

Town Information:

Municipal Campus:
476 Maple Street
Big Flats

Town Hall:
Monday-Friday
8am to 4pm
562-8443

**Community
Center:**
Monday-Friday
8am to 9pm

Office:
Monday-Friday
8am to 4pm
562-8443, ext.303

Town Court:
Monday- Friday
8:30am-3:30pm
562-8443,ext. 233



What's Going on in the Town?

BIG FLATS COMMUNITY DAYS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!!!!

The Committee is grateful to all that have volunteered in the past. Community Days has been a part of Big Flats for over 60 years. The committee has worked hard to raise funds to help improve the town, and its parks.

We need some help!

We are looking for volunteers to help at Community Days, June 23rd– 25th. We are looking for people to work set up and tear down, in the food pavilion and help sell tickets in the booths.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions please contact Mark Gould at 562-7066

We are also looking for volunteers to bring bake goods to the cake wheel. Please contact Jenny Dean 562-8979 If you are able to help.

Big Flats Town Board:

- Supervisor Edward Fairbrother
- Council Lee Giammichele
- Council Andy Gillette
- Council Bob Adams
- Council Mike Saglibene
- Town Clerk Linda Cross
- Meetings:
 - 2nd Wednesday at 4:30pm
 - 4th Wednesday at 7:00pm

2016 Senior Bus Trips

Hidden Valley Animal Preserve

Cortland Repertory Theater- "Kitchen Witches" comedy

Lancaster- sight and sound "Samson"

Penn's Peak- "The Rat Pack"

Beaches Dinner Theater

We will be taking 4 day trips and 1 overnight trip.

We are working to confirm these trips at this time. More information will be coming in the next newsletter!

For updates check the towns website and the bulletin board at the Community Center.



ESCAPE TO THE WILD



Brush Pick Up

The Town of Big Flats will be conducting its annual brush pick-up again this Spring.

Please watch on the town website and newspapers for brush pick-up date.

Once brush is removed from your area, the department will not return.

The brush pick-up program is for minor trimming of trees & shrubs around the resident's home and is not for tree removal or the clearing of lots.

Any material considered to be from lot clearing will not be picked up.

Limit to one truckload per household.

NO leaves, grass clippings, lumber, or boards.

NO stumps with roots, stones or dirt.

NO limbs larger than 6" in diameter.

REMOVE nails, wire, string, and rope.

Stack brush neatly parallel to the curb/street with butt ends facing the same direction.

From the Assessor

The Town of Big Flats has entered into a shared service agreement with the Town of Horseheads for Assessing services. Melanie E. VanNoy, is the new assessor and her aide is Becky Smith.

The Assessor's TEMPORARY Office hours are Monday- Thursday 9am - 3 pm and closed 12-1 for lunch. The office will be closed on Fridays.

Reminder ALL annual renewal exemptions were due by March 1st.

Grievance Day will be Wednesday, May 25, 2016 from 4pm - 8pm.

In the Meeting room at the Town Hall

476 Maple Street

Big Flats

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

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Gary & Ann Brouse

Lee & Dennis Younge

Bo Family

Lora Palmer

Marilyn Brown

Pamela Farr

Ann Hayes

Dick Habeck

Gene Herber

From the Community Center



Private Parties Welcome.

Having a birthday party, giving a baby shower, planning a wedding reception or family gathering? The Community Center is ready and available to meet your needs. Reservations available Mon-Fri 8am-9pm and Saturday by appointment. Call the Center office for more details. 607 562-8443 ext 303

Activities



There are many activities to participate in and events to attend. Would you be interested in playing cards, are you crafty or want to learn to be, looking for exercise programs to join, or learn to cook Italian style? Want to socialize and have a meal? Do your kids like to play games? Well the Big Flats Community Center has it all! Check out the monthly activity flyer on the website for details. Looking for a new program and have ideas to share? The Center staff will be happy to help you set up a new activity to share with residents!



