

Herkimer County Newsletter

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2021

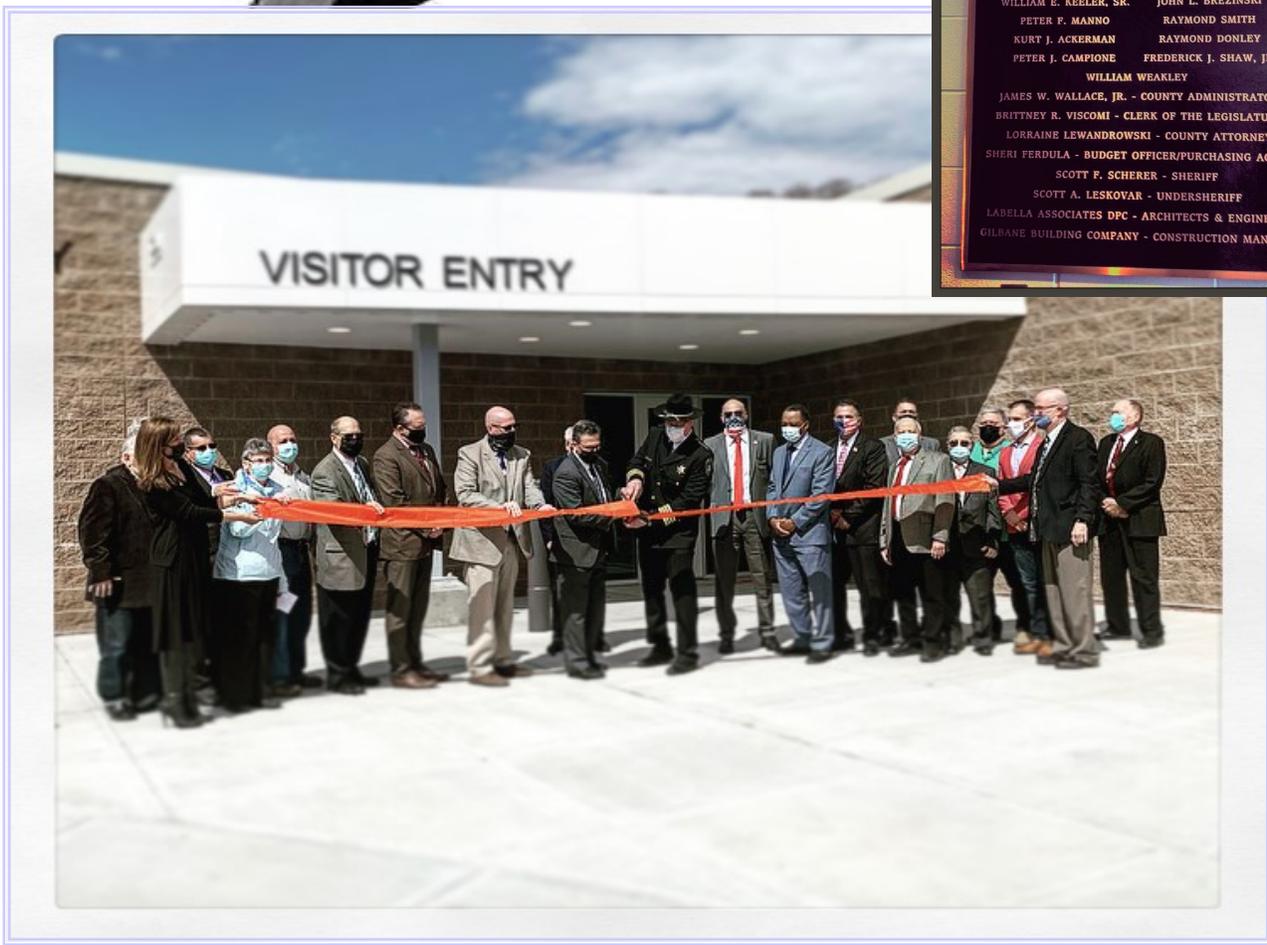
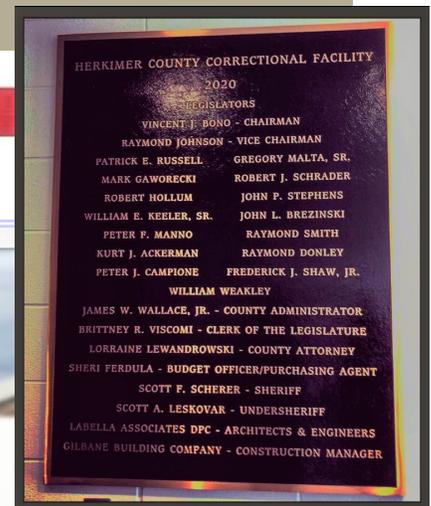


INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Mental Health Visits</i>	2
<i>Legislature Meeting Dates/Info</i>	2
<i>Ribbon Cutting</i>	2
<i>Board of Elections Info</i>	3,9
<i>Public Health Dept.</i>	4
<i>Office for the Aging</i>	5,6
<i>ETA</i>	6
<i>Stop DWI</i>	7
<i>Herkimer College News</i>	8,9

NEW HERKIMER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY RIBBON CUTTING

APRIL 7th was a historic day for all who exacted efforts toward the build of the new Herkimer County Correctional Facility. A ribbon cutting ceremony took place at the site which boasts a cost-effective state-of-the-art facility. It was well attended by local officials with limited additional attendance due to COVID-19 restrictions. A tour of the facility was given prior to the ceremony for the Herkimer County Legislators listed on the commemorative plaque pictured below.



Upcoming 2021 Legislature Meeting Dates:

- April 7— 2:00 PM
- April 28—7:00 PM
- May 19—7:00 PM
- June 9—7:00 PM

All meetings are held in the Legislature Chambers
 109 Mary Street
 Herkimer, NY 13350
 Check our website for Meeting minutes at www.herkimercounty.org

Civil Service Exams:

- May 22
- June 5
- June 26

Please visit www.herkimercounty.org and click on "Civil Service Exams" for more information!



Legal Holidays. All Herkimer County Offices will be closed:

- April 2—Good Friday
- May 31—Memorial Day

*Highway and Deputy Sherriff's Association Employees excluded



County Office Building
 Winter Hours
 8:00AM—5:00PM
 September 3, 2020 to
 May 28, 2021.



HERKIMER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY RIBBON CUTTING

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF SHERIFF SCHERER:

The Herkimer County Sheriff's Office was part of a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Correctional Facility on April 7th. We are looking forward to transitioning to the new facility by the end of April. We are currently working with New York State Commission of Corrections on our move plan. This must be in place before we can bring any of our incarcerated individuals to the new facility. The new facility is made up of three pods which total 130 beds and could house up to 155 individuals with double bunking. In the new facility we will be able to hold video visitation along with getting back to daily programs such as Church, AA classes and GED classes to name a few. This will be done in coordination with our Inmate Service Coordinator. Once the move is complete we will have to decommission the current facility and turn the keys back over to the Herkimer County Officials. Our staff is looking forward to working in a state-of-the-art facility that the Herkimer County has provided.



OUT OF THE MOUTH OF CHAIRMAN BONO:

On April 7, 2021 the ribbon cutting of the new Herkimer County Correctional Facility took place. After many years of debate, planning and construction, this new state-of-the-art facility is ready to be occupied. Herkimer County will now be saving tens of thousands of dollars on any given month as we will no longer be paying other counties to board out as was necessary previously. This, coupled with a safer and more efficient work environment for our employees with the Herkimer County Sheriff's Department, will better serve our community well into the century. The \$40 million project was completed under budget with a savings of around \$400,000. The property tax payer did not see any increase in their property tax due to this project. The entire cost of the new facility is being paid for by a 1/4 of a percent sales tax that was initiated in 2007. To date, a little over half of the cost of the jail has already been paid for with the estimated payoff between seven and ten years.



Although the process was arduous and newly coupled with COVID-19 concerns, the project was completed with safety, efficiency and fiscal responsibility as the key factors adhered to throughout its duration. Congratulations to all who are involved, both past and present!

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF ADMINISTRATOR WALLACE:

Over parts of the last four decades, Herkimer County with direction from the NYS Commission on Corrections has been planning this new facility. As anyone can imagine, a project that spans over that many years has many individuals who have had a hand in its success. First and foremost our County Legislature both past and present, our staffs of the following departments: County Administrator, Clerk of the Legislature, County Attorney, Budget and Purchasing, Highway and Sheriff both past and present. Our architect, Labella Associates and their partner, Gilbane Building Company, as well as our contractors, Code Compliance Specialist from New York State, staff from the Village of Herkimer both past and present. A big thanks to all that attended our ribbon cutting ceremony on April 7th and a shout out to Father Catena from Annunciation Church in Ilion for the blessing. This effective and efficient building should take care of our needs for decades to come.



