

Herkimer County Newsletter

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2021



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Mental Health Visits</i>	2
<i>Legislature Meeting Dates</i>	2
<i>Meet the Dept. Head!, Board of Elections Info.</i>	2,3
<i>Office for the Aging</i>	4,15
<i>Budget</i>	5
<i>Information Services</i>	6,7
<i>HCCC</i>	8,9
<i>Soil & Water</i>	10, 11, 12
<i>Highway Dept.</i>	13
<i>E-911</i>	14
<i>County Clerk</i>	16

PUBLIC HEALTH HOLDS COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC IN TOWN OF WEBB.



Pictured from left: Karen Noble, Kim Schrader, Mary Lou Lally, Mary Ellen Clark, Jill Barra, Amanda Jones, Lonna Hart. Front: Carol Comari Perkins, Diane Ward.



The County's first COVID-19 vaccination clinic was held on Friday, January 15, 2021 in the Town of Webb. It saw great success, with a total of 86 people! This was the first clinic of many as Public Health will be rotating throughout Herkimer County at various POD locations. Upcoming clinics are to be held at Herkimer County Community College.

For up-to-date information, please visit herkimercounty.org and select "learn more" within the yellow banner devoted to Coronavirus Information at the top of our homepage.



Upcoming 2021 Legislature Meeting Dates:

- January 6— 2:00 PM
- January 27—7:00 PM
- February 17—7:00 PM
- March 17—7:00 PM

All meetings are currently being held via Zoom due to COVID-19. For information and meeting minutes visit our website at www.herkimercounty.org

HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MEETING NOVEMBER 17, 2020:

MEET THE NEW DEPARTMENT HEADS:

MICHAEL D. TALABA
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES



Herkimer County is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Talaba as Director of Weights and Measures. Michael was appointed at the Herkimer County Legislature meeting on November 17, 2020, commencing January 1, 2021.

Michael holds a Bachelor's degree with a chemistry concentrate.

The Director of Weights and Measures may be reached at 315-867-1203.

Civil Service Exams:

- January 16
- March 6

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



Legal Holidays. All Herkimer County Offices will be closed:

- January 1— New Years Day
- January 18—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 15—Presidents' Day

*Highway and Deputy Sherriff's Association Employees excluded



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



Outgoing Director, Bruce Weakley retired on December 31, 2020 after almost 4 years of service in the Weights and Measures Department, and after having served as a Legislator from 2004—2016.

Thank you Bruce!

- Herkimer County Mental Health: (315) 717-1465**
www.herkimercounty.org/services-and-departments/mental-health.php
- Beacon Center (outpatient substance abuse): (315) 717-0789**
www.beaconcenter.net/locations/herkimer/
- Mobile Crisis Assessment Team (MCAT): (315) 732-6228**
www.neighborhoodctr.org/services/mobile-crisis-assessment-team/
- RISE Recovery Community Outreach Center: (315) 717-3162**
www.risercoc.org
- NY Project Hope: 1-844-863-9314**
Nyprojecthope.org

MENTAL HEALTH VISITS

Mental Health Clinic Visits		
Sept. - 726	Oct. - 681	Nov. -615

Mental Health Jail Visits		
Sept. - 53	Oct. - 50	Nov.- 57

MEET THE NEW DEPARTMENT HEADS CONT'D:

**KIM TRANTER, REPUBLICAN COMMISSIONER
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**



Herkimer County is pleased to announce the reappointment of Kim Tranter as the Republican commissioner for the Board of Elections. Kim was reappointed at the Herkimer County Legislature Meeting on November 17, 2020.

The Commissioner may be reached at 315-867-1104.

**ROBERT DRUMM, DEMOCRATIC COMMISSIONER
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Herkimer County is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Drumm as the Democratic commissioner for the Board of Elections. Rob was appointed at the Herkimer County Legislature Meeting on November 17, 2020, commencing January 1, 2021.

