

Our Town

A Newspaper for Residents of the Town of Onondaga



Fall / Winter 2019-20

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Town of Onondaga Information



Onondaga Town Hall

5020 Ball Road, Syracuse NY 13215

Onondaga Town Board

Thomas P. Andino, Jr., Supervisor	(315) 468-4846
Suzanne Belle, Councilwoman	(315) 476-4168
Mary Ryan, Councilwoman	(315) 469-3637
Donald Hamilton, Councilman	(315) 469-5088

County Legislators

John D. McBride (11th District)	(315) 345-1403
Miles Bottrill (15th District)	(315) 423-3513

Committees

Recreation & Seniors Committee:

- Councilor Hamilton and Belle

Insurance Committee:

- Councilor Ryan

Highway Committee

- Councilor Hamilton

Personnel Committee

- Councilors Belle, Hamilton and Supervisor Andino

Fire & Safety Committee

- Councilor Ryan

Solid Waste Committee

- Councilors Ryan, Belle and Hamilton

Library Committee

- Councilor Ryan

Development & Code Review Committee

- Councilor Ryan

Town of Onondaga Phone Numbers

Supervisor's Office	(315) 469-3888	Highway Department	(315) 469-1664
Town Clerk's Office	(315) 469-1583	Justice Department	(315) 469-1674
Tax Receiver's Office	(315) 469-0483	Historical Society	(315) 214-2383
Assessor's Office	(315) 469-3216	Parks & Recreation and Senior Center	(315) 469-3464
Codes Office	(315) 469-3144	• 4834 Velasko Rd. Syracuse, NY 13215	

Dear Fellow Residents,

In September and October 2018, the Town, with the assistance of David Hess of National Grid and Amanda Mazzoni of the CNY Regional Planning & Development Board performed a cost benefit analysis for converting all of the Town's cobra head sodium lights to more energy efficient LED lights. This study was free to the Town as it was funded by the NYSEERDA Clean Energy Communities Program. The report concluded that the total cost to convert all 848 high pressure sodium roadway lights to LED would be \$91,411. However, National Grid was willing to provide a rebate incentive to the Town in the amount of \$46,455 if the Town authorized the conversion. Thus, the net cost to the Town would be \$44,956. In November 2018, the Town Board authorized National Grid to convert all 848 high pressure sodium roadway lights within the Town of Onondaga to LED lights. The conversion was completed in April 2019. In the first three months the Town has saved an average of \$1,100 per month on our street lighting bills. The taxpayers will save \$13,000 per year and we will recover 100 percent of the conversion cost in about 3½ years. National Grid is currently evaluating a program to convert subdivision streetlights to LED lights and we will investigate that opportunity to save taxpayer dollars in the near future.

I have begun the preparation of our Town's 2020 Budget. I have always taken seriously the preparation of the Town Budget as I recognize that it is your hard-earned tax dollars that fund our Town's services. As I meet with Department Heads and review each department's budget, my goal will be to balance cost increases and maintain the best services possible to the residents while minimizing your tax burden. We will continue to seek Grant monies, Community Development funding and any other sources of revenue or tax saving programs that might assist us in reducing our local taxes. For example, earlier this year Town of Onondaga submitted an application to the Onondaga County Legislature for \$40,000 for infrastructure improvements for a drainage project on Fox Road. Through the efforts of our County Legislator John McBride, the Town's application has been approved and we will be receiving the \$40,000 to enable us to complete this drainage project.

Over the past decades our Town's sound financial practices and fiscal constraint has enabled us to maintain a debt free Town General and Highway Fund since 1996. The Town built a new Town Hall in 2004 and a new Town Highway Building in 2017. Both were paid for in full without any debt or bonds incurred. In addition, our Town's excellent credit/bond rating of Aa2, the best in the Town's history, provides us the opportunity to secure bonds for Special Districts at very favorable interest rates. Over the past seven years we have maintained a very stable tax rate in our General and Highway Funds. In 2012, the Town General Fund tax rate was \$.64 per thousand and our Town Highway Fund \$1.92 per thousand. In 2019, the General Fund tax rate was \$.66 per thousand and our Highway tax rate \$1.89 per thousand. Thus, the total tax rate in 2012 was \$2.56 and currently in 2019, it is \$2.55 per thousand.

Fall Trash Pickup will begin the day after Labor Day and continue until the end of October. Detailed information and a schedule for the 2019 Fall Trash Pickup will be mailed to residents and a copy of the schedule is also available on our Town website.

As summer vacation draws to a close and our schools open please drive carefully. Watch for our children and always STOP for school buses. Please keep our children safe!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call my office at (315) 469-3888.



Sincerely,
Thomas P. Andino, Jr.

Another summer has flown by. I hope yours was full of great times shared with friends and family. As we head into the fall and winter seasons, there are a few things coming up that you might be interested in...

Conservation Licenses

By now, many of you will have already received your hunting licenses and Deer Management Permits (DMP) for this year's season. As in the past, the sale of DMPs ends at the close of business on Tuesday, October 1st. It is helpful if you review the Deer Management Unit Map to determine where you will want your permit issued, prior to getting your license. If you are requesting Land Owner Preference, please be prepared with a recent **tax bill** in order to obtain the acreage and tax map number information required by the State. This information needs to be seen **every year** in order to comply with state regulations. Just a reminder, Duck Stamps are available for \$26 at my office.

Board of Elections

For the first time in New York State, voters can vote in-person before Election Day at one or more voting sites in their county. The voting period will be from Saturday, October 26, 2019 through Sunday, November 3, 2019. The hours vary depending on the day, so be sure to check with the Board of Elections before heading to the polls. Onondaga County Voters can vote at any of the six (6) Early Voting sites for 2019 regardless of where they reside. Those sites are as follows: Clay Town Hall Courtroom, Dewitt Town Hall Courtroom, Lafayette Fire Station #1, Magnarelli Community Center at McChesney Park, Southwest Community Center, and the Van Buren Town Hall. For more information about Early Voting, please contact the Onondaga County Board of Elections at 315-435-8683 or visit www.onvote.net.

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. The polls will be open from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. As usual, the polls on General Election Day are dependent upon where you live. If you have any questions about where your polling place is, please contact the Board of Elections at 315-435-3312.

Voter Registration Forms are available in the Town Clerk's Office or through the Board of Elections. Applications must be postmarked no later than **October 11th** to be eligible to vote in the General Election.

If you would like to apply for an Absentee Ballot, applications must be postmarked no later than **October 29th** for the General Election. The applications for an Absentee Ballot are also available at the Town Clerk's Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk's Office or the Board of Elections.

Passports

The Onondaga Town Clerk's Office continues to be a great place to submit your passport application. Current processing time has been increased to six to eight weeks. If you are traveling out of the country in the upcoming months, please try to plan ahead. The expedite option is still available for an additional \$60 with a return time of two to three weeks. For more information on the requirements for a passport book or a passport card or for an application, you may visit www.travel.state.gov or call the Town Clerk's Office at 315-469-1583.

As a reminder, here are some of the services offered to you by the Town Clerk's Office!

*Dog Licenses • Conservation Licenses • Marriage Licenses
Notary Services • Passport Application Acceptance
Passport Photos • Handicapped Parking Permits • Veterans
Favor Cards • Records Management
Records Access / FOIL Requests
Plus a Whole Lot More!*

As always, if there's anything we can assist you with, Cheryl and I are here to help. Feel free to call us Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 315-469-1583 or visit our website at www.townofonondaga.com.



***Your Town Clerk,
Lisa Goodwin***

From the Receiver of Taxes...

Dear Taxpayers,

I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer. It's hard to believe it is nearly over and many of you are busy preparing for the new school year and the many activities involved. I will be busy preparing the School tax bills for mailing. The bills will be mailed around Labor Day in September. If you have recently moved into the Town of Onondaga or are no longer escrowed by your bank, please notify my office with this information. It can take up to two months or longer for my office to be notified of a new owner or change in your escrow status. If you do not receive a bill by the middle of September and you are responsible for payment of the School bill, please contact my office immediately and I will send you a duplicate bill. If you would like to take advantage of the partial payment option on this bill, please remember that you must make the first partial payment within the penalty free period (the first 30 days). The remaining balance will have an interest fee added of 2% until the end of October. No delinquent taxes can be owed on the property. If you have any questions or concerns, please call my office at 315-469-0483. I am here Monday thru Friday from 8:30AM to 4:30PM. I look forward to seeing many of you this fall.

