

December Newsletter

CITY OF ONEIDA

December in Oneida brings the beauty of the holiday season, as twinkling lights, festive decorations, and the possibility of a fresh blanket of snow create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. It's a time to celebrate cherished traditions, embrace the spirit of giving, and appreciate the friends, families, and neighbors who make our community so special.

109 N. MAIN STREET, ONEIDA, NY 13421

www.oneidacityny.gov

315-363-4800

December

MEETINGS

109 N. Main St. Oneida

Our meetings are open to the public. Public Comments at Common Council meetings are limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Please sign up if you wish to speak.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
December 1, 2026 10:00am

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
December 1, 2026 6:30pm

WATER BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2026 3:30pm

PLANNING COMMISSION
December 8, 2026 5:30pm

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
December 15, 2026 6:30pm





HOLIDAY Hours

Christmas Eve 24th December	Closed
Christmas Day 25th December	Closed
New Year's Eve 31st December	Close at 3:30
New Year's Day 1st January	Closed

Year-End Closeout Meeting will be Thursday, December 31, 2026 at 8:30am (tentative)

2027 BUDGET NEWS

PUBLIC HEARING

TUESDAY 11-17-26 6:30PM

COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ADOPTION VOTE

TUESDAY 12-01-26 6:30PM

COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

To view the 2027 Proposed City of Oneida Budget, visit the City Website.

ONEIDA FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRADITION • SERVICE • COMMUNITY

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LATERAL TRANSFERS



The Oneida Fire Department is seeking qualified firefighters to join our team through lateral transfers.

Bring your experience, continue your service, and be part of our team!

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- ✓ Permanent status as a firefighter, appointed from a NYS Civil Service examination.
- ✓ Completion of a Recruit Firefighter Training Program (including CPAT).
- ✓ NYS EMT-B or higher.

STARTING BASE SALARY (2027)

$70,233.39
annually

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Submit a letter of interest and a current resume for consideration.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
December 4, 2026

SUBMIT APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

firechief@oneidacityny.gov

SERVING ONEIDA TOGETHER









CONGRATULATIONS!

Officer Keira Mahoney

Congratulations to Officer Keira Mahoney on successfully completing the Mohawk Valley Police Academy and her field training! Officer Mahoney graduated in June as valedictorian of her class with a GPA exceeding 97% and earned the Best Driver Award during emergency vehicle operations training. After completing her field training in September, she is now serving independently as a police officer. Congratulations to Officer Mahoney on her outstanding achievements and best wishes for continued success!

CONGRATULATIONS & SUCCESS

2026 Extra Mile Day Recipient!



DAVE STIRPE

This year, Mayor Rick Rossi selected Dave Stirpe as the City of Oneida's recipient of the 2026 Extra Mile Day Proclamation. On Wednesday, November 4, Mayor Rossi presented Dave with the proclamation in recognition of his contributions to our community.

Dave and his wife, Leigh Ann, have continued to show their commitment to Oneida by investing in our community and bringing new businesses and opportunities to our city. They are the proud owners of Dunn's Grill, Antonio's To Go, The Blind Squirrel, and their newest addition, Jadie and June's, along with other businesses in neighboring communities.

We are grateful to Dave and Leigh Ann for believing in Oneida, investing in its future, and helping our community grow and thrive. Thank you both for all you do, and we wish you continued success!



Jeremy & Samantha

Please join us in congratulating Fire Lieutenant Jeremy Carnahan and Water Department Account Clerk Samantha Carnahan on their recent marriage!

It's always special to celebrate happy moments with members of our City of Oneida family! Wishing you both a lifetime filled with love, laughter, happiness, and beautiful memories together.
Congratulations, Jeremy and Samantha!