Big Flats Community Center Open House & Information Fair

*** Thursday, June 9, 2016 * 5:00 - 7:00 pm ***

You're Invited

You may advertise your services and/or products, offer membership info, provide information on summer activities for families and kids, get the word out of your upcoming events and activities or have a demonstration of your craft & skills and/or donate samples. (No selling allowed).

There will be musical entertainment, food available, and activities for the kids.

Big Flats Businesses, Non-Profit Organizations, and Clubs welcomed to join the fun!

Call or email the Community Center office to reserve your space by May 6, 2015.



Upcoming Events

June 9 ~ 2nd Annual Community Open House & Information Fair 5-7 pm

Thank You

Thank you to all that helped make the Christmas concert a huge success! A great time was had by all. Future concert information coming soon!

The annual FOOD DRIVE to benefit the Big Flats Food Pantry received over 600 items. Thank you to all that generously donated!

"Building a better **COMMUNITY** by fighting hunger today."

Donations

Donations are always welcomed! Check with your employer for details on donating through the United Way campaign. Remember to specify your donation be sent to the Town of Big Flats Community Center.

Information

- ◆ Community Center office 607 562-8443 ext.303
- ◆ Website: www.bigflatsny.gov

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Big Flats American Legion POST 1612

(607)562-3491

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607-962-0830

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Winter Tips from Chemung County's Stormwater Coalition...

With colder weather here, Stormwater pollution prevention is just as important through these winter months as it is any other season. Because the ground freezes through these cold months, it acts like a hard surface similar to concrete therefore it no longer serves as a natural filter.

Pollutants accumulate in snow banks and ice all winter. When the snow melts, all the road salt, grit, litter and other pollutants are visible and often wash into our storm water systems.

With the addition of melted snow it is important to take steps to reduce potential pollution.

*Limit your salt application as it can be harmful to drinking water, plants and aquatic life.

*Always pick up pet waste as it is a source of harmful bacteria. The cooler temperature and frozen ground delay the decaying process and come Spring you will have an unpleasant sight waiting for you.

*Put litter in its proper place.

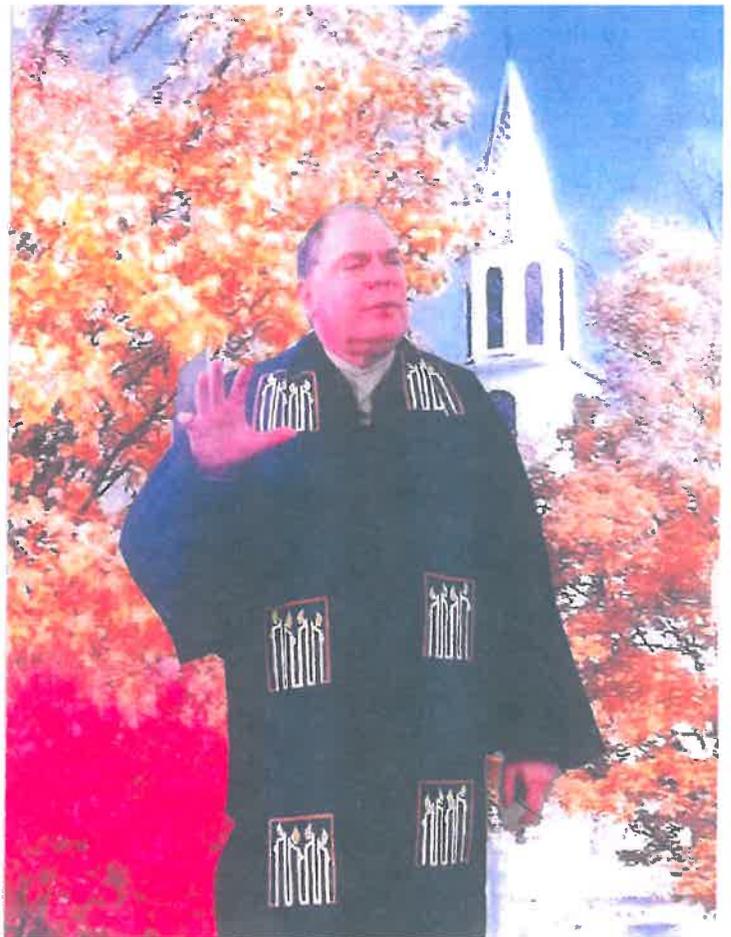
If you have questions about reducing water pollution, please contact your local Stormwater Coalition at (607) 796-2216

Reverend Richard A. Price

First Presbyterian Church, Big Flats, NY

Pastor From 1992 to 2016

Happy Retirement Rick, we wish you the best of luck, You will be missed!!!