Robert began working for Herkimer County as Deputy Commissioner in July of 2017.

The Commissioner may be reached at 315-867-1103.



FROM HERKIMER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING:

TIPS FOR REDUCING STRESS DURING COVID-19

1. Know the facts about COVID-19 and avoid listening to misinformation and rumors
2. Take breaks from watching, reading and listening to news stories, including those on social media
3. Make time to unwind and do activities that you enjoy
4. Stay connected to loved ones and talk with people you trust about your concerns
5. Connect with your community-or faith based organizations via phone, mail or internet

Take care of your body:

- Eat healthy, well balanced meals
- Get plenty of sleep
- Exercise regularly (as appropriate)
- Avoid excessive alcohol and drug abuse
- Practice deep breathing and/or stretching

7. BE KIND TO YOURSELF

Please call the Office for the Aging/NY Connects if you need assistance at (315) 867-1121 or visit our website at herkimer-county.org, Services, Office for the Aging. You may also check us out on Facebook.

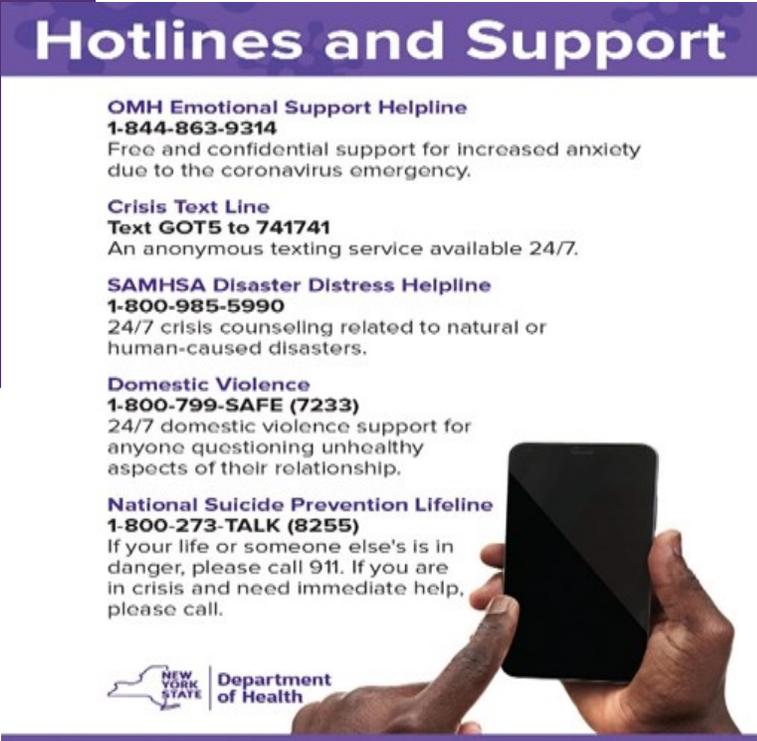


New York State
COVID-19 EMOTIONAL SUPPORT HELPLINE

**It's okay to admit when things feel hard.
We're here to listen.**

1-844-863-9314
8 AM - 10 PM, 7 days a week

 Office of
Mental Health



Hotlines and Support

OMH Emotional Support Helpline
1-844-863-9314
Free and confidential support for increased anxiety due to the coronavirus emergency.

Crisis Text Line
Text GOT5 to 741741
An anonymous texting service available 24/7.

SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline
1-800-985-5990
24/7 crisis counseling related to natural or human-caused disasters.

Domestic Violence
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
24/7 domestic violence support for anyone questioning unhealthy aspects of their relationship.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
If your life or someone else's is in danger, please call 911. If you are in crisis and need immediate help, please call.

