



TOWN OF
ONONDAGA
ESTABLISHED 1798

FALL / WINTER 2026

OUR TOWN



What's inside...

- 🌿 It's Junk Collection Time!
- 🌿 10 Questions with...SU Legend Jim Lee
- 🌿 Meet the People in Your Neighborhood:
Nedrow VFD Auxiliary
- 🌿 Seasonal Activities for All Ages

TOWN OF ONONDAGA RESIDENT NEWSLETTER



TOWN OF
ONONDAGA
ESTABLISHED 1798

Town of Onondaga Directory

Town Office Locations

Onondaga Town Hall,
5020 Ball Rd., Syracuse NY 13215

Highway Department,
4478 W. Seneca Tpk., Syracuse, NY 13215

Parks & Recreation Department/Senior Center,
4834 Velasko Rd., Syracuse, NY 13215



From left: Town Councilors Kathy Fedrizzi and Ellen Magnarelli Terrien, Town Supervisor John Mahar, and Town Councilors Lisa Goodwin and John Wheatley

Town Supervisor

John P. Mahar

(315) 469-3888

Town Councilors

Kathy Fedrizzi

(315) 469-3888

Lisa Goodwin

(315) 345-4083

Ellen Magnarelli Terrien

(315) 469-3888 Ext. 378

John Wheatley

(315) 492-0445

Town Departments

Michael Morrissey, Assessor

(315) 469-3216

Jeff Herrick, Director, Building & Codes

(315) 469-3144

John Smith, Highway Superintendent

(315) 469-1664

Hon. Patrick Britt and Hon. Paul Mullin, Justice Court

(315) 469-1674

Charry Lawson, Parks & Rec/Senior Ctr.

(315) 469-3464

Kathy Dwyer, Tax Receiver

(315) 469-0483

Janet Hillery, Town Clerk

(315) 469-1583

County Legislator

Richard McCarron (11th District)

(315) 435-2070

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Town Meeting Schedule

Town Board: 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 5 p.m.

Planning Board: 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m.

Meeting minutes and agendas are available at townofonondaga.gov. All meetings, excluding Executive Sessions, are open to the public.

**Schedule is subject to change due to holidays or unforeseen circumstances.*

About the Cover: Founded in 1949, the Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary broadly supports the fire department and its volunteers as well as the overall Nedrow community. They are one of the most active Auxiliaries in the area and its most visible current project is the Nedrow Banner Program. (Read more inside!)

From the Desk of the Supervisor

Dear Neighbors,

Twenty-two. Just 22.

Individually they are: Cory Badman, John Battaglia, Logan Battaglia, Walter Cosolare, Calum Cox, Joe Geis, Christopher Haney, Michael Luchsinger, Derek Mackey, Steve Managano, Garet Martini, Joe Mort, Steve Moses, James Otis, Jeremy Parker, Adam Searle, Rusty Steingraber, Casey Tilden, Jack Underberg, Paul Warren, Highway Superintendent John Smith and Linda Crowley, Administrative Assistant.

Together they are the Town's team for all seasons. Our Highway Department. These masters of road safety and repair can be counted on round-the-clock, year-round to plow, salt, pave and otherwise maintain 200 miles of Town roads and plow an additional 22 miles of County and State roads each winter.

They run the Fall Cleanup, three-season Brush Pickup and annual Christmas tree pickup; issue driveway permits; pave roads; patch potholes; street-sweep; mow rights-of-way; maintain and repair catch basins, culverts, pipes and ditches; install street signs; assist with Earth Day garbage collection; manage tree removal and other obstructions after storms; and so much more.

As we head into the seven-week-long Fall Cleanup, I wanted to give them a well-deserved shoutout as we are one of the only Towns in the County that offers such a pickup service and it is incredibly demanding work - on top of an already full list of duties. Last year, this hardy group picked up 378 loads of junk equaling 570 tons along 200 miles of roadway. When you see them, take a second and give them a quick "thank you" or a honk and a wave. We are beyond fortunate to have them. See more in the Highway Department News inside.

This newsletter also includes other stories of the people, programs and projects affecting our futures and enhancing our quality of life, including:

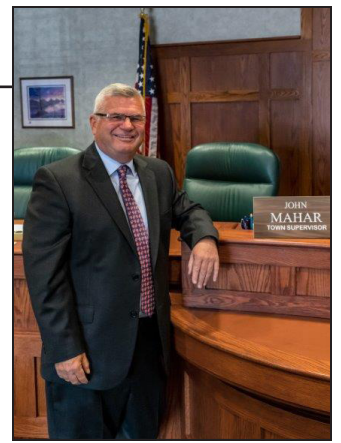
- A local fire department Auxiliary – featured on our cover - whose year-round service to community goes far beyond what you might expect from such an organization.
- A resident who is in elite company for his incredible basketball legacy and community leadership.
- A holistic selection of programs for all ages from our Parks Department and Senior Center.
- And updates from our Town Department heads on services available to residents.

We hope you enjoy this issue of Our Town. Be sure to stay in touch year-round by following @townofonondaga on Facebook and visiting townofonondaga.gov.

As always, I am available to answer questions, address concerns and hear your ideas. Contact me at 315-469-3888 or jmahar@townofonondaga.gov.

Sincerely,

John P. Mahar, Town Supervisor



News From the Town Highway Department

The Town of Onondaga Highway Department has been actively maintaining and upgrading local infrastructure this year, completing significant road paving, culvert installations, and storm damage repairs. As the season progresses, the department is preparing for the Annual Fall Cleanup and remains available to assist residents with any questions.



*John S. Smith,
Highway Superintendent*

Here is an overview of the projects completed by the Highway Department so far this year:

- **Brush and Yard Waste:** Collected **950** loads of brush, with volume anticipated to double by the end of the year.
- **Concrete Work:** Poured **123** yards of concrete to repair and replace catch basins and gutters.
- **Road Resurfacing:** Improved **9.77** miles of Town roads through oil and stone, cap sealing, and blacktopping.
- **Drainage Improvements:** Installed **620** feet of culvert and drainage pipe to manage water flow.
- **Signage:** Replaced faded stop signs and repaired or replaced various street and speed limit signs.
- **Town Vegetation Management:** Completed the first round of roadside mowing for line-of-sight safety, with ongoing mowing through the fall. All retention basins have been mowed for the season.
- **Storm Response:** Successfully managed downed trees and flooding issues caused by frequent storms.



You Do the Cleaning – We'll Do the Hauling!

Town of Onondaga Annual Fall Cleanup Program

The Town of Onondaga Highway Department is pleased to offer its Annual Fall Cleanup Program, providing residents with a convenient way to dispose of eligible household items and yard waste.

During this **7-week program**, Highway Department crews will travel more than **200 miles of Town roadways** collecting approved materials.

Before Your Scheduled Cleanup Week

Please review the cleanup schedule carefully and place all materials at the roadside **before your designated collection week begins**.

Important: Each residence is entitled to:

- One (1) household junk collection
- One (1) yard waste collection

Crews are unable to return for materials placed at the curb after your scheduled collection has been completed.

ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Examples of approved household junk include:

- Sofas and chairs
- Box springs
- Washers and dryers
- Toys
- Scrap wood
- Plumbing fixtures
- Lawn furniture
- Grills
- Carpeting
- Dry, empty paint cans (lids removed)
- Windows and mirrors (**must be taped or securely wrapped to prevent shattering**)



Meet our Town Highway Department – Cory Badman, John Battaglia, Logan Battaglia, Walter Cosolare, Calum Cox, Joe Geis, Christopher Haney, Michael Luchsinger, Derek Mackey, Steve Managano, Garet Martini, Joe Mort, Steve Moses, James Otis, Jeremy Parker, Adam Searle, Rusty Steingraber, Casey Tilden, Jack Underberg, Paul Warren, Highway Superintendent John S. Smith and Linda Crowley, Administrative Assistant

News From the Town Highway Department (continued)

BRUSH COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

Brush must:

- Be piled separately from household junk
- Be no larger than **6 inches in diameter**
- Be **8 feet or less** in length
- Be stacked neatly away from fences, utility poles, and overhead wires

LEAVES & YARD WASTE REQUIREMENTS

Leaves and yard waste:

- **Must** be placed in **paper leaf bags or cardboard boxes**
- **Will not** be collected if placed in plastic bags
- Must be free of stones, dirt, and household garbage

ITEMS WE CANNOT COLLECT

The following items will **NOT** be accepted:

- Recyclables (plastic bottles, glass bottles, paper, newspapers, magazines, cardboard, etc.)
- Mattresses
- Tires
- Batteries
- Barrels
- Gas or propane tanks
- Tree stumps
- Rocks
- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Dehumidifiers
- Hazardous or toxic materials
- Medical waste
- Asbestos
- Roofing shingles
- Pipe wrap
- Concrete
- Construction or demolition debris
- Paint cans containing paint
- Televisions
- Computers
- Microwaves
- Air conditioners
- Electronic waste
- Household garbage

For assistance in disposing of prohibited items, contact:

OCRRA

Phone: (315) 453-2866

Website: www.ocrra.org

2026 FALL CLEANUP SCHEDULE

Fire District	Collection Week
Howlett Hill Fire District (Cedarvale Rd. to Town Line Rd.)	September 7
South Onondaga Fire District & Navarino	September 14
Taunton Fire Districts 1 & 2 (including Harris Hill, Buxton Woods & Sherwood Farms)	September 21
Onondaga Hill Fire District – North of W. Seneca Turnpike (including Lime Hill, Breckenridge & Autumn Ridge)	September 28
Onondaga Hill Fire District – South of W. Seneca Turnpike (cutoff at Cole Road; Cole Road not included)	October 5
Nedrow Fire District – West of S. Salina Street	October 12
Nedrow Fire District – East of S. Salina Street (including Southwood, Crownpoint & Sentinel Heights)	October 19

QUESTIONS?

