

MAY

2025

NEWSLETTER

CITY OF ONEIDA

BUILDING

OUR

FUTURE



109 N. MAIN ST., ONEIDA

WWW.ONEIDACITYNY.GOV



Moving Forward

DRI



Glenmore Dam



New Business



DRI UPDATE



As Planning Consultant and former Planning Director, Chris Henry plays a key role in guiding the city's land use, zoning, and development efforts. He ensures compliance with zoning regulations, reviews site plans and proposals, and provides expert guidance to the planning board, city council, and other officials. His work helps align development with local laws, environmental standards, and the city's comprehensive plan. Thank you, Chris, for your dedication to keeping projects on track and ensuring responsible growth in our city.

Chris Henry- Planning Consultant

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE

BUILDING MOMENTUM IN ONEIDA

Exciting progress continues across multiple Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) projects, as we work together to revitalize and reimagine our historic downtown:

- **Reimagine the Vacant Hotel Oneida:** Demolition is scheduled to begin this summer, with financing nearly finalized and property conveyance completed. Planning is underway for new parking to support downtown businesses.
- **Downtown Infrastructure, Veterans Memorial Park Improvements, and the AYSO Soccer Facility:** A proposed contract is currently under review and is expected to appear before the Common Council soon. Approval would mark a major milestone, paving the way for significant recreational upgrades at Veterans Memorial Park and transformative streetscape improvements throughout the downtown. It will also be the first step towards the creation of the brand new AYSO Soccer Facility!
- **Downtown Business Assistance Fund:** A proposed contract is currently under review and is expected to appear before the Common Council soon. Approval would mark a major milestone, paving the way for significant recreational upgrades at Veterans Memorial Park and transformative streetscape improvements throughout the downtown.
- **Comprehensive Plan Update, and the new Form-based Code:** Consultant proposals for the Form-Based Zoning Overlay District and Comprehensive Plan update have been received and are currently under review by City staff. A selection is expected soon, marking a key step toward shaping a more flexible, modern, and community-driven vision for Downtown Oneida and beyond.

Our DRI projects are steadily transforming Downtown Oneida into a more vibrant, attractive, and economically strong community. More updates to come as we continue to move forward!

ANNSVILLE, NEW YORK

APRIL 15, 2025



GLENMORE DAM

UPDATE

Thank you to consultant and former Water Superintendent, Art Smolinski, for this update on Glenmore Dam and Chief Operator-WWTP, Travis Mehl and your team for all you do to keep things running smoothly!



The Glenmore Dam, also known as the Oneida City Reservoir Dam, is located near Taberg, New York, approximately 20 miles north of the City of Oneida. It impounds the Glenmore Reservoir on Florence Creek, serving as the primary water source for Oneida and several surrounding communities .



Glenmore Dam, which spans Florence Creek, began filling in August 1926, with water flowing to the City of Oneida just a few months later. Now, after 99 years of service, a comprehensive rehabilitation project is underway. The dam remains the primary water source for over 21,000 residents in Oneida and the surrounding area.

The project will enhance the dam’s structural integrity to withstand flooding and seismic events, and prevent overtopping and displacement. In addition, century-old mechanical components—such as intake screens and valves—will be replaced. Security improvements are also being implemented to address modern-day risks and prevent unauthorized access to the facility.

To recapture loss of storage capacity due to sedimentation, the crest of the dam is being raised by five feet to continue to provide 4.0 million gallons of source water during the calculated worst drought of record. These improvements to Glenmore Reservoir will continue to provide a pristine and protected source of water for Oneida and surrounding communities in the future.





MAJOR STEP FORWARD FOR ONEIDA DRI: LANDMARK BUILDING TO HOUSE NEW RESTAURANT AND STORAGE FACILITY

The City has taken a significant step in advancing its Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) with the approval of multiple resolutions that pave the way for the rehabilitation of a historic downtown property.

At its March 11th meeting, the City of Oneida's Joint Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission approved a Use Variance, Conditional Use Permit, and Site Plan for 130 Broad Street—commonly known as the former Oneida Dispatch building. The approvals will allow local developers to convert the long-vacant building into a mixed-use space featuring a new restaurant and a self-service storage facility.

The project is a key component of Oneida's broader revitalization efforts, aiming to bring new life and economic activity to the heart of the city. The restaurant will occupy a portion of the historic structure, providing a new dining option for residents and visitors alike, while the rear of the building will be utilized for personal storage, maximizing the building's functionality. City officials praised the project as a creative and thoughtful reuse of an important downtown asset. "It's a smart adaptive reuse that supports both economic development and community needs," said City Manager Kyle Lovell.

The approvals were granted with conditions to ensure environmental safety, appropriate screening, timely construction, and compliance with zoning regulations.

The revitalization of 130 Broad Street is a promising sign of momentum for downtown Oneida, signaling continued progress in breathing new life into the city's historic core.