MENTAL HEALTH VISITS

Mental Health Clinic Visits		
Dec. - 711	Jan. - 673	Feb.-628

Mental Health Jail Visits		
Dec. - 41	Jan. - 35	Feb. - 40

FROM BOARD OF ELECTIONS:



Primary Election - June 22, 2021, 6:00 AM—9:00 PM

General Election - November 2, 2021 , 6:00 AM—9:00 PM

**DATES AND TIMES FOR EARLY VOITING WILL BE POSTED TO OUR WEBSITE.
PLEASE VISIT US AT herkimercounty.org/elections FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION**

NEW EARLY VOTING SITE for 2021 Elections:

Blessed Sacrament Church 71 E. Main St., Mohawk NY 13407

UPDATE POLLING SITES::

Salisbury residents will cast their vote at a new polling site:

Salisbury Fire Department.

Newport residents will cast their vote at a new polling site:

Newport Fire Department.

We are always looking for people to work the elections. If interested please contact our office for more information by phone 315-867-1102 or by email

hcboe@herkimercounty.org

POLL WORKER TRAINING BEGINS the week of May 10, 2021.





301 North Washington Street
Suite 2300
Herkimer, NY 13350

Tel: 315-867-1176
Fax: 315-867-1444

Christina Cain, RN, BSN, MS, MA
Director Public Health

With warm weather approaching, please remember to fight the bite. As we all immerge from being inside due to winter and Covid 19, we need to protect ourselves from tick and mosquito borne illness.

Please dress try appropriately when outside with long pants and long sleeves, light colored clothing and cover as much skin as possible, if that is not possible use an insect repellent. Common insect repellent that repel ticks and mosquitos are DEET, IR3535 (Avon Skin So Soft™), Picaridin, Citronella, and oil of lemon eucalyptus. Always use these products as recommended by the manufacture. For a complete list of insect repellants, please go to <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents>.

People are also encourage to take steps to reduce the number of mosquitos around your home and property by eliminating standing water in yards, and make sure all doors and window have screens that are in good repair. In addition, Herkimer County residents are urged to:

- Dispose of used tires, tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar containers which collect water
- Drill holes in bottom of recycling containers that are kept outdoors. Make sure roof gutters drain properly and clean clogged gutters in spring and fall.
- Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use and change birdbath twice a week.
- Clean vegetation and debris from edges of ponds. Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs and drain water from pool covers.

By fighting the bite, you can help prevent Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Zika, West Nile Virus or Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Any question please call Herkimer County Public Health at 315-867-1176.



Herkimer County is actively seeking candidates to fill vacancies in various departments. Please check out www.herkimercounty.org for civil service exams and job postings.

In an effort to increase recruitment please share these vacancies and exam information with individuals that may be interested.

