



CITY OF ONEIDA MARCH NEWSLETTER

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

Building a strong Oneida starts with working together as a community. When residents, organizations, and local government collaborate, we foster trust, civic pride, and a shared commitment to the future of our city. Together, we can continue to grow a community that cares for one another and looks ahead with optimism.



RICK ROSSI
MAYOR

MARCH MEETINGS

03

COMMON COUNCIL
6:30PM-COUNCIL CHAMBERS

10

PLANNING COMMISSION
6:00PM-COUNCIL CHAMBERS

10

WATER BOARD
3:30PM-WATER DEPARTMENT

12

RECREATION COMMISSION
6:30PM-217 CEDAR ST

17

COMMON COUNCIL
6:30PM-COUNCIL CHAMBERS



315-363-4800, Ext. 128
slapera@oneidacityny.gov

WE'RE HIRING

- DPW LABORER WITH CDL

- ACCOUNT CLERK-WATER DEPT.

- CITY ENGINEER

- POLICE OFFICER

SEND YOUR CV TO US

jkaiser@oneidacityny.gov





We Are
HIRING

Lateral Transfer Police Officers

What we offer:

Competitive salary & benefits

Opportunities for advancement

Supportive leadership and a strong team
environment

The chance to make a meaningful impact in
the Oneida community

APPLY NOW:

Lieutenant Keith Hudson

108 Main St., Oneida, NY 13421

315-363-9111

khudson@oneidacityny.gov

Must be a NYS Certified Police Officer in good standing



**ASK
ABOUT
OTHER
INCENTIVES!**

OFFICER BASE SALARY RANGE

2026: \$73,395-\$94,258

2027: \$78,532-\$100,856

Top of grade at 5 years

Does not include longevity

Does not include shift differential

Rates are after academy

SERGEANT BASE SALARY

2026: \$103,684

2027: \$110,942

Does not include longevity

WORK SCHEDULE

4 on, 2 off/8 hr shifts

TIME OFF

Personal Leave: 56 hours

Holiday Time: 96 hours

Vacation: 10-28 days

Sick Time: 13 days per year

Comp Time: Banked up to 350 hours

ANNUAL SHIFT BID

A Line: 2300-0700

B Line: 0700-1500

C Line: 1500-2300

Contact Lieutenant Keith Hudson for more info



315-363-9111



khudson@oneidacityny.gov



oneidacityny.gov

Message from the City Manager

*Leading with Vision, Growing
with Passion.*

As we move into March, the promise of spring brings renewed energy and momentum across the City of Oneida. While winter is not quite finished with us yet, this time of year marks an important transition as we prepare for construction season, community events, and continued progress on key initiatives.

Our staff has remained hard at work throughout the winter months advancing projects that will soon become visible across the city. Planning, engineering, and procurement efforts are underway for several infrastructure and revitalization projects, including downtown improvements, park enhancements, and ongoing work tied to our Downtown Revitalization Initiative. These efforts are the result of steady collaboration between city departments, consultants, and our state partners, and we are focused on ensuring projects are ready to move forward efficiently once conditions allow.

Public safety and essential services remain a top priority. I want to thank our Police, Fire, DPW, Water, and Wastewater teams for their professionalism and dedication during winter operations. Their work often happens behind the scenes, but it is critical to keeping our city safe, functional, and resilient.



March also gives us an opportunity to look ahead to community engagement and economic growth. We continue to work closely with local businesses, regional partners, and community organizations to support investment, strengthen services, and create opportunities that benefit residents and visitors alike.

As always, I appreciate the patience, feedback, and engagement of our residents. Your involvement helps guide our decision making and keeps our focus where it belongs, on serving the community and building a strong future for Oneida.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to a productive and exciting spring ahead.

Sincerely,
Kyle P. Lovell, City Manager

WELCOME TO ONEIDA!

