

# Herkimer County Newsletter

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2023



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FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

April 5, 2023



Herkimer County Legislative Chairman, Jim Bono announced important priorities for Herkimer County's future regarding community development. The following was highlighted:

**Herkimer County Community Development Strategic Plan-** The plan was created when the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Herkimer County government, and County municipalities, Herkimer County IDA teamed up to sponsor a shared vision for a more prosperous future for Herkimer County. The complete plan can be found on the County's Website [www.herkimercounty.org](http://www.herkimercounty.org).

**Formal Announcement of the Community Development Director-** In October of 2022, the County announced the appointment of Deborah Kessler as its Community Development Director, who is charged with implementing the County's 2022 Community Development Strategic Plan. Kessler is no stranger to community involvement. She serves on the following board of directors; Central Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Empowered Pathways, and the Herkimer Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

She also works part-time as an entrepreneur by operating her own promotions, consulting and marketing company. Kessler has a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations from the former Utica College.

**Appointment of the Advisory Committee** – In January 2023 an advisory committee was formed made up of non-profits, education, business and government leaders. Their role is to guide our countywide priorities and action and help build new systems for collaboration alongside the development director. Members are as follows:

**Community Development Summit slated for May 4, 2023** – The advisory board and Kessler are working on a Community Development Summit slated for May 4, at Herkimer College from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. It is free and open to the public. The Herkimer County Community Development Summit will bring together leaders from across Herkimer County to hear findings of our first countywide community development study and plan, celebrate successes and innovative projects, and develop a collaborative action agenda for 2023. We are asking community members to join us to build connections, shape actions for local communities and countywide community development action, and share ideas.

For more information or to attend the summit: Kessler can be reached at:  
Deborah Kessler, Herkimer County Community Development Director  
109 Mary Street Suite 1318  
Herkimer, NY 13350  
[dkessler@herkimercounty.org](mailto:dkessler@herkimercounty.org)\*  
[www.itshappeninginherkimer.org](http://www.itshappeninginherkimer.org)  
(C)315-983-1383 \*(O)315-867-1379



**Upcoming 2023 Legislature Meeting Dates:**

- April 5– 2:00 PM
- April 26–7:00 PM
- May 17–7:00 PM
- June 7–7:00 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](http://www.herkimercounty.org)

**Civil Service Exams:**

- April 22
- May 13
- June 10
- June 24

Please visit  
[www.herkimercounty.org](http://www.herkimercounty.org) and  
click on "Civil Service Exams"  
for more information!



**Legal Holidays. All Herkimer County Offices will be closed:**

- April 7—Good Friday
- May 29—Memorial Day

\*Highway and Deputy Sherriff's Association Employees excluded



**FROM SHERIFF'S DEPT.:**

Fae Levellie, shown here donating Girl Scout cookies to Herkimer County Correctional Facility employees. From left to right, Undersheriff Scott Leskovar, Fae Levellie, Lieutenant Brian Harrod, and Sergeant Kyle VonKrusze.



Fae Levellie, age 5, is a 1<sup>st</sup> year member of Girl Scout Troop #61127 from Newport, NY. Fae sold over 900 boxes of Girl Scout cookies and for this earned three pins and five patches. With extra boxes to donate, Fae chose the recipients to be the correctional officers at Herkimer County Correctional Facility, in honor of her 'Papa Adam,' who is employed by Washington Correctional Facility in Comstock, NY. She plans to donate additional boxes to a local fire department and will continue to sell boxes locally to earn additional patches. Fae attends West Canada Valley Elementary and is the daughter of Samantha Kimball. Fae loves to count and in her free time enjoys her favorite cookie, Girl Scout's S'mores'.

County Office Building  
Winter Hours  
8:00AM–4:30PM  
September 6, 2022 to  
May 26, 2023.



**MENTAL HEALTH VISITS**

Mental Health Clinic Visits		
Dec. - 620 (51% in person and 49% telehealth)	Jan. - 604 (53% in person and 47% telehealth)	Feb.- 571 (55% in person and 45% telehealth)

Mental Health Jail Visits		
Dec. - 40	Jan. - 61	Feb. - 42

**Herkimer County is actively seeking candidates to fill vacancies in various departments.  
Please check out [www.herkimercounty.org](http://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.**

FROM BOARD OF ELECTIONS:



Primary Election Day is June 27, 2023. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Early Voting for the Primary begins on June 17, 2023 and continues until June 25, 2023. The site for Early Voting has changed to the Little Falls Public Library, 10 Waverly Place, Little Falls NY 13365. Dates and hours of Early Voting are available on our website [www.herkimercounty.org/elections](http://www.herkimercounty.org/elections).

The General Election is November 7, 2023. More information will be coming over the next few months.

