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'Future of this site is very, very bright'



The City of Binghamton is pursuing ownership of the Binghamton Plaza on the city's North Side.

KALYN GRANT / BINGHAMTON PRESS & SUN BULLETIN

Binghamton Plaza to be demolished for new development

Riccardo Monico
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

After years of legal battles, the City of Binghamton will finally take the title to the Binghamton Plaza on the city's North Side.

At a Jan. 21 press conference, Mayor Jared Kraham announced that pre-demolition work for the site has begun

ahead of the city receiving ownership of the plaza in early March. The plaza, located at 33 West State St., has long been in a state of disrepair, despite a handful of businesses continuing operations in the plaza.

In June 2024, the city won its eminent domain case against the plaza's owners, paving the way for an offer of purchase that will see the city buy the property for \$1.55 million.

Pre-demolition efforts to begin at Binghamton Plaza

Binghamton's Colliers Engineering and Design will conduct environmental testing and demolition design of the site, and will also help determine bid specifications for the plaza's demolition. In December, City Council autho-

See **PLAZA**, Page 2A

Grants will help flood control efforts

Kalyn Grant
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Broome and Tioga counties were among two of 29 project areas selected to receive a total of \$25.5 million in state-funded grants to improve water quality and infrastructure.

Several of the grants will study innovative green infrastructure practices and reduce flooding in Binghamton, Endicott and Johnson City.

The awards are part of Gov. Kathy Hochul's multimillion-dollar investment plan to protect drinking water, upgrade aging infrastructure, reduce harmful algal blooms, provide clean water for New Yorkers, and improve climate resilience.

Statewide, 131 projects received over \$208 million through the DEC's WQIP grant program, 44 projects received \$2.9 million through the Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Mapping Grant, and 24 climate resiliency projects across 15 communities received \$55 million from the Environmental Bond Act.

How grant money will be spent in Southern Tier

Town of Chenango

\$560,000 from the Water Quality Improvement Project will be used to construct a facility to store an uncovered salt pile. The new storage facility will protect the Lower Chenango River, watershed and groundwater.

Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc

\$458,537 from the Water Quality Improvement Project will support a

See **GRANTS**, Page 3A

Autopsy reveals cause of death for inmate

Jillian McCarthy
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

An autopsy has determined the cause of death for an inmate who died within the custody of the Broome County Correctional Facility.

On Oct. 8, Chelsey M. Davis, 38, of Port Dickinson, died six hours after being remanded to the custody of the

Broome County Correctional Facility.

With permission from the family, the sheriff's office released the details of her autopsy on Jan. 20, which listed her cause of death as "Chronic Alcohol Use with Hepatic Cirrhosis."

The contributing factors listed in the autopsy were "hemorrhagic pancreas, cardiac hypertrophy, atherosclerotic coronary disease," according to the sheriff's office.

At the time of Davis' death, the toxicology report found no alcohol or controlled substances in her system.

In a statement, Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar said he hopes Davis' family can "find some comfort" knowing the staff at the correctional facility "performed admirably and with vigilance, doing everything they

See **AUTOPSY**, Page 2A

Note to readers

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