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Join us!!! Help us preserve the history of Big Flats. If you haven't been to the museum (258 Hibbard Road), it's a must see on your list. 5 pancake breakfasts in our pavilion May - September, 9 dinner meetings at the Community Center and 6 newsletters. Just \$15.00 yearly. <http://www.bigflatshistory.weebly.com>

BENJAMIN DUZENBURY SMITH FARM – CHAMBERS RD

by Sylvia Radford

- ◆ Comfort Bennett, an early settler, became very wealthy and owned much land in the Big Flats area. Whenever one of his children married he gave them land.
- ◆ Comfort's daughter Nancy Bennett married Benjamin Duzenbury Smith and Comfort deeded about 350 acres to them. By 1865 the Smiths had 300 improved acres and 15 unimproved. With the farm were several tenant houses, smoke houses, butcher buildings and barns. As with most of the farms in that time era, tobacco was the big crop. Later it became a large dairy farm.
- ◆ Harry Carr Smith, born 1869 and died 1928, ran the farm in the late 1800s and early 1900s. TB wiped out the dairy herd and later he also died of the disease. The barns burned down circa 1915.
- ◆ In the 1950s the families of Robert and Lila Smith and Ronald and Florence Smith occupied this farm. Chemung County bought the farm from them and demolished this lovely, large home for further expansion of the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport.

Circa 1907



Circa 1950



Youth Department

This past November the Teen Commission and Senior Citizens **celebrated the 19th year of our Senior Night Out.** This evening is planned, organized and participated by the Teen Commission. The night was filled with hors d'oeuvres, beverages, dancing, and many door prizes. The highlight of the evening was enjoying the company of each other. We crown a King/Queen and a Prince/Princess each year. This year Nate Nalbach and Marilyn Mullen were our King and Queen. John Mullen and Logan Carpenter were our Prince and Princess.

Youth Organization (YO)

A group of 5th through 8th graders hold meetings once a month. In the month of November the group along with Sophia Kartzman presented the Big Flats American Legion Veterans with some of the Christmas Cards made by the group. The group enjoyed cookies, hot cocoa, and especially meeting some of our local heroes.



Big Flats Women's Club

The Big Flats Women's Club is again sponsoring a Scholarship to assist a graduating senior girl from the Big Flats area in the pursuit of a college education. The Big Flats Women's Club, created in 1957, has a long history of sponsoring civic and community projects in the Big Flats area and supporting the local public library. This one time scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to a deserving recipient in June 2015 upon acceptance to a two or four year accredited college program.

Eligibility requirements are a senior girl living in the town of Big Flats, with a grade point average of 3.0 or better and graduating from any local high school. Community service is an important factor and should be included with the application. A letter of recommendation from a current teacher and a copy of a school transcript are required in addition to an essay of 200-300 words describing career and college goals.

The completed application, letter of recommendation, transcript, and essay should be received by May 1st. All applications should be mailed to The Big Flats Women's Club, Scholarship Committee, PO Box 326, Big Flats, NY 14814. For further information about the Women's Club or for the scholarship application please call Bobbie Vence at 562-3465.

The Big Flats Women's Club is busy preparing for their fundraiser to support this annual College Scholarship Fund. The group will be hosting a garage sale with donated items on Saturday April 23rd at the Hird home at 9 Orchard Drive during the annual neighborhood sales. All proceeds will go towards the Scholarship Fund.

New members are always welcome. Please pick up a brochure at the Community Center for more information or call 562-3465.