MAY MEETINGS

6

COMMON COUNCIL-6:30 PM

13

WATER BOARD-3:30 PM

13

PLANNING COMM-6:00 PM

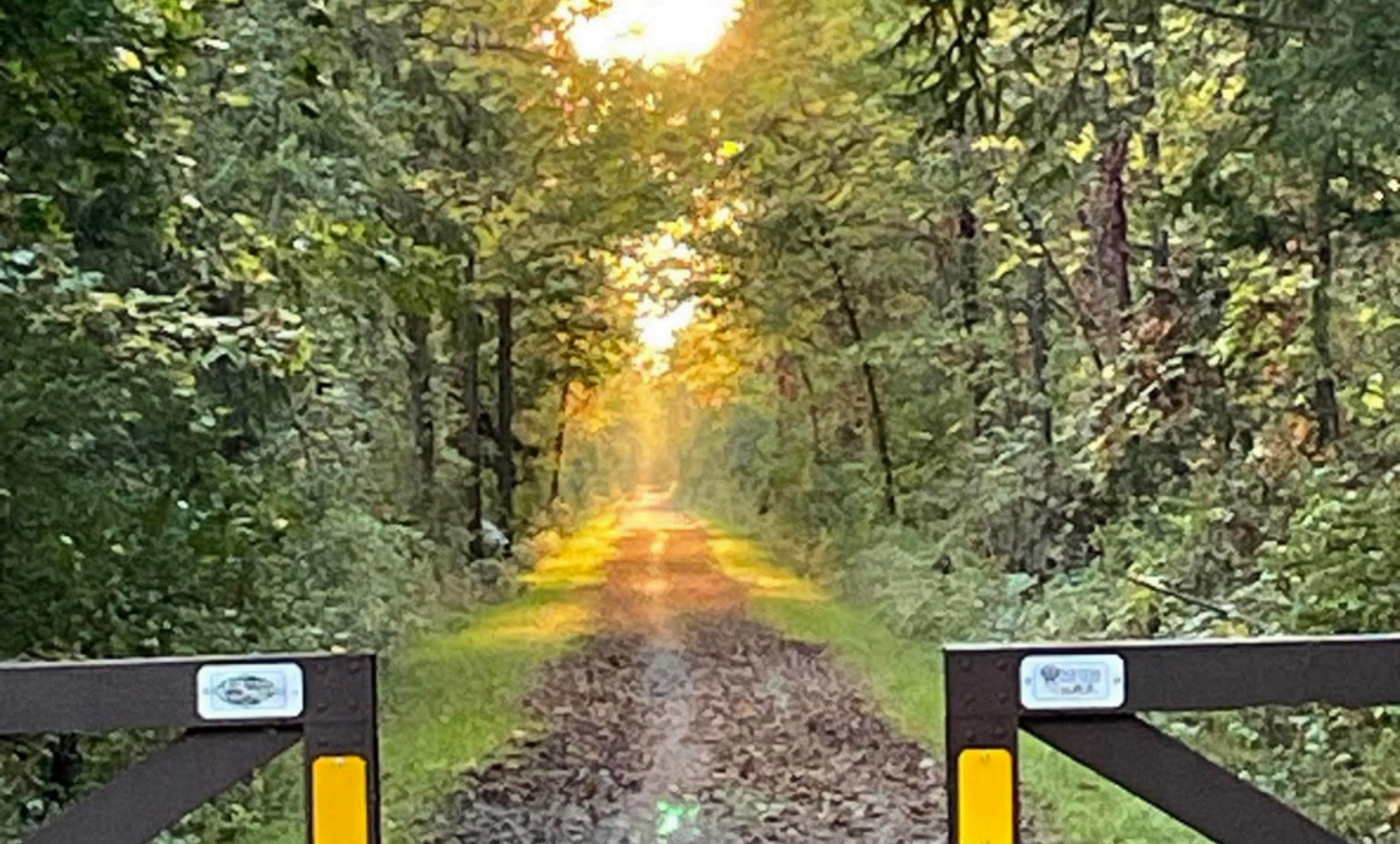
20

COMMON COUNCIL-6:30 PM

28

RECREATION COMM-6:30 PM

109 N. Main St. Oneida
Rec Center-217 Cedar St. Oneida

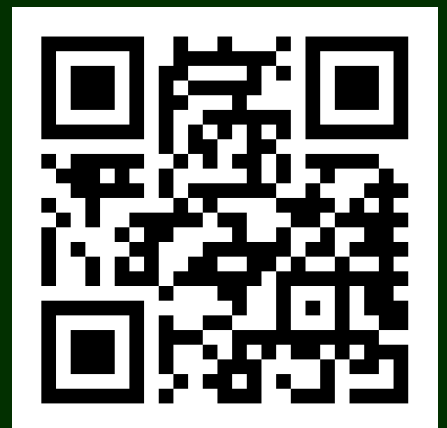


Help build Oneida's future—Apply today!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SCAN ME

- ✓ Comptroller
- ✓ Water Superintendent
- ✓ Lateral Transfer Police Officers





ONEIDA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NOW HIRING!

LATERAL TRANSFERS & FULL- TIME POLICE OFFICERS

- ✓ **COMPETITIVE SALARY**
- ✓ **PAID TIME OFF**
- ✓ **LONGEVITY BONUSES**
- ✓ **NYS RETIREMENT**
- ✓ **SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL**
- ✓ **HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE**

Lateral transfers must be a NYS
Police Officer in good standing.

For more information, click [HERE](#)



Lieutenant Keith Hudson
khudson@oneidacityny.gov




315-363-9111

MAY MESSAGE

As we welcome the arrival of spring, I encourage everyone to take in the fresh air and enjoy the beauty of our city as it comes to life after a long winter. With the change of seasons comes an opportunity to give back to our community, and I'm excited to announce Oneida's first-ever Park Clean-Up Day on Wednesday, April 16th! This is a great chance for us to come together, take pride in our city, and ensure our parks remain beautiful and welcoming for all. We'll meet at City Hall at 8:00 AM, distribute assignments, and then head out to Veterans Park and Allen Park for a morning of teamwork and service. I invite residents of all ages to join us in this effort—many hands make light work! As we embrace the season of renewal, I also want to wish a Happy Easter to all who celebrate. May this season bring joy, warmth, and togetherness to you and your loved ones.



KYLE LOVELL-CITY MANAGER



GUEST MEMBER TO COUNCIL

Fifth-grade student and Oneida resident Elizabeth “Lizzy” DeFrees has a keen interest in government. She expressed her desire to learn more in a letter to City Manager Kyle Lovell, who, in turn, invited her to attend a Common Council meeting and sit beside him on the dais. Accompanied by her father, Duane, Lizzy had the opportunity to witness firsthand how a meeting unfolds.