Sincerely,
Michele Kresser
Receiver of Taxes

From the Highway Superintendent...

Dear Fellow Residents,

Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. We have been busy at the Highway Department with many paving, patching and drainage projects throughout the Town. Along with these projects we have been continuing to pick up brush and yard waste throughout the summer, and will continue to do so into the fall as long as weather permits.

Our Annual Town Fall Cleanup is scheduled to begin the week of September 2nd, you should have received your flyer in the mail, if not a copy is provided on the following page. I would like to remind everyone that once we have cleaned up your district, we will not pick up brush and yard waste again until all 7 Fire Districts are completed.

Thank you for your continued cooperation, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at the highway garage at 315 469-1664 or LCrowley@townofonondaga.com



Very truly yours,
John Wheatley
Highway Superintendent

It's time to discard your unwanted items (junk) from your yard, shed, garage, basement, etc...

Our crew and trucks cover over 200 miles of road during the 7-week Town Cleanup. Please have your junk, brush and yard waste at the roadside by 7am on Monday of your scheduled week to ensure you are not missed. We will only pick up once on your street during that week.

Examples of acceptable items: Sofa, chairs, mattress, washer, dryer, toys, scrap wood, plumbing fixtures, lawn furniture, grill, carpeting, dry empty paint cans without lid.

Brush: MUST be piled separately from Junk and will be picked up with your scheduled Fall Cleanup. Branches must be 6 inches in diameter or less and no more than 8 feet in length. Please stack neatly away from fences and power poles.

Leaves & Yard Waste: MUST be in paper leaf bags or cardboard boxes. No plastic bags will be picked up as they are not biodegradable and cannot be composted. No stones, dirt or trash of any kind in bags please.

PLEASE NOTE, WE WILL NOT RETURN FOR BRUSH AND YARD WASTE AGAIN UNTIL AFTER ALL 7 FIRE DISTRICTS ARE COMPLETED. THIS MEANS NOT UNTIL AFTER OCTOBER 21, 2019.

ITEMS WE CANNOT PICKUP

- Recyclables of any kind, plastic & glass bottles, papers, newspapers, magazines and cardboard. (These all belong in your Blue Bin.)
- Tires & Batteries
- Barrels of any kind
- Gas & Propane tanks
- Tree stumps & Rocks
- Freezers, Refrigerators, Dehumidifiers
- Toxic containers, Medical supplies or waste
- Lawn Chemicals
- Asbestos, Shingles, Pipe wrap
- Concrete and any other Building Materials of any kind from your home.
- Paint cans with contents & lid on.
- No TV's, Computers, Microwaves, Air Conditioners, or Electronics of any kind.
- Please no household garbage

For help disposing of the above items contact
OCRRA: (315) 453-2866 or www.ocrra.org

Blue Bins are available at the Town Hwy Dept. to be picked up, Mon-Fri 7am to 3:30pm.

If you have questions about any information on this flyer please call or email the Hwy. Dept. for assistance.



SCHEDULE

Fire Districts: Week of:

Nedrow Fire District..... Sept. 2nd
West of S. Salina St.

Nedrow Fire District..... Sept. 9th
East of S. Salina St. Including Southwood, Crownpoint & Sentinel Hgts.

Onondaga Hill Fire District..... Sept. 16th
South of W. Seneca Tpk. Cut off is Cole Rd, but does not include Cole Rd.

Onondaga Hill Fire District..... Sept. 23rd North of
W. Seneca Tpk. Including: Limehill, Breckenridge and Autumn Ridge

Taunton 1 & 2 Fire District..... Sept. 30th
Including: Harris Hill, Buxton Woods & Sherwood Farms

S. Onondaga Fire District..... Oct. 7th
& Navarino

Howlett Hill Fire District..... Oct. 14th
Cedarvale Rd. to Townline Rd.

Fire District information can be found on your property tax bill or call Hwy. Dept. for help.

Every April we anticipate the smell of freshly cut grass, hot dogs and soft drinks, and the home plate umpire yelling “play ball!” Here in Syracuse we have been fortunate to look forward to professional baseball for roughly 80 years. It is with great pleasure to announce that we will continue the tradition of Triple-A baseball in Syracuse for many more years to come. We recently came to an agreement with the New York Mets, owners of the Syracuse Mets, which will keep the Syracuse Mets playing in Syracuse through 2042.

In our new agreement with the Mets, the County will retain all revenue from advertising and rent will be \$200,000 per year for the next seven years, increasing incrementally to \$300,000 by 2042. New improvements to the stadium will also be taking place. These include restroom renovations, new and renovated concessions, relighting the stadium, new branding and coloration to match the Mets, and some major improvements in order to comply with ADA standards. The improvements will encourage fans to visit all parts of the ballpark with a fully encircled concourse, party decks, and bullpens in the outfield to watch them practice. As a member of the County Facilities Committee, it was a privilege to vote in favor of this project.

As Chairman of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, we were able to assist several projects by providing funding for infrastructure improvements. The Town of Camillus just received \$150,000 for the Sawyer Street Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project. This project proposes to remove significant sources of ground water infiltration from the existing sanitary sewer system serving Sawyer Street. The project will rehabilitate approximately 425 feet of vitrified clay sanitary sewer along Sawyer Street between Milton Avenue and Myron Road.

The Village of Camillus will receive \$50,000 for the Timber Ridge Road Reconstruction project. This project proposes to repair 100 square yards of asphalt, mill 3,924 square yards of pavement and install new asphalt top course on Timber Ridge Drive and Glade Ridge Court. Lastly, the Town of Onondaga submitted a drainage project proposal to the County Legislature requesting \$40,000 from our 2019 Town Infrastructure Improvement program. It is my pleasure to announce we have accepted the application and will be awarding the Town the \$40,000 they need to complete this important drainage project along Fox Road.

As your County Legislator, I work hard to ensure our local governing partners receive necessary funding for local projects. The Republican Caucus and the County Legislature have prioritized assisting our towns and villages with projects that benefit all of us. We are accomplishing quite a bit with our local town and village partners. As always if there are any questions you may have, or would like to speak to me about issues of concern, please feel free to reach out to me by email at lmcbri1@twcnr.com or by phone at 315-345-1403.



John D. McBride
Onondaga County Legislature
County Legislator – 11th District
5796 Stonegate Heights, #6
Jamesville, New York 13078
Cell (315) 345-1403
Legislature (315) 435-2070
E-Mail lmcbri1@twcnr.com



John McBride represents the 11th district in the Onondaga County Legislature which includes the Town of Onondaga and portions of the Town of Camillus. John welcomes constituent feedback; he can be reached by email at, lmcbri1@twcnr.com or on his cell at 315-345-1403.



4840 West Seneca Turnpike

Phone: (315) 492-1727 / **Email:** info@oflibrary.org

Web: www.oflibrary.org

OFL's Board of Trustees meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6pm in the library's community room. Public is welcome to attend.

Hours:

- **Monday – Thursday:** 9am-8:30pm,
- **Friday & Saturday:** 10am-5pm
- **Sunday:** 1-5pm.

Summer weekend hours (7/1 – 9/2)

- **Saturdays:** 10am-2pm
- **Sundays:** Closed

Fall/Winter Holiday Closings:

- **Labor Day Weekend** – Aug. 31 - Sept. 2
- **Staff Development Day** – Oct. 12
- **Veteran's Day** – Nov. 11
- **Thanksgiving** – 5pm Nov. 27, closed Nov. 28 & 29
- **Christmas** – Dec. 24 & 25
- **New Year's** – 5pm Dec. 31, closed Jan. 1
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** – Jan. 20
- **President's Day** – Feb. 17.

