

## March Healthcare

3/1/18-BUSINESSES IN THE FOOTPRINT OF UTICA'S PROPOSED DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL HAVE TWO MORE WEEKS TO CONSIDER PURCHASE OFFERS FROM MOHAWK VALLEY HEALTH SERVICES. THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE WAS BACK IN DECEMBER, AND THEN FEBRUARY 28TH, BUT IT'S NOW BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH FIFTEENTH. SOME OF THE BUSINESSES SAY THEY'RE BEING LOW-BALLED BY M-V-H-S. IF THEY CONTINUE TO HOLD OUT THE HOSPITAL GROUP WOULD BE FORCED TO RESORT TO EMINENT DOMAIN AND SEIZE ANY OUTSTANDING PROPERTIES AT THE HOSPITAL SITE.

3/2/18-AMERICA'S GREATEST HEART RUN AND WALK WILL BE GETTING UNDERWAY TOMORROW MORNING. THE ANNUAL EVENT TO RAISE MONEY TO FIGHT HEART DISEASE HAS BECOME A CENTRAL NEW YORK TRADITION OVER THE YEARS. OVER NINE THOUSAND WALKERS AND RUNNERS WILL BE TAKING PART IN THE EVENT. MOST OF THAT ACTIVITY WILL BE HAPPENING AROUND UTICA COLLEGE AND THE SAINT LUKES HOSPITAL CAMPUS, WHERE DRIVERS SHOULD EXPECT DELAYS. A FULL SCHEDULE OF ROAD CLOSINGS FOR THE EVENT IS AVAILABLE AT [CENTRAL-N-Y-DOT-HEART-DOT-ORG](http://CENTRAL-N-Y-DOT-HEART-DOT-ORG).

3/3/18-FLU SEASON IS FINALLY WINDING DOWN IN NEW YORK. STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE REPORTED THE FIRST DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES SINCE DECEMBER, WHEN THE DISEASE FIRST BECAME WIDESPREAD ACROSS THE EMPIRE STATE. SINCE THEN OVER 18-THOUSAND PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HOSPITALIZED DUE TO THE FLU, AND FIVE CHILDREN DIED AS A RESULT OF INFECTION. DESPITE THE DECLINE OFFICIALS ARE STILL URGING RESIDENTS TO GET VACCINATED AND TAKE COMMON SENSE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS.

3/16/18-THE FATE OF UTICA'S DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL PROJECT COULD BE DECIDED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. YESTERDAY WAS THE FINAL DEADLINE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE FOOTPRINT OF THE PROPOSED HOSPITAL TO ACCEPT PURCHASE OFFERS FROM MOHAWK VALLEY HEALTH SERVICES. MANY OF THEM HAVE SAID THEY'RE BEING OFFERED ONLY A FRACTION OF WHAT THEIR PROPERTIES ARE WORTH. IF THEY REFUSE THE OFFERS M-V-H-S WILL BE FORCED TO SEIZE THE LAND THROUGH EMINENT DOMAIN, SETTING THE STAGE FOR A LONG AND EXPENSIVE COURT BATTLE.

3/27/18-ONEIDA AND HERKIMER COUNTIES NEED TO START EXERCISING AND CUT BACK ON THE PIZZA. THEY'RE RANKED AS THE 51ST AND 54TH HEALTHIEST COUNTIES IN NEW YORK ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT RANKING THE EMPIRE STATE'S 62 COUNTIES. THE ANNUAL STUDY FROM THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION LOOKS AT HEALTH FACTORS FROM DIET AND SMOKING TO AIR POLLUTION AND ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE. ACCORDING TO THOSE FACTORS ROCKLAND COUNTY IS THE HEALTHIEST PLACE IN THE STATE, WHILE THE BRONX IS THE WORST.