NY ROUTE 11, KIRKWOOD, NY 13795





Calendar

Kirkwood Town Board Meeting

May 28th - Work Session- 6 PM

May 7th Board Meeting 6 PM

Board of Assessment Review

Tuesday, 5/28/2024 2 PM – 4 PM 6 PM – 8 PM

KIRKWOOD TOWN COURT HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Town of Binghamton

May 7, 2024 – Work Session 4:00 P.M.

May 21, 2024 – Town Board Meeting 6:00 P.M

TOB Coleman Rd.
Community Ctr. IS CLOSED.

Town of Conklin Regular Town Board Meeting

Planning Board
May 20th 7 pm

DMV AT CONKLIN TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY – 9 A.M. until 1 P.M.

Conklin Town Court Hours
Monday, Wed, & Fri 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

1st Friday of the Month 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

BROOME COUNTY LEGISLATORS

Kelly F. Wildoner
District 3
(Town of Binghamton,
Conklin & Vestal)
kelly.wildoner@broome-
countyny.gov

Stephen J. Flagg
District 1 (City of Binghamton,
Towns of Colesville,
Fenton &
Kirkwood)
stephen.flagg@broome-
countyny.gov

Scott D. Baker
District 2 (Towns of Kirkwood,
Sanford & Windsor)
scott.baker@broomecountyny.gov

Chairman-Daniel J. Reynolds
(Dist 5)
daniel.j.reynolds@
broomecountyny.gov

Maj. Leader-Matthew J. Pasquale
Dist 7 matthew.pasquale@
broomecountyny.gov

Min.w Leader Robert Weslar
(Dist 13)
bob.weslar@broomecountyny.gov

Health & Human Services
Committee
(OVER VETERANS)

Jason Shaw
jason.shaw@broomecountyny.gov

Louis Augustini louie.
augostini@broomecountyny.gov

Matthew Hilderbrant
matt.hilderbrant@broomecountyny.gov

Kim Myers kim.myers@
broomecountyny.gov

Mark Whalen mark.whalen@broomecountyny.gov

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dear Editor:

We have been receiving letters and reviews of the changes to the Country Courier, we will post them here without names listed. The absence of names has a long history in American Reporting, up until the early to mid 1970's.

WE APPRECIATE ALL STORY TIPS
AS WELL

EMAIL TO: News@TiersNews.com

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Free Vaccines for Dogs and Cats

The Broome County Humane Society is hosting free, monthly vaccine clinics for dogs and cats in need of updated Rabies and Distemper vaccines in our community on the following dates (*dates are subject to change):



Saturday, June 29, 2024

Clinics will be held at The Broome County Humane Society located at 167 Conklin Ave in Binghamton from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. A \$5 donation is requested, but not required for each vaccination given. Pets need to be at least three months old and restrained. Bring previous rabies vaccination certificate (if applicable) First come, first served. A \$10 donation per pet is suggested but not required. For additional information, visit the Broome County Humane Society website.

Kickball for a Cause

That describes The Susquehanna Valley Central School District's Inaugural "Kick It for Cans" fundraiser, to be held Wednesday, May 15, at 10:00 a.m. at Francis P. Donnelly Elementary School, Conklin Road, Conklin.

The event will feature a kickball competition between 5th-grade students at Susquehanna Valley's two elementary schools: Francis P. Donnelly Elementary and Brookside Elementary. All proceeds will benefit the Sabers Food Center, housed at Donnelly. "Kick It for Cans" promises to be a fun-filled and friendly competition, showcasing Sabers Community spirit, and raising awareness and much-needed support for those experiencing food insecurity in our community.

"This event is not just about enjoying kickball competition; it's about kicking hunger out of our community," said Stacey Stilloe, F.P. Donnelly Social Worker and director of the Sabers Food Center. "It's heartwarming to witness such unity and generosity from our sponsors, whose support will undoubtedly make a significant impact."