For additional information or assistance concerning your fire district, please contact:

Phone: (315) 469-1664

Email: LCrowley@townofonondaga.gov

Website: www.townofonondaga.gov

Town of Onondaga Highway Department

John Smith, Highway Superintendent | 4478 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215

This cleanup program is available exclusively to residents of the Town of Onondaga.

Resident Spotlight: 10 Questions with...Jim Lee (Taunton)



Only 18 players in the 128-year history of the Syracuse University Men's Basketball program have had their jerseys retired. Each of those jerseys represents significant contributions to the team's rich history and honors the elite players who wore them for their everlasting impact on the program and, consequently, the Central New York community.

One of those jerseys belongs to the one and only Jim Lee. Who just happens to be a resident of the Town of Onondaga.

For the non-SU sports obsessed among us – if any - Jim was a member of SU's first team to make it to the NCAA Final Four team (1974-75), advancing to the national semifinals in San Diego.

He was a 1,000-point career scorer at SU, totaling 1,165 points in three years; led in assists in 1973-74 (107) and 1974-75 (115); and started every game of his junior and

senior years. Jim is also one of the most successful free-throw shooters in SU history with a career free-throw percentage (.859) that ranks him fourth on the all-time best list. With Jim in the lineup, the Orange made three consecutive appearances in the NCAA Tournament under Coach Roy Danforth.

Lee was named to the 25-player Syracuse University All-Century Team selected by fan vote during the 1999-2000 season and was inducted to the Upstate New York Basketball Hall of Fame.

Jim Lee's basketball legacy is larger than life and he is unquestionably the pride of the Town. So, what does it feel like to be a local legend? And all these years later, who is he outside the sport? We asked him 10 questions to find out.

What is your 5-word bio? I am a good person.

How long have you lived in the Town and what do you love most about your neighborhood? We've been here 39+ years and the best part of the neighborhood is our neighbors.

What's your go-to dining spot in the Town? It used to be Kelley's when Jon Kelley had the place.

What was the most meaningful moment of February 21, 2025 - the day your jersey was retired? Having my jersey retired alongside my roommate Rudy Hackett and my teammates who showed up - Dennis Duval, Steve Shaw, Don Degner, Earnie Seibert and Bill DeMarle. Better than that was my wife, Lou Ann; my daughters, Amanda and, Suzanne and her husband, Matt; son, Jay and his wife, Brittnay; and my grandkids Andrew, Ben and Zoey were there with me.

What might Rudy Hackett say was your least endearing quality as a roommate? I'm not sure what he would say but I know that we really never had any complaints regarding each other.

Other than Rudy Hackett, do you/did you have close relationships with any of the other players whose jerseys have been retired over the years? I'm pretty good friends with Dennis Duval. I was backcourt partners with him. In my mind, he's still one of the best guards ever to play at Syracuse. Dave Bing is one of the nicest people you'll ever meet, and to me, still the top player to come out of SU.

I run into Rosie (Roosevelt Bouie) more than most. Louis Orr – may he rest in peace - was a friend to my son when he was a coach at Seton Hall and Jay was a freshman and sophomore. Gerry McNamara - who broke my single season free throw % record - which I had for 30 years. John Wallace is a really nice person. I became friends with him after he graduated from SU. And Billy Gabor – may he rest in peace - was from the Binghamton area and my dad played against him in high school. Billy went to Binghamton Central and my dad went to Binghamton North.



Resident Spotlight: 10 Questions with...Jim Lee (Taunton) (continued)

I met Carmelo Anthony just this past basketball season. I've only met Derrick Coleman, Billy Owens, Sherman Douglas, Rony Seikaly, Hakim Warrick, and Pearl Washington a few times. I wasn't born when Vic Hanson and Wilmeth Sidat-Singh were playing. However, I do hold the Vic Hanson Medal of Honor Award.

What is one thing that people may be surprised to know about you? My favorite song is the Star Spangled Banner. I'm also an avid reader.

Wegmans or Green Hills Farms? Green Hills

Other than family, and outside of sports, what are you most passionate about? There isn't really anything except for my family and sports. I like to golf and swim because that's the only thing my body allows me to do now. I'm most proud of my kids. They are doing exactly what they set out to do in life. That's what I get most pumped up about.

What is one bit of advice you'd give today's college players? Obviously, College Basketball is a different world these days. I would tell them that once you pick a school, be a good person, respect everybody, be a good teammate, show some loyalty and gratitude, and stay where you committed to until you graduate.

The People in Your Neighborhood: Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary

There are fire department auxiliaries and then there is the Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. It would be hard to imagine life in Nedrow without this group of men and women who make it their mission to support the fire department volunteers and the community.

Founded in 1949, the Auxiliary today is comprised of 15 residents who broadly support the fire department and its volunteers as well as Nedrow as a whole and the Onondaga Nation.

They are, in fact, one of the most active Auxiliaries in the area.

These men and women provide food and refreshments to the firefighters in cases of major emergencies and coordinate the Department-sponsored Halloween Trunk or Treat and Christmas tree lighting. They also fund scholarships each year for two deserving Onondaga Central graduating seniors, distribute food baskets to residents in need or suffering a loss, help with logistics of community meetings, and assist with the Annual Earth Day Cleanup. All of these initiatives have been funded through the group's tireless fundraising efforts, which include applying for and securing grants.

Most recently, they launched and are managing the Nedrow Banner Project, in partnership with the Town of Onondaga and the Fire Department, to honor local Veterans and highlight area businesses. The banners are displayed along South Salina St., Southland Dr. and Rockwell Rd. in Nedrow.

"Nedrow has a small-town feel that is hard to find in a larger city. I believe a strong community depends on people being there for each. The Auxiliary plays an important role in encouraging community involvement, helping neighbors get to know one another, and inspiring people to support each other when they need a hand," said long-time Auxiliary member, Pam DeGouff. "The Auxiliary is primarily a support group. We do our best to help those in need and promote community pride and spirit."



The Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary includes: Marlene Bistrovich, Christine Body, Tina Cali, Joyce Carr, Joan Cooper, Margaret Daniels, Pam DeGouff, Jannie Grady, Theresa Lawson, Doug Leonard, Sara Leonard, Mary K Matthews, Barb McCann, Diana Murphy, and Nancy Pelligini

The People in Your Neighborhood: Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary (continued)

Pam's commitment to the Auxiliary and the Nedrow VFD is especially personal. When a family member suffered a medical emergency in her home, the Department promptly answered the call and provided lifesaving care. The Auxiliary was then quick to check in on the family to offer support.

Pam is quick to stress that the group has many members who have been volunteering for 20+ years so new members are always needed. In the past, Auxiliary membership was limited to people connected to a fire department member, but that is no longer the case. Any community member is welcome to join, regardless of gender or age.

"With more members and their fresh ideas, we could do so much more to brighten our community and make it better. Being a member does not require a major time commitment, just a willingness to share your unique skills and help when you can," she added.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, contact a current member, email nedrowauxiliary@gmail.com, or attend one of its monthly meetings. The group meets at the firehouse at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

About the Nedrow Banner Program

This program is exclusively for Town of Onondaga Veterans and Businesses/Organizations and proudly sponsored by the Nedrow Volunteer Fire Dept Auxiliary, Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department and Town of Onondaga.

Banner sponsorship requests for 2026 are no longer being accepted as the maximum number of available locations has been reached. Interested parties can request to be placed on the list for next year. Banners are typically displayed within a few weeks of order confirmation, weather permitting.

Cost Per Banner: \$225 each (includes mounting and hardware)

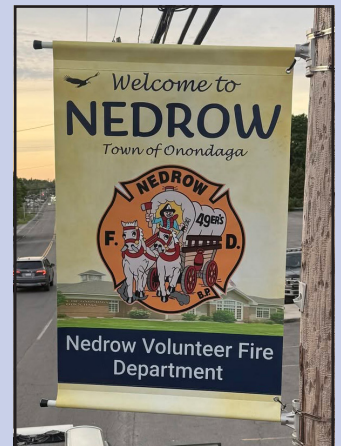
Display Time: Banners are displayed for a minimum of one year. After one year, the committee reserves the right to remove the banner or continue to display it. If the banner is taken down, it is returned to the purchaser.

Requests & Locations: All applications/photos will require approval from the program committee. Requests are granted on a first-come, first-served basis. We will do our best to accommodate location requests; however, placement is not guaranteed. If all locations are allocated, your funds and photos will be returned unless you request to be placed on a waiting list for placement in the next year.

Photo Use & Copyright: By submitting a photo, you certify that you own the rights to the image and grant permission for it to be used on a public banner.

Liability: The organizers are not responsible for damage to the banners due to circumstances that are beyond our control after installation or during the display period. Damaged banners will be taken down and returned to the purchaser if requested.

For more information, send your inquiry to nedrowbanner@gmail.com.



Town News Roundup

The Power of “YES”

Onondaga County's first Traffic Safety Garden is officially open! Right here in the Town of Onondaga at Santaro Park!

And as Onondaga County Deputy Sheriff Danielle Podejko and Lacie Peterson of the Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Council explained, it is a project that almost didn't happen. Instead, an original "no" to their idea, turned into an incredible new educational program and fun space that is now inspiring leaders in Albany, being considered at as a model for communities across CNY and even led to a children's book series teaching traffic safety in new ways. All because when approached by Danielle and Lacie, Town leaders said "yes" to building it at Santaro Park, the Sheriff's Department and its Foundation said "yes" to offering funding, programing and staff support, and community organizations and businesses throughout the Town said "yes" to donating money, services, assets and expertise to make it a reality.



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held this month to celebrate this new park attraction and the community effort that made it possible.

The Traffic Safety Garden is a miniature, car-free street network painted on a paved surface. Designed for children and new riders, it features scaled-down roads, crosswalks, and traffic signs. This innovative space teaches kids safe bicycling and pedestrian skills through hands-on learning in a fun, interactive environment.



“The Traffic Garden reflects the Town’s commitment to helping children develop lifelong safety habits while encouraging active outdoor play,” explained Charry Lawson, Director, Town Parks & Recreation Department.

