



## WNBA power rankings list of early 2026 title contenders

SPORTS, 1B

# PRESS & SUN-BULLETIN

PRESSCONNECTS.COM | TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026 | BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Local groups looking for some helping hands



The site will have several "all access" raised garden beds, built for gardeners with limited mobility.

PHOTOS BY KALYN GRANT/PRESS & SUN BULLETIN

## Teacher pension reform sought

Emily Barnes  
New York State Team  
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Bethany Hamilton began her teaching career in New York 14 years ago, she wasn't really thinking about retirement, despite all the state pension system changes that were unfolding at the time.

Hamilton, then in her late 20s, was just starting out. She had recently graduated with a master's degree in English education from Bard College after spending some time in nonprofit work, had yet to start a family of her own and loved her teaching job.

Her parents were of retirement age and had spent their careers working for state agencies – a Tier 3 correction officer and a Tier 4 Department of Environmental Protection employee – that Hamilton said had retirement systems with "great payoff." The potential challenges of reductions in New York's

See **TEACHERS**, Page 5A



Nate Barr-Jobson, a volunteer at CHOW, helped sort through donations at the warehouse located in Binghamton on Dec. 1, 2025.

## Where you can volunteer in Binghamton area

Kalyn Grant  
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin  
USA TODAY NETWORK

April is recognized as National Volunteer Month, offering opportunities for residents to give their time and skills to local organizations and get involved in community initiatives.

According to volunteer.gov, the month is a reminder "that even small acts of kindness can have a profound impact."

From sorting food at CHOW to building raised garden beds with VINES, there are numerous ways to get involved in the Binghamton area this spring. Sign up to spread kindness with a neighbor

for National Volunteer Month.

Here are eight places in the Binghamton area seeking volunteers for April and beyond.

### CHOW

CHOW volunteers will run the concession stand at the Mirabito Stadium on April 24, with a percentage of the proceeds going directly to the volunteers. Participants must be 18 or older to sign up.

As of April 17, there are six slots available, according to CHOW Community Impact Coordinator Colin Kelly.

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Bethany Hamilton, left, with coworkers Matt Haynes and Michelle Kenney at a New York State United Teachers event in Albany earlier this year. Hamilton is one of many Tier 6 members pushing for reforms to the pension system.

PROVIDED BY BETHANY HAMILTON

## 1 person dead, 1 in custody following North Side stabbing

Jillian McCarthy  
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Binghamton man has been charged with second-degree murder in connection with a fatal stabbing on Virgil Street.

The Binghamton Police Department responded to a reported stabbing at noon on April 17 at 29 Virgil St., a housing facility on Binghamton's North Side.

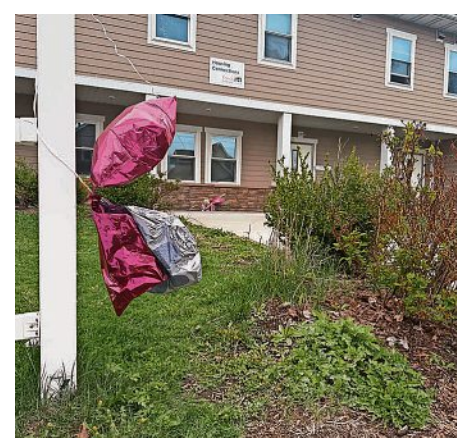
At the scene, police located the victim in a stairwell suffering from what they called a "significant stab" to the abdomen. Officers immediately rendered aid to the victim until emergency medical services arrived on scene and continued lifesaving measures. The

victim was transported to a local area hospital for further treatment and died at 2:30 a.m.

Roy A. Peterson, 54, was found inside an apartment within the facility and was taken into custody in connection with the fatal stabbing. Peterson and the victim were allegedly known to each other.

Peterson was charged with second-degree murder, arraigned in Binghamton City Court and remanded to the custody of the Broome County Correctional Facility.

The name of the victim has not been released. The Binghamton Police Department asks anyone with information to call the Binghamton Police Detective Bureau at 607-772-7080.



A Binghamton man has been charged with murder for allegedly stabbing a person to death at 29 Vigil St.

KALYN GRANT/PRESS & SUN-BULLETIN

## Kicking off Work Zone Awareness Week

I-81 is getting an upgrade

Kalyn Grant  
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin  
USA TODAY NETWORK

NYS DOT crews will be out on Interstate 81 between exits 16 and 21 resurfacing the northbound right lanes beginning April 20 in Broome County.

The \$19 million pavement project is part of New York Gov. Kathy Hochul's plan to upgrade roughly 9 miles of asphalt from exit 13B on Front Street to exit 21 in Castle Creek.

The work is expected to cause minimal traveling disruptions as crews will be scheduled to work overnight.

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Volume 41 | No. 171  
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