The "Kick It for Cans" fundraiser is made possible by the generous contributions of our sponsors.



The Country Courier

An Independent Weekly Newspaper
The Country Courier
(USPS 348-170)

Published weekly by Newspaper Publishers LLC

PERIODICAL Postage Paid
at Conklin, NY 13748

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Country Courier
PO Box 208

Conklin, NY 13748-0208

Publisher: Gretchen VanWalterop
607-444-NEWS

Published Weekly on Friday
News@TiersNews.com
Ads@TiersNews.com
Legals@TiersNews.com
Obits@TiersNews.com

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NEWS/ADVERTISING DEADLINE

The Country Courier goes to press on Wednesdays. Deadline for news and advertising is the Friday before the desired week of publication.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Subscription rates to *The Country Courier* are \$35 a year in Broome County, \$105 outside Broome County and papers are mailed every Thursday from Conklin.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

The Country Courier welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and include the phone number of the writer, to be used for verification of authenticity, not for publication. The editor reserves the right to refuse to publish letters which contain potentially libelous or erroneous statements. Also, letters endorsing political candidates are considered advertisements and should be prepaid as is all political advertising. No letters to the editor regarding political candidates will be accepted.



TOB SPRING BRUSH & BRANCH PICKUP UNDERWAY. Ends 5/17/24

The Town of Binghamton Highway Dept. will be picking up brush piles / branches beginning on Fri., April 19 and ending Friday, May 17, 2024. No pickups or calls after 5/17/2024.

This pickup is for TREE BRANCHES ONLY. No cuttings from any kind of bushes. Due to the overwhelming response to this service, you will not be given a specific time or day when your brush will be picked up. Simply put your branches to the curb.

CALL ONLY IF YOU HAVE A LARGE PILE THAT NEEDS TO BE APPROVED (607-669-4323).

In addition, there are certain guidelines to be followed:

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

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

Lap Swim

Open Swim at SV
Just because it's getting colder doesn't mean you have to stop swimming! Come to our beautiful, heated pool at Susquehanna Valley for Lap Swim and Open Swim sessions every Monday! Lap Swim is 6:30-7:00 p.m., followed by Open Swim from 7:00-8:00 p.m. every Monday Night.

The Susquehanna Valley Spirit Shop is now open! Hey Sabers Fans - there's a great place to go to stock up on Sabers gear! It's the Susquehanna Valley Spirit Shop. Access at SVSABERS.org

CAREGIVER RESPITE

St. Mary's Church in Kirkwood offers a monthly respite program for caregivers. It is open to anyone who is busy with the care of a family member or other individual and could use a little free time to recharge on a Saturday, while we spend some enjoyable time with your care recipient. Activities include music, crafts, lunch or just some pleasant conversation. We meet at the parish center the 3rd Saturday of the month from 11am to 2pm. Call the church office to register at 607 775-0086 Monday to Thursday 9-2, Friday 9-12. If you forget to call and would still like to participate in the program, you may do so with us on any given 3rd Saturday. The next get together is May 18.



ESTATE SALE
ONE DAY ONLY!
Saturday, May 4, 2024
8 am - 4pm
No Early Birds please!

Farm Memorabilia, Garage items, Tools, Living Room furniture, Kitchen furniture, Household items, Bedroom sets, Clocks, Gas/Pellet Smoker, Outdoor Furniture including Swing, Picnic Table, Bench and Fire Pit; Chest Freezer, Treadmill and much more.
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TOWN OF BINGHAMTON, NY

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CRUSHED STONE: NY- #1a, #1, #2, #3, Crusher Run, Screenings, Landscape Red Rock. PA- AASHTO #8, #57, #1, #3, #2A Modified. **RIP RAP / LANDSCAPE BOULDERS:** NY- Fine, Light, Med., Heavy Stone Fill, Stackable Laid Rock. PA- R-3, R-4, R-5, R-6, R-7, R-8. **SCREENED:** Topsoil, Sand, Mound Sand, Washed Crushed Gravel

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Easy Ideas to Stretch Your Retirement Budget

Ways seniors can save on enjoyable activities

(Family Features) Retirement may mean you have unlimited time to enjoy each day, but it doesn't mean you have a budget to match.

