



## Lyndsey Eccles: Antrim County Parks Director



In December, Lyndsey Eccles became the new Antrim County Parks Director. Previously, she was the Osceola County Parks Director.

A graduate of Milford High School, Ms. Eccles has a BA in International Studies from Saginaw Valley State University and a Masters in Grant Writing from Concordia University.

Ms. Eccles notes that she “loves that Antrim County has twelve parks and over 3,000 acres of protected land available for the public to use for various recreational activities.”

Ms. Eccles and her husband Dan have one son. In addition to kayaking and camping, she enjoys reading and traveling.

## Paula Chermiside: Commission on Aging Director



Starting in early January 2025, Paula Chermiside will be Antrim County’s new Commission on Aging Director. The current director, Judy Parliament, is retiring after many years of service.

Ms. Chermiside has had a long history of developing services that address the needs of older adults. Most recently, she served

for 12 years as the Administrator of Aspirus Ironwood Hospital in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

Ms. Chermiside holds Master’s degrees in Hospital Administration, Business Administration, and Religious Education. She is looking forward to collaborating with our communities and other organizations to continue serving the needs of Antrim County seniors.

## County Building Elevator: Upcoming Replacement

The County Building’s sole elevator is scheduled for a full replacement. **The elevator will be closed for approximately three weeks.** Though exact dates have not been finalized, we expect the closure to start in January.

As soon as the elevator closure dates are available, we will release that information widely.

## Proposed Public Safety Center: Update

Antrim County's November 5 Public Safety Center bond proposal failed by 223 votes. The Board of Commissioners is now faced with the need to address a deficient and non-compliant jail while navigating limited resources. The Board is considering 5 options:

- 1) Repair the existing jail
- 2) Another public vote for a construction bond
- 3) Build a small holding facility
- 4) Construct only a new jail
- 5) Build a Public Safety Center with no increase in taxes

The Board is currently exploring option five to determine if it is realistic for the county’s long-term financial stability.

## Retirements at Antrim County

At the end of December, Antrim County will be saying “Happy Retirement” to two elected department heads and one appointed department head.



**Norman Hayes** was elected to the 87th District Court in 1990 and served Antrim County in that capacity until elected Judge of Antrim County Family & Probate Court in 2000. During his time on the Probate Court bench, Judge Hayes presided over more than 8,300 cases.



**Sheryl Guy**, County Clerk, began working at the county in 1979 as a greeter at the reception desk, rose to the position of Chief Assistant Clerk under Clerk Laura Sexton, and took office as County Clerk in 2013. Ms. Guy supervised the filing of 4,671 court cases and the filing of 5,694 vital records. She also administered 36

elections and served as Clerk to six Antrim County Boards of Commissioners.



**Judy Parliament**, Commission on Aging Director, started at the county in 1997 as clerical assistant, and has been serving as COA Director for more than ten years. During that time, Ms. Parliament has provided programs and services that have improved the quality of life for seniors in our county.

We celebrate the efforts and achievements of Judge Hayes, Ms. Guy, and Ms. Parliament, and wish them happiness and good health in their well-earned retirements.