LIZZY DEFREES

You are always welcome, Lizzy! Thank you for reaching out and sharing your enthusiasm with us. It's inspiring to see the youth in our community take an interest in City government, and we look forward to seeing even more involvement in the future!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHEDULE



10
MAY

CATSTOCK 5

Oneida American Legion
12:00-8:00 pm



23
MAY

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Triangle Park-Ceremony
6:30 pm



6
JUNE

RIDE FOR THE MISSING CHILDREN

Oneida High School
12:52 pm



8
JUNE

PAWS ON THE GREEN

Casolwood Golf Course
8:00 am

For More Information, Click on the Event Title!



Brought to you by  **RT Federal Credit Union**

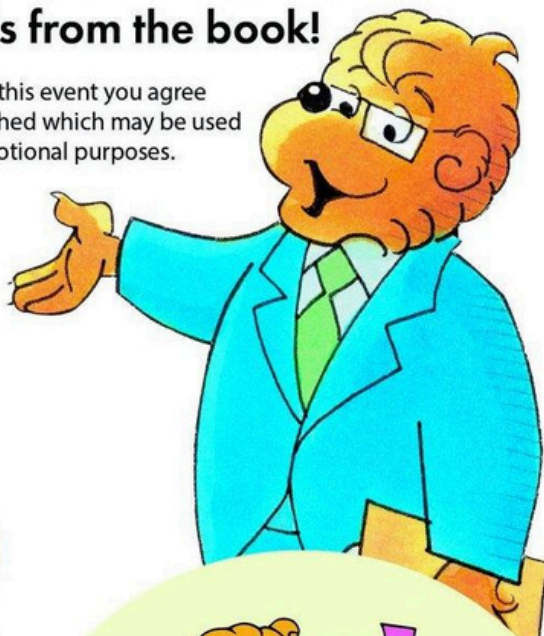
STORYTIME WITH MEET & GREET

Oneida Public Library

April 22nd, 2025 at 10:00am

Join us for a **FREE** special reading of the exclusive
"Berenstain Bears® Visit The Credit Union",
& meet furry friends from the book!

Please note: By attending this event you agree
to being filmed or photographed which may be used
for marketing or promotional purposes.

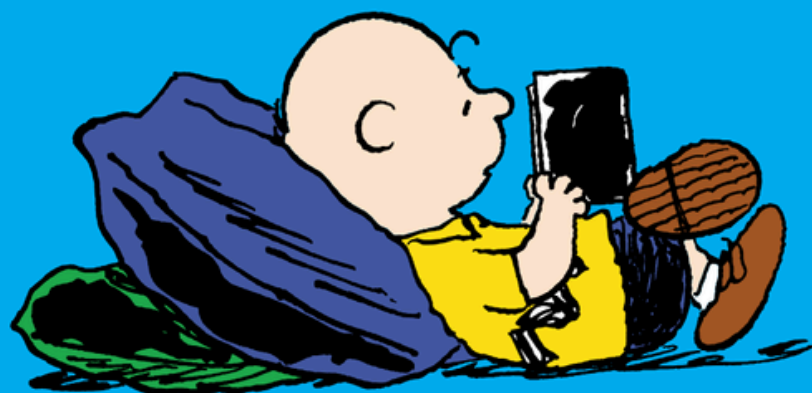


RT Federal Credit Union is committed to providing financial education to people of all ages. We believe that learning about money management should be fun, which is why we're excited to partner with The Berenstain Bears Financial Literacy Program. Together, we'll help you and your family learn the important financial concept of Save, Spend, Share, Earn. Join us and your favorite bear family on this exciting journey towards a brighter financial future!

Visit **RTFCU.COM** for more information.



Open a **CUB CLUB ACCOUNT** at one of our branches today!
Federally insured by NCUA. Membership Eligibility Required.
The Berenstain Bears Copyright, Berenstain Enterprises, Inc. 2024.



HEALTHY KIDS DAY®

APRIL 26TH | 9AM – 12PM

Healthy Kids Day® is an annual national event celebrated at Ys across the country to help inspire healthy habits in kids and families. The YMCA of the Greater Tri-Valley is hosting a variety of free activities to promote play and inspire a lifetime love of physical activity. Events will be held in our Rome, Oneida, and Whitesboro locations! This is a great opportunity to discover programs and activities available in our community that help keep your family moving!



YMCA ONEIDA

701 Seneca St. Oneida, NY



LEARN

MORE



A NIGHT AT THE USO

YMCA DETERMINATION
CELEBRATION

PRESENTED BY



YMCA OF THE GREATER
TRI-VALLEY

SCAN FOR
TICKETS!