Events @ Your Library

-LIBRARY CARD SIGNUP MONTH- September is Library Card Sign-up Month! Visit your local library and sign up for your FREE library card. A library card unlocks a world of adventure—giving everyone access to books, e-books and other digital content, computers, homework help, music, movies and more. Your library card is sure to become the “smartest” card in your wallet!

-FOOD FOR FINES WEEK- This November, participate in Food for Fines Week at OFL! During the week of November 18-24, bring in non-perishable, undamaged, unexpired food items. For each food item you bring in, we will reduce your fines by a maximum of \$10. All food items will be donated to the Food Bank of CNY.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

FALL FUN Also enjoy these fun seasonal drop-in activities: Grandparents Day Craft – Sept. 3-8 and Pirate Treasure Hunt – Sept. 16-21. Get ready for Halloween right here at OFL! On Saturday, Oct. 5, join us for two great programs- Halloween Costume Swap and Scary Campfire Stories. For the costume swap, we ask that you bring your gently used costumes to the library Monday, Sept. 30 through Thursday, Oct. 3, 9am-8:30pm. Then, on Saturday, Oct. 5, anytime between noon and 3pm, stop by to get a new costume! Costumes for babies all the way through adults will be accepted- Even pet costumes are welcome! Kids, ages 8-12 are also invited to join Mrs. Maggie for some scary campfire stories at 2pm. Registration requested.

Families are invited to join us for our S.T.E.A.M. Discover Hours this fall Thursdays, Oct. 24 & Nov. 21 at 4pm and Saturday, Nov. 16 at 2pm. Come make and play during our self-lead petting zoo that is full of fun activities that focus on science, technology, engineering, art and math. No registration necessary.

Kindergartners are invited to join in our 2nd ever KinderCode here at OFL! Your kids will learn how to sequence and code over 3 days of games that build off of the previous day. On the final day, families can come see what their kids have learned. This camp will take place Oct. 8-11, 4-5pm. Limited space, so registration is required. Registering for Oct. 8, registers your child for all 4 days.

Many of our monthly favorites also return this fall: Pokémon – 1 Wednesday a month at 6:30pm (Sept. 12, Oct. date TBA & Nov. 14); Young Artists – 1 Saturday a month at 2pm (Sept. 8, Oct. 6 & Nov. 10) and Family Matinees – 1 Saturday a month at 2pm (Dates and titles TBA).

- PROGRAMS FOR BABIES, TODDLERS & PRESCHOOLERS- Regular fall storytimes will return September 3 and are as follows: Baby Storytime, a playful storytime for ages 2 and under, is Tuesdays at 11am. Family Storytimes, for ages 2 and up, will be Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11:15am. Kids will enjoy hearing stories and making a craft. Wiggleworms will also return as a weekly program- Wednesdays at 10:15am. Kids, ages 1-5, will have fun dancing and playing with shaker instruments. Extra sessions of Wiggleworms will be held on Fridays, Oct. 4, 11, 25, Nov. 1, 8 & 22 at 10:30am. Donna B. returns for music and stories once a month this fall as well – Fridays, Sept. 13, Oct. 18 & Nov. 15 at 10:30am.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

-Living with Lyme Disease- More people are now aware of the possibility of contracting tick-borne diseases, but not everyone knows how debilitating these diseases can be. Local author Martha Conan will be visiting OFL Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6:30pm to discuss her own diagnosis, medical treatments and life changes she's had to make. Conan documents her medical journey in her book, *They Didn't Know: My Personal Journey with Lyme Disease*. Books will be available for purchase at this event. In her presentation, Conan will also provide literature, answer questions and even refer doctors. Registration requested.

-Blood Drive- The American Red Cross needs your help! Currently, blood donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. According to ARC, every two seconds, someone needs blood and every 30 seconds, someone needs platelets in the U.S. Please join us for our blood drive here at OFL Wednesday, Oct. 16, 3-7pm. Drop-ins are welcome or you can register at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html>- type in the zip code 13215, scroll down to the the OFL listing and sign up for one of the time slots listed. For questions, please contact the Red Cross's CNY Chapter at 315-234-2200 or visit www.redcross.org.

-Join NaNoWriMo!- Ready to write a novel? National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. On November 1st, participants begin working towards the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by November 30. OFL will be hosting a kick-off party Friday, Nov. 1 at 5pm. Come learn more about this national program and meet other local writers participating in this contest. Registration requested. We will also be hosting weekly meetups Thursdays, Nov. 7, 14 & 21, 5-8pm (more dates TBA)- check in with your peers, overcome your writer's block or just come to find a cozy spot to sit and write. We want to help you finish that novel!

Look for more great adult programs... Do you love TED Talks? Would you like to be better informed on a broad range of issues? Join us every Friday this fall to listen to a select episode of the TED Talk Daily podcast with an engaging discussion to follow. Visit our online calendar for list of topics. Registration requested each week. The Alzheimer's Association will be visiting OFL Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 6:30pm to discuss Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body. For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. Planning a trip to Disney? Join us for a Disney Travel Planning Workshop Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 6:30pm hosted by travel advisor and Disney enthusiast Lisa Andino. Registration requested. We will be continuing monthly jewelry classes, learning circles, trivia nights and movie matinees this fall- Check calendar for dates. Get one-on-one help when you book a computer/tablet basics techtorial- Call the library or visit www.oflibrary.org to make an appointment.

Programs for Teens

VOLUNTEER We had a great group of teen volunteers helping out this summer. We will continue offering volunteer opportunities this fall for students in grades 7 and up. Stop by the library or visit our website to learn more about OFL's Junior Library Volunteers.

-NEW MAKER CLUB @ YMCA- Calling all makers - Join our new after-school club at the Southwest YMCA this fall. Work with robots, create video games, build with LEGOs and more! Free and open to the community- You do not need to be a member of the YMCA to attend. Dates and times TBA- Check with the library in September for final schedule. For middle schoolers in grades 5 and up. Registration opens in September.

-ATTENTION HOMESCHOOLING PARENTS- Onondaga Free and Liverpool Public Libraries are hosting a meeting for parents to discuss future home school services and programs at the library. Librarians from both libraries will be available to answer questions about our current offerings and share new programming ideas. If you have ideas about the services our libraries can provide for your family, please consider attending this open meeting Thursday, Oct. 3 at 1pm.

-GIRLS WHO CODE- Have you heard the exiting news? We are hosting another Girls Who Code club at OFL this fall! Girls can take part in our 10-week program and learn computer science skills. The club will meet Thursdays at 6-8pm, September through November (no meetings Oct. 31 or Nov. 28). Want to know more? Students and parents are invited to Girls Who Code Information sessions: Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7pm and Friday, Nov. 30 at 3:30pm. For girls, ages 10 & up. Registration required for each info session. To learn more about the Girls Who Code movement, visit www.girlswhocode.com.

-BABYSITTER'S TRAINING- Sign your teen up to become a certified babysitter this fall/winter right here at OFL! We will be offering the Red Cross Babysitter's Training course October 14 and February 21. Learn how to feed and change a baby, what to do in an emergency, how to set up your own babysitting business and more. Cost: \$55 For ages 11-15. Registration required. Our Babysitter's training classes have been very popular, so we encourage those who are interested to register early.

