

# Herkimer County Newsletter

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2024



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## FOOD INSECURITY SURVEY

PLEASE TAKE THIS SHORT SURVEY!

We are conducting a survey of residents in Herkimer County to find out how people are feeling about their ability to access food.

Please help us out by taking this short survey – it should take less than 5 minutes to complete!

Your input is important, please take a few minutes and participate!



Control+Click on this link to access the survey on Survey Monkey. Your answers will be completely anonymous!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HCFoodSurvey2024>

OR– use your phone to scan the QR code to the left and take the survey right now!

“Herkimer County was notified by the NYSDOH a few months ago that, per a survey done by DOH, food insecurity is a serious issue in our county” stated Robert D. Hollum, Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature. He added, “Our staff immediately contacted and met with members of DOH. After this meeting we convened all who deal with this issue on a daily basis: our county departments, Catholic Charities, our food banks, Cornell Cooperative Extension, The Foodbank of Central NY and HealthNet. We have added a representative each from HCCC, our school system and the Hunger Coalition.”



William Weakley, Chairman of the Human Resources Committee of the Herkimer County Legislature stated: “We are pleased to announce that we are working with Herkimer and Oneida County Planning and have developed a survey that will assist our county departments and agencies to make headway in this very important issue. The survey will close on May 10<sup>th</sup>.” Chairman Weakley added: “This survey will be available on our website and will be at several agencies as well as the foodbank, and with the help of Herkimer County BOCES will be sent to the network as well. We encourage everyone to participate – the average time to complete the survey is under three minutes.”



**Upcoming 2024 Legislature Meeting Dates:**

- April 3 @ 2:00 p.m..
- April 24 @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 15 @ 7:00 p.m.
- June 12 @ 7:00 p.m.

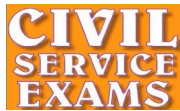
Be sure to check our website for 2024 meeting dates and times.

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 13
- May 4
- June 15

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:**

- May 27—Memorial Day

\*Highway and Deputy Sherriff's Association Employees excluded

County Office Building  
Winter Hours  
8:00AM—4:30PM  
September 5, 2023 to May 24, 2024.



**HERKIMER COUNTY LEGISLATURE MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2024:**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Herkimer County**

The Cornell Cooperative Extension recruits high school government students to participate in the 4-H Government Intern Program from schools in Herkimer County. Special emphasis is on the participants "youth voice" in working for solutions to community issues in the county. The overall program goal is to increase student awareness regarding government by interacting with students from other Herkimer County school districts.



Pictured above: Hon. Greg Malta, Annamarie Lyman of Central Valley Academy, Leslie Xio of Herkimer, Daniel Brutsky of Mt. Markham, and Johnny Campagna of Herkimer, Wendy Richardson of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County

Students meet county government officials to learn the role and responsibilities of various local government departments. Students worked together on solutions to a community issue, and present their solution in a mock legislative meeting.

This year schools participating were CVA, Mount Markham and Poland high schools. Topics of projects by students were Educating youth on composting and healthier food choices, funding for nations Science Olympiad for youth, creation of a public transport route in Herkimer County, Promotion of attractions and venues in Herkimer County, and a recreation center for youth and Events. Students were given certificated by Legislators for their participation.

*SAVE THE DATE*

**HERKIMER COUNTY SENIOR PICNIC**

*WILL BE HELD ON*

**JUNE 12, 2024**

*WHERE: HERKIMER COUNTY FAIR-*

**GROUND**

*DETAILS TO COME*

**MENTAL HEALTH VISITS**

Mental Health Clinic Visits		
Dec. - 568 (34% telehealth and 66% in office)	Jan. - 710 (30% telehealth and 70% in office)	Feb. - 596 (34% telehealth and 66% in office)

Mental Health Jail Visits		
Dec. - 37	Jan. - 46	Feb.- 51

## FROM STOP DWI:

### DID YOU KNOW???

#### TEST YOUR VEHICLE & TRAFFIC LAW I.Q. – 2024

Last week's article presented 20 questions on vehicle and traffic law (VTL) and traffic safety. Hopefully you took the test and kept your answers handy. This article repeats the questions and includes the answers. See how you did.