You probably already know staying active is essential for aging with grace, so instead of letting limited funds keep you at home, explore some ways you can enjoy your leisure time without breaking the bank.

Hit the Gym

Many fitness centers offer special rates and programs for older adults. Hitting the track or joining a group fitness class are easy ways to socialize while getting some exercise. The discounted membership is also an investment since staying fit is important for physical and mental health.

Enjoy Early Dinner Deals

You can still enjoy dining out occasionally, especially if you take advantage of lower-cost meals designed with older adults in mind. Many specials are for meals earlier in the day, which is consistent with a growing trend toward earlier dining. According to Yelp, the number of people eating from 4-6 p.m. has grown 9% (up to 26% from 17% in 2019). Eating earlier promotes better digestion, and earlier meals are often lighter portions for smaller appetites. For example, Cracker Barrel's Early Dinner Deals feature smaller portions served from 4-6 p.m. on weekdays. Menu items include a variety of homestyle favorites like chicken n' dumplings, meatloaf, catfish and more.

Check Out the Library

Your local library is filled with hours of free entertainment, but it's not just the kind you'll find from getting a library card. You can undoubtedly find a book that covers any genre or interest you can name, but most local libraries also offer programming tailored to special interests and the sessions are typically offered for free or at a low cost. It's an easy, affordable way to pick up a new skill, meet a favorite author, learn about a topic that intrigues you and more. Other resources to explore include your library's DVD collection and internet access if you don't have a computer at home.

Nurture a Garden

Tending a garden may seem like a seasonal activity, but you can make it a year-round hobby. Researching and planning is a good way to carry your gardening enthusiasm into the cooler months and you can start seedlings indoors to extend your growing season. While you're digging into this low-cost pastime, remember the results of your efforts, such as fresh fruits and veggies, can help cut your grocery costs, too.

Mind Your Money with DIY

Saving money at the grocery store is just one way you can make DIY projects work for you. There are dozens of other examples of ways you can put your skills and interests to use by passing time doing something you enjoy while benefiting your bank account. If you like to tinker with cars, figure out what repairs you can handle yourself and avoid hefty service fees. Crafting and sewing might mean you have ready-made gifts for special occasions and a way to repair or repurpose damaged clothing instead of discarding it.

Ask About Discounts

You may be surprised by how many places offer discounts for older adults that they don't readily advertise. In some cases, you'll find the information on their website or signage, but other times, you may find it easier to just ask. When you're booking an appointment or checking out, inquire about discounts for older adults, including any restrictions, age requirements, the amount of the discount and other pertinent details. Sometimes the discounts are offered on certain days or for specific services, or they may require you to join a loyalty club to access the discounts. When dining out, many restaurants offer a variety of loyalty perks. Rewards members at Cracker Barrel can earn points, or "Pegs," on qualifying restaurant and retail purchases. Members can also take advantage of bonus birthday, anniversary and surprise rewards throughout the year.

To find a location near you, visit crackerbarrel.com/locations.



SUBURBAN SEPTIC

- Septic Tanks Cleaned



- Portable Toilet Rentals and Sink Rentals



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Last weekend at State College, Pennsylvania, the Olympic trials were held for the wrestlers. The Olympics will be in Paris from July 24 to August 11th. Kevin McGuigan, Robert McGuigan, Howard Kershner, and Tate Kershner knew they weren't going to Paris so they settled for a weekend at State College. It was a fun time and the matches brought back lots of memories for these four former wrestlers. One of these four tried out for the Olympic trials many years ago. Can you pick him out in the picture at the meet?



While some of the McGuigans took in the wrestling matches, Annie, Katie and Daniel opted for a play on Broadway. They had an exciting time, also. Here is a photo of them with one of the stars of the show.