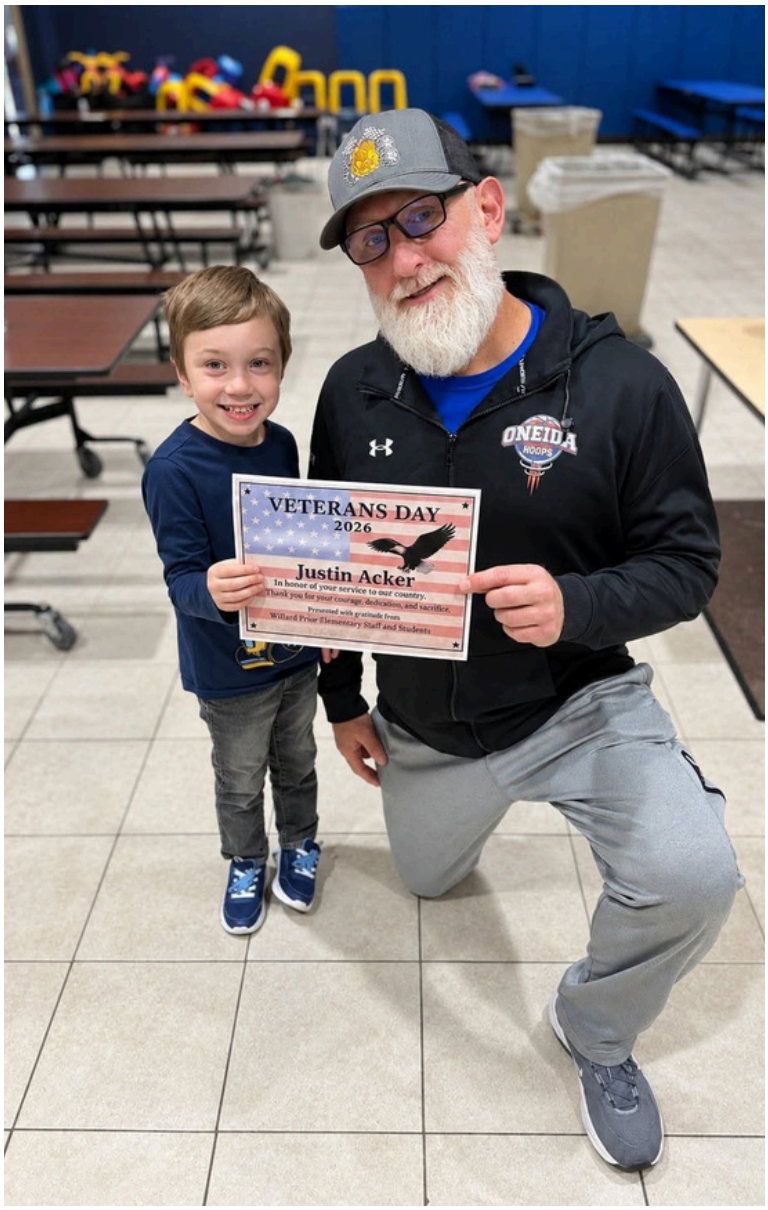
09.18.2026-Fabius, NY



A heartfelt congratulations to our very own Liza Watkins, Account Clerk in the City of Oneida Finance Department, on her marriage!

Liza, we are so happy for you as you begin this beautiful new chapter in your life. May the years ahead bring you endless joy, cherished moments, and a love that grows stronger with each passing day.

Congratulations and best wishes as you begin this wonderful journey!



A special Veterans Day moment was shared between City of Oneida Parks and Recreation Department Recreation Coordinator and veteran Justin Acker and young Weston Worden. Weston surprised Justin with a personal invitation to walk alongside him in the Veterans Day Parade at Willard Prior Elementary School. Justin was deeply touched by Weston's thoughtful gesture, which served as a beautiful reminder of the respect and appreciation our younger generation has for those who have served. Thank you, Justin, for your service to our country, and thank you, Weston, for showing how even the smallest acts of kindness can leave a lasting impression!



WE'RE LOOKING FOR *Financial Mngt* VOLUNTEERS!



Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc. and RSVP are partnering with 50Forward Mohawk Valley to help seniors keep their finances in order.

If you are good with numbers and finances, and are looking for a way to give back to your community, give us a call, or stop by.

318 Dominic Bruno Bovd., Canastota
315-697-5700 x218

AmeriCorps Seniors | Madison County Office For The Aging | Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

50forward Mohawk Valley

MADISON COUNTY

2027 Punch Cards will be $27 per card

RETHINK WASTE IN MADISON COUNTY
MADISONCOUNTYRECYCLES.NY.GOV

- Each punch card has 5 *punches* on it.
- 1 *punch* is equivalent to one 33 gallon can/bag.
- Unused *punches* are non-refundable.



Effective January 1, 2027 punch card costs will increase to $27. This increase helps to ensure the waste management cost is shared among all users.

All previous cards (2026 and older) do not expire and will still be honored at the transfer stations.

For more information, Visit Facebook!

www.https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/3013/Solid-Waste

See below for Punch Card Vendors!