#### True or False

1. If your vehicle has daytime running lights (DRLs), you are not required to turn on your headlights when your wipers are on. **[False – Your full headlights and taillights are required]**
2. Roundabouts have 8 potential conflict points compared with 32 at a traditional intersection. **[True]**
3. 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 – use your 4-way hazard lights]**
4. 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]**
5. If there are no sidewalks available, NYS VTL requires pedestrians to walk on the left side of the street or road facing oncoming traffic. **[True]**
6. It is illegal for pedestrians 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]**
7. 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]**
8. A "two way left turn" lane (center turn lane) may be used to turn left **from** a street, road, or driveway **entering** the street or road you want to turn into. **[True (section 1126(c) of VTL]**
9. Under NYS VTL, in Franklin County, the NYS Dept. of Transportation has the authority to set all speed limits on state, county, and town highways. **[True]**
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

11. 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 should enter the intersection for your left turn if the light is green and no other vehicle ahead of you is preparing for a left turn]**
12. 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]**
13. 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 the answers a through e]**
14. A conviction for texting while driving carries: a) 0, b) 2, c) 3, d) 5 driver violation points. **[d, 5 driver violation points]**
15. 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]**
16. 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) when students are present. **[b and c]**
17. If found guilty of passing a stopped school bus from either direction, you will be assigned a) two points, b) three points, c) five points on your driving record. **[c, five violation points]**
18. 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]**
19. There are now more than a) 1,000, b) 5,000, c) 10,000, d) 25,000 roundabouts in the U.S. **[c, 10,000]**

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%]**

Most of these questions are straight-forward, laws that all drivers should know. If you did well (at least 17 right), keep up the good work. If you didn't do so well, maybe you should enroll in a driver safety class or at least get a driver's manual and read up on the information therein. And keep reading these weekly articles on VTL and traffic safety.

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 College Summer Course Registration is Underway**

Registration has begun for Herkimer College's summer session. A variety of online courses are being offered in the following subject areas: business, criminal justice, English, health, human services, humanities, information science, mathematics, science, and social science. Online courses will run June 3-July 5, June 24-July 26, and June 3-July 26. Anatomy & Physiology I & II will be offered on campus May 13-June 20 and June 24-August 1, respectively. For more information and the full course schedule, visit [www.herkimer.edu/summer](http://www.herkimer.edu/summer)

**Herkimer College Ranked #1 Community College in New York**

Herkimer College has been ranked the number one community college in New York State by EDsmart.org, a leader in college rankings. EDsmart's ranking of the top community colleges in New York is based on a composite score derived from several key indicators: salary after attending, average net price, retention rate, and four-year graduation rate. Each of these factors contributes to the overall score, reflecting economic value, affordability, student satisfaction, and academic success. Data is gathered from the National Center for Education Statistics' College Navigator. Every school was given a ranking in each category and then assigned a composite score with the highest score being 100. Herkimer College is the only school to have received a perfect score of 100.



HCCC CONT'D:



Jennifer Adjodha-Evans

*Education*

35th Anniversary Salute to Outstanding Women

**Jennifer Adjodha-Evans**

**Education**

**Herkimer College Professor Honored as YWCA Outstanding Woman**

Associate Professor of Biology Jennifer Adjodha-Evans, Ph.D. was honored at YWCA Mohawk Valley's Salute to Outstanding Women celebration held on March 21 at Harts Hill Inn.

Recognized in the category of education, Adjodha-Evans joined Herkimer College in 2017 as an assistant professor of Biology. She instructs courses in anatomy and physiology, biology, environmental science, and ecology and advises students in the Health Professions and Science programs.

Dr. Adjodha-Evans serves as president of the College Academic Senate and served as co-chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Adjodha-Evans played a critical role in securing a National Science Foundation grant for the Central New York Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Alliance. Through the Alliance, Herkimer College has partnered with Tompkins Cortland Community College, Ithaca College, SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Utica University, and SUNY Cortland to create pathways for under-represented minority students to continue their education and succeed in the STEM field more easily.

"As a leader, educator, and advocate, Dr. Adjodha-Evans has made a significant positive impact in the community and her workplace," Herkimer College Provost Michael Oriolo remarked. "She has prepared hundreds of students for careers and advanced study in the STEM field through classroom and laboratory instruction, advisement, and extracurricular activities. She has helped identify and implement programs and support for individuals who lack the resources and support needed to pursue and achieve a higher education."

**Herkimer College Launching New Microcredential Programs to Meet Evolving Demands in the Media Sector**



Beginning in the Fall 2024 semester, Herkimer College will offer two new microcredential programs – Digital Content and Media Production. These accessible new course offerings will provide opportunities to learn in-demand skills and fill critical workforce gaps in the media industry in a short amount of time.

