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Moriah Health Center opening delayed

By Fred Herbst - 2008-04-17 - fred@denpubs.com

MINEVILLE — The opening of the new Moriah Health Center is being delayed.

The building's foundation is leaking, Moriah Supervisor Tom Scozzafava explained. The contractor for the project has promised to correct the problem, but can't do so until the ground around the facility is dry enough to allow excavation.

The \$1.2 million health center is being constructed at the Moriah Industrial Park on Plank Road in Mineville.

Richard Lapier, Moriah building and codes officer, has told the town board the building is substantially complete.

The new health center will be owned by the town and operated by Hudson Headwaters Health Network.

Hudson Headwaters Health Network is a group of community health centers providing care to the residents in 11 North Country towns, including Schroom Lake and Ticonderoga.

Hudson Headwaters took over the Moriah Health Center, formerly the Mineville Health Center, January 1, 2005. The health center is now in the Moriah Community Building, the former Republic Steel building in Mineville.

The new health center will be a 4,000 square feet building with six exam rooms.

Hudson Headwaters officials have said they plan to expand services in Moriah once a new facility is in place.

Services at other Hudson Headwaters facilities include routine, urgent and walk-in care; specialty and ancillary services at its larger centers; on-site care in nursing homes, hospitals and home settings; 24-hour call and inpatient hospital coverage 365 days a year; and a range of programs in health screening, tracking, education and prevention.

In the past four years Moriah officials worked to arrange a partnership with Hudson Headwater Health Network and to find funding for the new building.

The cost of the new health center is being covered entirely by grants. Rep. John McHugh secured a \$389,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration in December in addition to the \$799,000 McHugh previously secured for the project.