PUNCH CARD SALES LOCATIONS

MADISON COUNTY

COUNTY OFFICES

Madison County Scale House

6641 Buyea Road
Canastota, NY 13032
Monday–Friday 7:10 am–2:45 pm
Saturday 7:10 am–2:45 pm

Although the Main Office is open to the public, Punch Cards will continue to only be sold at the Scale House.

Madison County Clerk

315-366-2261
138 N Court Street
Building 4
Wampsville, NY 13163

TOWN OFFICES

Cazenovia 315-655-9213

7 Albany St
Cazenovia, NY 13035

DeRuyter 315-367-1350

735 Utica Street
DeRuyter, NY 13052

Fenner 315-655-2705

3151 Fenner East Road
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Georgetown 315-837-4299

995 State Route 26
Georgetown, NY 13072

Hamilton 315-824-3380

38 Milford Street
Hamilton, NY 13346

Nelson 315-655-8582

4085 Nelson Rd
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Sullivan 315-687-7221

7507 Lakeport Rd
Chittenango, NY 13037

LIBRARIES

New Woodstock Free Library

2106 Main Street
New Woodstock, NY 13122

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Buell Fuel

Brookfield Store, 10546 Main Street
Morrisville Store, 13 W Main Street

Byrne Dairy

Cazenovia, Route 20
Morrisville, Route 20
Oneida Store, Route 5
Hamilton Store, 169 Utica St

Buyea's True Value

131 Albany St
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Country Peddler

2434 Poolville Road
Hubbardsville, NY 13355

J&J Mini Mart

991 Fyler Road
Kirkville, NY 13082

Kime Hardware

3381 Seneca Turnpike
Canastota, NY 13032

McGowan's Hardware

991 E Genesee Street
Chittenango, NY 13037

Tops Markets

Cazenovia, 71 Nelson Street
Chittenango, 800 W Genesee Street
Canastota, Corner of Oxbow/Route 5

*Check with vendor for payment options

Thank You

OHS ART CLUB



A special thank you to the Oneida High School Art Club for sharing your wonderful creativity and talent with the Kallet Civic Center! Your artwork adds a special touch to our events, and we truly appreciate your contributions!



Oneida Field Hockey Raises $1,278 for Oneida Health Cancer Care Fund

Oneida Field Hockey recently demonstrated its commitment to giving back to the community by raising $1,278 for the Oneida Health Cancer Care Fund. The fundraising effort was made possible through the team's dedication, matching donations from Ironside Funeral Home and Extreem Service Center, and an additional contribution from a local business.

The donation was made in honor of Oneida Athletic Director Burt Conklin, making this fundraising effort especially meaningful to the team.

The funds raised are equivalent to 51 gas and grocery gift cards, which can provide much-needed assistance to local families facing the challenges of cancer treatment. These cards help ease the financial burden of everyday expenses during a difficult time.

The City of Oneida recognizes and commends Oneida Field Hockey, the participating businesses, and all those who contributed to this meaningful effort. Their generosity and commitment to helping others reflect the compassion and community spirit that make Oneida special.

Code Blue

HOMELESS? STUCK OUT IN THE COLD?



Help is as close as your local library.

Go to any of the libraries in Madison County during normal business hours and ask about **CODE BLUE**. The libraries are identified as **Warming sites** on inclement weather days. You will be given warming/hygiene supplies and resource information.

Cazenovia Library
Sullivan/Bridgeport Library
DeRuyter Library
Hamilton Library
Morrisville Library
New Woodstock Library
Sullivan/Chit. Library
Earlville Public Library
Canastota Library
Oneida Library

Church on the Rock
Karing Kitchen
Oneida Police Dept

Resource sites where you can go and be assisted with information and a phone to contact DSS:

New York state is dedicated to helping those who are unable to secure shelter in the cold and inclement weather. **Assistance is available for individuals and families.**

CAP

Emergency Housing Assistance

Contact Madison County DSS

Monday – Friday

9:00am – 4:00pm

(315) 366-2211

After hours, weekends & Holidays

Dial 211

Mental Health Crisis/Suicide Prevention

Dial 988

Contact Local Law Enforcement

Madison County Sheriff

(315) 366-2318

State Police

(315) 366-6000

Coordinated Entry

To be placed on a list for housing support.