If you watched the popular series, 'The Office,' you'll recognize him in the photo. His character name was Michael Scott. He was very friendly at the stage door.

With everyday being a surprise weather-wise, we are a tough breed. This past week the umbrellas were up for many of the games at our parks. The fans

are faithful. I am reluctant to put away my winter clothes. I just might need them. Meanwhile, right now you can take in the beauty of our trees and green lawns and the blooming flowers.

Condolences and prayers go out to the family of Marie Lord. She was a very active member of the Conklin Seniors. Always there to add her help. She will be missed.

Guess that is it for this week. Call with your news.

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SOLAR ENERGY LAW

NEWSPAPER EDITED: Conklin Planning Board Meeting- Feb. 26

MEMBERSPRESENT: Chairperson Paul Deeley, Dan Smith, Sandra Beam, Chris Ostrowsky, Art Boyle

ALSO PRESENT: Nick Pappas, Code Officer
Mary Plonski, Secretary
Mark Spinner, Attorney

7:00 PM Chairperson Paul Deeley called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #1 A Local Law Affecting a Temporary Moratorium within The Town of Conklin on the development and Construction Of Solar Energy Systems.

Chairman Deeley asked attorney Mark Spinner to explain to the board what was involved in this law. Mr. Spinner explained that the town had no laws in place for solar applications. This temporary 3-month moratorium will put a hold on and applications until the town board has had a chance go through the process of implementing a new Solar Energy Law. That new Solar Energy Law will come before the Planning Board for a recommendation.

Dan Smith asked if this was for commercial solar only. Mark stated it was primarily commercial. Chairman Deeley reiterated that this moratorium did not affect residential roof top solar panels. Attorney Spinner said it did not. Mr. Spinner referred the board to Section 4:

E. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the prohibitions and moratorium set forth in the Section 4 shall not apply too Roof-Mounted Solar Energy Systems or Building- Integrated Solar Energy Systems as accessory uses for legally permitted residential properties. Anyone is allowed to put the solar energy panels on their house for electric use that isn't sold for profit.

Art Boyle stated that there is already a solar farm in the corporate park and asked what brought this up. Attorney Spinner explained that the solar farm in the corporate park was a government project. This law is for other commercial for-profit business in the that want to come into town.

There was a discussion on the noise the panels create. Art Boyle visited the corporate park solar farm. He didn't feel the noise was from the panels themselves but from the control section. He wondered if the control panel could go inside a building to eliminate that noise. Mr. Spinner said he was not Sure, but felt that during the site plan review it could be looked into. He noted that the town board has had a discussion as to the noise.

Chairperson Deeley read into record the following documents:

- 1. Broome County 239 Comments dated __ 2/21/2024 .

The Planning Department has reviewed the above-cited case and has not identified any significant countywide or inter-community impacts associated with the proposed project.

Mr. Spinner stated that a type II does not require any type of SEQR.

Chairman Deeley stated that if there were no further questions, could we have a motion. Chris Ostrowsky made a motion that they approve the recommendation. All present board members approved.

Meeting Closed 7:15 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, Mary Plonski

TIMELESS TREASURES

NEWSPAPER EDITED: Conklin Planning Board Meeting April 15

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Paul Deeley, Chris Ostrowsky, Art Boyle
ABSENT: Attorney, Dan Smith, Sandi Beam

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Plonski, Secretary
VISITORS: Cindy Smith, Iris Foster

7:00 PM Chairperson Paul Deeley called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #1 Timeless Treasures Gift Shop

**1102 Conklin Rd., Conklin, NY 13748
Tax Map # 178.15-2-13**

Chairperson Deeley read into record the following documents:

- 1. Site Plan Review Application dated 3/20/2024 .
- 2. Broome County 239 Comments dated __ 4/15/2024 .
The Planning Board has reviewed the above-cited case and has not identified any significant countrywide or inter-community impacts associated with the proposed project. However, we have the following comments:

The project site is located almost entirely in the Preliminary FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas denoting an area or increased flood risk. While this SFHA is not the regulatory floodplain and the building appears to fall just outside this SFHA, the Town and the applicant should know the risks of placing a project located within flood prone areas.
The case was routed to Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation (BMTS), New York State Dept. of Transportation (NYSDOT) and Broome County Health Dept.(BCHD) for review. They had no comments.
The EAF Short Form (SEQR) was reviewed and read into record.
Part 2 & 3 of the SEQR was completed.
- 3. A letter from the owner Steve Galloway stating the leasing of the building was read into record.

Chairman Deeley noted that the proposed use is consistent with zoning classification for the property.

Chairman Deeley asked how many employees she would have. Iris Foster stated 2 employees Mr. Deeley also asked about hours of operation. Ms. Foster said the hours would be: Friday 12:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday 9:00- 3:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 - 3:00 pm

Chairman Deeley also asked is there would be any signage. There will be a window sign.

There was a discussion on parking spaces needed (8) per town code. Existing building/parking appear to be in compliance with town code and is an existing structure.

It was noted that the property has public water and sewer.

Chairman Deeley made a motion that the Planning Board as lead agency in this Unlisted Action declare a negative declaration for the purpose of SEQR based on the review of the short EAF and updated the site plan that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact to the Town of Conklin.

Chris Ostrowsky second. All present board members approved.
Chris Ostrowsky made a motion that the Planning Board, after considering the application and supporting documents, the applicant's presentation and the factors set forth in the Town of Conklin Code section 140-76, recommend that the Town Board approve the application of a Craft/Gift Shop at 1102 Conklin Rd., Conklin NY. Planning Board members voted to approve. Meeting Closed 7:30 p.m.

Next Planning Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM. Respectfully Submitted, Mary Plonski

CONKLIN BOARD AMENDS BUDGET

Conklin RESO 2024-76 & 2024-77 Budget Modifications

RESO RO024-76 ADD ON RESO

Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifying the transfer of funds effective 4.4.24 to use ARPA Funds for 142 Sensus Radio Readers

A691-0000 Deferred Revenues-ARPA Db \$21,227.00

A980 Revenues Cr \$21,227.00

A4089 Federal Aid, Other

A 9901.9 Transfer to Other Funds Db \$21,227.00

A 200-0002 Cash-Deferred Revenue ARPA Cr \$21,227.00

SW 200-0001 Cash-PSBT Checking Db \$21,227.00

SW-5031 Interfund Transfers In Cr \$21,227.00

Motion made an approved by all attendees, JF-Absent

RESO 2024-77

Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifying Modification

to 2024 Budget, effective 4.4.24 as follows:

510 Estimated Revenues \$42,454.00

A-4089 Federal Aid, ARPA \$21,227.00 To Use ARPA Funds for Sensus Radio Readers

SW 5031 Interfund Transfers In \$21,227.00 To Use ARPA Funds for Sensus Radio Readers

960 Appropriations \$42,454.00

Agg01 Transfer Other Funds \$21,227.00 To Use ARPA Funds for Sensus Radio Readers

SW 8320-2-200 Source of Supply -Equipment Basic \$21,227.00 To Use ARPA Funds for Sensus Radio Readers

Motion made and approved by all attendees, JF-Absent

SPRING From Page 1

Branson, Missouri

Situated in the iconic Lake of the Ozarks, Branson is a dream small-town getaway for family vacations with a plethora of dining and entertainment options such as Silver Dollar City, Dolly Parton's Stampede and the Titanic Museum. The city has a dog-friendly culture with plenty of parks and outdoor activities. Located just two miles from many of these local attractions, Motel 6 Branson welcomes the whole family, including those on four legs, at no additional cost. This location also offers amenities like free Wi-Fi, an expansive cable channel selection, a microwave and refrigerator in each room and guest laundry facilities.