\$45/PERSON ★ SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

6:00 - 9:00PM ★ HARTS HILL INN- WHITESBORO, NY (AGES 21+)
1940'S USO THEMED PARTY BUT NOT REQUIRED

**SMALL
TOWN BIG
BAND**

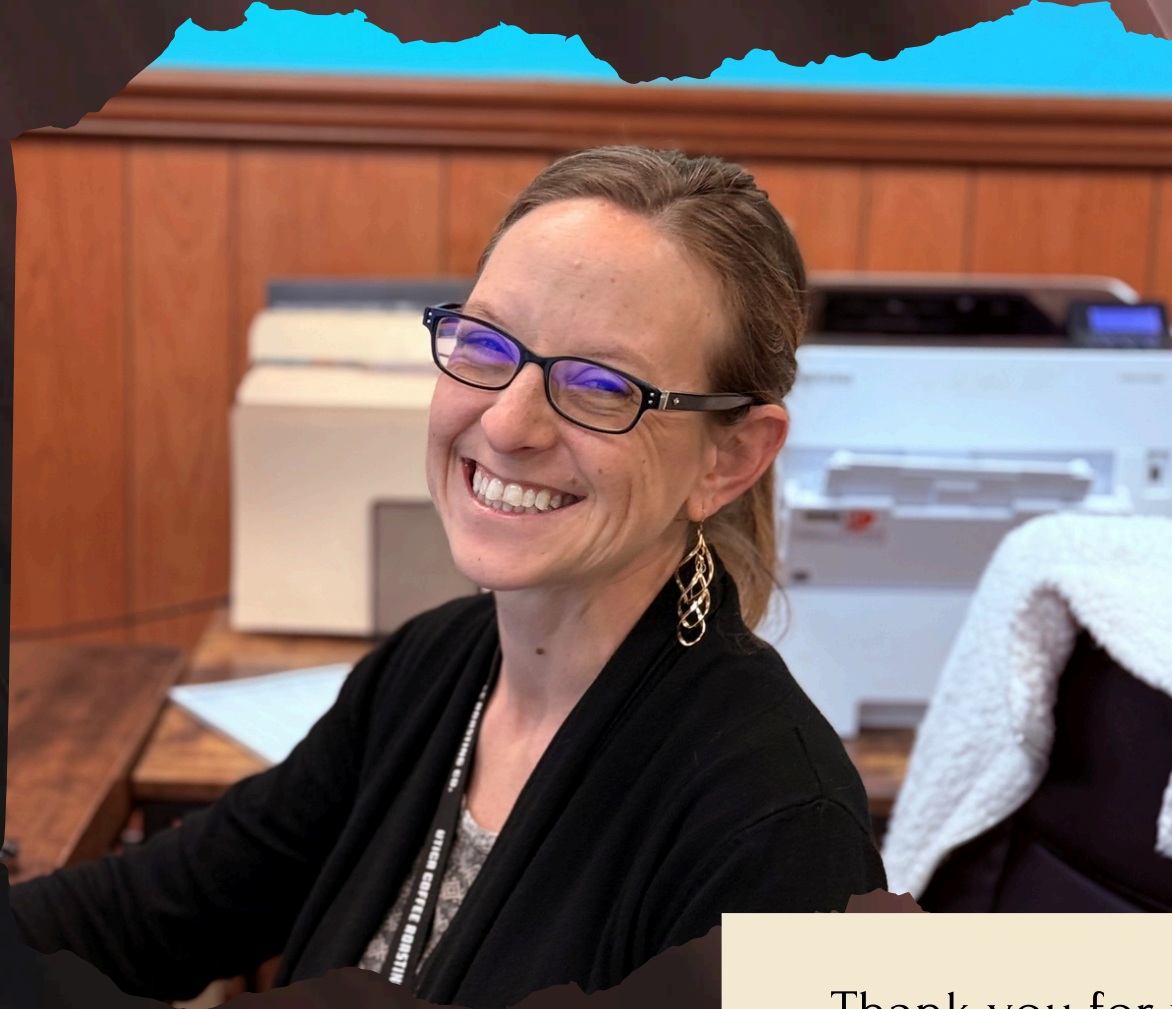
**PREMIUM
RAFFLE
BASKETS**

**YMCA
DETERMINATION
HONOREES**

**DINNER &
CASH BAR**

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE YMCA'S
CHANGING LIVES FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE FUND

YMCATRIVALLEY.ORG



Thank you for your
hard work,
professionalism,
and unwavering
support. Your
contributions make
a significant impact
on our department
and the entire city.

Thank
You!

DEPUTY CITY CLERK, MONIQUE LUDWIG
mludwig@oneidacityny.gov

HAPPY HIKING!!

ART SMOLINSKI

**CONSULTANT-
FORMER WATER
SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear God, where do I start? I have known you for 18 years. You repaired my typewriter, brought laughter into my day, and have shared an unparalleled depth of knowledge and expertise with this city. Thank you for rescuing us time and again. Your contributions are valued more than words can express.

Hopefully, we will see you again soon! Wishing you the best in your next adventure and safe travels- pictures please and come "home" soon!





MAX REESE
CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

Max Reese began working for the city in March of 2022. He is one of the most dedicated and hardworking employees we are fortunate to have. His commitment to his work, coupled with his ability to manage multiple projects with skill and expertise, has made him an invaluable asset to our team. Thank you Max, for all you do!



mreese@oneidacityny.gov

ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER
Department of Public Works

TOM O'HERIEN

Tom O'Herien serves as the Assistant City Engineer for Oneida. His expertise and commitment to the city's infrastructure projects play a crucial role in maintaining and improving our community. His dedication and skill ensure that the city's engineering needs are met with precision and efficiency. Tom began his career with the city in September of 1995. Thank you Tom for all you do and your dedication to the city and your department.



toherien@oneidacityny.gov



IN APPRECIATION

Thank you, Supervisor Mary Cavanagh, for your steadfast commitment to keeping our residents informed. Your continued efforts to share county-level information and news for our newsletter are recognized and greatly appreciated.

Your dedication ensures that our community stays connected, informed, and engaged, and we are truly grateful for your valuable contributions.



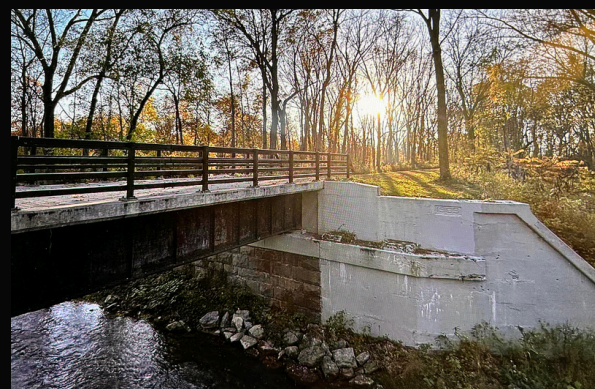
For More Information
madisoncounty.ny.gov

MARY CAVANAGH
Supervisor Wards 1-2-3



ONEIDA RAIL TRAIL

The Oneida Rail Trail, also known as the Greater Oneida Area Trails (GOAT), is connected to the Lenox Rail Trail, which is connected to the Erie Canalway Trail. This incredibly unique interconnecting trail system offers numerous options for outdoor adventures! Pictured above is local railroad historian and author, John Taibi and Joe Magliocca from the Oneida Improvement Committee, who with the help of many volunteers, the Madison County Planning Dept. and the City of Oneida made this dream come to fruition.

