



Beckham Jr. defying odds with Giants

SPORTS, 1B

PRESS & SUN-BULLETIN

PRESSCONNECTS.COM | FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 | BINGHAMTON, N.Y. PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Bypassing the big chains



The Community Closet is a new non-profit thrift shop located in Binghamton, offering residents ultra-affordable prices. All of the proceeds made go toward operating costs and supporting local causes in the area that require immediate attention or financial assistance. PHOTOS BY KALYN GRANT/PRESS & SUN BULLETIN

The Community Closet brings ‘yard sale’ rates to Chenango

Kalyn Grant
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Browsing the aisles at popular thrift store chains like Goodwill and Thrifty Shopper, Brittany Lavergne and her fiancé Brandon Beers noticed some items’ price tags seemed to be inching closer to regular retail prices. It got them thinking. Could there be another option? With dual goals of helping the community and creating a space that offered “yard sale prices,” they opened The

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Republicans renew court fight to stop even-year shift for NY local elections

Chris McKenna
New York State Team
USA TODAY NETWORK

New York Republicans have renewed their quest to stop a switch to even-year elections for county and town offices that are set to appear on ballots across

the state this fall. Opponents have been battling to overturn a 2023 state law that required certain local races be moved from odd-numbered years to even years, when state and federal races are held and turnout is much higher. They lost a two-year fight in state courts last October,

and in June a federal judge dismissed a second challenge brought in federal court by the state Republican Party and a slew of other plaintiffs. But the decision allowed the case to be revived if various counties and

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\$8 million irrigation bill sparks battle over En-Joie

Riccardo Monico
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

The latest debate in the multi-year saga over En-Joie Golf Course’s future concerns the Village of Endicott’s Request for Proposal for the management of the course. The golf course, which hosts the annual Dick’s Sporting Goods Open, has been the center of controversy due to an aging irrigation system that both sides say needs to be replaced. How to execute those repairs, however, has been hotly contested. The course is owned by the Village of Endicott but managed by Broome County, meaning any large-scale repairs, like the \$8 million required to replace the irrigation, must be funded by the village. According to Broome County Executive Jason Garnar, the only way for the county to assist with the repair

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AI system could help accelerate research at University

Riccardo Monico
Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Researchers across SUNY schools will have a new AI tool to use thanks to the launch of Empire AI Beta. In an Aug. 5 press release, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul announced the launch of the tool, which she called the “most powerful academic research computer” in the United States. The announcement comes one day after the reveal of a \$100 million initiative seeking to expand AI resources throughout the country

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