Poll workers are always needed. Please contact the Board of Elections if you are interested in this paid position, no experience necessary. 315.867.1102.

## FROM WORKING SOLUTIONS:

**Free Online Skills Training**

**Take Classes for FREE on our Metrix Online Learning Platform!**

**NEW CLASSES ADDED:** Training, Performance, and Compliance "TPC" Focuses on In-Depth Courses for Construction and Advanced Manufacturing

**Construction**

- Construction\*
- Custodial maintenance\*
- Electrical
- HVAC/R\*
- Pesticide\*
- Project management
- Plumbing\*
- Real Estate\*
- Safety
- Water/Wastewater\*
- Welding

**Advanced Manufacturing**

- Machining
- Mechanical Maintenance\*
- Robotics\*
- Process Control Systems\*
- Microprocessors\*
- Sales/marketing
- Safety

**[View the Table of Contents for new TPC Classes](#)**

- **Self Sign-Up**
- **Go At Your Own Pace**
- **Take as Many Classes as You Want**

There are more than 6,000 free courses on the self-paced learning platform!

There are courses in IT, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Business and many more. And you can take as many courses as you want. Some can be completed in less than 30 minutes!

This FREE self-paced online skills training is available to all businesses and job seekers in Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Chenango, Delaware and Otsego Counties!

[View the Catalog Here](#)

**[SIGN UP HERE](#)**

WORKING SOLUTIONS CONT'D:



## Mohawk Valley Employers

*Let us help you find workers in 2023*

*Herkimer Working Solutions  
Hosting Employer Recruitments every week*

*How: Book space at our office to recruit workers for your business*  
*When: Every Thursday from 10-12 one or two employers are featured*  
*Where: 320 North Prospect St. Herkimer, NY 13350*

- ✓ Your open positions get posted on the New York State Job Bank
- ✓ You can conduct information sessions or on-the-spot interviews in our space
- ✓ We contact local job seekers and invite them to attend
- ✓ We will announce the date of your visit through all social media outlets

*Why use our office?*

*Maybe our location is more convenient to get to  
Jobseekers can get a resume done ahead of time by our staff  
Computers available on-site for candidates to complete your online application*

*All services free of charge!*

*If you would like to reserve a spot, please email Karin at  
[kpiseck@herkimercounty.org](mailto:kpiseck@herkimercounty.org) or call 315-867-1400*

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



FROM WORKING SOLUTIONS:

# WIOA YOUTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG ADULTS 18-24

HERKIMER  
WORKING SOLUTIONS  
CAREER CENTER  
320 N. PROSPECT ST.  
HERKIMER, NY 13350  
315-867-1400



Do any of these describe you?

- Pregnant/Parenting
- Disabled
- Probation/Parole
- High School Dropout
- Former Foster Care
- Homeless
- Other Barrier

## JOBS, INTERNSHIPS & TRAINING WAITING FOR YOU!!!

- ### Jobs & Internships
- Access to Job Fairs & Recruitment Opportunities
  - Part-time & Full-time Jobs
  - Volunteer Opportunities
  - Resume Assistance
  - Interviewing Practice
  - Work Experience Opportunities
- ### Training & Certificates
- Vocational Training Programs
  - Assistance with High School Equivalency
  - Financial Literacy Training
  - Employment Readiness Classes
  - Free Self-Paced Online Training Platform

Out of school?  
Having a hard time finding a job?  
Not sure if you might need training?  
Need help with next steps?  
Call us today!!



# WORKING SOLUTIONS CONT'D:



## HERKIMER WORKING SOLUTIONS AMERICAN JOB CENTER



Looking to **Jump Start** Your Career??  
 Return to the Workplace?  
 Get a **Better** Job?  
**WE CAN HELP!**

**Let us help you customize an education and/or employment plan that will assist you in meeting your goals!**

One-on-One Services Available:  
 Career Counseling                      Job Search Assistance  
 Resume Development                  Training Opportunities



Check out our website at:  
<https://www.working-solutions.org/>

**Visit Herkimer Working Solutions**  
 320 N. Prospect St.  
 Herkimer, NY 13350  
 315-867-1400

## On-Site Partners

NYS Department of Labor  
 Herkimer County Employment & Training  
 Herkimer County DSS  
 ACCES-VR  
 Herkimer BOCES  
 Herkimer College

## Self-Service Option

We have a large resource area complete with individual computer stations, use of phone, fax, scanner and copier for any employment related need



**ALL SERVICES  
 FREE OF CHARGE**

## WORKING SOLUTIONS CONT'D:



### Job Seekers: DYK about our online resources?

We post hiring events and featured job opportunities on our website. We also have a custom job search right on our website's front page that you can use to search job opportunities across six counties: Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego. Go here to explore, and see more programs and resources. While you are there subscribe to our blog to get notified of new opportunities!  
<https://www.working-solutions.org/>

We also post new jobs every day on our Working Solutions Facebook page. Stop by often, because they won't all show up in your newsfeed!