Mohegan Sun Bus Trip

Saturday April 30, 2016

Come partake in a Golden Glow Fire Company Fundraiser Event

Cost of trip \$45.00

Includes \$25.00 free play

\$5.00 Food voucher

Fun and games on the bus

Call Teresa Post- 732-5336 or
Mary Rynders 733-2880



**You MUST call to
reserve a seat!**

From the Town Supervisor

2015 was a busy year for the Town, instituting several shared services and new programs to help cut the cost of operations. Every department gave 100% to these initiatives and have embraced these changes. We are continuing in 2016 to move forward with shared services with Assessing with the Town of Horseheads, payroll with Chemung County and using the county's accounting program.

With the shared services we did in 2014 with Chemung County every property owner should have received a rebate from New York State of an average of \$100.00 per parcel. With the cuts in the town budget along with the loss of sales tax of \$300,000 last year, we only increased the tax levy \$36,000 or less than .01 per \$1,000 assess value. We continue to supervise all budgets with monthly reports to the town board and maintain a fund balance.

This year the Summer Taffy Program will be sixty years old. This program serves over 400 kids during the six-week summer program. Along with the Taffy program, Marge Tremaine holds several other programs and events for the youth of Big Flats. Thanks Marge for all that you do for the youth of Big Flats.

I want to thank Community Days for all that they do to make Big Flats a great place to live. This last year they donated money for the new playground and the donation to William Smith Landing to make it a safer place for people using the river. If you would like to become part of this great organization please contact the town hall for information. They are always looking for people with new ideas.

I want to thank everyone in our Department of Public Works for their great efforts in the last two years. They implemented a very aggressive road improvement program and maintenance schedule to make our roads safer and saving the town thousands of dollars in future repair costs. I want to thank the DPW for their help in the new playground, when we ran into problems they pitched in and made this project complete on time. Thanks to all that helped. The Water Department was also busy as they completed the water meter change on time and came in under budget by over \$40,000 and saving the department over 12 hours a month labor in reading meters as they went to radio read meters. Great job!! The department changed over to a new billing program that will give them much more flexibility and information. All of these and other projects help to keep Big Flats water at the lowest cost in the southern tier.

The Town is working closely together with Southern Tier Economic Group and the I-86 Group for growth in the businesses, commercial and retail sectors of the Town of Big Flats. We have several opportunities in the next three years to shape the future of Big Flats for both the commercial and residential development. Working closer with STEG in this development and the State URI and CFA money to make sure that we once again become the Empire State for people to work and live.

The new fiber program with Empire Access has been a great addition to the town for both residential and commercial businesses. It has worked with several businesses to grow with cloud based programs and give the residents of the town a choice for their internet/cable/phone services.

I want to personally thank all the employees in the town, the Town Clerk, Town Attorney, Town Board, all the Supervisors in every department for all that they do each and every day in the Town of Big Flats as a TEAM effort. Without them none of these things would get done.

Happy New Year and we are all here to serve the Town of Big Flats.

Ed Fairbrother

Pancake
Breakfast



Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Boy Scout Troop 87 of Big Flats is having a Pancake breakfast fundraiser From 8am to 10am on April 10, 2016.

It will take place at Applebee's
3149 Silverback Lane, Painted Post.

The scouts are looking forward to seeing you there.

District 6 Challenger League is now accepting applications.

Email dianaperron@aol.com for details, or visit www.bfllb.org

The deadline to register is March 14.



The Library Advocates



Great things are happening at the Library, and it's not just the new books.

Check out...

- The third annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place Friday March 25th. from 3-4 pm. Suggested ages are preschool to eight years old. Lots of fun for the younger children.
- Wii Bowling is scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month, in the evening. All ages are welcome and it's great for families to play together.
- Wii Fitness- this is exercise for ladies. Stay tuned for times and dates
- National Library Week is April 10-16. Check the library website for the calendar of events. www.cclld.lib.ny.us or call 562-3300
- Children's Book Week is May 2-8. There will be lot's of exciting activities for kids that week. Again, check out the events on the web site
- Story hour for children ages 18 months to 5 years old is held each Wednesday morning 10:30-11.