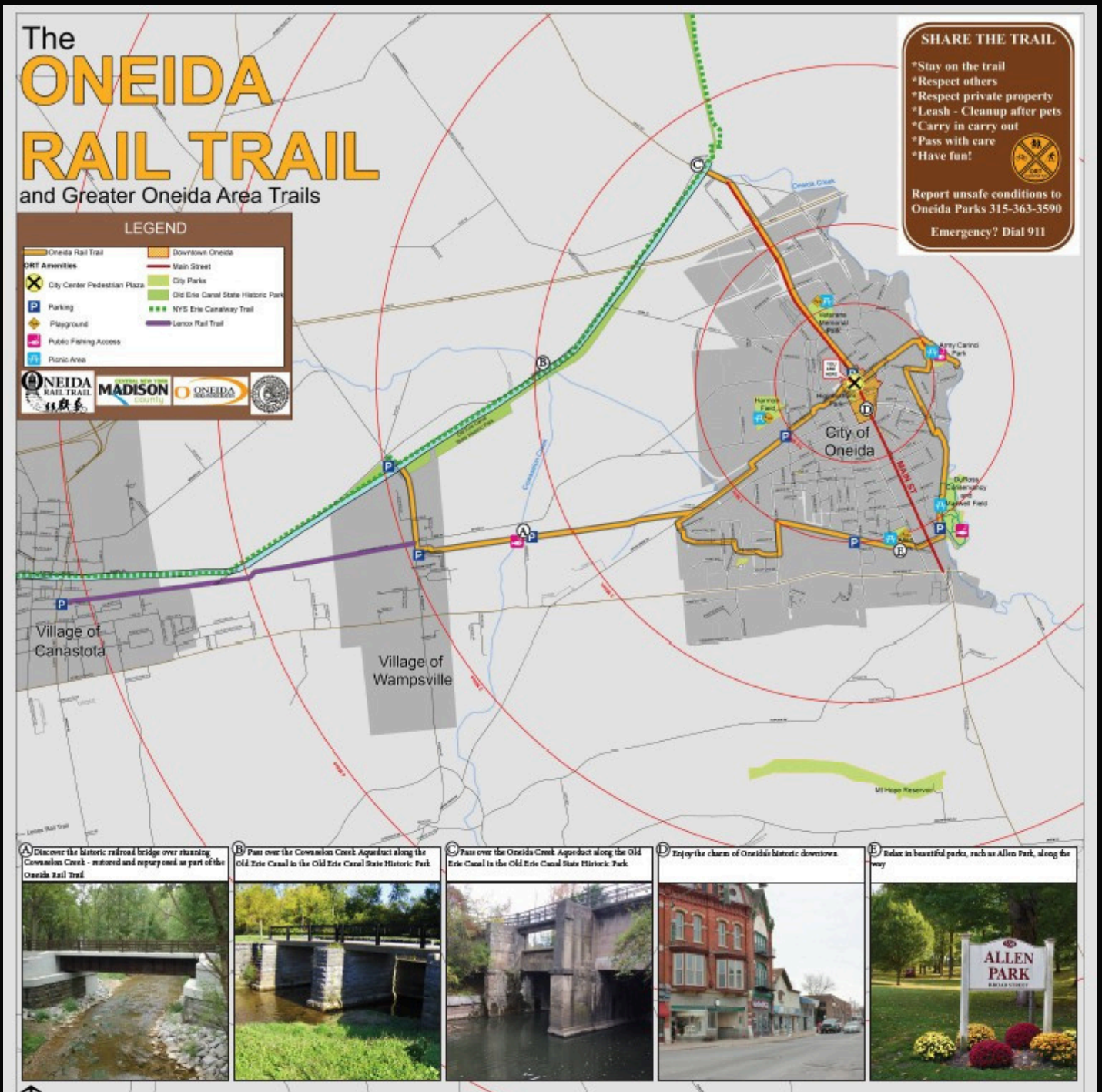




ENJOY THE OUTDOORS! WALK OR BIKE THE ORT

Embark on an adventure along the Greater Oneida Area Trails, where breathtaking landscapes and a deep-rooted history await at every turn! Whether you're seeking a peaceful escape into nature or a journey through the past, these trails offer a perfect blend of scenic beauty and historical intrigue. Lace up your hiking boots, bring your sense of exploration, and experience the best of Oneida's hidden gems!

www.improveoneida.com



Thanks to the efforts of Joe Magliocco and Patti Meakin, with the help of former City Comptroller, Lee Ann Wells, funds were secured through a TEP/TAP Grant and from a NY Canal Corp grant for the 7 historical signs—referred to as “The Magical History Tour.” These informative signs are located at all Oneida Rail Trail trailhead gates.

Map courtesy of Jamie Kowalczyk
Madison County Planning Department

MORE INFORMATION



[Facebook Page](#)



WEDDING SEASON

CROSS ISLAND CHAPEL

Often considered the world's smallest church, the Cross Island Chapel is located on Mason's Pond on Sconodoa Rd. in Oneida. It is approximately 28 square feet and accommodates only 2-5 people. Built in 1989, it is a non-denominational church primarily used for private prayer and small ceremonies.