 Department of Health



FROM THE HERKIMER COUNTY BUDGET OFFICER:



The 2021 Budget has been complete and was adopted at the December 16th Legislative meeting. This budget includes appropriations of \$102,734,708, department revenues of \$44,044,315, Sales Tax revenues of \$32,291,606, and appropriated highway fund balance and reserves of \$696,381, making the 2021 tax levy \$25,772,406. There was NO increase to the County Tax Levy for 2021. The tax rate per \$1.00 of full value for the County homeowner, on average, will be \$4.88, down from \$5.17 in 2020, depending on individual town and village equalization rates. The average savings on a home valued at \$80,000 would be \$23.20.

The 2021 budget was challenged by the uncertainty being caused by COVID-19. State revenues are expected to be decreased by 20% which creates a large deficit for a County like Herkimer. If the pandemic continues into 2021, sales tax revenue could see a significant decline. The effects of COVID-19 on the economy have also dropped interest rates causing the County a \$125,000 loss in interest income. The increases in minimum wage, continually rising health insurance costs and increased program costs and State mandated program costs were also major drivers this year.



Through the combined efforts of the Ways & Means Committee, the full Legislature, County Administrator, Budget office and Department Heads, the 2021 Budget developed into a solid, fiscally smart financial plan without any increase to the taxpayer. Thank you to all involved for your cooperation and effort in developing the 2021 Budget.

From the
Information Services Department

10 Cybersecurity Shopping Tips

Even though the shopping insanity of Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday and the holidays have come and gone, consumers should always be mindful of their shopping habits. Due to the fact that many consumers are avoiding stores and buying more online, e-commerce sales are rapidly on the rise, with no sign of consumers reverting to their old ways anytime soon.

Thankfully, online shopping gets more intuitive and simplistic by the day, allowing you to get that perfect gift with ease. However, while embarking on your online shopping conquest, make sure you're not leaving yourself at risk. It's clear that businesses are after your dollars, but cybercriminals are on the lookout as well, now more than ever.

While you may not have to worry about being pickpocketed in the cyber world, you still need to be careful that you don't fall prey to criminals. Here are 10 online shopping tips that can help you keep your information out of the hands of those who are most certainly on the naughty list:

<p>1. Do not use public Wi-Fi for any shopping activity.</p>	<p>Public Wi-Fi networks can be very dangerous. While they are very convenient, they are not secure, and can potentially grant hackers access to your usernames, passwords, texts, and emails. For instance, before you join a public Wi-Fi titled "Apple_Store," make sure you first look around to see if there's actually an Apple Store in your vicinity, and thus, confirm that it is a legitimate network.</p> <p>While it is best to avoid public Wi-Fi altogether, if you need to utilize a public network ensure that you never establish an autoconnection, and that you are logged out of all personal accounts, such as your banking sites. Though it is perfectly acceptable to auto-connect to a trusted source such as your home, when out in public, consider shutting off the Wi-Fi option on your phone and use your data plan. Yes, it's slower, but if you can wait for Santa's elves at UPS to deliver your presents from Amazon, you can certainly wait the few extra seconds it takes to use the internet, especially if it means your information is not at risk.</p>
<p>2. Make sure the site is secure.</p>	<p>Before entering your personal or financial information, you need to ensure that the site you are on is legitimate and can be trusted. When visiting a website look for the "lock" symbol; this might appear in the URL bar, or elsewhere in your browser. Additionally, check that the URL for the website has "HTTPS" in the beginning. These both indicate that the site uses encryption to protect your data.</p>
<p>3. Know what the product should cost.</p>	<p>If the deal is too good to be true, then it may be a scam. Check out the company on ResellerRatings.com. This site allows users to review online companies to share their experiences purchasing from those companies. This will give you an indication of what to expect when purchasing from them.</p>
<p>4. Give your debit card a holiday break.</p>	<p>When you are shopping online always remember that it is best to rely on your credit cards or payment services such as PayPal. Credit cards offer much more protection and less liability if your information were to be compromised. On the contrary, debit cards are linked directly to your bank account, thus, you're at a much greater risk if a criminal were to obtain this information. Additionally, in the event of a fraudulent transaction were to occur, credit card companies possess the ability to reverse the charge and hopefully, investigate the issue further.</p>