Friends of Onondaga Free Library

The staff and Board of Trustees thank the Friends for a very successful spring quarter and for sponsoring the Adult Summer Reading program. We look forward to their upcoming events:

- **Used Book Sale:** Sept. 26-29. Drop off gently used donations Sept. 16-25 (no magazines, VHS Tapes or encyclopedias). Stop by the library to sign up to volunteer to help with the sale- setup, sale days and cleanup.
- **Friends of Libraries Week:** Stop by during National Friends of Libraries Week (Oct. 20-26) and tell the Friends your wish! Submit a wish in the Friends Corner- a book you would like added to our collection, an idea for a program, a new service, etc. and the Friends will try to make it come true!
- **Annual Membership Drive:** The 2020 Friends of Onondaga Library membership drive will begin October 1st. Membership runs January 1 - December 31, 2020. Please consider making a donation to help the Friends enhance materials, services and programming at our wonderful library. Pick up a brochure containing the membership application in the Friends corner at the library or download it at <https://oflibrary.org/support/friends-of-ofl/>.
- **13th Annual Festival of Trees:** Seeking decorators in October and November- Send email to oflfriends@gmail.com if you would like to decorate a tree! Trees will be available for pickup at the library on Thursday, November 1st. Display and raffles will run from the last week of November through Saturday, December 14th.
- **Crafts, Coffee & Conversation:** The Friends continue to host this weekly social and craft hour Thursdays at 9:30am. Join them as everyone works on their own craft/hobby project, enjoy casual conversation and yes, there will be coffee!

Join the Friends for their monthly meetings (Wednesdays, Sept. 4, Oct. 2 and Nov. 6 at 6:30pm)- We're always looking for new volunteers and fundraising ideas.

The Friends of OFL now have a Facebook page! Like and follow their page to stay up-to-date on upcoming fundraisers and events they are sponsoring at the library.

As the summer season winds to a close here in our Parks & Recreation Department, we begin to reflect on all the wonderful programs we offered to our residents over its twelve-week period. It is a very short time frame, but we sure do pack it full of activities!

We kept over 350 school age youth active with our 6-week playground in addition to 26 preschoolers in Kinderkids. Youth enjoyed games, crafts, sports, special events, field trips, free play and the list goes on. Other children's programs included several soccer camps, nature explorers, start smart baseball, summer dance and youth football. We also had Lego, tennis and yogakids camps.

This summer we added a few adult classes including pickleball on our new courts at King Park, adult knitting, and a beginner's yoga class which will continue this fall.

Here at the Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation Department we believe in the importance of getting outdoors to play/exercise whether you are 3 or 95. Research has shown that children today engage in half as many outdoor activities as their parents did. Outdoor play provides both physical and mental health benefits that can't be replicated by exclusive interaction with electronics and screen time indoors.

Here are some of the proven advantages of outdoor play reprinted from an article in the NRPA 2019 Playground Guide:

1. Physical Fitness Benefits

Outdoor play offers children many physical fitness benefits that are vital to their health and development and can help them stay healthy throughout their lives. Children who play outdoors regularly are much more likely to maintain a healthy weight and continue their physical activity level into adulthood, making it essential to establish their healthy habits at an early age.

2. Social Development Benefits

Playgrounds provide space where children can learn social skills both through active play and observation of others. Outdoor play also helps children strengthen their language skills, learn to overcome challenges, and build healthy relationships.

3. Mental Health Benefits

With the busy schedules of today's kids, conditions such as anxiety, stress and depression are becoming increasingly common in children. Spending time outdoors and in nature provides the outlet that children need to expend their energy and alleviate stress and anxiety. This, in turn, helps them to concentrate better and have better overall mental health.

4. Intellectual Health Benefits

Playing outside stimulates children intellectually and has a positive impact on their school readiness and performance. Outdoor play can help children learn better in the classroom by stimulating their creativity and allowing them to view learning materials in a variety of ways. It also increases focusing ability which helps them to more easily absorb and process new concepts.

5. Appreciation for the Outdoors

Being active in childhood sets up children to have a lifelong love of nature and appreciation for conservation. Studies have shown that children who have a strong connection to nature are more likely to engage in pro-environmental behavior throughout their lives such as recycling and water conservation.

Check out all our new offerings in this Our Town and continue to get out and play no matter your age!

Sincerely,
Charry Lawson
Parks and Recreation Director

Parks and Recreation Department

- **Address:** 4834 Velasko Rd. Syracuse, NY 13215
- **Phone:** (315) 469-3464
- **Fax:** (315) 469-2816
- **Email:** toorecreation@msn.com
- **Web:** townofonondagarecreation.com

Serving your Leisure Needs

- **Charry Lawson** - Parks & Recreation Director
- **Jack Davison** - Recreation Supervisor
- **Barbara Michalski** - Senior Program Coordinator
- **Richard Lamphier** - Park Labor Crew Leader
- **Sandra Carter** - Recreation Secretary
- **Ann Owens** - Recreation Secretary

Registration Information

Registration is accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Non-residents pay \$10.00 more for most programs.

- Registration is online at townofonondagarecreation.com.
- We have a drop box in the rear of the building/office on East Ave. Please do not leave cash.
- 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. Program may be canceled if minimum not reached.
- It is the intention of the Town that no Town of Onondaga 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 upon proof of income.
- Parking and entrances on both Velasko Road and East Avenue.
- Now accepting major credit cards. A 2.65% (\$3.00 min.) convenience fee is added to each credit card transaction.
- 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/CREDIT POLICY

- Please use care when selecting classes. A 100% refund 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. Credit will be added to your account in full, but a \$5.00 administration fee will be deducted for refunds. A \$20.00 fee will be charged for any returned checks.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- In the event of a cancellation due to weather or any other unavoidable problem, every effort will be made to contact participants. However, sometimes this is impossible. If you are ever in question as to whether or not a class might be canceled, call the Recreation Office at 315-469-3464.

Parks & Recreation Department Office & Sr. Center



OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. – Fri: 8:30AM - 4:30PM (September 4 - June 21)

H.E.R.O. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Every youth 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.

Your generous gift of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 – whatever you can contribute – enables another child in our community to enjoy a recreation activity or program. 100% of your contribution to the H.E.R.O. fund will benefit a Town of Onondaga youth.

Next time you visit the Parks & Recreation office or sign up for a class, please consider making a contribution. Inquiries about the H.E.R.O. program can be made by calling (315) 469-3464.

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: _____

Thank you for giving these opportunities to others!

Listed are the four Town parks and a brief description of each facility. Please be aware that dogs are banned from all parks. Parks will be closed November through April. Reservations for courts, fields, and pavilions require a permit, available at the Parks & Recreation office, or online at townofonondagarecreation.com. The permit form found online or in our office, lists all fees and rules. An online account must be created prior to submitting a reservation form to complete the rental process.

Kelley Brothers Memorial Park - 251 Dorwin Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13205

This 15 acre park has youth baseball games and practices most weeknights. A new pavilion has been added, along with an accessible walkway to the new structure. The park also has a restroom, play areas, tennis court, beach volleyball and grills. There is a small pavilion near the playground equipment to provide shade and picnic seating for all the families that utilize the play areas on a regular basis. The maximum occupancy for permits is 75.

King Memorial Park - 4030 Split Road, Camillus, NY 13031

The athletic fields are heavily used by our adult softball leagues during the week, with WOYSA playing games on Saturdays, spring and fall. This 20 acre park has two softball fields, a beach volleyball court, two tennis courts, basketball court, two pickleball courts, grills, pavilion, playground equipment and restrooms. There is a small pavilion near the playground equipment to provide shade and picnic seating for all the families that utilize the play areas on a regular basis. The maximum occupancy for permits is 100.

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

Adult softball games are held week nights, along with WOYSA holding soccer games on Saturdays in the fall. This 9 acre park has one tennis court, basketball court, covered shelter, grills, a play area including a rock tunnel, and restrooms complete this park. 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, Blue Wave Lacrosse, Westhill and Onondaga Community College athletic teams. Playground pieces for children 2-5 years old, as well as a play piece for older children. The 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. The park also has tennis courts, a tennis wall and a basketball court. Tikes 'n Bikes Santaro Town provides a safe, fenced in area for in-line skating, and children with big wheel type rider toys, tricycles and small bikes with training wheels. Bike riders and in-line skaters MUST wear protective equipment. Two large grills are adjacent to a large pavilion. The maximum occupancy for permits is 150.

PARK SECURITY

Our Town facilities are routinely patrolled by our staff and the Onondaga County Sherriff's Department. 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 of these things leads to additional time and money spent on repairs or even the sudden cancelling of activities including park permits. Restrooms are not unlocked unless a permit for park use has been issued. We need your help to keep the Town of Onondaga Parks beautiful. You are urged to call 911 to report any suspicious activity. All reports are anonymous. Park ordinances are strictly enforced with appearance tickets.