Tempe, Arizona

If you're seeking sunshine and fresh air, look no further than Tempe, a vibrant city located just south of Phoenix. From festivals and outdoor activities like golfing, hiking, kayaking or stand-up paddle boarding on Tempe Town Lake to visiting the Tempe Center for the Arts or local pet-friendly eateries, there are plenty of things to do in the low desert valley.

Chattanooga, Tennessee

For those looking to escape fast-paced city life with an outdoor getaway, Chattanooga is a perfect destination to enjoy outdoor activities, such as exploring Lookout Mountain or walking along the Tennessee River. In a city full of culture and history, visitors can enjoy local artwork at the Hunter Museum of American Art or go sightseeing in the historic Bluff View Art District. As the temperatures rise, embrace the rays at the seasonal pool alongside pet-friendly lodging at Motel 6 Chattanooga.

As you look to plan your getaway, visit Motel6.com to find pet-friendly and affordable lodging accommodations as well as more ideas to point you in the right direction on your spring excursion.

BROOME COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

Services provided

In order to serve the community and pet owners better, we are more than just an animal shelter. Proceeds from these services help us ensure that all of our animals are healthy and safe.

Spay/Neuter

We offer Spay and Neuter services at the shelter. Feel free to email or call us to schedule an appointment to bring your pet in. Pet overpopulation and animal homelessness is a community responsibility. Please help by spaying and neutering your pet!

Additional Services

When the worst case scenario happens, the Humane Society is there to provide support with our Pet Safekeeping and Emergency Boarding programs. Both of the programs require referral and are subject to space availability.

Euthanasia and Cremation

Our caring staff is here to support you through all stages of your pet's life, even the difficult ones. End of life care brings tough, emotional decisions, and we are here to support you along the way.

Microchipping

Microchipping services at the Broome County Humane Society are performed by a licensed vet tech for both cats and dogs. Proof of a valid rabies vaccination is required.

Resources

We will always help you and any animal to the best of our ability, but if for some reason we can't, here are local resources who might better fit your needs.

Boarding

Boarding at the Humane Society provides you with the confidence that your pet will be taken care of by the professional animal caregivers. Some of our features services include: 3 walks per day, one outside playtime structured drop off and pick up times, and pet updates upon request.

Grooming

Grooming services at the Humane Society are performed by our professional and experienced staff for both cats and dogs. We have a brand new and clean facility as well as structured drop off and pick up times. Our staff has experience with all breeds and behaviors.

Animal Surrender

Thank you for reaching out to The Broome County Humane Society located in Binghamton, NY. Please read the following information carefully.

Our goal is to help you resolve the problems you are experiencing so that you can keep your pet, but we also understand that some problems are out of your control and may require you to relinquish your pet.

If keeping your pet is not an option, we encourage you to rehome your pet on your own. This prevents your pet from entering the sheltering system and enables you to manage your pet's own adoption. Through the link below, you can create your own pet adoption profile in less than 10 minutes. Please be sure to choose

Shelter Relinquishment

If you have exhausted alternative resources to relinquishment (such as attempting to overcome the challenges, you are experiencing with your pet or trying to Rehome your pet privately) then surrendering your pet may be the next option to explore. Please complete the animal surrender profile on our site.

Address

167 Conklin Ave
Binghamton, NY 13903

Contact info

info@bchumanesoc.com



VETERANS CORNER



Applying for VA Benefits

There are numerous ways to apply for VA benefits depending on the type of benefit you are seeking. We encourage you to work with an accredited representative who can assist you with the claims process.

You can find and appoint or manage your accredited representative in eBenefits.

BENEFITS HOW TO APPLY

Before leaving military service – pre-discharge claims If you are a member of the armed forces serving on either active duty or full-time National Guard duty, you should apply through the VA Pre-discharge claim program before leaving service.