INFO SVCS. CONT'D:

<p>5. Stay updated.</p>	<p>Updating your operating system and software (including anti-virus software) is one of the most important and easiest things you can do to prevent criminals from accessing your information, and needs to be taken very seriously. Most software updates are released to improve your security by patching vulnerabilities and preventing new exploitation attempts by criminal hackers. While waiting for your computer or mobile device to update might seem tedious, the benefits it can provide could be a blessing in disguise. If you see that your device needs to be updated, do it!</p>
<p>6. Outsmart the scammers.</p>	<p>During the holiday season we often see an influx of emails with discounts. While many of these discounts and special offers might very well be legitimate, email scammers take advantage of this surge to send out their own viruses and malware, hoping it might get lost in the mix. These scams have evolved over time, to the point that they are depicted as a legitimate discount or special offer. Be wary when opening an email from someone you don't know or a site you have not visited.</p>
<p>7. Make sure your passwords are complex.</p>	<p>Updating and enhancing your passwords is a cybersecurity best practice as old as time itself, and creating unique passwords is arguably still the best security when it comes to protecting your personal and financial information. If you utilize the same password for multiple sites, you are setting yourself up for disaster. If you have difficulty creating a large number of unique passwords for all of your information, be sure to take advantage of password generators and managers to not only develop more complex passwords, but allow you to store them securely as well.</p>
<p>Understand your shopping applications.</p>	<p>Apps have a way of making everything more convenient for your shopping experience, but certain apps could also make it convenient for criminals to take your information. Make sure you are only installing and utilizing trusted applications from reliable cyber markets, such as the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Additionally, if you find yourself questioning certain applications, be sure to check out the reviews by legitimate user accounts, as this can help you identify if there is anything suspicious surrounding them.</p>
<p>Never save your information.</p>	<p>Never save usernames, passwords, or credit card information in your browser, and periodically clear your offline content, cookies, and history. Always utilize strong passwords and consider setting up Multi-factor Authentication (MFA). This is as simple as receiving a text or code that you need to type in while signing on to a system. Oftentimes within the account preferences of your device, you can set up an Authentication Application.</p> <p>Additionally, when online shopping, consider checking out as a guest user rather than creating an account, as well as utilizing your private browsing feature. For instance, Google Chrome's Incognito Mode won't save any of your browsing history, cookies, site data, or information you enter on forms. While the convenience of online shopping is unparalleled, never let this convenience override your security best practices.</p>
<p>10. Keep an eye on your credit.</p>	<p>As cyber-safe and secure as you think you might be, we all make mistakes. Pay close attention to your credit report to ensure that nothing out of the ordinary is taking place. The world of online shopping can bring lots of new products to your doorstep and can prove to be a lot of fun when finding that special item. Just remember to be careful so you don't make your data a special gift to cybercriminals. Always trust your instincts and make sure you stick to these cybersecurity best practices! ~ Safe shopping!</p>

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

**President's Message: Pandemic Spurs Innovation, Compassion and Resiliency**

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

While 2020 has been the most challenging year to be in higher education, it has also been one of great innovation, compassion and resiliency—not only for students, but for faculty, staff, administrators, and for organizations themselves.

From responding to ever-changing guidance and information regarding the virus, to delivering meaningful, engaging lessons remotely, to enforcing strict safety protocols for students on campus, to facing enrollment concerns and budget

deficits, the pandemic has shaken even the strongest of institutions.

Last March, in an effort to protect our campus community from a virus we knew little about, we informed our students not to return to campus after spring break (with some exceptions), and we sent employees home to work remotely. In 17 days, our academic team and faculty transitioned 419 on-campus classes to alternative modes of delivery, and our staff created remote student services and support programs such as our laptop loaner program. It was a daunting task for all involved, and I am proud of the way faculty and staff responded swiftly and with great compassion for our students and each other.