Go here to Follow us:

Working Solutions:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorkingSolutionsHMO>

<https://www.facebook.com/HerkimerWorkingSolutionsAmericanJobCenter>

Workforce Development Board (Stay up to date on our learning/training grant programs!):

<https://www.facebook.com/WDBHMO>

You can also follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WorkUtica>

And Instagram, too! <https://www.instagram.com/hmowdb/>



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???

ROUNDAABOUT INTERSECTION OF CHOICE

There are several benefits of roundabouts over traditional intersections with traffic signals and stop signs. With input from a January article in "The Villages Daily Sun" Florida newspaper, here is more information showing the safety features and other pluses of roundabouts.

Armed with mounting data touting the benefits of roundabouts, experts are persuading communities to do what The Villages and Carmel, IN, have already done – rely on geometry rather than just signs and traffic lights to keep traffic moving safely and efficiently. Carmel lays claim to "The Roundabout Capital of America – they have over 130 of them. The Villages is probably second with 45. Here are four reasons why Carmel is so big on roundabouts.

- ⇒ Since the 1990s Carmel has been replacing intersections with roundabouts because of their safety record, their compatibility with the environment and their ability to make navigation easier for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- ⇒ Since Carmel began constructing roundabouts to replace traffic signals and 4-way stops, the number of collisions with injuries has dropped by about 80%.
- ⇒ Less time spent idling has led to significant gasoline savings. A study conducted by the city on 10 roundabouts found an annual average savings of 24,000 gallons, with one site saving about 47,000 gallons.
- ⇒ Carmel police studied the average cost of crash damages at four intersections in 2006. The average cost of damages for the two roundabouts was \$3,000 and \$3,500. For the two signalized intersections it was \$7,335 and \$13,561.

Roundabouts are safer because they have only eight "conflict points" compared to 32 for traditional intersections. Safety is the top factor. In roundabouts most collisions are fender benders versus T-bone or head-on crashes in traditional intersections.

Data from 12 intersections between 2012 and 2018 in The Villages, compiled by Lake Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization – six roundabouts and six signalized intersections - tell another powerful story.

In that six-year period, there were 538 total collisions at the six signalized intersections, resulting in 160 injuries and five fatalities. Two of those fatalities came from left-turn collisions, a scenario improbable in a roundabout.

Meanwhile, the six roundabout intersections reported 306 incidents with 49 injuries and a single fatality. An estimated \$2.9 million in damages occurred at the six signalized intersections, while only \$877,000 was documented at the six roundabout intersections, according to the information in The Villages Daily Sun.

Roundabouts can handle 30-50 % more traffic than other intersections, according to U.S.DOT figures.

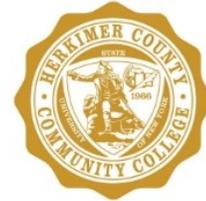
Like them or not, roundabouts are here to stay. In NYS, as in Florida, DOT engineers are mandated to consider a roundabout whenever there are new intersections or reconstruction of existing traditional intersections. Initially, some drivers may have a negative attitude toward roundabouts, probably because they aren't sure how to navigate them. But attitudes tend to shift with familiarity, and once drivers have maneuvered a roundabout and become familiar with them, they learn to like them. Go roundabouts!

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:

## SUNY Chancellor King visits Herkimer College



Appointed in December 2022 to be the 15th Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY), Dr. John B. King, Jr. recently visited Herkimer College. Chancellor King's visit to Herkimer was #27 of 64 campus visits to learn about the diversity of the system and how

SUNY can best support the campuses. While at Herkimer, Chancellor King toured the campus and met with elected officials, college leaders, faculty, and students.



## HCCC CONT'D:

**Herkimer College to offer the first Esports Management A.A.S. degree in New York State**

Herkimer College has announced a new Esports Management A.A.S. degree program, to begin in the fall 2023 semester. This is the first associate degree program in Esports Management to be offered in New York State.

Esports, which involves professional or semi-professional competitive gaming in an organized format, is a billion-dollar industry and has seen tremendous growth in recent years, both in terms of viewership and revenue. As a result, the need for managers to support this industry is also projected to increase.

According to Insider Intelligence, in the year 2022, there were 532 million esports viewers worldwide. The industry has seen a huge increase in investment from venture capitalists and private equity firms. These investments are distributed to players, tournament operators, and digital broadcasters.

“This is an exciting time for Herkimer College with the addition of Esports Management to our academic program portfolio,” President Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D. shares. “This is not only an opportunity for students to transform a passion for gaming into a dynamic career, but it also positions graduates in the forefront of a rapidly emerging, multi-billion dollar industry.”