“Never underestimate the power of partnerships and the Onondaga community. We look

forward to providing children with a fun, memorable experience while teaching valuable traffic safety skills they can use for years to come,” said Town Supervisor John Mahar.

In addition to Parks & Recreation programming, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office will host its Bike Safety courses there, creating even more opportunities for children and families to learn and practice safe habits.

Grab your kids and their bikes or scooters and check it out!



Town News Roundup (continued)

Partnership Program for Dog Control Provides Improved Round-the-Clock Services

The Town launched a pilot intermunicipal program this summer with the Town of Geddes for Dog Control services that will provide improved round-the-clock services and a Dog Control presence in the Town.

“Our previous dog control agreement was not providing the level of responsiveness and in-Town presence that our residents deserve. With the new relationship with Geddes, we have dedicated and compassionate dog control officers offering 24/7 attention,” explained Town Supervisor John Mahar.

“Our goal is to continue to look for partnership opportunities to maximize services capabilities and cost savings for residents. In the past several years, we have had great success in doing that with public safety, tax collection, parks programming, grant awards and more,” he added.

FOR DOG CONTROL NUISANCE COMPLAINTS, call 315.559.7891. DO NOT TEXT!

Dog owners should call this same number if they believe their dog has been picked up.

FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS, Call 315.454.3469

The procedures for retrieving your dog are:

- If a loose dog is picked up in the Town of Onondaga and NOT LICENSED, the owner must visit the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall (5020 Ball Rd.) with proof of a current rabies vaccination and get the dog licensed. The licensing fee is \$10/neutered or spayed dogs and \$20/non-neutered or non-spayed dogs.
Per NYS Law, every dog must be licensed in the municipality in which they reside and Town leash laws apply.
- If the dog is already licensed but not wearing its tags OR once licensing is completed at Onondaga Town Hall, the owner must go to the Town of Geddes Town Clerk's Office (1000 Woods Rd. Syr. 13209) and show proof of licensing and pay a redemption fee of \$225 per dog. You will then receive paperwork allowing you to retrieve your dog from the CNY-SPCA (5878 E. Molloy Rd., Syr. 13211).
- Loose dogs are taken to the CNY-SPCA where they are put on a 10-day hold. If the owner does not follow the steps above and retrieve their dog within that timeframe, the CNY-SPCA assumes custody of the dog. During this timeframe, if rabies vaccination cannot be verified, a vaccination will be given to the dog, and the owner will be required to pay an additional \$25 upon retrieval.

To avoid these fees and spare your dog needless stress, please be certain to LICENSE, CHIP and VACCINATE your dog and be certain they are wearing a collar and tags.

CNY-SPCA will continue to handle all dog cruelty investigations. Call them directly to report any suspected cruelty.

Eighth Time's the Charm

For the eighth time, the Town will participate in the CNY Homebuilders & Remodelers' Parade of Homes – an honor that reinforces what an outstanding place this is to live; and highlights the positive relationships we enjoy with area homebuilders, remodelers and others in the business community.

This year, the new Woodridge Heights on Onondaga Road in Taunton will be the focus. The neighborhood features townhomes and single-family properties by Mark Anthony Homes.

This year the Parade is a 'scattered site' event - meaning the public will download an app and drive from house to house – community to community – to see the homes.

The event runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, September 17-20 and September 24-27. For more event information, go to hbrcnyc.com.

From the Assessor's Office

REMINDER: STAR and Enhanced STAR

The Town is no longer involved in administration of the STAR and Enhanced STAR programs. The New York State Department of Taxation & Finance is the sole administrator, and all information regarding eligibility, registration etc. is available at tax.ny.gov/star. For those without access to a computer, call 518.457.2036 weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



*Michael Morrissey,
Assessor*

Other Tax Exemption Renewals

Exemption renewal notices will be mailed in early September with a return deadline of March 1, 2027. Renewal forms will be sent to residents currently receiving the following exemptions: **Senior Low Income, Disability and Limited Income, Clergy Members and Non-Profit Organizations, Agricultural Properties, and Volunteer Fire/Ambulance Workers.**

For more information, call 315.469.3216 or email:

Michael Morrissey, Assessor
mmorrissey@townofonondaga.gov

Kelly Mahar, Assessment Clerk
kmahar@townofonondaga.gov

Dale Barcomb, Assessor's Aid/Data Collector
dbarcomb@townofonondaga.gov

From the Tax Receiver's Office

2026-27 School Tax Collection

School Tax bills will be mailed the first week of September. Collection begins September 8. School Tax bills will not be available online until that date.

<u>Penalty Schedule</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Sept. 8 – Oct. 7	No Penalty
Oct. 8 – Nov. 2	2%
Nov. 3 - Nov. 16	5%

After Nov. 2, payments must be mailed to Onondaga County.



*Kathy Dwyer,
Tax Receiver*

For copies of bills and receipts, go to ongov.net/etax.

If you have exemption questions, call the Assessor's Office at 315.469.3216.

Office Info

- Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. during tax collection. There is no lunchtime closure.

Reminders

- We use online banking, which means payments are deposited the same day they are received, several times throughout the day. Therefore, please be sure funds are deposited in your account before writing a check to the Tax Receiver.
- There is a \$20 fee for returned checks along with other applicable penalties.
- **Always include a phone number on your check in case we need to contact you. This can help you avoid paying unnecessary penalties.**
- We strictly adhere to the rule that no payment is considered as “received” until it can be deposited to the bank. We return checks to payees that are post-dated, unsigned, and with digit and written amounts that differ.
- Don't wait till the last minute to pay! Too often checks must be returned to the sender due to errors, resulting in penalties.
- **Due to new postal procedures, if you are mailing a last-minute payment, please be sure to get the envelope hand-stamped inside the post office to ensure it is postmarked with the accurate date.**

If you have questions, please contact kdwyer@townofonondaga.gov or 315.469.0483. We also post timely information at townofonondaga.gov and Facebook (@townofonondaga).

From Building & Codes Department

For Businesses:

Fire Alarm System Requirements

Since January 2025, the Town Building & Codes Department completed over 100 fire safety inspections, with approximately 55 percent being non-profit organizations and 45 percent being for-profit.

During some of these inspections, it has been discovered that existing fire alarm systems have not been tested and maintained, as required by Section 907 of the New York State Fire Code. Per 907.8.4, The building owner shall be responsible to maintain the fire and life safety systems in operable condition at all times. Third-party service personnel shall meet the qualification requirements of NFPA 72 for inspection, testing and maintenance of such systems. Records of inspection, testing and maintenance shall be maintained.

In one case, in an effort to save money, a building tenant discontinued the servicing of a system protecting their building. Only when authorized by the local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) - in this case our Building and Codes Department - is a property owner allowed to discontinue use of fire and life safety equipment. If such authorization is given, the fire alarm control system and all associated equipment (i.e. strobes, pull stations, etc.) must be dismantled and removed from public areas.

For Residents:

Smoke Alarms are required.

They must be:

- Listed and labeled in accordance with UL217.
- Placed **INSIDE** each sleeping room, **AND OUTSIDE** each sleeping room in the immediate vicinity (hallway) of the bedrooms.
- Interconnected when more than one smoke alarm is required within one dwelling unit. Alarms replacing those in existing dwellings (pre-2020) do not need to be interconnected.
- Installed at least 10 feet away from cooking appliances.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms are required.

They must be:

- Listed in accordance with UL 2034, and additionally by UL217 for a smoke/CO combination alarm.
- Installed in dwelling units, sleeping area, and sleeping units near sources of carbon monoxide (CO), or in occupiable spaces where air movement may direct CO emissions.
- Interconnected where more than one carbon dioxide alarm is required.
- Maintained in accordance with NFPA 72.

Questions? Please call us at 315.469.3144 or visit our web page at townofnonondga.gov/departments/buildingandcodes.



*Jeff Herrick, Director, Codes Enforcement;
Tucker Geis, Codes Enforcement Officer;
John Rafterowski, Codes Enforcement
Officer; Victoria Rogers, Codes Clerk and
Codes Enforcement Officer*

News From the Town Clerk's Office

Office Hours: M-F 8:30-4:30; **Phone:** 315-469-1583; **E-mail:** Jhillery@townofonondaga.gov

Conservation Licenses

The DEC is encouraging use of their mobile app, HuntFishNY, or their website, www.dec.ny.gov to obtain your sporting license. We are happy to assist you here at the Town Clerk's office, but please remember, we must charge a \$1 print fee if you would like us to print your license. Doe permits can be purchased from 8/1 – 10/1 by visiting the DEC website, by calling the DEC at 1-866-933-2257, or right here at the Town Clerk's office.



*Janet Hillery,
Town Clerk*



Dog Licensing

It is a requirement for all dog owners living in the Town of Onondaga to license their dogs. Applications can be found on our website under the Town Clerk's page, or they can be obtained at our office. We now have an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Geddes for dog control. To report a lost dog or if you have **nuisance complaints**, please call **315-559-7891**. **Animal cruelty complaints** are still handled by the SPCA at **315-454-0928**. You may also notice an addition to our new license and renewal paperwork. New York State has recently passed a law that mandates all dog license paperwork to include a donation **option** to local animal shelters or pounds, in which the Town has designated the CNY SPCA.

Board of Elections

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming **General Election** on **11/3/26**. Information on upcoming elections can be found by visiting www.ongov.net/elections or calling 315-435-VOTE. Voter Registration Forms are available in the Town Clerk's Office or through the Onondaga County Board of Elections located at 1000 Erie Blvd. West.

Please stop in or visit our website for the most recent meeting minutes and information on other services we provide, such as marriage licenses, notary services, handicapped hangtags, FOIL requests and much more!



*Town Clerk Assistant Rosemary Riley and
Deputy Town Clerk Theresa Allen*

Onondaga Community College News

New Programs Added to SUNY Reconnect

Three additional degree programs have been added to the list of 22 SUNY Reconnect-eligible programs at Onondaga Community College. They are: Commercial/Heavy Equipment Service Repair, Fire Protection Technology and Supply Chain Management.