Throughout the summer, we spent countless hours planning for our fall semester restart. Every decision made was guided by our commitment to provide for the health and well-being of everyone in our campus community, while ensuring academic and business continuity. We had initially been optimistic about being able to return to a typical delivery of in-person classes this fall. As the fall approached, based on new information and guidance from SUNY, we decided on a much more prudent plan. The majority of on-campus, in-person courses were transitioned to “real-time remote,” with some exceptions for classes that require applied learning to achieve student or program learning outcomes.

We welcomed about 250 students to our residence halls, with the understanding that campus life programming would be limited. All rooms were made singles, and students were required to sign a pledge agreeing to rules and protocols to ensure the safety of our campus community. All residential students were tested for the virus prior to moving into their on-campus apartments, and they have been participating in regular pooled surveillance testing since.

On October 31st, Herkimer received four positive test results (we have had a total of 5 since the fall semester began). We immediately went into contact tracing mode. Class schedules and accompanying rosters were obtained, and we quickly contacted students and employees who had been potentially exposed. Commuter students quarantined at home, and residential students who shared an apartment were moved to apartments set aside for quarantine purposes. Also in response to the positive test results, we transitioned face-to-face classes in which there was potential exposure to real-time remote delivery, and the frequency of required surveillance testing was increased to weekly for all residential students, as well as commuter students with one or more on-campus/in-person classes.

While all directives regarding quarantine/isolation protocols and follow-up testing is the purview of the local health department, we worked hand-in-hand with the Herkimer County Department of Public Health to support contact tracing and enforce quarantines and other protocols. Our local health department staff was extremely helpful and responsive throughout the process, and I am grateful for their tireless work, guidance and support.

I am incredibly proud of the caring and supportive campus environment here at Herkimer. Throughout the pandemic, we have made it a priority to put in place a variety of methods to identify and address individual concerns and barriers to success for each individual student. Whether it be loaning laptops to students, providing access to WiFi, offering remote tutoring, or addressing financial hardships, we have been proactive and compassionate in helping our students be successful.

The faculty and staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for and deliver a very different fall semester – they have been creative, supportive and compassionate. Our students have taken the pandemic seriously, following the protocols and safety procedures we put in place. Despite the many challenges and disappointments along the way, they have shown great resiliency, patience and understanding, and I could not be more proud of them.

While we must continue with the same type of class delivery for the upcoming spring semester, I am hopeful we will be able to offer more face-to-face co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for students. In the meantime, we continue to make decisions, in accordance with directives from SUNY and our public health department, to ensure the health and safety of our campus community, while delivering a quality and supportive academic experience for our students.

Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D.

President, Herkimer County Community College



Herkimer
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HCCC CONT'D:



Herkimer College hosting virtual info sessions and admissions meetings

Learn all about Herkimer College, from the comfort of your own home.

Admissions counselors are holding public virtual information sessions to showcase what the College has to offer. Each session begins with a presentation about Herkimer College's high-quality academic offerings, free student support services, championship athletic program, apartment-style on-campus housing options, low tuition costs, and more. The presentation is followed by a Q&A session.

Herkimer College also offers one-on-one virtual meetings with admissions counselors for those interested in a more personal experience.

Check out the schedule for upcoming info sessions, and register at www.herkimer.edu/visit.

Organizing committee recognized with new plaque installed at Veterans Memorial Park at Herkimer College

The organizing committee for the Veterans Memorial Park at Herkimer County Community College has been recognized for their work in bringing the 2005 project to life with the addition of a new plaque at the park.

The bronze plaque displays the names of Memorial Park Organizing Committee co-chairs Professor Emeritus R.J. Lenarcic and Vince Casale, along with Kelly Brown of the Herkimer County Hunger Coalition and Vietnam War veterans Jim Hall, Mike Kraeger, Chick Perry, and John Bullis.