Tiffany
315-941-8055

HELP FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



MADISON COUNTY RESOURCES

Everyone faces challenges in life, and the circumstances that lead to homelessness are not the same for everyone. Whatever the situation, no one should feel that they are without hope or that help is beyond their reach. For individuals and families experiencing homelessness or struggling with housing instability, community resources are available to assist with emergency shelter, food, mental health services, substance use treatment, and other essential needs.

Click on the Link above for Information or Dial 2-1-1

Karing Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen That Kares!

A heartfelt thank you to Karing Kitchen in Oneida for its continued generosity, compassion, and dedication to helping those in need throughout our community. Through its free hot meals, bagged lunches, and participation in the Food Sense program, Karing Kitchen provides valuable food assistance to individuals and families, helping ensure that no one has to face difficult times alone. Open to everyone regardless of age, income, or where they live, this wonderful organization demonstrates the true meaning of neighbors helping neighbors. We extend our sincere appreciation to the dedicated volunteers, donors, and supporters who give so generously of their time and resources to make these services possible. Your kindness and commitment make a lasting difference in our community, and we are truly grateful for all that you do!



116 W. Grove St., Oneida **Follow on Facebook**

CHURCH ON THE ROCK



Thank you to Church on the Rock for its generosity and continued commitment to giving back to our community. Through its Community Center, food pantry, clothing assistance, meals, and other outreach efforts, this organization provides valuable resources and support to individuals and families in need. The time, compassion, and dedication of everyone involved make a meaningful difference in the lives of so many. It is through acts of kindness and generosity like these that we build a stronger, more caring community. Thank you to everyone who gives their time, resources, and energy to helping others. Your efforts are truly appreciated!

Visit Website 315-280-4044 164 Madison St., Oneida



Little Free Pantry

A heartfelt thank you to Jasson and Jessica Obomsawin and their family for all they do for our community. Their Little Free Pantry on Farrier Avenue is a wonderful example of neighbors helping neighbors, quietly providing food and support to those in need. Their kindness, generosity, and dedication have a lasting impact on our community, touching more lives than they may ever know. We are truly fortunate to have individuals like Jasson and Jessica who give so freely of themselves to make our community a better place.

176 FARRIER AVE. ACROSS FROM THE POST OFFICE

THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATIONS

WITH THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY ONEIDA, NY

DROP OFF BY NOV 21 AT:

343 Cleveland Ave - Oneida, NY

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Donate a full box of food to feed a family - around $60
- Drop off a few items from the list
- Send a monetary donation and we will shop for you

CASH DONATIONS:

- Drop off at 343 Cleveland Ave
- Venmo: 315-481-0160
- PayPal: Abcoolad@gmail.com

EACH BOX SHOULD CONTAIN AT LEAST:

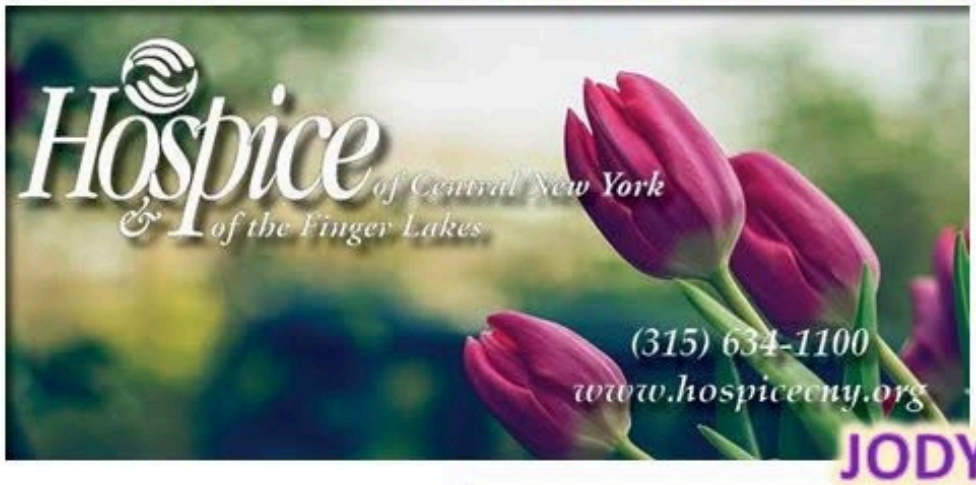
- Turkey (1)
- Boxed mashed potatoes (2)
- Boxed stuffing mix (2)
- Canned green beans (2)
- Canned corn (2)
- Canned sweet potatoes/yams (1)
- Canned cranberry sauce (1)
- Turkey gravy (2)
- Dinner rolls (1)
- Butter (1)
- Pumpkin pie or other dessert (1)
- Optional: apple cider, hot chocolate, disposable roasting pan, sugar, coffee/tea, anything fun you can think of!