SUNY Reconnect is a tuition-free community college program for New Yorkers ages 25 to 55 who have not yet earned a college degree. After all other financial aid is applied, the program covers the remaining cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies.

OCC President Dr. Warren M. Hilton said, "SUNY Reconnect is transforming lives. Hundreds of adult learners are returning to the classroom, earning degrees, and preparing for careers in some of CNY's most in-demand industries. The program is creating opportunities for students while helping employers build the workforce they need to thrive."

To learn more about SUNY Reconnect at OCC, go to sunyocc.edu/freecc.



Onondaga Free Library News

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!

Are you new to the area? Have a library card, but don't know where it is? Has your child just turned 5 years old? Sign up for a library card and discover the incredible collections, resources and services available to all ages at OFL. Today's libraries are vibrant community centers offering much more than just books. **LOANABLE ITEMS:** Borrow park and museum passes, mobile hotspots, a ghost hunting kit, a mental wellness kit and more for free with your library card. **SERVICES & RESOURCES:** Access technology, private meeting/study rooms, and educational and career resources to support your goals, whether you're a student, job seeker, entrepreneur or lifelong learner. **PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES:** At OFL, you'll find diverse programs, technology assistance, homework help, craft groups, book clubs, author talks, storytimes and more. There's truly something for everyone! Stop by OFL today to get your free library card- it's one card with endless possibilities!



Lafayette Trail Marker

We had a fantastic turnout on July 13th for the official dedication of our new historic marker honoring General Lafayette's iconic 1825 visit! As part of the nationwide Lafayette 250 initiative, this special gathering at OFL celebrated the Revolutionary War hero and abolitionist's vital contributions to American freedom. Thank you to all who attended and special thanks to The Lafayette Trail, Inc. and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for making this commemoration possible—visit lafayette250.org to learn more.



Upcoming Programs

Be on the lookout for some exciting programs coming to OFL this fall and winter. With the Friends sponsoring so many great programs, we are thrilled to bring back both Dancercise and Functional Yoga. Local historian Dennis Heaphy returns to OFL on Sept. 19th at 11am for a presentation about the Statue of Liberty and its rich history, as well as about his restoration work on it. We are welcoming back Syracuse Paranormal this October for a presentation about paranormal investigating- perfect for spooky season! Families are invited to join us as AURORA of CNY hosts a special sign language storytime on Oct. 21st at 10am. We have a puzzle swap always available in the fireplace area at the library but we will also be hosting a Puzzle Swap event on Nov. 21st, 10am-noon. Also, keep an eye out for a Local Author Spotlight event, DIY/craft programs for teens, Mah-Jong Meetups and more!

TEEN VOLUNTEERS: Join other teens in your community to make a positive impact at OFL. Teen volunteers help set up book displays, plan and host library events and help care for our teen collection! Regular meetings will be held the 3rd Monday of each month, 6-7pm. Additional volunteer opportunities may be available, including event support, program planning, etc. All participants are encouraged to complete our teen volunteer information form at www.oflibrary.org/volunteer to stay up-to-date on volunteer opportunities.

Learn about all of our fall and winter programs, including weekly preschool programs, book clubs, one-on-one tech help appointments and more at www.oflibrary.org/program-guide.

Upcoming Friends of OFL Events

The Friends are hosting a book sale Oct. 1-3 at the library, with a Friends' Preview Night on Sept. 30. Donations of gently used books, movies and more will be accepted during regular library hours Sept. 25-26 & 28-29. Also, be on the lookout for the Friends' 20th Annual Festival of Trees this holiday season. Learn more about our Friends group and become a member at www.oflibrary.org/friends-of-ofl.

About Onondaga Free Library

4840 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215

Phone: (315) 492-1727 | **Website:** www.oflibrary.org | **Email:** info@oflibrary.org

Social Media: @OnondagaFreeLib on Facebook & Instagram

Current Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00am-8:30pm; Friday & Saturday, 10:00am-5:00pm

Temporary Tuesday Hours through Labor Day: 9am-5pm

Holiday Closings: Sept. 5-7, Oct. 12, Nov. 11, Nov. 25- Close at 5pm, Nov. 26-27, Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31- Close at 5pm, Jan. 1, Jan. 18, Feb. 6 & 15

Board of Trustees Meetings: Wednesdays, 9/23, 10/28, 12/16, 1/27, 2/24 & 3/24 at 6pm

Fire Department News

From Howlett Hill Fire Department

Chief: John Harris, Jr.

President: Frank Valls

Sportsman Raffle 2026-2027

Are you looking for an **interesting Christmas gift for a sportsperson** or hunter in your family? Want to take a chance on picking up something just for yourself? Later in the Fall, be on the look-out for the annual Howlett Hill Fire Department Sportsman Raffle tickets going on sale. At **\$20 a ticket**, you can't go wrong. Check out our Facebook page or keep your ear to the ground and get in on the action, check with a member, or call the firehouse: 315-673-1817.

Facebook = howlethillfiredepartment – 100% volunteer

Renewed interest in a Youth CADET Firefighter Program at Howlett Hill Fire

In early September, once high school aged students are settled back in school, the Howlett Hill Fire Department will post fliers outlining our new **CADET Program** designed for students **aged 14-16** who have an interest in the fire service. Several Marcellus Central School District students are enrolled in both our Cadet Program and our RAM Program. They are excellent Ambassadors for their respective programs, but also very knowledgeable about the fire service. They will be happy to answer any questions on how you or your student can get involved. The program is administrated by in-house firefighters and occasionally supplemented with external experts providing training on certain topics. The program is insured and appropriate age-related social guidelines are in place.



If you or your teen want hands-on learning in this life-saving vocation, please consider joining our team. We already have a **RAM (Restricted Active Member) 16-18 years** of age and **full Active Membership age 18 and above** in place for growth potential within the department.

Cadets are not placed in unsafe, hostile environments and any simulations are tightly controlled for safety. Cadets will learn donning and doffing protective gear, practice entering a smokey room, connecting to fire hydrants, aiming a fire hose and how a building sprinkler system works, among other training. Yes, along the way there is time for plenty of fun.

Please watch for fliers, visit and follow our Facebook page and discuss this opportunity with your teen.

Facebook howlethillfiredepartment – 100% volunteer

Are YOU are interested in Joining the HHFD?

If you have an interest in serving the community, learning new skills and even maybe saving a life, consider joining us at the Howlett Hill Fire Department! We offer a wide variety of positions, not all involving actual fire contact. Train in the medical field, outside and support operations and other support positions. No experience is necessary as we provide the training, the protective equipment and mentorship to give you the greatest time of your life. If you have questions about our fire department, please stop in any Monday evening at 7 p.m. as the department members are always there for drill, training or meetings. HHFD 3384 Howlett Hill Rd. Syracuse, NY 13215. Put us in your GPS!



Fire Department News

From Onondaga Hill Fire Department

Chief: Dante Garafalo

President: Jeremy Warren

It has been a busy year for our Onondaga Hill Volunteers, with over 400 calls in just the first half of 2026! These calls for service included structure fires, motor vehicle collisions, technical rescues, medical calls, and more.

The Onondaga Hill Volunteers are proud to continue providing exemplary service to the town and its residents, **maintaining response times well beyond the standards set by the National Fire Protection Agency for career fire departments.**

Open House: If you are interested in learning more about the Onondaga Hill Fire Department, **stop by our open house on October 3rd!** We will have live fire displays, technical rescue demonstrations, apparatus tours, and even a bounce house. The open house is fun and learning for the whole family!

Community CPR Classes: As part of our mission to serve the Town of Onondaga, we have been partnering with ON X Dynamics to host public CPR classes at our station. Interested in becoming CPR certified? Sign up for a class with ON X Dynamics at www.onxdynamics.org



Fire Safety: As we begin to move into the colder months, we want to remind everyone to practice fire safety when heating your home. Keep flammable objects at least three feet away from heaters, radiators, fireplaces, and stoves. If your power goes out and you use a portable generator, make sure that generator is only run outside to avoid a buildup of CO in your home. Before lighting that first fire in your fireplace, make sure you get your chimney cleaned to avoid a fire starting in your chimney. And while we all love Christmas lights, please be sure to not overload your outlets or daisy chain extension cords. Use these tips to keep you and your home safe and warm in the coming winter!



Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors:

Did you know that smoke and CO detectors go bad? It is recommended that all detectors are tested twice a year and replaced every 10 years. If you would like your detector checked or need assistance in replacing them, please call our station at 315-492-9191 to arrange a time for one of our firefighters to come out and assist you.

If you'd like to learn more about the Onondaga Hill Fire Department, or are interested in joining, you can check out our website at www.ohfd.net.



Fire Department News

From South Onondaga Fire Department

Chief: Erik Nelson

President: Tim Nelson

The South Onondaga Fire Department held its 2026 awards dinner this past May at The Barn at Navarino Orchards, where the following members were recognized for years of service and dedication to the community: Dave Fisher with 55 years, Tom Nelson for 50 years and Shane Moore with 10 years.

Chief Erik Nelson and Michele Cotterill were awarded Life Member status for 25 years of service.

The Department's top 10 alarm responders for 2025 were acknowledged as well. They are Sue Abbott, Denny Abbott, Dave Toomey, Pat Abbott, Rachel Toomey, Michele Cotterill, Jason Cox, Jason Baleno, Erik Nelson and David Fisher. We thank you all for your commitment.

Adam Cox accepted the Department's Achievement Award for Jason Cox. The award was given in appreciation of his exceptional efforts in arranging department training opportunities, as well as his outstanding alarm response.

For several years, South Onondaga VFD members have placed memorial flags in South Onondaga Cemetery. This past Memorial Day weekend, 166 Veterans and 55 past Firefighters were remembered.

The Department hosted Narcan training, open to the community this past July.

In honor of our Community's Veterans, South Onondaga Fire Department will host a Veteran's Day Service on Nov. 11 at 11 am. Details will be posted later on the Department's Makyes Road sign and Facebook page.