In a request to Herkimer College President Cathleen McColgin regarding the creation of the plaque, Lenarcic highlighted the work the committee members put in to bring the project to fruition, including extensive fundraising. The College's board of trustees approved a resolution to add the plaque on June 29, 2020, and the piece was unveiled on November 12. It was funded by the Herkimer County Hunger Coalition.

The Veterans Memorial Park was created on campus in 2005 and is located at the entrance to Wehrum Stadium. It features a granite monument etched with more than 650 names of Herkimer County veterans. The new plaque is mounted on a pre-existing large stone that marks the entrance to the park.

For more information, visit herkimer.edu/vets-park.



Pictured from left: Dean Emeritus John Bullis; Professor Emeritus R.J. Lenarcic; Nicholas Laino, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance; Jason Rathbun, Director of Residence Life; Don Dutcher, Dean of Students and Director of Athletics; and Cathleen McColgin, President

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY SOIL & WATER:

Soil & Water Conservation District Partners with County Highway on Japanese Knotweed Treatments

The Herkimer County Japanese Knotweed Project began in 2016 as a whole-county inventory project by the Soil and Water Conservation District. Next the inventory of every road in Herkimer County was completed by district staff. 2020 was the second year that district technicians Bob Tilbe and Katie Whitcomb were able to treat several high priority infestation sites. Priority is determined based on water quality concerns. District staff obtains Board approval and landowner permissions before treating any prioritized sites.

This year, the District and the County signed an agreement partnering them to treat Japanese Knotweed. The agreement covers sites located within the rights-of-way, deemed as high priority safety concerns by the County Highway Department. Working together, the District was able to treat multiple sites along Spinnerville Gulf and Elizabethtown roads, while County Highway provided signs and flaggers for traffic safety. These sites were chosen because overgrown Japanese Knotweed blocks the view of drivers where there is already limited visibility. The District was happy to assist the County Highway Department with reducing invasive species infestations related to safety concerns.

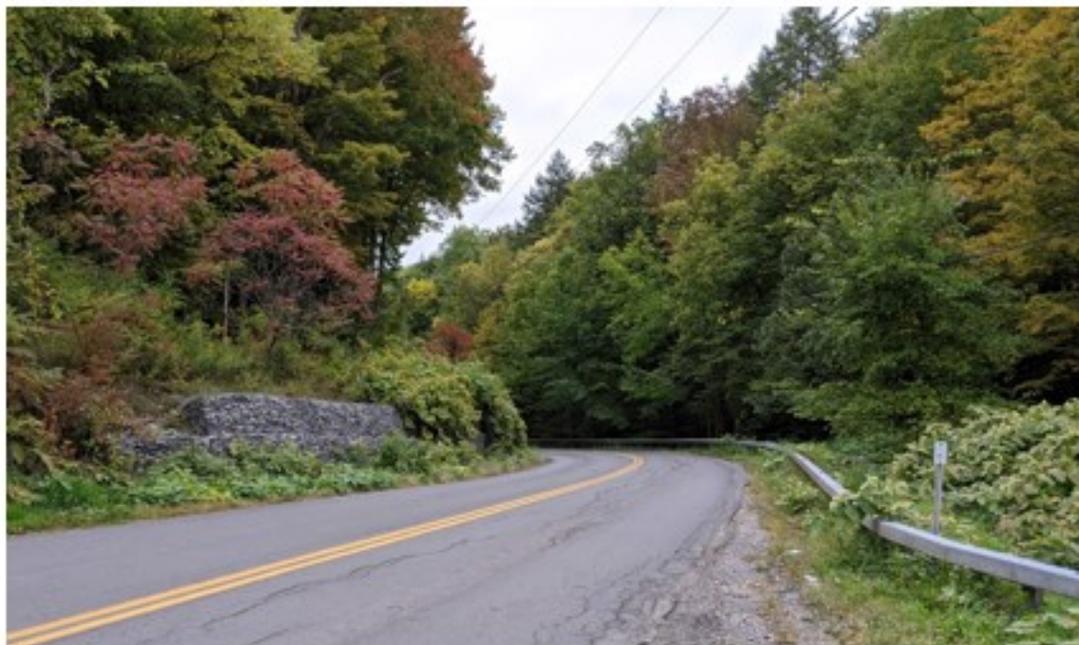
The treatment season is typically between mid-August and the end of October while the knotweed plants are flowering, until the first major frost event. Eradication at a single infested site takes several years. Individual sites take several hours for district staff to treat, as each and every stalk is treated by stem injection. Below are photos before treatment (2019) and after one treatment (2020) of a site located above the Black Creek, knotweed infestations on Elizabethtown Road, and staff treating the streamside of the infestation on Spinnerville Gulf Road.