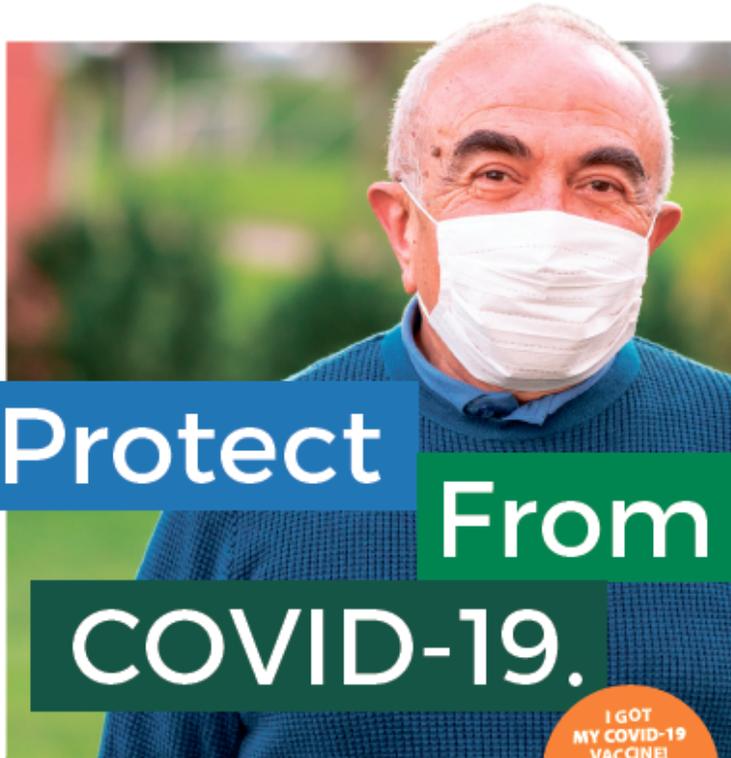
Herkimer County Office for the Aging



NY Connects
Your Link to Long Term
Services and Supports



Let's All Get Vaccinated



Vaccines are one of the tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Over 76 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered in the United States from December 14, 2020, through March 1, 2021.
- Vaccines are one of the most effective tool to protect your health and prevent disease. Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses so your body will be ready to fight the virus, if they you are exposed (also called immunity).
- Studies have shown the COVID 19 vaccinations are safe & effective.
- Different types of vaccines are available. Most vaccines are given in two shots, one at a time and spaced apart. If you are told that you need two shots make sure that you get both.
- The vaccines may cause side effects in some people, like sore muscles, feeling tired, or mild fever. These reactions mean that the vaccine is working to help teach your body how to fight COVID-19 if you are exposed. Most side effects will not last more than a day or two.
- After you get your vaccine you will need to keep wearing a mask, wash your hands often, and social distance at least 6 feet from other people.

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine adds one more layer of protection.



A safe and effective vaccine to protect against COVID-19 is now available. Learn more: cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines

Herkimer County Office for the Aging/NY Connects will assist individuals 60 and over in scheduling their vaccination. If you need assistance please call us at (315)867-1121.

Herkimer County Office for the Aging has programs to assist individuals over the age of 60 in their homes. If you need assistance please call our office.

- Transportation - Nutrition Counseling
- Home Delivered Meals - Legal Assistance
- In Home Services that can assist with light housekeeping & Personal Care
- Health Insurance Information & Counseling

NY Connects providing information & assistance on long term services & supports

For more information on COVID-19 go to herkimercounty.org and click on the Coronavirus banner at the top of the page.

This information is provided to you by Herkimer County Office for the Aging/NY Connects. For more information call us at (315)867-1121.

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING:

The Herkimer County Office for the Aging is hiring a Companion Homemaker for the Herkimer, Mohawk, Ilion and Frankfort areas.

The Companion Homemaker assists with light housekeeping, laundry, shopping and errands for seniors in the above listed communities. Beyond assistance with activities of daily living, the Companion Homemaker provides companionship and socialization.

This position is 19 1/2 hrs. per week and includes payment for mileage.
If you are interested in this position, please contact 315-867-1121 for more information.



Herkimer County Office for the Aging is looking for volunteer or a paid driver for a Home Delivered Meals routes for all areas in Herkimer County. The paid drivers receive minimum wage plus mileage. We need your help and if you are interested or know anyone interested in the position please contact us at (315)867-1414.

We provide all personal protective equipment so that all drivers and older adults stay safe!!!
During this uncertain time this is a great way to give back to the older adults in our community.

FROM EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING:



Who wants a
summer
job??



There are 4 separate programs available to youth in Herkimer County
Details, eligibility and application process for each program described below:

Herkimer County College Corps Internship Program

This is a 200 hour paid internship

- *For those who will be a junior or senior in college in the fall semester
- *Call 315-867-1400 for an application
- *We look for an opportunity that matches closely to your curriculum or you can also find the employer and let them know that we will share the cost of your wages!

Herkimer County ETA Summer Youth Program

- Ages 14-20
- Must fit income requirements-public assistance, SNAP, Medicaid, HEAP, SSI, low income
- Call 315-867-1400 for an application
- 14-15 yr. olds may be placed at BOCES
- 16-20 yr. olds will be placed at individual worksites

Herkimer County Legislative Summer Youth Program

- Ages 16-21
- No income requirement
- Youth must contact their county legislator for an application. If you do not know who your legislator is, you can call the Youth Bureau at 315-867-1213

Old Forge Bus Transportation Program

Interested youth ages 14-21 can contact employers in the Old Forge area directly for employment. Many work at the Enchanted Forest Water Safari and that application can be done online at <https://www.watersafari.com/jobs/>

After being hired, you will have to contact the Youth Bureau at 315-867-1213 to set up a time to complete the application to ride the bus and get an ID

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY STOP DWI:



DID YOU KNOW???