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

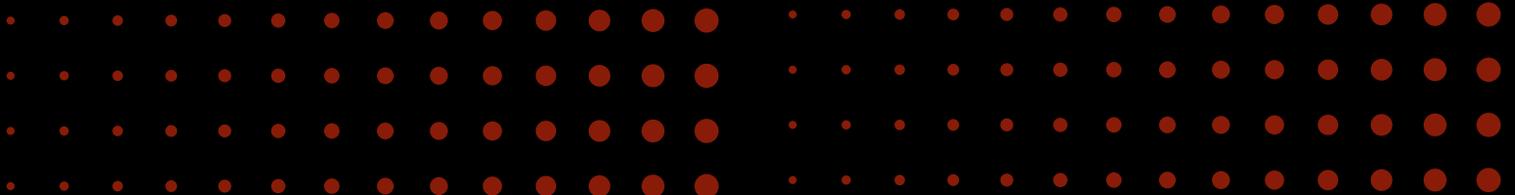
Steve M. Yaworski brings a rare blend of extensive construction experience and decades of community-based public service to the Code Enforcement Officer role. His hands-on background in general contracting, carpentry, framing, plumbing, and electrical work gives him a practical, real-world understanding of building systems from the ground up. At the same time, Steve has spent over 30 years working in nonprofit and human services organizations, where he built a reputation for regulatory compliance, careful inspection and oversight, and clear, respectful communication with the public. This combination allows him to approach code enforcement not only with technical expertise, but with a strong understanding of the community, a commitment to public safety, and a fair, solutions-oriented approach to working with residents, property owners, and contractors.



STEVE YAWORSKI

315-363-8460, Ext. 115

syaworski@oneidacityny.gov





**FIRE CHIEF SCOTT JONES~REVEREND CHRISTOPHER BALLARD
REVEREND DR. JACK FUCCI~POLICE CHIEF STEVE LOWELL**

On January 20, Reverend Dr. Jack Fucci was officially reappointed as Police Department Chaplain, and Reverend Christopher Ballard was welcomed as the newest Department Chaplain serving both the Oneida City Police Department and the Oneida City Fire Department.

Our chaplains play a vital role in supporting the emotional and spiritual well-being of our Police officers, Firefighters, staff, and community—offering guidance, compassion, and a listening ear when it's needed most. We are truly grateful for their continued willingness to serve and support our Police and Fire personnel.

Please join us in congratulating Reverend Dr. Jack Fucci and welcoming Reverend Christopher Ballard to this important role!

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Oneida Steps Up During Water Emergency

Emergency interconnect aid helped prevent regional shortages

Following the major water main break in December 2025, the City of Oneida was proud to support the Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA) by providing nearly 800,000 gallons of water per day to help stabilize the regional water system serving parts of Madison and Onondaga counties. By activating emergency interconnects and opening a 12-inch emergency valve on Christmas Eve, Water Superintendent Andrew Company and his dedicated team played an instrumental role in preventing the water district from running dry and helping refill critical tanks in Canastota and Chittenango.



This extraordinary effort supported communities including DeWitt, Manlius, Pompey, Sullivan, Lenox, Lincoln, and others—while ensuring Oneida’s own water supply from the Glenmore Reservoir remained fully protected and uninterrupted. We are truly grateful for Superintendent Company and his team’s quick action, professionalism, and commitment to service during a regional emergency, and for representing Oneida with such excellence and reliability.

CITY OF ONEIDA

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE (DRI) UPDATES

HOTEL ONEIDA

- Ed Riley attended the Planning Board meeting on February 10th to discuss the Hotel Oneida Project.
- Mr. Riley requested and was granted a 2-year extension
- Mr. Riley stated that he anticipates the formal demolition to commence in April or May of 2026
- The PCZBA has requested additional clarification regarding proposed plans, and City staff will assist as needed.

DOWNTOWN STREETScape

- Originally budgeted at approximately \$1,050,000.
- Following receipt of the 30% design, the estimate is now approximately \$10 million.
- City staff is working with C&S and partners to address scope and cost concerns.
- A TAP Grant application is being prepared for approximately \$7 million, expected to be submitted within the next few months.
- If submitted within the next 30 days, a response may be anticipated by year-end.

AYSO SOCCER FIELDS

- Three design options have been proposed and are under review.
- The project has funding shortfalls.
- Proposed building elements (pavilions/bathrooms) are driving costs beyond the overall project scope of \$760,000.
- The field design is favorable; however, costs must be reduced, including removing unaffordable building components.

SPLASH PAD

- The project has not progressed over the winter.
- Remains at the 30% design stage.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

- 30% design is complete.
- Staff is coordinating to ensure the design can accommodate a future F-16 aircraft display without additional immediate cost.
- The aircraft project may be 5–6 years out, while DRI projects are expected to be completed within 1–2 years.