We are always looking for new members. Training is provided. Many residents already have easily transferable skills. You can help. Stop in on Monday evenings, reach out to a member or call 680-800-4924 for information.



2025 Achievement Award recipient Jason Cox (left) pictured with President Tim Nelson.

From Southwood Fire Department

Chief: Robert Naugle

President: Tom Bouvia

Southwood Fire Department: Serving Our Community, Growing Together

The Southwood Fire Department has had another busy and rewarding year serving the Town of Onondaga through emergency response, training, and community involvement.

One of our proudest accomplishments has been launching our new **Junior Member Program** for individuals ages 16 and older. This program introduces young adults to the fire and EMS service while helping prepare the next generation of first responders.

Community involvement continues to be a cornerstone of our department. This year, we hosted our **Second Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale**, bringing together neighbors, local vendors, and families for another successful community event.

We're also looking forward to two of our favorite annual traditions—our **Chili Cook-Off**, on October 24th, featuring special guest judges, and **Breakfast with Santa** on December 13th. These events provide wonderful opportunities to connect with our community while supporting the department.

Training remains a top priority. Southwood Fire Department has partnered with the Jamesville for joint drills and EMT classes, strengthening both departments while helping prepare future first responders. We also continue to offer **CPR and First Aid classes**, giving community members the skills and confidence to respond to an emergency.

Southwood is proud to support **Believe 31**, an organization dedicated to assisting firefighters, auxiliary members, and their families who are facing cancer or other life-threatening illnesses. Check them out at Believe31.org.

We're also pleased to welcome many new members to our department this year. Whether serving as firefighters, EMTs, fire police, drivers, or supporting the department behind the scenes, every volunteer plays an important role in serving our community.

If you've ever considered volunteering, we invite you to stop by the Southwood Fire Department on Tuesday

Fire Department News

From Southwood Fire Department (continued)

evenings at **7:00 p.m.** There are many ways to get involved, and we'd be happy to answer your questions and show you how you can make a difference.

Thank you to the residents of the Town of Onondaga for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and continuing to serve this wonderful community.

From Taunton Fire Department

Chief: Michael Phelan

President: Edward Phelan, Jr.

The Taunton Fire Department is a progressive volunteer fire department dedicated to providing professional, dependable emergency services to our community.

Our department is made up of approximately **50 dedicated volunteer firefighters**, including **two student live-in firefighters who attend a local college**. Each member brings unique skills, experience, and commitment to the department while working together toward one shared mission: protecting the lives and property of the people we serve.

Each year, our personnel respond to approximately **500 calls for service**, including fires, motor vehicle collisions, medical emergencies, hazardous conditions, public assistance calls, and other emergency incidents.

Training Is Our Foundation

Our members participate in regular training to ensure they remain proficient in every aspect of the services they are expected to provide.

Our personnel consistently exceed required training standards and take great pride in maintaining a high level of education, preparedness, and professionalism.

Committed to Our Community

The expectations of our community guide everything we do. We believe every resident deserves the highest quality of emergency service possible.

Through continuous training, state-of-the-art equipment, and modern, reliable fire apparatus, our firefighters are prepared to respond when our neighbors need us most.

Become a Volunteer Firefighter

No previous firefighting experience is required. The department provides the training, protective equipment, uniforms, and support necessary to become a successful volunteer firefighter.

By joining the Taunton Fire Department, you will have the opportunity to:

- Serve and protect your community
- Receive valuable emergency-services training
- Develop leadership and teamwork skills
- Build lifelong friendships
- Gain experience in the fire and emergency services
- Become part of a dedicated and respected organization

The Taunton Fire Department is always looking for motivated individuals who are ready to learn, serve, and make a difference.



Fire Department News

From Taunton Fire Department (continued)



ANNUAL RENO NIGHT FUNDRAISER Friday, November 6 | 6 - 11 p.m. Taunton Fire Station

Join us for an evening of games, food, prizes, and community support. Reno Night is one of the Taunton Fire Department's largest annual fundraisers, with proceeds supporting the equipment, training, and operational needs of our volunteer firefighters.

Ticket Options

\$100 Reno Ticket	Includes food and drinks and provides a chance to win up to \$10,000.
\$30 Basic Admission	Includes dinner and drinks for guests who want to enjoy the evening without purchasing a Reno ticket.

Activities Throughout the Evening

Guests can enjoy **50/50 raffles**, **Beat the Dealer**, **Big 6**, casino-style games, and **additional opportunities to win throughout the night**.

Whether you come to play, socialize, enjoy dinner, or simply support your local volunteer firefighters, Reno Night offers something for everyone. Bring your friends and family for a fun evening while helping the Taunton Fire Department continue its mission of serving and protecting the community.

COME BET ON RED, ROLL THE DICE, AND SUPPORT THE TAUNTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

All proceeds benefit the Taunton Fire Department.

Parks & Recreation

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH RECREATION

Our Mission

The Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation Department is committed to enriching the lives of our residents by providing exceptional parks, facilities, programs, and recreational opportunities for all ages. Through innovative programming, well-maintained public spaces, and dedicated leadership, we create welcoming places where people can learn, play, connect, and thrive.

To ensure we continue providing the highest quality services, our staff participate in ongoing professional development, training workshops, and industry organizations, bringing new ideas and best practices back to our community.

Serving Our Community

The Parks & Recreation Department proudly serves more than **23,000 Town of Onondaga residents**. Our team maintains:

- A full-time Senior Center and administrative offices
- Four beautiful parks with nearly **60 developed acres**
- Tennis, pickleball, basketball, and volleyball courts
- Athletic fields and playgrounds
- Pavilions and picnic areas
- Walking paths, green spaces, and park amenities

Our dedicated parks staff, including one full-time employee and seasonal team members from April through October, also maintains Town-owned properties, Highway Department grounds, Town Hall, and public rights-of-way, helping keep our community safe, welcoming, and beautiful throughout the year.

Senior Center Programs

The Town of Onondaga is proud to operate the oldest full-time Senior Center program in Onondaga County.

Our Senior Center offers a welcoming place for older adults to stay active, build friendships, and enjoy a variety of recreational, educational, and wellness programs. Activities are offered throughout the week, along with our popular Lunch & Social Program. Through our partnership with PEACE, Inc., seniors can enjoy a hot, nutritious lunch Monday through Thursday for a suggested donation of \$3.50. More than just a meal, the program provides an opportunity to connect with others, participate in activities, and remain engaged in the community.

Programs for All Ages

From preschoolers to active adults, the Town of Onondaga offers recreational, educational, and fitness opportunities for ages **3 and older**.

Our six-week **Summer Day Camp** continues to be one of our most popular programs. This past summer, more than **200 children** participated across our two camp locations, enjoying games, crafts, field trips, special events, outdoor adventures, and opportunities to build friendships in a fun, safe, and encouraging environment.

Throughout the year, residents can also enjoy a variety of programs. Check out all our fall programs in the following pages. Whether you're discovering a new hobby, learning a new skill, or staying active with family and friends, there's a program for everyone.

Community Highlight

We're excited to introduce **Onondaga County's first Traffic Garden**, now open at **Santaro Park**!

A traffic garden is a miniature, car-free street network designed specifically for children and beginning riders. Complete with scaled-down roads, intersections, crosswalks, traffic signs, and pavement markings, it provides a safe, interactive environment where young cyclists and pedestrians can practice real-world traffic skills.

This exciting addition reflects the Town's commitment to promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety while encouraging active outdoor play. By learning through hands-on experiences, children can develop confidence and lifelong safety habits in a fun and engaging setting.



Charry Lawson, Parks & Recreation Director

Parks & Recreation (continued)

The Traffic Garden was made possible through a partnership between the **Town of Onondaga** and the **Onondaga County Sheriff's Office**, along with the generous support of local businesses that donated their time, expertise, materials, funding, and services to bring this vision to life. We are sincerely grateful to everyone whose contributions made this project possible!

In addition to Parks & Recreation programming, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office will utilize the Traffic Garden to host bicycle safety courses, creating even more opportunities for children and families to learn and practice safe riding habits.

We look forward to welcoming the community to this exciting new feature at Santaro Park and providing children with a fun, memorable experience while helping them build skills they'll use for years to come.

PARKS & RECREATION INFORMATION

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF

Charry Lawson, Director

Jennifer Smiley, Recreation Supervisor

Barbara Michalski, Senior Program Coordinator

Joe Czornij, Park Labor Crew Leader

Patricia Conrad, Recreation Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Address:

4834 Velasko Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

Phone:

315-469-3464

Email:

recreation@townofonondaga.gov

Website:

parks.townofonondaga.gov

PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Non-residents pay \$10.00 more for most programs.
- Register online at parks.townofonondaga.gov
- We have a drop box in the rear of the building/office on East Ave.
- Registration deadline (unless otherwise specified) for all programs is one week before the program begins. A late fee of \$10.00 will be added to the program fee when registering after the deadline.
- Don't wait for deadlines as programs may be canceled if minimum is not reached.
- It is the intention of the Town that no youth be denied the ability to participate in programs because of an inability to pay. Partial scholarships are available for youth programs to eligible families. Call the office for more information.
- Parking and entrances on both Velasko Road and East Avenue.
- If paying by major credit card, a 2.65% (\$3.00 min.) convenience fee is added to each credit card transaction. **This fee is non-refundable**, even if the program is cancelled by the department.
- If paying in person or by mail, please make checks payable to Town of Onondaga. An online account must be created even if you choose not to pay online.

REFUND & CANCELLATION POLICIES

REFUND/CREDIT POLICY

Please take care when selecting classes. A 100% refund (excluding the convenience fee for registration when using a charge card) will be made when a class is canceled by the Recreation Department. Refunds or account credit will be made up to a week before the program begins. Credits will be added to your account in full, but a \$5.00 administration fee will be deducted for refunds. If a refund is under \$25 the refund will automatically be credited to your account. A \$20.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event of cancellation due to weather or any other unavoidable problem, every effort will be made to contact participants. However, sometimes this is impossible. Ensure you are opted-in to receive our texts and email blasts. If you are ever questioning whether a class might be canceled, call the Recreation Office at 315-469-3464 or check our website or Facebook Page.