Mommy, Daddy and Me Soccer

Bringing parents and children, ages 3-5 together to work on a variety of soccer skills, this program prepares children 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. Fee includes a soccer ball and shin guards (receive first day).



MAX. 25

- **Locations/Dates/Times:**

- King Park - Saturdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19
 - 10:00 – 10:45 AM.
- Kelley Park - Saturdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19
 - 1:00 – 1:45 PM.

- **Fee:**

- \$50.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$60.00 All others
 - Add \$10 to fee after 9/10/19

YogaKids



Join Trista Phillipson, a certified Yogakids facilitator, in a learning adventure with Yoga as the pathway. Children ages 4-10 will experience creative arts, storytelling, music, earth care, reading and relaxation. They will learn skills while they grow strong and flexible on all levels. Mats and art supplies provided.

- **Location/Dates/Times:**

- Onondaga Sr. Center upstairs room - Wednesdays, Sept. 25 – Nov. 6, 6:00 – 7:00 PM

- **Fee:**

- \$55.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$65.00 All others
 - Add \$10 to fee after 9/18/19

Hot Shots Youth Soccer

This Soccer Program is available for boys and girls ages 5-8. This is an instructional program where kids can learn the fundamentals of the game of soccer. They will play games at the end of each session. All participants should bring a water bottle, sweatshirt on cold days and shin guards. No cleats needed. **MAX 40**

- **Locations/Dates/Times:**

- King Park - Saturdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19
 - 9:00 – 10:00 AM.
- Kelley Park - Saturdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19
 - 12:00 – 1:00 PM.

- **Fee:**

- \$40.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$50.00 All others
 - Add \$10 to fee after 9/10/19



Karate

This 8 week class taught by Bruno Daniele, lead instructor of Tenchi Karate, is designed to teach children basic movements, blocks and strikes used in self defense class for youth ages 6 and up. Class will include exercise and stretching in addition to self defense techniques. Uniforms are available for purchase through the instructor on the first day.

- **Location/Dates/Times:**

- Onondaga Sr. Center upstairs room - Mondays, Sept. 30 – Dec. 2, 6:00 – 7:00 PM
(no class Oct. 14 or Nov. 11)

- **Fee:**

- \$50.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$60.00 All others
 - Add \$10 to fee after 9/23/19



Gymnastics and Tumbling program

This is an ongoing basic recreational gymnastics class for girls and boys grades K-5 with no previous experience required! Taught by Chuck Parry of Parry's Gymnastics, class includes expert instruction in Tumbling, Vaulting and Uneven Bars. A one-time fee is required upon registering with the Town, then, a weekly fee of \$15.00 (payable monthly) will be paid directly to Parry's Gymnastics. For any questions call Parry's Gymnastics at (315) 458-5365 or visit Parry's Gymnastics online at www.parrysgymnastics.com.

- **Location/Dates/Times:**

- Split Rock Elementary School - Tuesday's Sept. 24 – June 9, 3:30– 4:15 PM
 - *Some exclusion dates apply. Full schedule available from instructor*

- **Fee:**

- \$30.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$40.00 All others



Start Smart Basketball

The Start Smart Basketball Program prepares children, ages 4-6, for organized basketball in a FUN, non-threatening environment by developing basic motor skills used in organized sports. There will be an informational meeting 30 minutes prior to the designated start time on the first day. Fee includes 2 basketballs for your child to keep. **Min. 8 / Max. 25**

- **Location/Dates/Times:**

- Onondaga Hill Middle School Gym – Saturday's December 7 – Jan. 25 , (not 11/30), 11-11:45 AM

- **Fee:**

- \$50.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$60.00 All others
 - *Add \$10 to fee after 12/1/19*



Youth Basketball

Looking for a non-competitive skill-building program for your children ages 6-12? Our Youth Basketball focuses on proper dribbling, passing, shooting and learning to love basketball. Kids will go through a number of drills each day and will be taught rules of the game through weekly scrimmages with other participants

- **Location/Dates**

- Onondaga Hill Middle School Gym – Saturday's Dec. 7 – Mar. 14 (not 12/28, 1/4 or 2/22)

- **AGE**

- TIME**

- 6-8 8:30 – 9:30 AM
- 9-12 9:45 – 10:45 AM

- **Fee:**

- \$60.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$70.00 All others
 - *After 12/1/19 add \$10.00*



Move and Play

This program for parents and children ages 2-3 works on the basic fine and gross motor skills necessary to create a solid foundation for future activities. Developing these skills in a safe, fun and age appropriate environment will ensure that the participants gain strength and confidence, developing a child's ability to do more complex skills in the future, whether it's playing a sport, doing school projects or drawing/painting. **Min 12 / Max 20**

- **Location/Dates/Times:**

- Onondaga Senior Center (*Downstairs dance studio*)
- Fridays, Jan. 3 – Feb. 7, 9:00 – 10:00 AM

- **Fee:**

- \$25.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$35.00 All others
 - *Add \$10 to fee after 12/27/2019*



Youth Dance Programs

What's better than a great deal on a dance program? A great deal on **OUR** dance program! The Town of Onondaga dance program is all about getting kids moving and excited about dance! Classes are taught in our very own studio in the lower level of the Senior Center on Velasko Road. Class options for girls and boys ages 3 and up are available in the styles of Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Hip-Hop. *(All styles not available at every age level).*

Classes begin the week of September 16th and run until mid-May

- *Registration for returning students begins August 21st*
- *New student registration begins August 23rd*
- *New students must provide proof of age*
- *Child must be at least 3 years old by September 2nd*
- *Minimum of 4 students per class*
- *Class Observation Week: January 13-17*
- *Rehearsal/Recital Dates: Late May/Early June*
- **Registration Fee:**
 - *Town of Onondaga Residents: \$150*
 - *All Others: \$170*
 - *Add \$10 to fee after 9/13/19*

Installation payment option:

- 1st half of total fee due when registering
- 2nd half of total fee due **NO LATER** than Oct. 25th



Class Schedules

Ballet Class

- Ages 3-5
 - Tuesdays @ 5:00, 5:30 & 6:30 PM
 - Wednesdays @ 6:00 & 6:30 PM
 - Thursdays @ 5:00, 5:30 & 6:30 PM
- Ages 6-8
 - Tuesdays @ 6:00
 - Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM
 - Thursdays @ 7:00 PM
- Ages 9-12
 - Mondays @ 7:00 PM
 - Wednesdays @ 5:30 PM

Tap Class

- Ages 6-10
 - Mondays @ 4:30 PM

Jazz Class

- Ages 3-5
 - Wednesdays @ 5:00 PM
- Ages 6-8
 - Mondays @ 5:00 PM
 - Tuesdays @ 7:00 PM
 - Wednesdays @ 4:30 PM
 - Thursdays @ 6:00 PM
- Ages 9-12
 - Mondays @ 5:30 PM

Hip-Hop

- Ages 9-12
 - Mondays
 - Beginner Class @ 6:00 PM
 - Intermediate Class @ 6:30 PM

Class level determined by Instructor

NO CLASS DATES

Week of: Dec. 23, Dec. 30, Feb. 17 & April 6

Date of: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Jan. 20, Apr. 13

Field Trips

Looking to get the kids out of the house over winter vacation? **Then check out our winter field trips!** Single day activities for kids grades 1-8 at a variety of venues to get kids up and moving during winter break. All children will be picked up/dropped off at the Onondaga Senior Center parking lot at the start/end time listed. There is no before or after care available for trips. All trips chaperoned by town staff.

*** See family discount info at the bottom of this page! ***

Four Seasons - Tuesday Feb 18th

It's "Tubing Tuesday" at Four Seasons Ski and Golf Center! Trip includes transportation to and from the tubing center and a day pass for activities. Snacks are available for purchase at the facility. **Min. 25**

Bring: Packed lunch, snow boots (no hard ski boots), winter jacket, snow pants, hat & gloves.