And lastly.... the case in the library by the back door always has interesting collections. If you have a collection that would be of interest to Big Flats residents call Pat Silvernail at 562-8409 or email her at silvernailpatndave@gmail.com to set up a date to meet at the library.

Enjoy our wonderful library with it's great staff.

Lee Hanle Younge, President

BF Library Advocates



NOTICE TO TOWN OF BIG FLATS RESIDENTS DOG ENUMERATION (census)

**As per the State of New York and Big Flats local law, all dogs residing in the Town MUST be licensed.
Therefore:**

Southern Tier Dog Control will be conducting a dog enumeration (census) beginning April, 1st 2016, As required by Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, any dog (4) months or age or older must be licensed within the TOWN they reside in.

Please license your dog(s) at the **Town Clerks Office, 476 Maple Street, Big Flats, NY 14814.**

(Please bring):

Rabies Certification from the Veterinarian

Spay or Neuter Certificate

Spay/Neutered - \$8.00

Not Spayed/Neutered - \$20.00



Once the enumeration begins, all owners of dog(s) that are not licensed will be given (10) days to have said dog(s) licensed or the Dog Control Officer will issue tickets.

Also an **additional enumeration fee of \$5.00** for any unlicensed dog will be charged.

Starting January 1st, 2016 a \$5.00 late fee will be added for each month that your license is not current.

It is the Dog(s) owner's responsibility to let the Clerk's Office know if you no longer have the dog or if you plan on moving out of the Town

If you have any questions regarding licensing your dog, please contact the Town Clerk Office at 607-562-8443.

Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation of the Dog Laws.

Southern Tier Dog Control Officer

Joel Pearson

607-846-3640

Yes, I would like to support "The New Big Flats Times"

Business Sponsor- \$50/issue for ____ issues Total \$ _____

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Email a business card you would like in the issue to tstein@bigflatsny.gov

Use the same business card we have on file _____(check)

Individual- \$20/issue for ____ issues Total \$ _____

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Phone Number _____

Make checks payable to "Town of Big Flats"- Memo line: **NBFT**

Money and form may be left in Town Clerk's office or mailed to:

NBFT 476 Maple Street, Big Flats, NY 14814

Email address so I can send renewal reminders _____

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Town Board Meeting 4:30	10	11	12 Pancake Breakfast Presbyterian Church 
13 Daylight savings	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20 	21	22	23 Town Board Meeting 7:00	24	25 Good Friday Egg Hunt at library	26 Town Hall Closed
27 	28	29 Wii bowling at library	30	31		

April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Check the website for brush pick up dates					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Pancake Breakfast Presbyterian Church 
10 Troop 87 Fundraiser, Painted Post Applebees 8-10 am 	11 National Library Week		13 Town Board Meeting 4:30	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 	23 Neighborhood sales Olcott Rd N. Orchard Dr. area
24	25	26 Wii bowling at library	27 Town Board Meeting 7:00	28	29	30 Mohegan Sun Trip

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Children's Book Week	3	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11 Town Board Meeting 4:30	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Town Board Meeting 7:00	26	27	28
29	30 MEMORIAL DAY  Closed	31 Wii bowling at library	Grievance Day 4pm - 8pm			

April shows bring May flowers

The New Big Flats Times
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Big Flats, NY 14814

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If your name has a * by it, I have received your survey so you DO NOT need to send another one. Thank you

Due to the increasing cost of the Newsletter we are conducting a survey and hope you will take time to mark one of the following: **PLEASE ONLY SEND IN ONE PER HOUSEHOLD**

- I would like to view the newsletter on the Town website at www.bigflatsny.gov
- I would like to have the newsletter emailed to me
- I would like to continue to have the newsletter mailed to me:
- I **DO NOT** want to receive the newsletter anymore

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Feel free to email
me your
preference at
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Please pick ONE choice and mail or drop off to Big Flats Town Hall

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