Be a HERO to Local Children!

Every child deserves the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of recreation programs. To help meet the need of families who might not be able to afford to participate, the Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation Department has established a youth scholarship fund. Become a H.E.R.O. (Help Expand Recreation Opportunities) by contributing to our scholarship fund.

One hundred percent of your contribution to the H.E.R.O. fund will benefit the Town of Onondaga youth. If you are a family in need of assistance in paying for a program, please contact the Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation office.

Next time you visit the Parks & Recreation office or sign up for a class, please consider contributing. Thank you in advance for considering a contribution to the scholarship fund! Call (315) 469-3464 for more information.

YES, I want to be a Town of Onondaga Recreation H.E.R.O.
Enclosed is a donation in the amount of

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

Checks payable to: *Town of Onondaga*

I understand that 100% of my donation will be given to the H.E.R.O. Scholarship Fund.
The following information is optional

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parks Facilities

The Town operates four beautiful parks for residents. Please be aware that dogs are not allowed in our parks, along with smoking of any materials. Reservations for courts, fields, and pavilions require a permit and are available at the Parks office or online at parks.townofonondaga.gov. Permit forms have a list of all fees and rules. Permits must be submitted **AT LEAST** one week in advance, and no refunds will be issued for inclement weather. Groups of 15 or more **MUST** have a permit. Parks are closed November 1 through April 30.

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY: *Full refund fee minus \$10.00 Administration fee if cancelled two weeks in advance. NO refund if cancelled less than two weeks in advance or for inclement weather, security deposit is non-refundable for cancellations.*

Kelley Brothers Memorial Park – 99 Kelley Park Dr., Nedrow, NY 13205

This 15-acre park has a rentable pavilion with an accessible walkway and a large grill. The park also has a restroom, play areas, tennis court, basketball court, and a beach volleyball court. There is a pavilion (not rentable) near the playground to provide shade and picnic seating for all the families that utilize the play area on a regular basis. Syracuse Gaelic Football Club makes this park their home base. The maximum occupancy for permits is 75.

King Memorial Park – 4030 Split Rock Road, Camillus, NY 13031

The athletic fields are heavily used by our adult softball leagues during the week, with WOYSA playing games on Saturdays in the Spring and Fall. This 20-acre park has two softball fields, a beach volleyball court, two tennis/pickleball courts, a basketball court, grills, 2 pavilions, playground equipment, and restrooms. The small pavilion near the playground equipment is to provide shade and picnic seating for all the families that utilize the play area on a regular basis. The bigger pavilion in the front of the park is rentable. The maximum occupancy for permits is 100.

Howlett Hill Park – 5051 Youth Center Road, Camillus, NY 13031

Adult softball games are held on weeknights throughout the spring and summer. This 9-acre park has two softball fields, tennis court, basketball court, a pavilion, grills, playground equipment, and restrooms. The maximum occupancy for permits is 75.

Anthony J. Santaro Memorial Park – 4979 Velasko Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

This 22-acre park is a major site for WOYSA, Wildcats & Outlaws Lacrosse, and Westhill Schools. There are playground pieces for children 2-5 years old, as well as a play piece for older children. The blue shade shelter, adjacent to the play areas, is for the use of all park participants, providing shade and picnic seating. It is not reserved for groups - only the upper pavilion is available by permit. Two large grills are adjacent to the upper pavilion. The park also has pickleball courts, tennis courts, a tennis wall, and a basketball court. Our New Santaro Park Traffic Garden provides a safe, fenced-in area for bicycles, in-line skating, non-motorized scooter and children with big wheel-type rider toys, and tricycles. The maximum occupancy for permits is 150.

PARK SECURITY

Our Town parks are routinely patrolled by our staff and the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department, as well as covered by security cameras. If you have an emergency, it is best to call 911. Vandalism in any park is expensive and senseless. Unfortunately, we have seen a rise in vandalism and a general disregard for the facilities including excessive trash, unsupervised children in restrooms, improper use of park property, etc. Any or all these things leads to additional time and money spent on repairs or even the sudden cancelling of activities including park permits. We need your help to keep the Town of Onondaga Parks beautiful. **You are urged to call 911 to report any suspicious activity or disorderly conduct. Park ordinances are strictly enforced with appearance tickets.**

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

YOGAKIDS- *NOW ON WEDNESDAYS!

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi use room (upstairs)

Fall Session:

Wednesdays, September 9 – October 28 (exclude 10/14)

Winter Session 1:

Wednesdays, November 4 - December 16

Join certified yoga instructor Trista Phillipson for a fun and interactive yoga experience. Each week there will be a new theme with yoga poses, crafts, and games. Miss Trista has a passion for teaching children the art of yoga. Yoga can help kids manage everyday stress through meditation and breathing. Yoga can greatly increase your child's confidence while also developing skills such as body awareness and self-regulation. I can't wait to meet you on the mat! MIN: 12/MAX: 16

*Check out Little Yogis by Trista website: www.littleyogisbytrista.com

AGES: 5 – 12 **TIME:** 5:30 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$95.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$105.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE a week before each program begins

START SMART SOCCER

King Park

Saturdays, September 19 – October 17

Bringing parents and children ages 3 – 5 together to work on a variety of soccer skills. *Parents work directly with their children* to prepare them for organized soccer in a FUN, non-threatening environment. It offers soccer exercises that become increasingly more difficult as the class progresses and children show improvement. All participants should bring a water bottle, sweatshirt on cold days, and shin guards. Fee includes a soccer ball to keep! No cleats allowed. MIN: 12/MAX: 20

AGES: 3 – 5 **TIME:** 8:30 am – 9:30 am

FEE: \$60.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$70.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: September 5

HOT SHOTS YOUTH SOCCER

King Park

Saturdays, September 19 – October 17

This Fall Soccer Program is available for boys and girls ages 5 – 8. This is an instructional program where kids learn the fundamentals of the game. They will play games at the end of each session. Bring a water bottle, sweatshirt on cold days, and shin guards. Fee includes a soccer ball to keep! No cleats allowed. MIN: 12/MAX: 30

AGES: 5 – 8 **TIME:** 9:45 am – 10:45 am

FEE: \$65.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$75.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: September 5

YOUTH DANCE

Onondaga Senior Center – Dance Studio

Tuesday, September 22 – December 8

Looking to see if your children ages 3 - 8 are interested in dance? Well, youth Dance Classes are for you! Child must be 3 by 9/15/26. MIN: 4/MAX: 8 for each class.

BALLET:

AGES: 3-4 **TIME:** 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

AGES: 3-4 **TIME:** 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

AGES: 5-6 **TIME:** 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm

AGES: 7-8 **TIME:** 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$65.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$75.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: September 15

HOW TO DRAW POKÉMON – MAKIN' IT WITH MARY

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi-use room (upstairs)

Thursdays, October 29 – November 19

Calling all Pokémon fans! Join Makin' it with Mary for a fun, hands-on drawing class where you'll learn step-by-step how to draw some of your favorite Pokémon characters. Whether you're just starting out or already love to draw, Ms. Mary will share tips and techniques to help bring your artwork to life. All skill levels are welcome—just bring your imagination and get ready to catch 'em on paper! MIN: 8 /MAX: 16

AGES: 7 – 12 **TIME:** 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$50.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$60.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: October 22

START SMART BASKETBALL

Onondaga Hill Middle School – Gym

Saturdays, October 24 – December 12 (exclude 10/31 & 11/28)

Get ready to learn the FUN-damentals in this program designed to help build motor-skills and coordination! Parents and children work together on passing, dribbling and shooting to help build the foundation for fundamental basketball skills which also helps your child improve their physical coordination, fine motor skills, cognition, and is a great way to spend time with your kids! All the skills you learn at Start Smart can be worked on at home, so the fun never stops! Fee includes a basketball to take home! MIN: 8 /MAX: 20

AGES: 4 & 5 **TIME:** 11:00 – 11:45 am

FEE: \$60.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$70.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: October 17

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

BASKETBALL SKILLZ 'N' DRILLZ

Onondaga Hill Middle School – Gym

Saturdays, October 24 – December 12 (*exclude 10/31 & 11/28*)

Looking for a non-competitive skill-building program for children ages 6 – 12? Our Youth Basketball Program focuses on proper dribbling, passing, shooting, and learning to love basketball. Kids will go through several game-based drills each day to help them improve their basketball aptitude. We encourage taking Skillz 'n' Drillz before you sign up for Youth Basketball Scrimmages. MIN: 8/MAX: 20

GRADES: 1 – 3 **TIME:** 8:30 – 9:30 am

GRADES: 4 – 6 **TIME:** 9:45 – 10:45 am

FEE: \$55.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$65.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: October 17



YOUTH BASKETBALL SCRIMMAGES

Onondaga Hill Middle School – Gym

Saturdays, January 9 – March 6 (*exclude 2/20*)

Join us for 8 weeks of fun pick-up basketball games! Kids who completed Basketball Skillz 'n' Drillz — or with some prior basketball experience — can sign up to apply their skills in game-like scenarios and get ready for organized basketball. All participants receive a T-shirt! (*We recommend taking Skillz 'n' Drillz first.*)

MIN: 8/MAX: 20

GRADES: 1 – 3 **TIME:** 8:30 – 9:30 am

GRADES: 4 – 6 **TIME:** 9:45 – 10:45 am

FEE: \$70.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$80.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: January 2

THERE ARE NO WET SHOES OR BOOTS ALLOWED ON GYM FLOOR. PLEASE BRING A SEPERATE PAIR OF SNEAKERS FOR PLAYERS.