Pick-up/Drop-off: 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Fee: \$32 – Town of Onondaga Residents, \$42 all others

-Add \$10 after 2/14/20



Fun Warehouse – Wednesday Feb 19th

Laser-Tag and Arcade games are the highlight of this trip to the Fun Warehouse in Camillus! Trip includes transportation to and from the facility, two hours of Laser Tag & \$5 worth of arcade credits. Snacks are available for purchase at the facility. **Min. 25**

Bring: Packed lunch, extra \$ for arcade and snacks (optional), and sneakers.

Pick-up/Drop-off: 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Fee: \$36 – Town of Onondaga Residents, \$46 all others

-Add \$10 after 2/14/20



Skyzone – Thursday Feb 20th

Kids bouncing off the walls? Send them to sky-zone where that's encouraged! Trip includes transportation to and from Skyzone, & a 2 hour bounce pass. **Min. 25**

Bring: Packed lunch, extra \$ for arcade games (optional), and sneakers.

Pick-up/Drop-off: 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Fee: \$38 – Town of Onondaga Residents, \$48 all others

-Add \$10 after 2/14/20



Field Trip Family Discount

Register one child at full price, and take \$10 off the listed fee for any other children you register.

Only applies when registering 2 or more children in the same field trip.

Children must be from the same household.

Childcare and Babysitting

American Heart Association course

Looking to get your babysitting certificate so you can work for neighbors and family friends? The course we offer is led by EAVES ambulance instructors and teaches basic childcare and first aid to aspiring babysitters to teens ages 11 and up.

Min. 4 / Max. 12

- **Location/Dates/Times:**
 - Onondaga Senior Center
 - Friday, Nov. 15th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- **Fee:**
 - \$55.00 Town of Onondaga residents
 - \$65.00 All others
 - Add \$10 to fee after 11/8/19



YogaFlow for Beginners

In gentle Yoga Flow, you will be guided through basic postures in a Vinyasa style with proper yogic breathing and relaxation techniques. This is a great class for beginners ages 18 and up who have never practiced, or want a gentle way to learn more about yoga. If you have a mat and block, please bring them with you as there is a limited supply of extras.

Fall session

- Thursdays, 9/26 – 11/14

Winter session

- Thursdays, 11/21 – 1/16

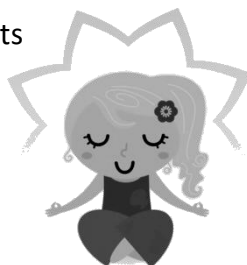
FEE per session

- \$35.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$45.00 All others

Add \$10 Friday before session starts

Exclusion Dates:

10/31, 11/28, 12/26



Pickleball

Pickleball continues with indoor play at Onondaga Hill Middle School this fall! Drop in and grab a punch card for \$30! **PUNCH CARDS DON'T EXPIRE** and can be used at any of our PB programs. **Equipment is available to borrow!** Resister online early and receive your punch card on day 1.

- **Location/Dates/Times:**
 - Onondaga Hill Middle School
 - Saturdays, Oct. 5 – Nov. 23, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
- **Fee:**
 - \$30.00/punch card (12 sessions)



Men's Basketball @ OHMS

If you like exercise and some light competition, our Men's Basketball program is just what you're looking for. Pickup games Thursday nights from 7:00 – 9:00 PM at Onondaga Hill Middle School Gym.

Bring one white, and one black shirt.

Fall/Winter session

- **Dates**
 - Thursdays, 10/3 – 12/19

Winter/Spring session

- **Dates**
 - Thursdays, 1/9 – 3/12

FEE per session

- \$25.00 Town of Onondaga residents
- \$35.00 All others

Exclusion Dates:

10/31, 11/28, 12/26



2020 Ski & Ride @ Labrador Mt.

Fridays 4:00 - 10:15 PM
January 10 - February 14, 2020

Includes:

- Friday night ski pass (good all season)
- Six (6) 90 minute lessons on trip days
- Chaperoned transportation to and from Labrador Mt. on a coach bus
 - *coach bus not guaranteed on make-up days*
- Discount when visiting Labrador Mt. on other days

Participants must be age 12 & older
or in at least 6th grade.

Registration is incomplete until online registration is completed, full payment is received, and pass application with picture is submitted to our Office.

FEE:

- TBA (based on 2019-2020 pass prices from Labrador Mt.)

Schedule:

- 4:00 – Pick-up at St. Michael’s church parking lot
- 4:45 – Arrive at Labrador Mt.
- 9:30 – Depart Labrador Mt.
- 10:15 – Arrive at St. Michael’s church parking lot

Rentals:

- 6-week ski or snowboard rental packages available. Price TBA
- 6-week helmet rentals available
- Rental payment is SEPARATE from registration
- Checks for rentals made out to “Labrador Mountain”

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 13th –
NO REGISTRATION WILL BE TAKEN AFTER THIS DATE!

Register before November 27th to receive pass before Christmas.

Kids Summer Cover Contest

Do you love to draw, paint or illustrate? Show us what you can do and your submission might just be selected to be the cover of our 2020 summer “Our Town” brochure!

Who can submit artwork?

- Anyone ages 8 – 14 years old!

What do I need to do?

- Must use 8 X 11 paper.
- Must include one or more spring or summer themes.
- Use pencils, crayons, markers, charcoal, pastels or paint.
- No-texture or raised surfaces (so we can scan the picture)
- **Must be original artwork!**
- **No photographs!**

How do I submit my artwork?

- Bring or mail in (don’t fold it!!!) artwork to the Recreation office

Make sure to include:

- A note card with the artist’s name, age, art medium (eg. paint) and the title of the piece.
- A return address and phone number so we can notify our winners

Prizes:

- **Grand Prize**
 - Cover of the Spring/Summer 2020 “Our Town” brochure
 - Art supply basket
- **Honorable mentions (2 from each age)**
 - Artwork will be displayed at the Onondaga Free Library from March 30 – April 10 in the upstairs lounge area.

SHOW US WHAT YOU’VE GOT!

The Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation Department is always looking for new and innovative talent. If you possess a skill and the ability to lead an activity, please call the Parks & Recreation office at 315-469-3464.

Pictures taken at programs may be used on the Town website, Facebook page, in local newspapers, or in our brochures unless otherwise noted by a parent/participant.



4834 Velasko Rd. Syracuse, NY 13215
(315) 469-3464



“There are no strangers here... only Friends we have not 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 events, as well as health, fun and fitness activities.

A 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 \$5 annual charge for those seniors not residing in the Town of Onondaga. The Senior Gazette is also available on our website:

townofonondagarecreation.com

Call the Onondaga Senior Center for appointments and additional information about the programs offered, and always check the monthly calendar to find out the exact date of the event you are interested in.

SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM

Enjoy a hot lunch every Monday thru Thursday at 12 Noon from P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Lunch reservations must be made one day in advance by 12:00 Noon. Thursday for the following Monday. \$3.50 for any senior 60+, \$7 for anyone under 60. Call the lunch line at 315.469.3259 for reservations. Pick up a monthly lunch menu at the Senior Center. Catered Luncheons with live entertainment are held throughout the year on most first Thursday's of each month. We have nice meals and entertainment for a great price! Payment is due upon sign-up in the front office. Luncheons are usually \$5, and supplemented by the Onondaga Seniors Committee Fund with the donations from the Friends of the Onondaga Seniors.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Thursday, October 31



- Arrive by 11:30 AM for the costume contest and a chance to win a Prize!
- The Twin Magicians will entertain at 1 PM!
- This will be a regular P.E.A.C.E. lunch - \$3.50.
Call the lunch line to sign up.

Come and join our Halloween festivities!



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

Thursday November 7

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 \$3.50). Your lunch is paid for by the Friends of the Onondaga Seniors. Call the lunch line for your reservation. **(315) 469-3259**

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

One day course for anyone 50 or older.
\$20 AARP member - \$25 non member.

Class time 8:45 AM – 3:30 PM.

Sign up required.