By the end of the 2020 treatment season, district staff treated Japanese Knotweed in five Herkimer County towns. The ultimate goal is to eradicate all high priority sites within the county, thus promoting native species growth.



Before and after photos of Topper Road above the Black Creek

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY SOIL & WATER:



Knotweed infestation on both sides of Elizabethtown Road



Staff treating knotweed on streamside of Spinnerville Gulf Road

FROM HERKIMER COUNTY SOIL & WATER:

Hydroseeding — Working with Webb

The Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) completed its fourth year of offering hydroseeding services to municipalities within Herkimer County. The SWCD has worked with municipal Highway Departments, as well as the County Highway Department to hydroseed more than 25 sites throughout 11 towns in 2020. This year the Town of Webb Highway Department reached out to the SWCD for assistance in stabilizing a roadside bank that was impacting the ball field on Park Avenue, located across from the Town of Webb Park Avenue Building. The Highway Department prepped the bank by adding a layer of topsoil and raking it smooth. The District then hydroseeded the slope to prevent erosion of the bank once vegetation is established. The seed was even watered to further improve germination rate. Within a month, the bank was fully vegetated; and it was being mowed. Below are photos of the project throughout the process.

This program is offered to municipalities from early summer through late September. For additional information, call the office at (315) 866-2520 Ext 5.



1. Sloped bank between Park Avenue and the ball field across from the Town of Webb Park Avenue Building.



2. Bank immediately after being hydroseeded by the District.



3. Bank fully vegetated approximately one month after seeding.

FROM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Herkimer County Highway Department – Past, Present and Future

Herkimer County Highway Department has had a busy 14 months and there is more to come. Since October 2019 (the Halloween Flood), the Highway Department has completed more than 13 capital projects estimated at \$6,700,000 funded by a combination of FEMA, CHIPs, PAVE NY and Extreme Weather Recovery as well as their normal daily maintenance of more than 574 miles of county roads. With approximately another five projects already in the works and more in the planning, Herkimer County Highway Department expects to have another busy year in 2021. To see a view of our last 14 months go to Herkimer County's website at www.herkimercounty.org and go to Highway Department and select *Herkimer Department 2019-2020 Projects Presentation* under documents. Or just go to the link <https://www.herkimercounty.org/qdynamo/download.php?docid=2369>

**Herkimer County Highway Department Welcomes
Associate Civil Engineer - Joshua P. Nemeyer**

Joshua has accepted an Associate Engineer position with our Highway Department. Joshua will be responsible for assisting in the design and preparation of plans and specifications for highway and bridge construction projects, field inspecting and writing up reports on construction and maintenance projects. He had graduated from SUNY Poly in 2018 with a degree in Civil Engineering Technology. Joshua previously worked with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as an Environmental Engineer in their Division of Air.

If you see Josh, please welcome him to our Herkimer County family!