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSISTANCE FUND

- C&S is developing the program.
- A proposal is expected within 2–3 weeks for formal review.



SNOWMOBILE RULES

1. PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

The operation of snowmobiles within any public park or playground is hereby prohibited, except where posted for snowmobile use.

2. HIGHWAYS

Snowmobiles shall not be operated on state, county or City highways except as specifically authorized under this article, and as provided in the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law of the State of New York.

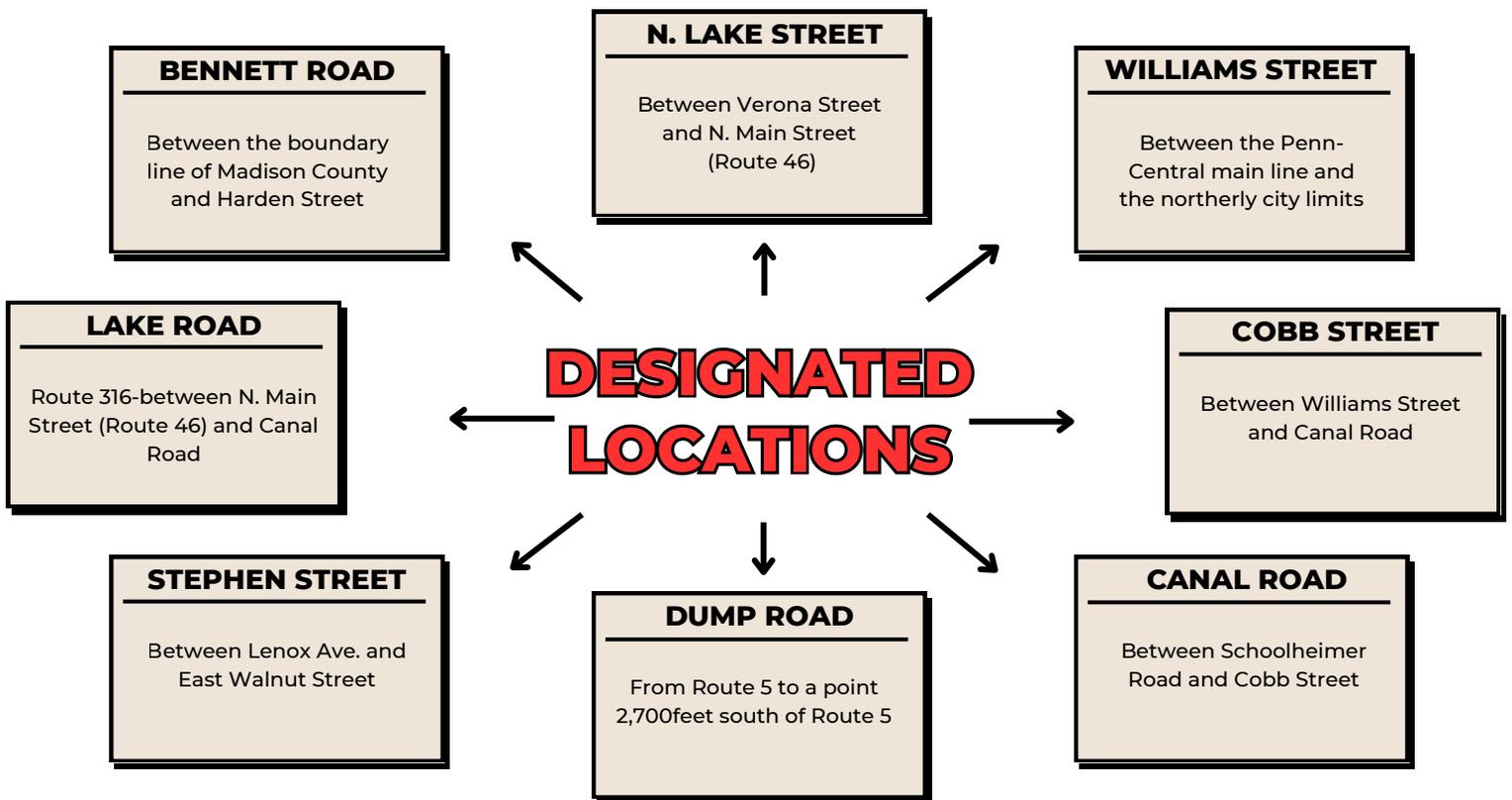
3. CITY STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

Snowmobiles may be operated only upon designated trails as provided in § 180-58 of this article, and also upon the streets listed in Subsection B hereafter solely for the purpose of gaining access to authorized and designated snowmobile trails both within and outside the City of Oneida.