BRING TO CLASS:

- YOUR AARP CARD with membership #. (This is required on the form you fill out to submit to AARP)
- Your current drivers license
- Bagged lunch.

Coffee and tea provided. Reservations now being taken for the following Friday classes:

- *October 18*
- *November 8*



SENIOR ASSISTANCE SERVICES

An Adult Care Manager will advocate for you for the sudden life changes or uncertainty you are having dealing with basic living expenses, accidents, or a change in physical ability/rehab. They will navigate you through the system to find the help you need regarding: Food Stamps; HEAP Energy Assistance; Veterans Benefits; Meals On Wheels; Housing Subsidies; Home Repairs and Weatherization; Caregivers; Tax Assistance; Pantries; Social Day Programs. By appointment only. Private counseling is available on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 12:30 - 2:30 PM.

DEPARTMENT OF AGING

For Health Insurance Information and Counseling (medical bills, health insurance policies, long term care insurance, Medicare prescription drug coverage, etc.) call 315.435.2362 x 114. They will work with you over the phone. Or call the Senior Center and leave your name and number. We will have a HIICAP counselor contact you to schedule an appointment at the Senior Center. To receive **Nutrition Counseling** in the privacy of your own home or at the Senior Center call 315.435.2362 x4939 for an appointment.

FLU SHOT CLINIC

Thursday September 26, 11:45 – 1:00 PM

Walgreens Pharmacy is offering a Flu Shot Clinic at the Senior Center. No appointment necessary, just bring your Medicare card with you

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MID-NY

Provides legal services to residents of Onondaga County age 60+. Services cover the following civil areas: Consumer Matters such as problems with collection/debt; Living Wills, Power of Attorney Preparation, and Revocation, Simple Will & Testament, Health Care Proxies; Legal problems concerning Food Stamps, HEAP, Social Security, SSI, Veterans Benefits; Medicaid/ Medicare disputes; Public Assistance and Utility issues. Appointments for a single individual are one-half hour; one hour for couples. First appointment 10 AM, last appointment 1:30 PM.

Legal Council is available on five scheduled days throughout the year. 2020 dates will be announced in November. There is still time to call to schedule an appointment for 2019: September 10 and November 12.

SMOKE DETECTORS

Information from the Upstate University Hospital Burn Center advises that if you would like to install smoke detectors in your home, you can work thru them and they will contact the fire department in your neighborhood who will go to your home and do the installations for you FREE of charge. Contact the Burn Center at 315.464.9369.

BEGINNER ART (Oil Painting)

(Call the Senior Center for availability to join each class before a new session begins.)

Upcoming 12 week Sessions:

September 3 – November 19
November 26 – February 25

No Class: December 24 & 31

Day & Time: Tuesdays 12:30 – 2:30 PM

Town Resident Fee: \$90.00

Non-Resident Fee: \$100.00

**add \$10 if registering less than 1 week before class begins*

Maximum 12 participants in class.



ADVANCED ART

Current 12 week Session: August 13 – November 5

Upcoming 12 week session: November 12 – February 11

Day & Time: Tuesdays, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

No Class: Dec. 24 & 31

Town Resident Fee: \$66.00

Non-Resident Fee: \$76.00

**After Nov. 5 add \$10*

ONGOING AT THE SENIOR CENTER

The following activities are available to all Seniors.

CARDS FOR FUN

Let us know if you would like to sub or get into a group. Leave us your name and phone number and we'll add it to our list.

BRIDGE played Mondays and Wednesdays 1-3 PM.

PINOCHLE/PITCH - We are always taking names of interested folks to form new groups.

BOOK CLUB meets Monday's at 12:45 PM. A new book is read each month with a discussion about the chapters you've read each week.

DOMINOES played Mondays from 1-3 PM.

KNIT & CROCHET - Learn from our instructor who will help you with your projects or teach you new needlework skills. Call the Center and leave your name and # to schedule a time to meet.

LIBRARY - Clean used paperback books are located on our 'library' shelves in the front entrance of the Senior Center. We appreciate donations of paperback books to add to our collection. We have a nice variety. Come in and browse and take a new read home.

KLASSY RED HATTER'S - The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1:15 PM. Come in and join these great gals and go out to a local restaurant once a month too!

MAH JONGG - An experienced group meets Wednesdays 1-3 PM. Come in and start a table with your group!

POOL (Billiards) - Play pool on our regulation size table. The men play daily from 1-3 PM and need more competition. Come and join them anytime!

Wii: BOWLING, TENNIS & GOLF - Available throughout the day. A regular group plays each Wednesday morning at 10:30 AM before lunch, for some fun competition.

'BUSY HANDS' QUILTING/NEEDLEWORK GROUP - Meet Mondays from 10 - 12 Noon.

We are looking for an instructor to work with our group. Call the Senior Center if you are interested in sharing your expertise.

TAI CHI/CHI KUNG

Instructor: David Dolbear

CHI KUNG - Thursdays 11:10

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

TAI CHI - Thursdays 12 Noon (Following CHI KUNG) Characterized by soft, slow and continuous movement. Physically it promotes pliability, improved cardiovascular and pulmonary function, improved posture and increased strength, especially in the legs. Psychologically, it promotes concentration, relaxation, self confidence and overall improvement in the function of the central nervous system.

Current Sessions thru September 12

Next 12 Week Sessions:

September 19 - December 12

**After September 12 add \$10*

December 19 - March 5

**After December 12 add \$10*

RESIDENT FEE: \$60 (each class)

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$70

Maximum 14 participants in each class.

EXERCISE.....FIT AFTER FIFTY

Instructor: Diane Zarzecki

Exercise to music to increase strength and mobility.

Tuesdays 10 - 11 AM

Current Session thru October 8

No Class: December 24

Next 12 week Session:

October 15 - January 14

**After October 8 add \$10*

RESIDENT FEE: \$24

NON-RESIDENT FEE: \$34



WALKING PROGRAM

Walking continues Tuesdays and Thursdays through the month of September from 9 - 11:00 AM at Brookdale Summerfield on Velasko Road. Beginning October 1 through April 30, walk at St. Michael's Parish Center, located behind the rectory, from 10 - 11 AM Tuesdays and Thursdays. Stop by the Senior Center and fill out a Medical & Emergency Information Form if you are interested joining.

BOWLING @ MARCELLUS LANES

JOIN IN! Bowling leagues start Tuesday September 3. The cost is \$8 each week. Singles! Couples! Three Man Teams! Anyone and everyone is welcome! Averages run from 89 to 180! The 89 average gets a 200 pin handicap; 180 average gets a 20 pin handicap! It's all even and strictly for fun. First and last place pay the same so everyone has a chance to win \$'s. For information call John Harris, 315.673.1123.

When the Marcellus School District is closed due to inclement weather there is no bowling.

EXERCISE WITH LIGHT WEIGHTS

Thursdays 10:30 - 11:15 AM

FREE ONGOING CLASS

Following an exercise video with group. Great stretch and exercise using hand weights which are provided.

NO CLASS: Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7 & Dec. 5

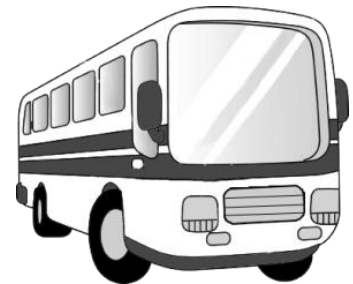
Make-up Classes: 10 AM on Friday's (Next Day)



The Town of Onondaga Senior Center is a 'community' of folks who have helped make our everyday experience interesting, relaxed and enjoyable. Visit us and have lunch or take a trip. Take advantage of our programs, councilors, and information offered. We strive to work together as a group to enhance the experience of being at the Center for all who come and participate.