The church obtained this title in July 1990, when its floor area under-measured the longtime Guinness Record holder, Union Church in Wiscasset, Maine.



CALL NOW

315-264-4257

GETTING MARRIED!

Your guide to saying “I Do” in Madison County.



AMAZING job Kaytlynn Lynch, Director of Tourism, Madison County, Yellow House Creative Services, and all involved with the new Madison County Wedding Guide! It is fantastic!

Contact [Madison County Tourism](#) or visit the City Clerk's office for your FREE copy today!



GOLF IN ONEIDA KANON VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB



8623 Lake Rd., Oneida, NY 13421

315.363.8280

Celebrating
— 20 YEARS —

SHERRILL MANUFACTURING



Congratulations to Greg Owens and Matt Roberts on the 20th anniversary of Sherrill Manufacturing. Your dedication to preserving American manufacturing and your commitment to quality have made a lasting impact. Wishing you continued success and growth in the years ahead.

MATT ROBERTS & GREG OWENS

Sherrill Manufacturing, Inc. is a privately held company owned by Greg Owens and Matt Roberts. They purchased the former Oneida Ltd. flatware manufacturing facility in Sherrill, New York, in 2005 after Oneida Ltd. ceased operations there. The company now operates under the brand Liberty Tabletop, which is known for being the only flatware manufacturer in the United States.





COMMUNITY GARDENS

We still have beds available for anyone interested in participating this year! Many thanks to all who helped set up , especially our volunteer OHS Honor Students and Boy Scouts!

*Alex Ludwig & Sylvia Walters
Troop 2 Boy Scouts/Adult Scouts*

WE OFFER :

- ✓ \$20 per bed
- ✓ On site water
- ✓ Free dirt and mulch
- ✓ Fenced in, secure area



REGISTER NOW



slapera@oneidacityny.gov

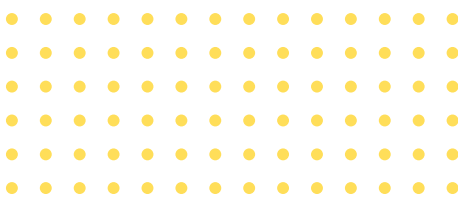
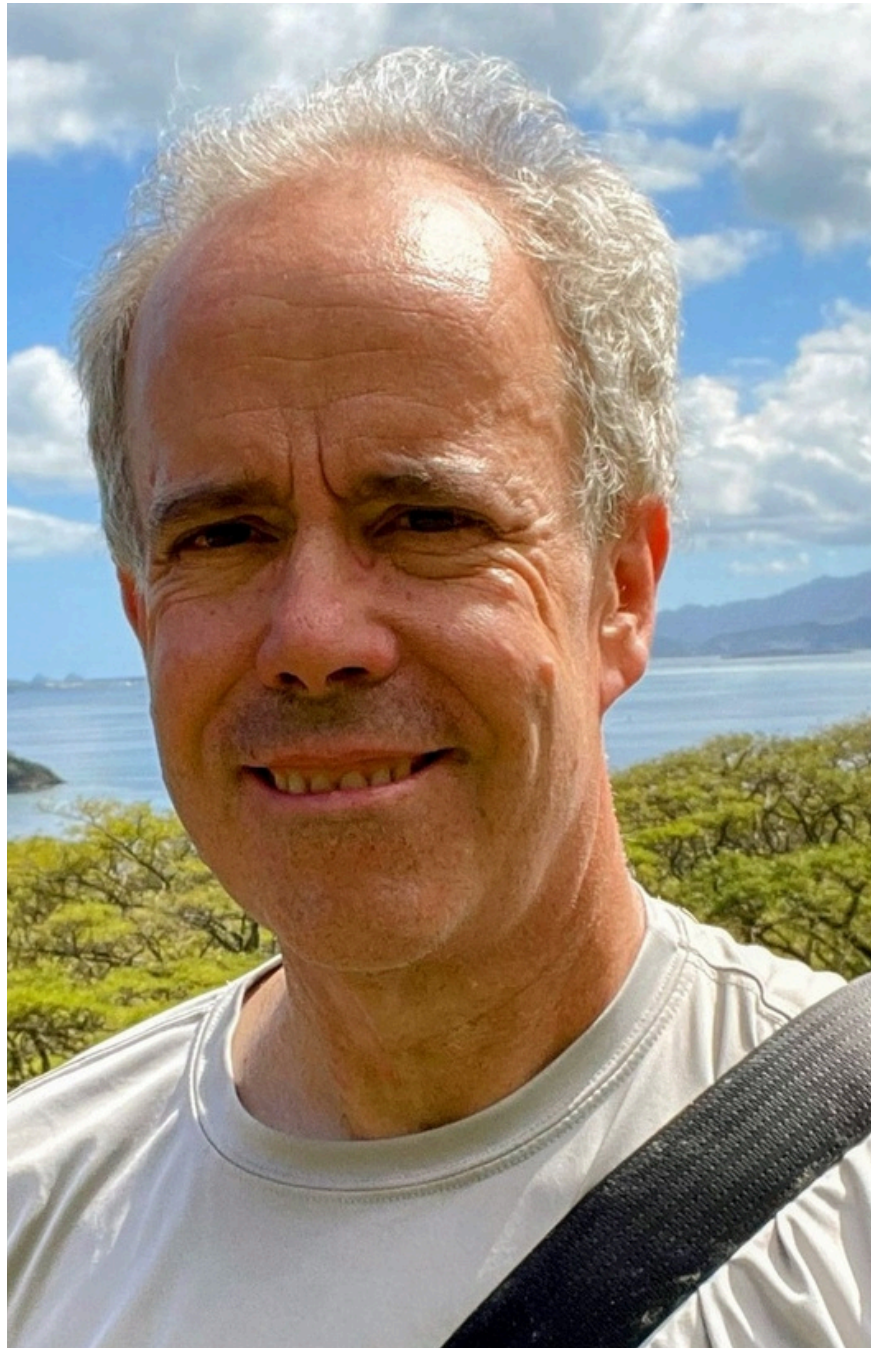


RALPH KOHLER JR.

thank you



I truly believe in showing appreciation to those who lend a hand. When I stepped in to manage the Community Gardens—without a green thumb—Mr. Kohler was there to guide me every step of the way. Your insight and suggestions have been invaluable, and I'm so grateful for all the help!