Veteran Readiness and Employment benefits for service members and Veterans The best way to file for Veteran Readiness and Employment services is to apply online at va.gov/careers-employment. To submit a paper application, download and complete a VA Form 28-1900, “Disabled Veterans Application for Vocational Rehabilitation” and mail it to your local regional office. You may also go to your local regional office and turn in your application for processing. Visit Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E).

Disability compensation benefits for Veterans The best way to file for disability compensation is to apply online at www.va.gov/disability. To submit a paper application, download and complete VA Form 21-526EZ, “Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits” and mail the application to:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
PO Box 4444
Janesville, WI 53547-4444

Or, you can fax it to:
(844) 531-7818 (inside the U.S.)
(248) 524-4260 (outside the U.S.)
You can also go to your local regional office and turn in your application for processing. For more information, visit the VA Compensation website.

VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (VA DIC) benefits for spouses, dependents, and parents If you’re the surviving spouse or child of a service member who died while on active duty, your military casualty assistance officer will help you to complete an Application for DIC, Death Pension, and/or Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child (VA Form 21P-534a). The officer will help you mail the form to the correct VA regional office.
Download VA Form 21P-534a (PDF)
If you’re the surviving spouse or child of a Veteran, fill out an Application for DIC, Death Pension, and/or Accrued Benefits (VA Form 21P-534EZ).
Download VA Form 21P-534EZ (PDF)

If you’re a surviving parent, fill out an Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation by Parent(s) (VA Form 21P-535).
Download VA Form 21P-535 (PDF)
You can apply for this benefit in any of these ways:
Mail the form to the Pension Management Center (PMC) for your state.
Find your PMC
Work with an accredited representative.
Get help filing your claim
Go to a VA regional office and get help from a VA employee.
Find a VA regional office near you
For more information, visit the VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (VA DIC).

Pension benefits for Veterans You can apply for pension benefits online at www.va.gov/pension. To submit a paper application Pension benefits, download and complete VA Form 21P-527EZ, “Application for Pension” and mail it to the Pension Management Center that serves your state. For more information, visit www.va.gov/pension/eligibility.

Pension benefits for survivors By mail Fill out an Application for DIC, Death Pension, and/or Accrued Benefits (VA Form 21-534EZ). Download VA Form 21-534EZ (PDF) Mail it to the pension management center (PMC) for your state. Find your PMC In person Bring your application to a VA regional office near you. Find a VA regional office near you With the help of a trained professional You can work with a trained professional called an accredited representative to get help applying for VA survivors pension benefits. Get help filing your claim

For more information, visit www.va.gov/pension/survivors-pension.



DA SRO from Page 1



“Expanding the presence of School Resource Officers in our schools not only enhances security measures but also facilitates constructive engagement between law enforcement and the educational community.”
The additional SRO will work closely with school administrators and resource officers, providing guidance on safety protocols, mentorship to students, and contributing to prevention and intervention initiatives in accordance with current school district policy. Moreover, the District Attorney’s Office is committed to providing continuous training and professional development opportunities to our SROs. Our officers receive specialized workshops to enhance their skills in crisis intervention, conflict resolution, and youth engagement strategies, which enable them to better meet the changing needs of school communities.
“We recognize the importance of fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and our youth,” added District Attorney F. Paul Battisti. “Our expansion into BOCES East Learning Center demonstrates our unwavering commitment to promoting safety, supporting student success, and nurturing a culture of trust and collaboration within our schools.”
School resource officers (SROs) can be beneficial:
Enhanced School Safety
Building Positive Relationships
Mentoring and Counseling
Education and Prevention Programs
Response to Crisis Situations
Community Policing
Positive Role Models:
School resource officers can contribute to a safe, supportive, and nurturing school environment conducive to student success and well-being.

SOUTHERN TIER WOMEN'S VETERAN GROUP

Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier

Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier has formed a group for women veterans to connect with each other.

Regular meetings will be every third Monday of the month

Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier Office
114 Clayton Ave
Vestal, NY 13850

For more information, contact:
Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier Outreach Manager
Katina Sinclair
315-687-3300
katina@clearpathforvets.com