Digital Content is an online program covering graphic design using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, strategic planning and creation of social media content, photography essentials, and digital photo editing skills.

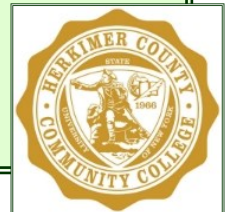
Media Production will be offered on campus providing learners the core elements of video creation and production. The program centers on key aspects of professional video production, covering the entire process from script development to final editing.

Learners who complete a microcredential program will receive a digital badge that signals mastery of a particular skill set. Badges are stackable into the Col-

lege's Communication and Media A.S. degree program.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in the next decade, employment in media and communication is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations.

For more information, visit [www.herkimer.edu/digital-content](http://www.herkimer.edu/digital-content) and [www.herkimer.edu/media-production](http://www.herkimer.edu/media-production).





FROM HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Men's Basketball Wins Regional Championship and Takes Second Place in the Nation



The Herkimer College Men's Basketball team had a stellar season finishing second in the nation! Despite a strong effort from Herkimer College, Dallas College North Lake emerged victorious in the championship game with a final score of 74-61. The national tournament was hosted by Herkimer College for the second time—it was the first with the Generals in the tournament at home.

The Generals entered the NJCAA Division III Men's Basketball National Championship after winning the Region III championship on their home court. It was the 12th regional championship title for the Generals.

Freshman Oladele Oladitan <[https://www.herkimergenerals.com/sports/mbkb/2023-24/bios/oladitan\\_oladele\\_znmb](https://www.herkimergenerals.com/sports/mbkb/2023-24/bios/oladitan_oladele_znmb)> (Staten Island, NY) and sophomore Nick Boyce <[https://www.herkimergenerals.com/sports/mbkb/2023-24/bios/boyce\\_nick\\_ljsg](https://www.herkimergenerals.com/sports/mbkb/2023-24/bios/boyce_nick_ljsg)> (Queens, NY) were named NJCAA Division III All-Americans. It's the second time ever that the Herkimer Men's Basketball program has had two NJCAA All-Americans in the same season. Jimmy Smith and Mitchell Williams were each named NJCAA All-Americans in 1987.

**Herkimer College Accepting Nominations for 2024 Torchbearer Awards**

Herkimer College's Torchbearer Awards are presented every five years to recognize individuals who have made a significant and lasting impact on Herkimer College's development and growth. Nominations are being solicited for the 2024 class of Torchbearer Award recipients. Award recipients will be honored at a ceremony in the fall of 2024. To date, there have been 26 individuals recognized with the prestigious Torchbearer Award.

The nomination form, information regarding eligibility criteria, and a complete list of past recipients are available at [www.herkimer.edu/torchbearers](http://www.herkimer.edu/torchbearers). Recommendations for the class of 2024 will be made by a selection committee to the College Board of Trustees, which then has final approval of the selections.



**Herkimer**  
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FROM THE IDA:



A MANUFACTURING EXPO

## **Vitality in the Valley: Where Agriculture, Food, and Beverage Manufacturing Meet**

**Herkimer College | Herkimer, New York**

**June 4th, 2024 - Day One: Networking Reception Starts at 5:30 PM**


**June 5th, 2024 - Day Two: Main B2B Event 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

New York State's agriculture, food and beverage manufacturing industries are coming together for a Mohawk Valley event that's something to crow about.



IDA CONT'D:

**FULTON - HERKIMER - MONTGOMERY - ONEIDA - OTSEGO - SCHOHARIE**



**MOHAWK VALLEY  
BROWNFIELDS  
DEVELOPER  
SUMMIT**  
NETWORK. EXPLORE. INVEST.

**April 23 - 24, 2024**

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



Showcasing brownfield redevelopment & revitalization within the Mohawk Valley

Connecting with local, state, & federal officials who are transforming the Valley into a hub for regional revitalization. Summit will be held at Herkimer College, 100 Reservoir Rd, Herkimer, NY.

## Networking Event

### Irish Cultural Center



Day one will conclude with a networking event at the Irish Cultural Center. This will include hors d'oeuvres & drinks.



Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc.