NOVEMBER CHARITY DRIVE

ALL MUSIC PROCEEDS, TIPS, AND MERCHANDISE SALES THIS MONTH WILL BE DONATED TO BENEFIT:









STICKERS: MINIMUM DONATION $1 EACH

NO LIMIT TO HOW MUCH YOU CAN

THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER, THE BLIND SQUIRREL PUB IS BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR THANKFUL THURSDAYS, A SPECIAL CHARITY DRIVE BENEFITING HOSPICE OF CENTRAL NEW YORK AND HOSPICE OF THE FINGER LAKES IN HONOR OF JODY BOGARDUS.

JOIN ROCKY FEOLA AND FRIENDS EVERY THURSDAY FOR AN EVENING OF MUSIC, FRIENDSHIP, AND GIVING BACK TO TWO ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE COMPASSIONATE CARE AND SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES DURING SOME OF LIFE'S MOST DIFFICULT MOMENTS.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED IN MAKING THIS MEANINGFUL TRIBUTE POSSIBLE AND FOR CONTINUING TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Christmas & Crafts

Nov 27-29

TURNING STONE RESORT CASINO

THE GRAND EXPO

OVER 250 BOOTHS

City of Oneida's Annual CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH









FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS!

HIGINBOTHAM PARK

5:50 – Twas the Night Before Christmas Read by Ms. Megan from the Oneida Library!
6:00 – Santa Arrives on the Oneida Fire Truck!
6:30 – Christmas Tree Lighting w/ special guest!

MAIN STREET

7:00 – Parade of Lights!

ONEIDA KALLET CIVIC CENTER

7:30-8:30 – Live Christmas Music, Arts & Crafts, Christmas Character Meet n Greet, Face Painting, Bake Sale, Free Hot Cocoa!



The 6th Annual City of Oneida's

PARADE OF LIGHTS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

7:00 P.M.

DOWN HISTORIC MAIN STREET
FROM RAILROAD STREET TO STONE STREET!





Oneida Area Civic Chorale

Music Brings Us Together

PRESENTS

Sing We Now of Christmas

A heartwarming concert of choral music celebrating the joy and spirit of the Christmas season.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2026
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

ONEIDA HIGH SCHOOL
560 SENECA STREET, ONEIDA, NY

TICKETS REQUIRED
Tickets starting at $15
(including applicable fees)

Tickets:
eventbrite.com/e/sing-we-now-of-christmas-tickets-2003550245719

Join Us for Christmas Caroling at Oneida City Hall!

Celebrate the holiday season with students from

St. Patrick's School

as they spread Christmas cheer through festive caroling at Oneida City Hall.

Friday, December 11, 2026

10:00 a.m.



All are welcome to attend and enjoy this special holiday tradition!

Snowflakes & Stories

A Victorian Open House & Indoor Market



Children's Choir • Holiday Shopping • Storytime & Crafts

December 13 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

SAVE THE DATE!

Designer Purse BINGO!

Sponsored by Unit #169 Auxiliary

COACH® | kate spade® ♠ | MICHAEL KORS®



ONEIDA AMERICAN LEGION

398 N. Main Street • Oneida, NY

Date:
FEBRUARY 20, 2027

Doors Open: 4:00 PM
Bingo Starts: 6:00 PM

Food • Fun
Basket Raffles • 50/50

Limited Tickets Available!

Tickets $25 EACH

Tickets Go On Sale December 1st!

Toy Donations Needed!

3rd Annual Holiday Gift Giveaway



We're collecting <u>new</u>, <u>unused</u> toy donations to help provide as many FREE holiday gifts as possible to Oneida students ages 0–13.

Here's How To Donate

Follow the link provided to purchase gifts from our wish list, or simply scan the QR code. These items will be shipped directly to the district!

Drop off new, unused toys to any OCSD Main Office!

Questions?
Email: News@oneidacsd.org

Here's how you can help:

Shop our Amazon Wishlist: Have gifts shipped directly to the district using the link below!