FROM EMERGENCY SERVICES :

**COUNTY OF HERKIMER
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
E911 ~ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ~ FIRE ~ EMS ~ HOMELAND SECURITY**

JOHN J. RAYMOND
DIRECTOR
PH. 315-867-1212

**71 RESERVOIR ROAD
HERKIMER, NEW YORK 13350
FAX 315-867-5873**

KELLY WARES
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
PH. 315-867-5719

Interoperable Radio System Update

November 18, 2020

Good News! The system was turned on Monday November 16th at 10:00am

In 2013 Herkimer County Emergency Services began a major upgrade project to our 911 radio communications system. This system is depended upon to dispatch our first responders whether it be police, fire, or ambulance (EMS).

Upgrading the system includes replacing every single piece of hardware from radio repeaters to hardline and antennas. A new 6-GHz microwave system was engineered and installed. Nokia engineered the network infrastructure that allows high speed data to be shared between tower sites and the 911 center. This network infrastructure allows for the radio system to simulcast over all towers which will be a big improvement in communication coverage and quality. In all, nearly 10,000-feet of heliax antenna cable was installed.

What is simulcast? Simulcast means every tower is transmitting at the same time. It helps fill in poor coverage areas. It improves portable (hand-held) radio performance. The radio system 911 has been using since 1999 is outdated and requires the dispatcher to select the tower that best cover the unit they are trying to communicate with. The system often ends up being a guessing game as the closest tower is not always the strongest signal to the end user. The existing radio system is obsolete with some equipment predating the 911 system. All of this is being replaced.

The new simulcast will be split into two zones. Webb-Inlet area will be one simulcast zone. The southern portion of the county (Russia-Ohio and all areas south) will be the south simulcast zone. This south zone will feature 5-radio towers all broadcasting at the same time or better known as simulcasting.

As of mid-October much of the equipment is installed and the simulcast system is up and running in the Webb-Inlet area. Three towers in the southern zone have simulcast equipment installed and is in test mode. Networking, programming, and wiring at the 911 center is being completed along with additional work at several tower sites.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING CONT'D:

Office for the Aging placed gift tags on the Christmas tree in the lobby of the County building in Herkimer. With the help of county employees, Legislators, Kinneys in Little Falls, Alpine Nursing Home, Mohawk Valley Rotary, the Little Falls Police & Fire Departments and many other community members and organizations the Office for the Aging was able to distribute over 120 Christmas gifts to older adults in Herkimer County. Many of these older adults who received the gifts were so thankful that someone was thinking of them.

Office for the Aging staff delivered the packages to the older adults. The staff were greeted with smiles and some with tears of joy. These individuals appreciated the generosity of all of those individuals who contributed to this effort.

We hope to continue this event in 2021 and hopefully we will be able to provide additional older adults a bit of Christmas cheer. Office for the Aging staff would like to thank all individuals who assisted with this effort. Every gesture of kindness helps make our community a better place to live.



The Office for the Aging would like to remind community members to stop in and visit with an older adult during this time of the year. You will make their day especially this year.

Press Release

Office of the Herkimer County Clerk * 109 Mary Street, Suite 1111*
Herkimer, NY 13350
Tel: 315-867-1129 Fax: 315-866-4396

For Immediate Release

Date: November 18, 2020
Contact: Sylvia M. Rowan
Phone: 315-867-1129
Fax: 315-866-4396

E-ZPass for sale at the Herkimer Department of Motor Vehicles

Sylvia M. Rowan, Herkimer County Clerk and the Department of Motor Vehicles wishes to inform her constituents that E-ZPasses are available for sale in her Herkimer Department of Motor Vehicles.

The New York State Thruway Authority has installed a new E-ZPass system on the New York State Thruway. If you don't have an E-ZPass and would like to purchase one, the cost is \$25.00 cash or check, credit cards cannot be accepted.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mrs. Rowan at the Herkimer County Clerk's Office/Department of Motor Vehicles, 315-867-1129 or 315-867-1002 for additional information.

Please support your local Department of Motor Vehicles so your revenue stays in Herkimer County.