(315) 866-4671



[brownfields@mvedd.org](mailto:brownfields@mvedd.org)



[mvedd.org/brownfields](http://mvedd.org/brownfields)



FROM PUBLIC HEALTH:



**National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) highlights the importance of protecting infants and young children from vaccine-preventable diseases.** This year, a primary focus is to ensure families stay on track for their children's well-child visits and routinely recommended vaccinations. COVID-19 has caused many disruptions in families' lives – and in some cases, it has meant that children have missed or delayed their wellness checkups and vaccination, which are a critical part of ensuring children stay healthy.

**CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that children stay on track with their well-child appointments and routine vaccinations.**

**Most parents choose the safe, proven protection of vaccines.** Giving babies the recommended vaccinations by age two is the best way to protect them from serious childhood diseases, like whooping cough (pertussis) and measles.

**Vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death.** Vaccines help protect both individuals and communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases.

**Vaccination is a shared responsibility.** Families, healthcare professionals, and public health officials must work together to help protect the entire community.

**Vaccines are safe. The U.S. has a long-standing vaccine safety system that ensures vaccines are as safe as possible.** As new information and science become available, vaccine recommendations are monitored, updated, and improved.

**Trust in vaccines is built through millions of conversations between parents, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and community members.** NIIW provides an opportunity to encourage vaccine conversations at all community levels. Herkimer County Public Health holds an Immunization Clinic every Tuesday 9am-11am & 1pm- 3pm, please call 315-867-1176 for an appointment.

FROM THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING:



NYS Office for the Aging and the Association on Aging in New York (AgingNY) have partnered with GetSetUp to offer interactive online programming for older New Yorkers specifically designed to increase activity and wellness, help individuals effectively use digital technology, and find other learning opportunities. To take a class, visit the New York partnership page at <https://www.getsetup.io/partner/nystate>

GetSetUp is on a mission to help those over 55 learn new skills, connect with others and unlock new life experiences. The social learning platform helps over 4.6 million older adults in 160 countries stay mentally and physically fit, creates economic opportunities through jobs and reskilling, and provides a community where people find meaning and purpose by sharing their knowledge and passions and forming new connections. Classes are taught by older adults on a highly interactive, custom-built video platform where older adults can connect during and in between classes. Classes are taught in English, Spanish, Hindi, and Mandarin.

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**ACCESS FREE TRAINING AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU BUILD SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO PROVIDE CARE AT HOME.**

New York's online Caregiver Portal is designed for families. Articles, videos, tip-sheets, and professional level training offers something for everyone. Our learning portal helps family caregivers reduce stress, find local resources, and provide better care for their loved ones.

**SIGN UP FREE TODAY!**

[New York Caregiving Portal Powered by Trualta - https://newyork-caregivers.com/](https://newyork-caregivers.com/)

You can call Herkimer County Office for the Aging/NY Connects at 315-867-1121 for more information on local services and supports for caregivers in Herkimer County or visit [herkimercounty.org](http://herkimercounty.org) - click on departments then Office for the Aging.

FROM WORKING SOLUTIONS:

HERKIMER WORKING SOLUTIONS MONTHLY  
MINI JOB FAIRS

UPCOMING DATES  
ALL JOB FAIRS RUN 1-3PM ON THE  
SCHEDULED DAYS

APRIL 19, 2024

MAY 17, 2024

JUNE 21, 2024

JULY 19, 2024

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**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.**





# WORKING SOLUTIONS CONT'D:



## FREE COMPUTER TRAINING



**Struggling to job search in the digital age?  
Need computer skills to increase your employability?  
WE CAN HELP!**



**The NYS Department of Labor has partnered with  
Northstar Digital Literacy to offer FREE computer training  
and certifications to New Yorkers**

Northstar Topics Include:

- Basic Computer Skills
- Internet Basics
- Career Search Skills
- Microsoft Word and Excel
- And more!

**Interested in Learning More?** Join Us at Herkimer Working Solutions for an Information Session!

**When?** Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month  
**Where?** 320 N. Prospect St. Herkimer  
**Time?** 2pm

Sessions will last approximately 1 hour. Attendees will get set up with a Northstar account and will be given an overview of the program, along with completion options.

Walk-ins welcome

\*Please bring photo ID for career center registration

**HERKIMER WORKING SOLUTIONS**

320 N. Prospect St.  
 Herkimer, NY 13350  
 315-867-1400

**Upcoming Sessions:**  
 April 4, April 18, May 2,  
 May 16, June 6, June 20,  
 July 18

# 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!!