<u>Amazon Wishlist Link</u>

KARING KITCHEN

ANNUAL USED

TOY DRIVE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

116 W. GROVE ST., ONEIDA

FOR MORE INFORMATION-FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK



Through December 7

ONEIDA CITY HALL
ONEIDA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Share the warmth and joy of Christmas by donating toys through the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign. Together, we can make a difference!

DONATE NOW

Toys for Tots Website

AMERICAN RED CROSS

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING CLASS



The Babysitter's Training Class is designed to teach youth ages 11+ how to become safe and responsible caregivers. This seven hour course will review basic caregiving concepts, leadership and business skills to provide youth with the skillsets needed to begin babysitting independently and respond effectively in emergency situations.

TRAINING INCLUDES:

- Leadership & Business Concepts
- Maintaining Safe Environments
- Understanding 0-12 year old development
- Basic care during an emergency
- Receive your Babysitter Certification



SUNDAYS | 9-3PM AGES 11+

- $125 per participant
- Please bring a baby doll with you.
- Please bring a smart device (phone, tablet, laptop) for the electronic handbook



DEC 6, 2026
JAN 10, 2027
MARCH 7, 2027
MAY 2, 2027
JULY 11, 2027
OCT 10, 2027
DEC 12, 2027

REGISTER ONLINE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Holly Panebianco
hollyp@ymcatrivalley.org
(315) 281-6258
YMCATRIVALLEY.ORG

ONEIDA FAMILY YMCA
701 SENECA STREET
ONEIDA NY 13421
(315) 363-7788



Dickens Christmas in Skaneateles

November 27-December 20

Saturdays and Sundays
12:00pm-4:00pm

Hidden Gems US Travel

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

SENECA FALLS, NY

DECEMBER 9-13, 2026

Starting December 9th in Seneca Falls, New York...the It's A Wonderful Life Festival gets underway bringing five days of Christmas fun to the town known as the real Bedford Falls! Running through December 13th, this year's celebration marks 80 years since the beloved 1946 movie was released. Downtown streets fill with holiday music, decorations, shopping, and special events tied to George Bailey's story, with lights brightening the streets after dark. Explore the It's A Wonderful Life Museum, where you can see movie keepsakes, cast members' personal items, and exhibits about the film. You can even see George Bailey's car and take a picture beside the "You Are Now in Bedford Falls" sign. Walk across the Bridge Street bridge, long linked to the movie, and enjoy a European Christmas market. On December 10th, hundreds of glowing luminarias will line downtown walkways, with caroling, hot chocolate, cookies, and a special ice sculpture. Meet cast members including Karolyn Grimes, who played Zuzu, and Jimmy Hawkins, who played Tommy, during scheduled appearances. There's also a live radio play, holiday concert, community bell ringing, and the December 12th It's a Wonderful Run 5K through town. (*Credit: Hidden Gems US Travel*)





Cooperstown, NY

Holiday Farmers' Market & Cooperstown Stroll

Shop local gifts, explore the festive market, and wander through charming Main Street shops staying open late for the occasion.

Tuesday, December 22, 2026	4 PM – 7 PM	101 Main Street, Pioneer Alley, Cooperstown, NY

Save this post for your holiday plans!

Follow Maksud Adventures for more New York holiday discoveries!

Independent travel guide. Not affiliated with the organizers. Check official updates before visiting.



JOHN AND SUE ROGERS

The Oneida community is fortunate to have residents like John and Sue Rogers, whose kindness and generosity are making a remarkable difference! Through their generous donation of high-quality Furventi heated cat shelters and additional non-heated cat houses to support the Oneida Community Cats Committee, they are helping provide warmth, comfort, and protection for cats in need. These shelters have recently been distributed, and John and Sue have generously offered to donate 14 more! Their compassion and commitment to improving the quality of life for these animals, while supporting the dedicated volunteers and caregivers who look after them, are truly inspiring. Thank you, John and Sue, for your incredible generosity!

Thank You

REMEMBER OUR Shelter Animals THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



The holiday season is a time for kindness, generosity and giving. Please remember the animals in our local shelters who are waiting for a second chance.

MAKE A DONATION

Your support helps provide food, shelter, medical care and comfort for animals in need.

CONSIDER ADOPTION

Give a deserving animal a loving home and a brighter future.

Small Acts Make a Big Difference

Your kindness can help bring hope, comfort and new beginnings to animals in our community.

Happy Holidays!

FROM ALL OF US AT THE CITY OF ONEIDA, WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!