4. PROHIBITED OPERATION

No person shall operate a snowmobile within 125 feet of a dwelling, unless traveling in a location specifically authorized under this article. No snowmobile shall be operated within the Inside District of the City of Oneida between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

WHERE YOU CAN RIDE IN THE CITY OF ONEIDA



It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile upon any sidewalk or right-of-way reserved only to pedestrians except to cross it at approximately right angles to gain access to property upon which operation is lawful. The right-of-way, during such a crossing, is granted to pedestrians.

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAP

NEW COMMITTEE

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

February 3, 2026

The Oneida Common Council approved the establishment of the Comprehensive Plan Committee on February 3, 2026. This Committee will serve in an advisory capacity to support the development of the City's updated Comprehensive Plan, which will help guide Oneida's future growth, land use planning, and quality-of-life priorities.

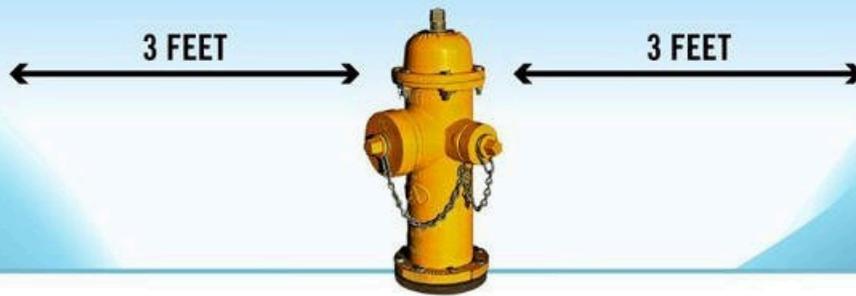
The Committee will work with City staff and the consultant team by providing local insight, reviewing planning materials, and helping ensure community input is reflected throughout the process.

The City of Oneida sincerely thanks the Committee members for volunteering their time and committing to this important endeavor. Their service and dedication will help shape a plan that reflects the needs and goals of our community.

(More information will be shared through future City newsletters and public updates.)

EVERY SECOND COUNTS IN AN EMERGENCY KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS CLEAR OF SNOW

- REMOVE SNOW AND ICE FROM THE HYDRANT
- CLEAR AN AREA APPROXIMATELY 3 FEET AROUND THE HYDRANT
- CLEAR A PATH FROM THE HYDRANT TO THE STREET



**THE ONEIDA FIRE DEPARTMENT
THANKS YOU FOR YOUR HELP**

**Please help us help you by clearing around the
fire hydrants. To private plow
businesses....please don't bury the hydrants.**

A piece of torn, aged paper with the words "Thank you" written in a thick, blue, hand-drawn font. The paper is set against a dark background, and the entire image is framed by a blue border at the bottom.

CITY OF ONEIDA FALL FESTIVAL

Calling all vendors! The date and time have been set, same location, same GREAT event-but bigger and better!

Join us for our 6th Annual Fall Festival with over 100 vendors, food trucks, kid's activities, live music, touch-a-truck, pumpkin races and so much more.

This is a one day event, rain or shine! We have been blessed each year with amazing weather and hopefully, this year will be the same.

For information on becoming a vendor, please contact Sandy LaPera at slapera@oneidacityny.gov

OCTOBER 3, 2026

11:00am-4:00pm

Mott Street-Oneida

SAVE THE DATE





COMMUNITY GARDENS

Think Spring! The City of Oneida Community Gardens will be open April 1, and we are currently taking applications. Please click [HERE](#) for the Gardeners's Agreement, or email Monique Ludwig at mludwig@oneidacityny.gov for more information.

- ✓ 20 Raised Bed Plots Available
- ✓ On-Site Water
- ✓ Mulch and Dirt Provided
- ✓ \$20 Per Bed for the Season



Contact Information
315-363-7378, Ext. 129



RECREATION CENTER



DISCOVER THE FUN!