LIGHT UP 3-D HAUNTED HOUSE

Onondaga Senior Center- Multi-use room (upstairs)

Tuesday, October 6

Bring your haunted house to life with a spooky glow! Participants will color and create a spooky paper haunted house, then learn how to use a simple electrical circuit to make it glow. Using LEDs, a battery, and a beginner-friendly circuit kit, they'll create a Halloween decoration they'll be excited to show off at home. It's the perfect mix of creativity and spooky fun! MIN:6/MAX: 12

AGES: 7 – 10 **TIME:** 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$20.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: September 29

HOCUS POCUS: WITCH & WIZARD EXPERIMENTS!

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi-use room (upstairs)

Tuesday, October 27

Back by popular demand, with all-new experiments! Calling all young witches and wizards! Step into our magical laboratory for a Halloween-themed science adventure filled with bubbling brews, fizzing potions, spooky experiments, and enchanting discoveries. Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning for more, there's plenty of new magic to discover!

MIN: 6/MAX:12

AGES: 6 - 10 **TIME:** 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$25.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: October 20

HOLIDAY GIFT-MAKING DAY 1 WORKSHOP FOR KIDS AGES 5 – 7!

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi-use room (upstairs)

Tuesday, November 17

Celebrate the spirit of the season with our Holiday Gift-Making Workshop! Young creators will visit a variety of festive crafting stations to design and make thoughtful handmade gifts. Filled with creativity, holiday cheer, and meaningful keepsakes, this workshop gives children the opportunity to create one-of-a-kind gifts straight from the heart. The best presents aren't always bought; they're made with love! MIN: 8/MAX: 15

AGES: 5 – 7 **TIME:** 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 Town of Onondaga Residents

\$25.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: November 10



(example from last year)

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

HOLIDAY GIFT-MAKING DAY 2 WORKSHOP FOR KIDS AGES 8 – 12!

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi-use room (upstairs)
Tuesday, November 24

Skip the store and create something truly special! In this festive workshop, participants will make a collection of unique handmade gifts at a variety of holiday-themed craft stations. Designed for older kids, each project encourages creativity while making meaningful gifts for family, friends, teachers, and other loved ones. Enjoy holiday snacks, seasonal fun, and leave with handcrafted gifts ready to share this holiday season. MIN: 8/MAX: 15

AGES: 8 – 12 **TIME:** 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$25.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$30.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: November 17

CARDBOARD ARCADE: BUILD & PLAY

Onondaga Senior Center – Dance Room
Tuesday, December 29

Create your own take home arcade games! Kids will build and decorate their very own tabletop pinball and Skee-Ball game using simple materials. After building, they'll test their creations and enjoy some friendly arcade-style competition. A fun-filled workshop where creativity meets play! MIN: 6/MAX: 12

AGES: 6 - 10 **TIME:** 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$25.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: December 22

GOODIES, CAKES, & CANDIES WITH MS. JUDY

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi use room (upstairs)
Wednesday, December 30

Join Ms. Judy for a sweet hour of creative fun! Kids will use candies, cakes, and other tasty goodies to make colorful, imaginative food art. This hands-on class encourages creativity, builds confidence, and lets every child take home a delicious masterpiece to enjoy. MIN: 6/MAX: 12

AGES: 8 - 12 **TIME:** 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$25.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: December 23

ADULT PROGRAMS

PICKLEBALL 101

Santaro Park

Thursdays, September 3 - 24

This is a 4-week program designed to teach the game of pickleball to new players.

Each class will be an hour of instruction followed by an hour of supervised open play. MIN: 8/MAX: 12

AGES: 18 and over **TIME:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$70.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$80.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE AFTER: August 27

PICKLEBALL 102

Santaro Park

Thursdays, September 3 – 24

This is a 4-week program designed to take players from the beginner level to the intermediate level. If you know the rules to pickleball and are looking to improve your pickleball skills, this is the class for you. Each class will be an hour of instruction followed by an hour of supervised open play. MIN: 8/MAX: 12

AGES: 18 and over **TIME:** 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$70.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$80.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: August 27

STRENGTH & STRETCH

Onondaga Senior Center – Dance Studio

Monday & Thursday Evenings (check website for dates).

This class is split into sections of strength for arms, legs, and abs, using light weights. We can modify for a beginner and make it more advanced for those who want that. Bring a mat. MAX: 14

AGES: 18 and over **TIME:** 6:15 – 7:15 PM

FEE: \$60.00 Town of Onondaga Residents (each session)
\$70.00 Non-residents (each session)

ADD \$10.00 FEE a week before each program begins

MEN'S BASKETBALL @ OHMS

Onondaga Hill Middle School – Gym

Thursdays, November 5 – April 8 (Check website for exclusion dates)

If you like exercise and some light competition, our men's pick-up basketball program is just what you're looking for. Pick-up games for men ages 18 and up. **Bring one white and one black shirt each night**

AGES: 18 & up **TIME:** 7:30 – 9:00 pm **MAX:** 20 per night

FEE: \$5.00 drop-in fee each night

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL @ OHMS

Onondaga Hill Middle School – Gym

Mondays, September 21 – June 7 (Check website for exclusion dates)

Join our growing group on Monday nights for some fun and light exercise with fellow female volleyball players!

AGES: 18 and up **TIME:** 7:30 – 9:00 pm

MAX: 20 per night

FEE: \$60.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$70.00 Non-residents

MAKE A SCARECROW DOOR HANGER

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi use room (upstairs)

Wednesday, September 30

Come create a festive fall scarecrow door hanger in this fun and creative class! You'll leave with a handmade decoration perfect for your front door. All materials are provided—just bring your laughter and enjoy the fun! **MIN:** 8/**MAX:** 12

AGES: 18 & over **TIME:** 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$25.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$30.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: September 23

HOLIDAY BOXWOOD TREE WORKSHOP

Onondaga Senior Center – Multi use room (upstairs)

Tuesday, December 1

Why buy one when you can create your own holiday keepsake? Join Trish, our talented Floral Designer, for a cozy and creative evening as you design a beautiful boxwood tree to display in your home or give as a heartfelt handmade gift. We'll have hot cocoa waiting for you. All materials are provided. Just bring your friends, your favorite holiday snack, a pair of gardening gloves, and hand pruning shears. Get ready for an evening filled with creativity, laughter, and holiday cheer!

AGES: 18 & Over **TIME:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$62.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$72.00 Non-residents

ADD \$10.00 FEE after: November 24



(example)



(example)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2026 HALLOWEEN COLORING CONTEST!

Dates: October 1 – October 26

All submissions should be either mailed to or dropped off at the Town of Onondaga Parks & Rec. Office, 4834 Velasko Road.

Each grade, K-5, will have one winner! Winners of the coloring contest will be awarded a Halloween basket full of spooky goodies & art supplies! Submissions will be posted on our Facebook page and in our office for the community to enjoy. Coloring page can be found on our website or picked up at our office.



AUTUMN COLORING CONTEST FOR ADULTS

Dates: November 1 – November 20

All submissions should be either mailed to or dropped off at the Town of Onondaga Parks & Rec. Office, 4834 Velasko Road.

Don't miss out on our 5th Annual Autumn Coloring Contest! Coloring page can be found on our website or picked up at our office.

LETTERS TO SANTA

Dates: November 23 – December 18

Mail to or drop off: Town of Onondaga Parks & Rec. Office, 4834 Velasko Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

Trying to get a letter to the North Pole on time?

Well lucky for you! The official North Pole Mailbox will arrive at the Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation office on November 23rd! Once you've written your letter to Santa, stop by our office and drop it into the bright red mailbox — it's that easy! Be sure to include your return address so Santa can write back!

DEADLINE: All letters must be received by **December 15th** to ensure delivery to the North Pole on time.

CLARENCE THE CAMEL IS BACK!

Clarence the Camel is returning this December to spread holiday cheer throughout the Town of Onondaga! Clarence will visit a different community location each week, highlighting some of the wonderful places and people that make our town special.

Follow along on the Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation Facebook page each week throughout the month to see Clarence's adventures!



SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Barbara Michalski,
Senior Program Coordinator

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“THERE ARE NO STRANGERS HERE – ONLY FRIENDS WE HAVEN’T MET”

Any senior citizen 55 or older is welcome to participate at the Onondaga Senior Center in a wide variety of ongoing scheduled programs and activities throughout the week. We offer day trips, classes, special party/lunch events, as well as health, fun and fitness activities.

Our bi-monthly newsletter, the Senior Gazette, featuring events and activities, is mailed out to all interested seniors. To receive a copy, please call the Senior Center to get on the mailing list. There is no charge to residents of the Town of Onondaga. There is a \$10 annual charge for those seniors not residing in the Town of Onondaga. The Senior Gazette is also available on our website parks.townofonondaga.gov

SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM

- Enjoy a hot lunch provided by P.E.A.C.E., Inc. every Monday thru Thursday at 12 Noon.
- \$3.50 for any senior 60+. \$7 for anyone under 60.
- Call the lunch line at 315-469-3259 for reservations.
- Lunch reservations should be in by 12:00 pm the day **BEFORE** or by Thursday 12:00 pm for the following week.
- Cancelling lunch? Be sure to call the lunch line and include in your message the day and date you are canceling.

CATERED LUNCHEONS ON THURSDAY’S - \$5

September 3 @ 12 Noon (sign up by Tuesday 9/1)

Zita, Meatballs, Salad, Dessert!

Entertainment: **Karaoke** with Bob & Joe!

What’s your favorite song to sing. We’ll be collecting your requests during the week so Joe can add your song to the line-up. Come and join in!

October 1 @ 12 Noon (sign up by Tuesday 9/29)

Chicken Tenders, Mac & Cheese, Salad, Dessert;

Rock Shadows Band entertaining!

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Thursday October 29

Dress in your Halloween costume & attire and enjoy the fun! Arrive by 11 AM for the costume parade and judging at 11:30.

Pictures will be taken before lunch so don’t be late! Everyone dressed in costume has a chance to win a Prize! After lunch enjoy music provided by a friendly DJ! This will be a regular P.E.A.C.E. lunch - \$3.50. Call the lunch line to sign up.