FLARING HAS OFFICIALLY STARTED!

nationalgrid

Building a smarter, stronger energy future to better serve your community

In-Line Inspection, Oneida NY

Fact Sheet | March 2025

Dear Neighbor,

National Grid's commitment to our customers and communities begins with providing safe, reliable energy. We're building a more resilient energy network that will positively impact our communities today and for generations to come. Beginning in April 2025, National Grid will mobilize a temporary workspace in Oneida, NY, for a regularly scheduled in-line inspection of our infrastructure.

What is an In-Line Inspection?

An in-line inspection is a periodic review of National Grid natural gas infrastructure to monitor the real-time condition of our assets and ensure safe, reliable energy delivery for Central New York. The in-line inspection process involves sending an inspection tool through the line to capture data about the condition of the pipe. Once the in-line inspection has been completed, the pipeline will be safely returned to normal service. This work is part of National Grid's federal and state-mandated pipeline Integrity Management Program, and it is essential to maintaining safe and reliable delivery of energy to our customers.

What work is occurring?

This project will require a temporary flaring operation to be set up near the National Grid facility at 1265 Union St, Oneida, NY. The flaring operation will involve burning natural gas in a controlled manner while the in-line inspection is taking place. Neighbors may notice associated noise and visible controlled burning during the flaring operation.

What are the next steps?

During the next few months, you may see National Grid approved contractors and employees conducting preliminary investigations near the work zone. Approved contractors work to the highest professional and safety standards and are required to carry company photo identification.

As the project progresses, you will receive communications from National Grid updating you on project status. We look forward to your understanding as we move forward with this important infrastructure improvement project. If you have any questions, please contact us at 315-293-2393.

Sincerely,

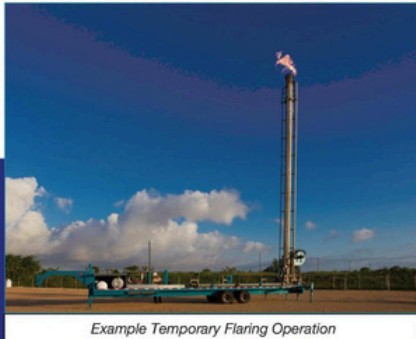
Amy Rood



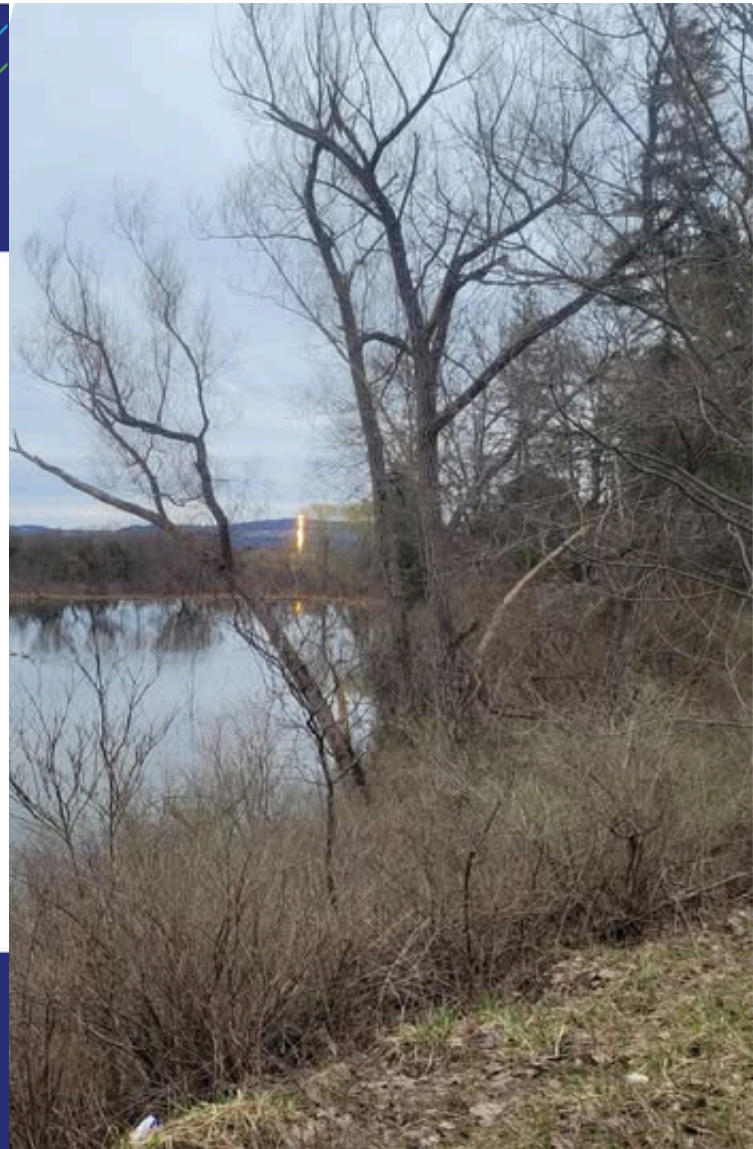
Project Engagement National Grid

Smell Gas. Act Fast.