TOT FUN & RUN

**FREE FOR KIDS
5 AND UNDER!**



Tot Fun & Run is a free, open-gym style program designed for preschool-aged children 5 years old and under. The program is open to area residents and provides a safe, indoor space for young children to run, play, and burn off energy

The gym will feature bounce houses and other age-appropriate toys to encourage active play and social interaction.

Parents or guardians must remain on site and are responsible for supervising their children at all times. This is not a drop-off program.



Location:

Oneida Recreation Center

Days: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

315-363-3590
217 Cedar St., Oneida



KIDS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Celebrate your child's birthday at the Oneida Recreation Center! Our indoor facility is a great space for active, fun-filled parties.

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Bounce houses
- Other age-appropriate toys
- Tables and chairs

AVAILABILITY:

Parties are available Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays. Check availability and reserve online:

PARTY LENGTH AND FEES:

Most parties are two hours:

Residents: \$110

Non-Residents: \$130

CLEANUP:

You handle setup and cleanup of your own items. Rec Center staff will take care of trash, sweeping, and mopping.



BOOK HERE!



O.P.R.'s Winter Break



Upcoming Events

February

16th-20th!



Tot Fun-N-Run Monday-Friday (9:00 AM-Noon)

FEB
16

- **Open Gym (1:00 PM - 4:00 PM)**
KIDS 14 & UNDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT FOR OPEN GYMS

FEB
17

- **Basketball Dribbling Clinic/Grades 3rd-8th (1-2 PM)**
- **Basketball Shooting Clinic/Grades 3rd-8th (2-3 PM)**
- **Open Gym (3:30 PM - 5:00 PM)**

FEB
18

- **Speed & Agility Clinic/Grades 3-8/1-2 PM**
- **Open Gym (2:30 PM - 5:00 PM)**
- **Jump & Jam Fest at the KALLET! (6-8)**

FEB
19

- **Open Gym (12:30-2:30 PM)**
- **Volleyball Clinic/Grades 4-6 (3:30-5 PM)**

FEB
20

- **Intro to Track & Field/Grades 3-6 (1:00-2 PM)**
- **Open Gym (2:30 - 4:30 PM)**



-REGISTER-
CITYOFONEIDA.RECDESK.COM

Oneida Parks & Rec!

WINTER BREAK FUN!

Kid's Winter Break Jump & Jam Fest!

Bounce
Houses!

High-Energy
Music!

Face Painting &
Arts n Crafts!

FREE!
Ages 5-13

February 18th
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Oneida Kallet
159 Main Street

Sponsored by the City Recreation Department, the Kid's Winter Break Jump and Jam Fest promises an evening packed with music, bouncing, crafts, and nonstop fun kids won't want to miss.



TEEN

**AFTER
HOURS
LOCK IN**

FEB. 20, 2026

6-9PM

**AGES 12-17
REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**GAMES, ACTIVITIES, SNACKS,
MOVIE AND MORE!**

SCAN ME





the

AARP[®]

Driver Safety

Refresh your driving skills
by becoming an
AARP Smart Driver[™]



FEBRUARY 26TH & 27TH

8:45am - 12pm
Oneida Family YMCA

To Register:

Call Diane Myers 315-363-6154

\$25 AARP Members

\$30 Non-AARP Members

- Defensive Driving Techniques
- Proven Safety Strategies
- New Traffic Laws & Rules
- Save at least 10% on Insurance
- Up to 4 Points Reduced

JOIN US FOR DESIGNER PURSE BINGO

At Otto Shortell Middle School

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
200 Markell Dr, Wampsville
Door Opens at 5pm
BINGO Starts at 6pm

**TICKETS
\$30**

CONTACT MRS.
BERBERICK AT THE
MIDDLE SCHOOL TO
RESERVE YOUR SEAT!

315.363.1050 OPTION 2 OR
MBERBERICK@ONEIDACSD.ORG

BRING YOUR
OWN SNACKS!
NO ALCOHOL
PERMITTED!

**MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO ATTEND AND PLAY
PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE OSMS STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND**

Visit [Facebook](#) for more information

Please join us for the only fundraiser OSMS does - Designer Purse Bingo. Wednesday, April 1, 2026. See event information. All money raised supports our Oneida Middle School student activities account.