DAY TRIPS

Day trip announcements are posted at the Senior Center and published in the *Senior Gazette*. For reservations, sign up at the Senior Center or send a check to the Center for payment. Include with check: name of person(s) taking the trip, phone #, date of trip, your pick-up point & menu choice (if any). Make check payable to Onondaga Seniors. Your payment includes bus transportation and all fees for the day, along with gratuities to restaurants and bus driver. Bus pick-ups are at two locations: Nedrow Fire Department and the Onondaga Senior Center back parking lot. Call or stop by the Senior Center to see what trips we will be taking this Fall!!



DONATIONS WE COLLECT:

- **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION** for the Benefit of the Onondaga Central Rockwell/Wheeler Middle School PTO. Clip and save the coupons and deposit them at the Center.
- **BYRNE DAIRY RECEIPTS** to receive FREE half gallons of ice cream for the Seniors' and Parks & Rec Programs.
- **ALUMINIUM PULL TABS** from food and soda cans for the Shriners Hospitals for Children.
- **CANNED & NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS** for a local Food Pantry.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Support the Town of Onondaga History by becoming a member of the Town of Onondaga Historical Society. The Town of Onondaga Historical Society will be posting several videos in the upcoming months.

Topics and speakers will be:

- Onondaga Nation: The First Peoples of the Hills
- Dr. Oren Lyons
- Tadodaho Sid Hill
- Jeanne Shenandoah
- Town of Onondaga – Onondaga Hill

A visual presentation of the Country Days of Onondaga Hill, Pre-WW II Homes, and Businesses Now and Then.

Links to these videos will be found on the Town of Onondaga Historical Society Facebook and onondagatownhist.org

Town of Onondaga Historical Society Membership for 2019

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Annual Membership. (January – December)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|
| ▪ Individual: | \$6.00 | _____ |
| ▪ Family (3 or more). | \$15.00 | _____ |
| ▪ Life Membership | \$200 | _____ |
| ▪ Any additional donation | | _____ |

Please mail completed form and payment to:

*TOHS – Membership
5020 Ball Road
Syracuse, New York 13215*

Nedrow Fire Department

Staying Busy

2019 has started off very busy for us. We are on pace to do over 600 calls for the second year in a row. We are in the top five for Onondaga County with an on-scene time of just over 5 minutes from dispatch. We are proud of these numbers, as all of our members respond from home. We also continue to have a crew, for the fourth year in a row, for RP93 on Wednesday nights from 6pm to 6am. These dedicated volunteers provided staffing for our station, as well as the communities around us.

Recruiting

The Nedrow Fire Department and Auxiliary are always seeking new members. There is a need for volunteers at all skill levels. We also have several openings in our Jr. Program for ages 16-18. Please feel free to stop by any Monday night or call 315-469-0053.

New Members

This year we have had several new members join our ranks. We welcomed Kyle Wilbur, Matthew Yaciuk, Michael Skinner (EMT), Colin O'Toole (EMT), and Seth Hale.

Chicken BBQ/Craft Show

The Nedrow Auxiliary is hosting two exciting events. On September 7th they will be having a Chicken BBQ and Raffle. The BBQ will feature the award-winning Galloways BBQ and Catering. They will also be selling raffle tickets with a top prize of \$1000! On October 26th the Auxiliary will once again be hosting a Holiday Extravaganza Craft Show. This show promises to be the best one yet!

Nedrow at the Fair

Members of our fire department will staff the Fire Prevention Education Exhibit this year on the first Saturday of the Fair from 10-1pm. Stop by and see us! In Addition, look for us in the annual Firefighters Day parade.

Thank You

We wanted to thank the residents and businesses of Nedrow for your continued support. We also wanted to thank our volunteers who give up countless hours of their personal time for meetings, training, and emergency calls. Our members proudly represent us on a daily basis, and serve the community which they live, with unmatched professionalism. Job well done!



Southwood Fire Department

There's a celebration in town at The Southwood Volunteer Fire Department! We are celebrating 75 years of Fire and EMS service to our community. September 15th from 11:00am to 3:00pm at our fire station, 4581 Grace Place in Southwood. Bring the kids and your appetite as we have secured a delicious Chicken BBQ with two sides for 10.00 dollars. Plus, hamburgers, Hoffman hot dogs and plenty of soft drinks. Also, there will be free snow cones and cotton candy for the kids. Lots of things for the kids to do such as; free bounce house, free pony rides, Alpacas for viewing, Fire and EMS interactive displays, OCVFA smoke house, free face painting, Magician, Sheriff ID and K-9 demonstrations just to mention a few! WOW!

All this and more. We have put a lot of thought into making this 75th Celebration a memorable one because we care for our community. Did we mention giveaways for the kids! Come on over and celebrate with us and while you're at the fire station fill out an application to volunteer with us. If you can only give a couple of hours a week, that's great. Our motto is always family first.

We at Southwood FD have been making our surrounding a little brighter. Just recently, we have installed new ceiling tiles, painted our bathrooms and painted the bottom of our outside firehouse and resurfaced our driveway.



We have a new member that joined our team in March. His name is George Cregg. He is from the Albany area and moved here last year. He resides in the Crown Point area. George jumped right into serving his community and is now in the EMT program with AMR Ambulance. We are so excited to have a new member join our team!

We have two members going to classes called Interior Firefighting Operations. Their names are Colby Curtis and Nate Beaudry. Soon they will be qualified to enter burning buildings under the direction of the Chief. Both have worked very hard to complete these mandatory classes once committed. They graduate July 29, 2019. Congratulations!

Some more good news; We have a member, David Wingard who recently was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain. Congratulations to all our members that help make our little community a better place to live.

Gary Boisseau is celebrating 50 years with Southwood Fire Department! WOW! Can you imagine the changes he has seen? Gary is still an active member and drives the Fire trucks.

He maintains certain areas in the Firehouse and is a great resource of knowledge. Our Fire Department is celebrating Gary's 50 years at our January Banquet.

In closing, Please keep in mind your safety is important to us. Wear bright clothes at night and please no texting while driving. The Move Over Law is in effect. Please move over when approaching a Fire Truck or Police Car with flashing lights. It's the law!

See you at our Celebration!



Lance Tucker
President

Onondaga Hill Fire Department



Dear Residents,

The Onondaga Hill Fire Department will complete its 99th year in 2019, we responded to 1,108 calls for emergencies last year. Where seconds matter, our response placed us in the **top 5 fastest responding** volunteer fire departments in Onondaga County.

Your financial support is always appreciated as we only see a slight increase in our budget from the town. Your support last year was used to purchase a new Lifeline ARM Automated Chest Compression Device. This year we were able to use some of the funds received to help refurbish our Ladder Truck.

We invite you to stop by on Sunday, October 6th for our fall Open House and enjoy some activities.

Please support us in our mission to respond to every call with competent professional firefighters. Anyone ages 14 years or older is welcome to join us. Please stop by any time to learn how you can help.

*The Officers and Members of Onondaga Hill Fire Department
would like to thank you for your continued support.*

Visit us on the web @ www.ohfd.net or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and twitter

Taunton Fire Department

39th ANNUAL RENO NIGHT / RAFFLE / FUND RAISING EVENING

Tickets: \$100.00 each Only 200 tickets available

Guest tickets &

Admission Tickets: \$20.00 each to allow dual ticket purchasers and ticket holder's to bring guest to the dinner and Reno night.

Date: Friday, November 3rd, 2019, 6:30pm, **Buffet served 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM**

Place: Taunton Fire Department, 4300 Onondaga Blvd, Syracuse, NY. 13219.

Evening Highlights:

- Music
- Liquid Refreshments available all evening
- Casino games - 50/50 raffles
- Main raffle

Raffle: Process of elimination takes place during the course of evening. The final ten ticket holders whose numbers still remain will be consulted as to the distribution of the **\$10,000.00 prize.**

General Information: Payment must be made in full by October 1, 2019 to be eligible for the two \$100.00 Drawings.

No ticket number will be issued until full amount is paid !!

The Taunton Fire Department reserves the right to cancel this benefit drawing at any time and refund all money that has been collected.

"You can be sure of a good time with Taunton FD"

If interested in a Raffle or Entry ticket, Please contact Tom Sauer at 315-491-1193

Some of our favorite summer pictures

