



Cairo bridge reopening delayed, detour to continue

By *Andrea Macko*
Porcupine Soup

CAIRO—This past August construction crews began work on the County Route 23B bridge with hopes it would be completed by November. But unforeseen issues have delayed the project and ultimately the bridge's reopening.

Spanning the Shingle Kill and located on what is perhaps better referred to as Cairo's Main Street, the bridge has been closed to traffic since rehab began, resulting in a short detour around Jerome Avenue and County Route 85.

The project, explained Legislator William Lawrence (R-Cairo), "involves the rehab of a bridge that sees a lot of vehicular travel and because of flooding in previous years has also seen a lot of scouring and decay of its infrastructure."

Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP was hired to design a new bridge at a cost of about \$1.3 million, with the county picking up \$365,000 of



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the total, Lawrence explained. The project received federal aid through the New York State Department of Transportation.

The work was scheduled to be

completed by November, but "COVID and reduced production problems have caused necessary parts to be delayed and so is the opening of

the bridge to traffic," Lawrence said.

A new estimated reopening date has not yet been announced.

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