CATSTOCK⁶

NOT ROBOTS | BEFORE AUGUST

THE 169 RHYTHM SECTION

THE BROTHERS GRIM BAND

JAMORA | PLEASIN IRIS

SMALL TOWN GLORY

ACOUSTIMOOSE | ROCKY FEOLA

LADYCAT | THE D-DUBB EXPERIENCE

BROOKLYN SKELLHAM

• KRIS & LOGAN FROM ONE MAN. THE BAND

YOUR MC FOR THE EVENT: RICK "CHILLIN" SMITH!

**BASKET RAFFLES | VENDORS | FOOD TRUCKS
CLASSIC CAR SHOW | BOUNCE HOUSES • MORE**

SATURDAY MAY 9TH 2026

11AM - 9PM

**ONEIDA AMERICAN LEGION
398 NORTH MAIN ST, ONEIDA**

All proceeds go to help the local stray cat population!

Paws on the Green



Sunday, June 7th

8:00 am Shotgun Start



**CASOLWOOD
GOLF COURSE**

4255 Perretta Drive, Canastota

*More
Details
to come!*

\$420 Captain & Crew Foursome

**Pricing includes Snack Bags, Golf & Cart,
Turn Snack, Chicken BBQ & Dessert**

Save the Date


Wanderers Rest

HUMANE ASSOCIATION
wanderersrest.org

HOME INTERNET \$20/MONTH

- Your current government benefits may make it easy to qualify for a NYS Affordable Broadband Act low-cost plan.
- Internet options vary depending on where you live.
- Mobile and dial-up services are not included.

**CALL 211
ASK FOR
LOW-COST
INTERNET**



Eligibility?

- SNAP
- HEAP
- Medicaid
- household income



Learn More



211 provides
referral and
help navigating
applications

211's affordable broadband enrollment assistance is supported by Empire Development's ConnectALL Office



ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development



**UNITED
WAY**

211

Get Connected. Get Help.™

Who is Jessica's Heroes?

Jessica's Heroes Foundation was founded on compassion, community, and hope for those in our communities who are battling cancer. We provide direct financial assistance, essential resources, and emotional support to individuals impacted by cancer. From helping with everyday expenses to delivering care packages and connecting families with local support networks, Jessica's Heroes Foundation works to ease the burden that often accompanies a cancer diagnosis.

Through our work we raise awareness, foster community involvement, and inspire kindness through volunteerism and advocacy. By bringing people together and turning empathy into action, Jessica's Heroes Foundation strives to ensure that no one faces cancer alone and that every individual touched by the disease feels seen, supported, and empowered throughout their journey.



A little bit of Love.

Learn more
about us at





ORIGLIO'S WAGON WHEEL

Origlio's Wagon Wheel has been a part of the heart of Oneida since the 1940s. This beloved, family-owned restaurant has served generations of residents and visitors and is especially known for its homemade spaghetti sauce and take-out pizza. Originally founded by Joe Origlio in "the Flats," the Wagon Wheel has remained a true community staple through the years—including overcoming fires, adapting, and ultimately relocating to its Main Street home in 2011. Operated by Paul Origlio since 1985, Origlio's Wagon Wheel represents the kind of hometown tradition that helps shape Oneida's identity. While we will be sad to see them step away as the business is up for sale, we are deeply grateful for all they have meant to our community, and we wish them nothing but happiness and success in the next chapter. Thank you for being an important part of Oneida's history and growth.

THANK *School Counselors* YOU



National School Counseling Week is celebrated annually during the first full week of February. Schools across New York State typically recognize it during that same week every year to highlight the role of school counselors and the impact they have on students.