FREE LUNCH FOR VETERANS OF ALL U.S. MILITARY SERVICES

Thursday November 19

Veterans, you are invited to be our guest for a FREE P.E.A.C.E. lunch in honor of your military service (all non-veterans over 60 \$3.50). Your lunch is paid for by the Friends of the Onondaga Seniors. Call the lunch line for your reservation. After lunch view a veterans memorabilia display and enjoy more entertainment.

SENIOR ASSISTANCE COUNSELING

Our Neighborhood Advisor assists with completion of medical applications and other forms and will provide guidance to services for: Healthcare, Transportation, Legal Advice, Housing, Nutrition, Socialization and Caregiver Information, along with providing info about programs such as SNAP, SS Income, EPIC, HEAP. Call the Senior Center for an appointment to meet, or for immediate assistance, contact the Salvation Army Office directly, 315-479-1125 or (c)315-907-2715.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MID-NY

Provides legal services to residents of Onondaga County age 60+. Services cover the following civil areas: Consumer/Debtor Relief, Living Wills, Power of Attorney Preparation, and Revocation, Simple Will & Testament, Veterans Benefits, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Social Security, Health Care Proxies, Medicare, Public Assistance and Utility issues.

2026 Appointment Date: October 14

SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

AAA DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Anyone 50+ is eligible to take this one-day course.

Classes for 2026

October 9, November 13

PAYMENT:

Make your check payable to AAA for \$39 due when registering for class. Your check will be given to the AAA instructor on the day of class.

BRING TO CLASS:

Your current driver's license, pen/pencil.

CLASS BEGINS @ 9 AM until 3:30 PM. Senior Center Doors Do Not Open Until 8:30 AM. Lunch: 12-12:30 PM. Bring a bagged lunch, nothing that requires a microwave or refrigeration. Coffee and Tea are provided.

TECH HELP FROM THE OFL

Thursday October 15 from 11AM-12 Noon

Would you like to learn how to take a picture or send a message? Drop in and meet with Chantel from the Onondaga Free Library to answer your questions.

SENIOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES!

Book Club Mondays at 12:30 PM.

Current Reads: The Paris Library: a novel by Janet Skeslien Charles; The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi.

DOMINOES Mondays; play begins at 1 PM.

KNIT & CROCHET Our very talented instructor can teach you and help you with your projects. Call the Senior Center for an appointment to meet.

LIBRARY Located in the front entrance of the Senior Center, our library is brimming with books. Come and check it out. You can donate your paperback books to our collection. Folks enjoy browsing and picking up a good 'read.'

MAH JONGG Monday 1-3 PM. Advanced Beginners. Wednesdays 1-3 PM. Experienced players.

QUILTING GROUP "BUSY HANDS" Mondays 10AM-12 Noon. Our seniors create many quilts during the year for charitable donations.

POOL (Billiards) Our regulation size pool table is located on the lower level of the Senior Center waiting to be played on!

WALKING PROGRAM Walk at St. Michael's Parish Center year round from 10-11 AM Tuesdays and Thursdays. Walking is also available around the Brookdale Summerfield Residences (across from Santaro Park) from 9-11 AM thru September.

Please complete a Medical & Emergency Information Form providing the following information: Name: Address: Phone No.: Emergency Contact: Doctor Name & Phone No. Form can be picked up and dropped off at the Senior Center.

Wii BOWLING Wednesday mornings at 10:30 AM each week.

MAKE A SCARECROW DOOR HANGER

Wednesday September 30, 1-2:15 PM

Come create a festive fall scarecrow door hanger in this fun and creative class! You'll leave with a handmade decoration perfect for your front door. All materials are provided—just bring your laughter and enjoy the fun!

FEE: \$25.00 Town of Onondaga Residents
\$30.00 Non-residents

MIN: 8/**MAX:** 12

After September 23 add \$10



(example)

LEARN TO DANCE with Sue Shockey

Mondays October 5 – December 28

No Class October 12

Come and join our Dance Class for an hour of fun and relaxation. You will learn how to ChaCha and other dances you request.

This is a FREE class. Sign up required.

EXERCISE WITH LIGHT WEIGHTS

FREE...Tuesdays @10:15 AM and Fridays @10 AM CONTINUOUS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Work out to a video with a fun class. Use hand weights provided, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 8 lb.

MAH JONG LESSONS

Thursdays 10 AM – 12 Noon

October 8, 15, 22 & November 5 No Class October 29

Mah Jong involves skill, strategy, and calculation as well as a certain degree of chance. It's a fun game where your aim is to match your tiles with one of the 'hands' on the Mah Jong League Cards.

FEE: \$8

CARDS ANYONE??

Wednesday's 1 PM

One of the requests from our survey was to have a card day. Let's play pitch or try a new game you suggest...

PASS THE ACE

Every Tuesday @ 12:45 PM (after lunch)

Bring \$.75 (three quarters) for each game.

BINGO

Thursdays @ 1 PM

(Please arrive by 12:45 PM)

September 10 & 24; October 15

Check our calendar for the dates scheduled each month. \$1 for first card; \$.50 for each additional card.

SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

CLASSES AT THE CENTER

Check our website/MyRec or with the front office for up to date times and dates of all classes. (dates are subject to change)

Reminder: A \$10 fee is added 1 week before the program begins.

CHI KUNG & TAI CHI

Instructor: David Dolbear

Mondays - 12 Week Sessions:

RESIDENT FEE: \$72 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$82 (each session)

****CHI KUNG 1 - 2 PM**

A Chinese Exercise meaning Therapeutic Breathing Exercise for Health, involving simpler movements, and breathing to reduce stress and promote pliability, and improved pulmonary and cardiovascular function. Chi Kung can be done sitting or standing. This is a beginner class for anyone who wishes to continue on to Tai Chi.

****TAI CHI (Intermediate) 2 - 3 PM**

Characterized by soft, slow, and continuous movement. Physically it promotes pliability, improved cardiovascular increased strength, especially in the legs. Psychologically, it promotes concentration, relaxation, self-confidence, and overall improvement in the function of the central nervous system.

ART INSTRUCTION

Instructor: Thomas Hussey

Tuesdays - 12 week Sessions:

****BEGINNER ART 12:30 – 2:30 PM**

Max 12 participants

RESIDENT FEE: \$84 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$94 (each session)

****ADVANCED ART - 9 AM - 12 Noon**

RESIDENT FEE: \$72 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$82 (each session)

STRENGTH & STRETCH

Instructor: Marie Thornton

Thursdays 9:15 AM

This energetic class is split into sections of strength for arms, legs, and abs and is similar to the evening classes using light weights. Bring a mat and/or wear your sneakers. Beginners welcome.

RESIDENT FEE: \$48

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$58

ZUMBA GOLD

Instructor: Marie Thornton

Tuesdays 9-10 AM

Wednesdays 9:15 - 10:15 AM

Perfect for active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class

RESIDENT FEE: \$48 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$58 (each session)

SENIOR TAP

Instructor: Denise Gehm

Wednesdays 11 – 12 Noon

RESIDENT FEE: \$48 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$58 (each session)

YOGA/CHAIR YOGA

Instructor: Cynthia Smith

Thursdays 10:30 AM

Gentle yoga/chair yoga suitable for all. Bring your mat or wear your sneakers. The benefits are many.

RESIDENT FEE: \$48 (each session)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$58 (each session)

Donations We Collect: Byrne Dairy Receipts – Aluminum Pull Tabs – Yarn. Thank you for your Donations!

Looking to borrow a wheelchair or walker? We have a few items. The equipment supply changes based on what's loaned out. We just might have what you need.

GENERAL TOWN INFORMATION

Public Safety

IN AN EMERGENCY or ANY TIME you need Police, Fire or EMS services dispatched for any reason, always call 911.

- Onondaga County Sheriff Office: South Station
Located at Onondaga Town Hall, 5020 Ball Rd.,
Syracuse 13215
315.435-3044
- iCAD Events – Onondaga County E911: Go to 911events.
ongov.net to find out about emergency events
happening in the Town. Look for TON.

Fire Protection Services

In an emergency, always call 911.

Howlett Hill Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: John Harris, Jr., President: Frank Valls
howletthillfiredepartment.org
Facebook: @howletthillfire

Navarino Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Chris Barry, President: Donald Krick
Facebook: @Navarino-Fire-Department

Nedrow Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Christopher Moses, President: Rick Nemier
nedrowfire.com / Facebook: @nedrowfire

Onondaga Hill Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Dante Garafalo, President: Jeremy Warren
ohfd.net / Facebook: @onondagahillfire

South Onondaga Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Erik Nelson, President: Tim Nelson
Facebook: @southonondagafire

Southwood Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Robert Naugle, President: Tom Bouvia
Facebook: @southwoodvolunteerfiredept

Taunton Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Michael Phelan, President: Edward Phelan, Jr.
tauntonfd.org

School Districts

Jamesville-Dewitt Central School District

Darcy Woodcock, Superintendent
P.O. Box 606, DeWitt, NY 13214
315.445.8300
jamesvilledewitt.org

LaFayette School District

Jeremy Belfield, Superintendent
5955 Route 20 West, LaFayette, NY 13084
315.677.9278
lafayetteschools.org

Marcellus School District

Michelle Brantner, Superintendent
2 Reed Parkway, Marcellus, NY 13108
Phone: 315.673.6000
marcellusschools.org

Onondaga Central School District

Rob Price, Superintendent
4466 S. Onondaga Rd., Nedrow, NY 13120
315.552.5000
onondagacsd.org

Tully School District

Andy Buchsman, Superintendent
20 State St., Tully, NY 13159
315.696.6200
Tullyschools.org

West Genesee School District

David Bills, Superintendent
300 Sanderson Dr., Camillus, NY 13031
315.487.4562
westgenesee.org

Westhill School District

Stephen Dunham, Superintendent
400 Walberta Rd., Syracuse, NY 13219
315.426.3000
westhillschools.org

*A lifelong resident of the Town of Onondaga
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Office: 315.487.0040
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