The degree program will enable graduates to enter the workforce upon graduation or continue their education at a four-year college or university. Graduates can expect to find employment in events management, broadcasting, facilities, game day management and operations, public relations, marketing, and sales.

Herkimer College Business professor Steven Boucher says, “what is unique about our program is that it not only prepares students in esports management, event planning, and sports governance, but it provides learners with a critical business foundation, providing for unlimited opportunities.”

Herkimer College has been in step with the esports trend, creating the Generals esports athletic program in 2020. The College is one of approximately 81 institutions nationwide competing in the National Junior College Athletic Association Esports (NJCAAE), comprised of over 600 specific teams and 1,500 plus student-athletes nationwide. In the five seasons of competition, Herkimer College’s esports team has won a national championship in *Call of Duty Gunfight*, as well as three top-four finishes and a top-eight in various gaming disciplines.

For more information, visit [Herkimer.edu/esportsmgt](https://Herkimer.edu/esportsmgt).



Fulton - Herkimer - Montgomery - Oneida - Otsego - Schoharie



MOHAWK VALLEY

# BROWNFIELDS DEVELOPER SUMMIT

NETWORK. EXPLORE. INVEST.

## April 25th & 26th, 2023

***Six Counties - One Region - One Vision***

Join us for a two-day event showcasing brownfield revitalization & redevelopment opportunities within the Mohawk Valley. Connect with local, state, & federal officials that are transforming the Valley into a hub for regional revitalization.

Register Below



Our annual Brownfields Developer Summit will be taking place at Herkimer College on April 25th and 26th. This event will showcase brownfield revitalization and redevelopment opportunities within Mohawk Valley, across Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, and Schoharie counties. Register for the event here: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brownfields-developer-summit-tickets-488627125887?fbclid=IwAR1fp3ImTmi-OUdDongtEEkSJw48T7QCSvb65\\_6paSHvSkMNq7pS3meuO6CA](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brownfields-developer-summit-tickets-488627125887?fbclid=IwAR1fp3ImTmi-OUdDongtEEkSJw48T7QCSvb65_6paSHvSkMNq7pS3meuO6CA)

The Village of Ilion, with the assistance of the Herkimer County IDA, has received a \$2 million Restore NY grant to be used towards the Duofold site in Ilion. With this grant, the Village of Ilion plans to put into motion a coordinated effort to regain jobs, improve housing stock, and attract private investment in order to keep the Village a place where people want to stay, work, and play. The redevelopment of this site into a mixed-use area with 81 market-rate residences will aid in the beautification and revitalization of the Village, as well as the attraction and retention of businesses in the area.

FROM PUBLIC HEALTH:



301 North Washington Street, Herkimer, NY  
Phone 315-867-1176

## 2023 RABIES VACCINATION SCHEDULE



<b>March 23<sup>rd</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>East Herkimer Fire Department</b> 193 Main Road, East Herkimer
<b>April 13<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Ohio Community Rec. Center</b> 140 Nellis Road, Town of Ohio
<b>May 4<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Dolgeville Fire Department</b> 20 South Helmer Ave, Dolgeville
<b>May 18<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Old Forge Fire Department</b> 116 Fulton Street, Old Forge
<b>June 1<sup>st</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Norway Community Center</b> 3114 Military Road, Norway
<b>June 15<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Ilion-Frankfort VFW Pavilion</b> 4274 Acme Road, Frankfort
<b>July 13<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Danube Town Garage</b> 438 Creek Road, Little Falls
<b>August 24<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Salisbury Fire Department</b> 2549 State Route 29, Salisbury Center
<b>September 14<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Cedarville Fire Department</b> 960 State Route 51, Cedarville
<b>October 5<sup>th</sup></b> Thursday 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Little Falls Town Garage</b> 478 Flint Ave Ext., Little Falls
<b>November 18<sup>th</sup></b> Saturday 10:00 - Noon	<b>East Herkimer Fire Department</b> 193 Main Road, East Herkimer

- All cats, dogs and ferrets three month or older must be vaccinated, even if they stay indoors.
- Every dog and cat needs two rabies vaccinations, one year apart, then once every three years.
- Bring proof of the pet's vaccination history to receive a three-year certificate.
- Ferrets must be vaccinated every year.
- Dogs must be on a leash. Cats and ferrets must be in a carrier or pillowcase.
- *No vet exams will be given.*
- Owners are responsible to clean up after their animals. Supplies are provided.
- A \$5.00 donation per pet is suggested to defray costs.



**WALK-IN and PRE-REGISTRATION available for all clinics.**

**Pre-registration at 315-867-1176 will end at noon the day before all clinics.**