Nick Grossmann - OHS

Alexis Scampone - OHS

Olivia Caroli - OHS

Stephanie Burke - OSMS

Molly Malgieri - OSMS

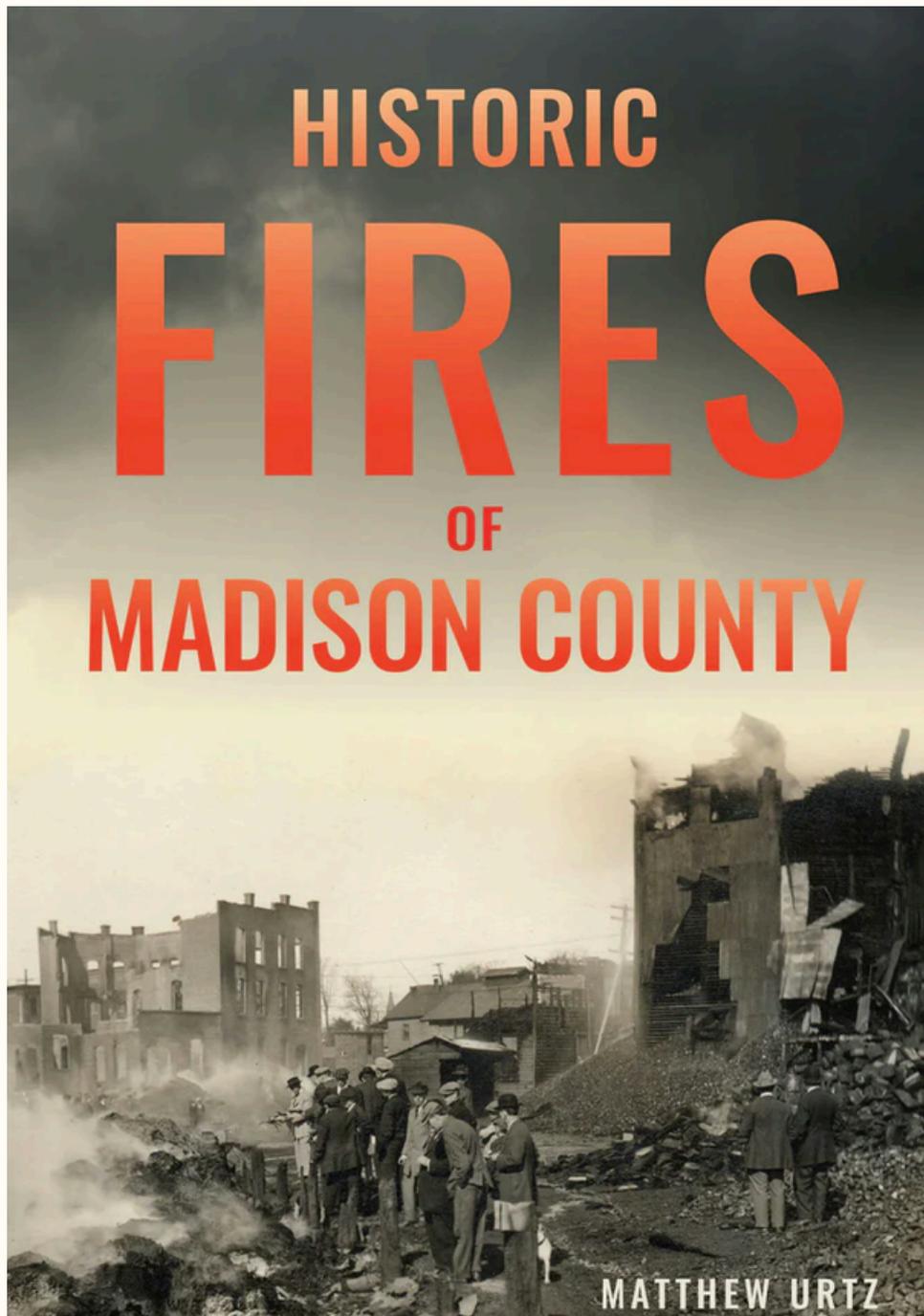
Nichole Newman - Seneca Street Elementary

Gabrielle Rolewicz - Durhamville Elementary



MADISON COUNTY HISTORIAN

Matthew Urtz



This book looks at damaging fires from throughout Madison County's history—the mysterious burning of the Madison County Courthouse, the complete loss of business districts in Canastota and Hamilton, and the arsonist who terrorized Cazenovia for nearly five years—and examines what happened and how it impacted the local community.

Order a copy [HERE!](#)

MADISON COUNTY CLERK MESSAGE

DEED SCAM NEWS



A recent update from Madison County Clerk Mike Keville is available by scanning the QR code. With property deed scams on the rise, understanding what to do if you become a victim of fraud is more important than ever.

Help Can't Wait DURING EMERGENCIES



Volunteer. Give Blood. Donate. Take a Class.

[redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org)

RED CROSS MONTH

From donating funds, to giving blood, to volunteering your time—your support helps the Red Cross make a difference in communities across the country.

Each year, the President of the United States proclaims March as “Red Cross Month,” providing a special opportunity to recognize and celebrate the everyday heroes who make our mission possible.