TEST YOUR VEHICLE & TRAFFIC LAW I.Q. -- 2021

Below are 20 questions and answers on vehicle and traffic law (VTL) and traffic safety. Most of these questions are straight forward, laws that all drivers should know.

True or False

If your vehicle has daytime running lights, you are not required to turn on your headlights when your wipers are on. **[False – Your full headlights and taillights are required]**

Purple pavement markings are used for parking at funeral homes. **[False. Purple pavement markings are for lanes restricted for use by vehicles with registered electronic control accounts] (i.e. E-ZPass). [MUTCD]**

You pull over to the shoulder of the road to make a phone call. While stopped on the shoulder, you must keep your right turn signal on. **[False. VTL prohibits using the right turn signal when stopped on the shoulder – you must use your 4-way hazard lights]**

Rear seat passengers 16 years old and older are not required to wear seatbelts. **[False. (Effective as of 11/1/2020, all passengers in automobiles & taxis must be restrained)]**

If there are no sidewalks available, NYS VTL requires pedestrians to walk on the left side of the street or road facing oncoming traffic, and requires bicyclists to always ride on the right side of the street or road with traffic. **[True]**

It is illegal for a pedestrian to cross a roadway at other than an intersection. **[False. Mid-block crossing is allowed but pedestrians must yield to all traffic upon the roadway]**

If it is safe to do so, you may legally cross a double solid line when passing a bicyclist riding on the shoulder. **[True. It's part of the "slow down, move over" law to pass to the left of a bicyclist or pedestrian at a safe distance]**

A "two way left turn" lane (center turn lane) may be used to turn left *from* a street or road *entering* the street or road you want to turn into. **[True (section 1126(c) of VTL]**

A school bus traveling with students on an interstate highway with a posted speed limit of 65 mph must not exceed 55 mph. **True. [NYCRR 156.3]**

10. When preparing for a left turn ahead, where there is a dedicated left turn lane, you must signal your movement from the driving lane into the left turn lane 100 feet before moving into the left turn lane, AND, you must also signal your left turn 100 feet prior to the turn. **[True. VTL requires signaling at least 100 feet before lane changes and for turns]**

Multiple choice questions

At a signalized intersection, you are facing a green light and want to turn left, but there is a string of oncoming traffic. You should: a) stop at the stop bar and wait, b) go straight so as not to hold up traffic behind you, c) turn right and then make a U-turn, d) proceed into the intersection and wait for a break in oncoming traffic or the light to change, then complete your left turn. **[d – You may enter the intersection to prepare for your left turn if the light is green and no other vehicle ahead of you is preparing for a left turn]**

When parallel parking a vehicle on a village street with curbs, you must park within: a) 6 inches from the curb, b) 12 inches from the curb, c) 18 inches from the curb. **[b - 12 inches from the curb]**

Parking is prohibited: a) within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection, b) within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, c) on a crosswalk, d) on a sidewalk, e) where prohibited by an official sign, f) all of these. **[f – all of the answers a through e]**

A conviction for texting while driving carries: a) 0, b) 2, c) 3, d) 5 driver violation points. **[d, 5 driver violation points]**

If a snowplow hits and damages your rural mailbox, the municipality that owns the snowplow must repair the mailbox within a) 48 hours, b) one week, c) by the following April 1st, d) is under no obligation to repair it. **[d - no obligation to repair it]**

Unless other times are specified on a SCHOOL SPEED ZONE sign, the school speed limit is in effect for which **two** answers: a) at all times, b) from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on school days, c) whenever beacons are flashing, d) only when students are present. **[b and c]**

Where crossing the lane line markings is prohibited, the lane line markings shall consist of: a) a solid double white line, b) a single solid white line, c) a single solid yellow line? **[a - Where crossing the lane line markings is prohibited, the lane line markings shall consist of a solid double white line.] [MUTCD, 3B.04 (30)]**

Under which three of the following five conditions are U-turns prohibited: a) upon any curve or upon the approach to, or near the crest of a grade where such motor vehicle cannot be seen by another driver within 500 feet, b) within a school zone, c) on any roadway with a speed limit over 40 mph, d) where official signs prohibit U-turns, e) on a highway with 4 or more lanes? **[a, b, and d]**

If facing a blinking yellow left turn arrow, it means: a) don't turn – the yellow arrow is about to turn red, b) you may turn left only if it is safe to do so, c) you must wait for a green light to make a left turn, d) trucks only may turn left. **[b - you may turn left only if it is safe to do so]**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration assesses driver error in: a) 50 %, b) 75 %, c) 88 %, or d) 94 % of all traffic crashes. **[d – 94%]**

This article was made available through the Herkimer County STOP-DWI Program with permission of the Franklin County Traffic Safety Board.



