



# State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

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Executive's Office

Jason T. Garnar, Broome County Executive

EMBARGED until February 26, 2018, 6 p.m.

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## **BUILDING A BETTER BROOME**

*County Executive Jason Garnar Delivers 2018 State of the County Address*

(HARPURSVILLE, NY) Broome County Executive Jason Garnar tonight delivered the 2018 State of the County address at Animal Adventure Park in the park's new Welcome Center.

The theme for Garnar's address was "Building a Better Broome."

"To build a better Broome County, we need jobs. We need to provide quality services for our residents. We need safe communities and sound infrastructure. We need to keep taxes low and put our county in a strong financial position," said Garnar.

Among the highlights of Garnar's address included county finances, workforce development and fighting blight. He announced a new Beautify Broome program, healthier housing initiatives and his plans for a county-owned building in the Town of Union.

The County Executive also addressed the issue of school safety after the recent horrible tragedy at a school in Florida. Garnar announced the creation of a Task Force to start the conversation and find solutions in creating a safer environment for children in Broome County.

Garnar also spoke about his excitement for the Greater Binghamton Fund, which he was named co-chair. This \$20 million fund announced by Governor Andrew Cuomo will be allocated to projects designed to transform the urban areas of Endicott, Johnson City and Binghamton.

When asked why he chose to hold the State of the County address at a location outside of the County Office Building, Garnar said, "My favorite thing about my job is getting out of my office and into our communities in Broome County from the Town of Maine to Windsor to Harpursville and everywhere in-between. Animal Adventure Park was my top choice (to hold tonight's address). It goes beyond April the Giraffe and into the story of a hardworking, successful business owner who overcame adversity and saw his dream become a reality."

Tonight was Garnar's second State of the County address as Broome County Executive. Once again this year, he and his staff will be taking the State of the County on the road to municipalities in Broome County. The full schedule will be released this week.