FROM HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:



Herkimer
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Herkimer College adds Psychology degree program

Herkimer County Community College is now offering an associate of arts degree in Psychology.

The Psychology program is designed to provide a solid foundation in psychological studies by familiarizing students with the various fields of study, putting them in a more-informed position to focus their interests and career goals when transferring to a four-year college or university. The program will cover key topics like development, childhood, or adolescent psychology; abnormal psychology; marriage and family dynamics; social psychology; and more.

In addition to traditional in-person learning, the new A.A. degree is also available for completion entirely online through Herkimer College's Internet Academy.

For more information, visit www.herkimer.edu/psychology.

New UVGI technology to protect students and staff against airborne pathogens

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Herkimer College has upgraded its infrastructure to ensure the health and wellness of students, employees, and campus visitors. The project included the installation of ultra-violet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) technology in the College's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system.

UVGI is a disinfection method that uses short-wavelength ultraviolet (ultraviolet C or UVC) light to kill or inactivate microorganisms by destroying nucleic acids and disrupting their DNA, leaving them unable to perform vital cellular functions.

Herkimer College contracted with Eastern Energy Solutions, Inc. (EES), an energy contracting and consulting firm focused on increasing profitability for clients by identifying and implementing Design-Build solutions that reduce operating costs, improve the working environment and resolve power quality issues negatively effecting operational and production cost. EES has been working with UVGI technology since 2008, primarily in the hospital, dairy and laundry sectors.

According to EES President Bob Granger, UVGI has been around for more than 75 years, and was primarily used in the healthcare industry where microbial disinfection is a major concern. With the recent pandemic, the use of UVGI is being implemented throughout market sectors and even in the home.

UVGI lighting systems are designed to provide air purification, reduced maintenance, and increased energy efficiency within the air handling units in which they are applied. As air passes through the UV-C light spectrum/wavelength, airborne infectious pathogens that can cause respiratory sickness, disease and infection (including COVID-19) are rendered inert, in-turn providing high-level, facility-wide disinfection of the air supplied to occupied spaces.

"What Herkimer College has accomplished is outstanding. The upgrades they have made are delivering many real advantages to all on campus," said Granger.

According to Nicholas Laino, senior vice president for administration and finance at Herkimer College, the nearly \$100,000 investment in UVGI technology was 100 percent funded by federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds granted to Herkimer College. Laino said, "First and foremost, the health and wellness of our campus community is our top priority, and we are committed to maintaining a safe environment for our students, employees, and visitors."

Photo: The operational UVGI system at Herkimer County Community College



HCCC CONT'D:

College offers in-person and virtual visit options

The Admissions office is offering a variety of options for prospective students and families to learn about the College. In-person campus visits are available, and appointments are recommended in order to maintain safety protocols. Additionally, a variety of virtual sessions are scheduled – general sessions, majors sessions, athletics info sessions, etc. For a listing of all options and to register, visit www.herkimer.edu/visit. We look forward to meeting you!



CATCH UP OR GET AHEAD WITH HERKIMER'S SUMMER SESSION

Summer Session courses are open to all students regardless of which college they attend. Most courses will be delivered online through Herkimer College's award-winning Internet Academy. MA 141 and MA 245 will be delivered via real-time remote using Microsoft Teams, and Anatomy & Physiology I and II will be taught in person, on campus.

Online and real-time remote courses will take place from June 7- July 30, 2021. A&P I will run from May 17 to June 24 with online registration ending May 9th. A&P II will run from June 28th to August 6th with online registration ending June 19th.

Many courses will utilize Open Educational Resources (OER) eliminating the need to purchase expensive textbooks.

For more information and to view the summer course schedule, visit: www.herkimer.edu/summer.



BOARD OF ELECTIONS CONT'D:



POLL WORKERS NEEDED

The Herkimer County Board of Elections is looking for paid poll site workers for multiple positions. All registered voters are eligible. Poll sites are open from 6:00 am until 9:00 pm. Paid training is required.

If interested please contact the Board of Elections at 315.867.1102 or hcboe@herkimercounty.org.