Indoors or outdoors – know what to do. From a safe location away from the smell, call 1-800-892-2345 or 911. Planning to do any excavation? Help us protect our underground infrastructure by calling UDig New York at 811 at least 2 full days before you start working.



Example Temporary Flaring Operation



The City Fire Chief has been in contact with National Grid and is aware of the operation. This is the process they use to expel all of the excess natural gas prior to doing an inspection of the pipeline.

CONTACT US




+315-293-2393

Amy.Rood@nationalgrid.com

1265 Union St., Oneida

www.nationalgridus.com



NEW YORK STATE

Brush Burning Ban

MARCH 16 – MAY 14

The New York State Burn Ban is active from **March 16 through May 14**. Even though conditions may seem wet now, dried-out vegetation can quickly become a wildfire risk once the weather changes. The Madison County Office of Emergency Management reminds everyone that the NYS DEC Open Burn Ban is designed to help prevent dangerous wildfires. We urge all residents to follow this ban to keep our community safe.

What Can I Burn?

The following types of open fires are allowed in NYS. All fires must consist of only charcoal or dry, clean, untreated, and unpainted wood.

- Campfires, small cooking fires, or any other outdoor fire less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length, width, or diameter. Information on [building a safe campfire](#) can be found below.

- Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires, including the disposal of flags or religious items if it is not otherwise prohibited by law or regulation.

- For most of the year, downed tree limbs and branches (also called brush) that are less than 6 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length, including branches with attached leaves, are allowed to be burned on-site in towns with total population less than 20,000 residents. The burning of brush is prohibited from March 16 through May 14 due to the increased risk of wildfires.

- Open fires to control the spread of invasive species are allowed with case-by-case approval from DEC. Approval can be obtained from [DEC regional offices](#).

- Open fires on [agricultural lands](#).

TRUCKS, TRUCKS, TRUCKS

A CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL BOOK



Written by Chris Bailey

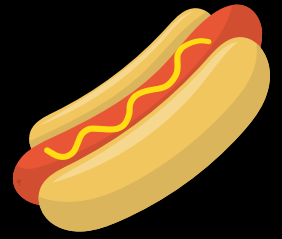
Discover the exciting world of trucks with "Trucks, Trucks, Trucks!" - A Children's Educational Truck Book designed for kids between 4-8 years old or any children for that matter. This captivating book is perfect for young truck enthusiasts, taking them on a journey through the fascinating world of things that go!

This children's book will explore various trucks, each with a unique role. From the hardworking **firetruck** to the mighty **bulldozer**, the delicious **ice cream truck** to the helpful **delivery truck**, this book covers it all. Your child will also learn about the **army truck**, **food truck**, **animal transport truck**, **logging truck**, **construction truck**, and many more!

[Check it out HERE!](#)



Welcome!



Fitzgerald's ***FIREHOUSE HOTDOGS***

Formerly Lenny's Firehouse HotDogs



[Visit their new Facebook Page!](#)

You'll still find the same menu, recipes, and prices you know and love! They're now serving from Gorman Plaza, directly across from the Oneida Legion. Best wishes as they settle into their new spot, and hopefully, will explore some others as well!



FOOD TRUCK FRENZY!

FAMILY FUN!

Walmart
Oneida, NY

Friday Nights From
May 16th – Sept 26th, 2025
4 pm – 8 pm

📞 315-256-4350



Stop by for dinner!



SPONSOR

Event Details [HERE!](#)



NEW LOCATION

GIOVANNI'S BIG CHEESE



137 BROAD ST., ONEIDA, NY

**COMING
SOON**

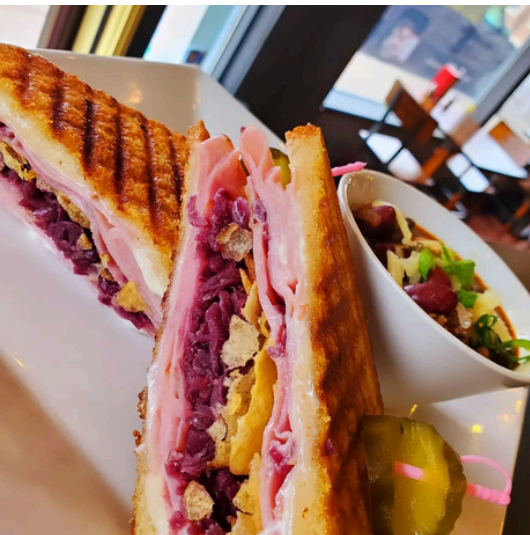


315-363-3344

[Visit us on Facebook](#)

THE BLEND

CONEHEADS



EAT
LOCAL



NAPOLEONS

CALLEE 1945

CITY OF ONEIDA

Daily Specials-Extensive Menus-Great Prices!

CRAVING PIZZA? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!



Little Caesars

506 Lenox Ave. **D-Ray's Pizzeria**
215 Broad St.



MENU

STOP IN TODAY

MENU



Artani's Pizzeria
128 N. Main St.

Pepi's Pizza
228 Genesee St.



MENU

MENU

🔥 Spring Into Safety! 🔥

Protect Your Home, Protect Your Family

Check Smoke Alarms

- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- 🔋 Replace batteries if needed.
- 🏠 Install alarms in every bedroom, outside sleeping areas, and on each level of your home.



Spring Cleaning Fire Hazards

- 🧹 Clear out clutter that could fuel a fire.
- ⚠️ Check cords for fraying and avoid overloading outlets.
- 🔥 Store flammable liquids properly.



Outdoor Fire Safety (Grill & Yard)

- 🍔 Clean your grill before use to remove grease build-up.
- 🌿 Keep a 3-foot "safe zone" around your grill or fire pit.
- 🚫 Never leave outdoor fires unattended.

SHARE *your craft!* CALL FOR VENDORS

FALL FEST 2025

We still need vendors for our Fall Fest,
but spots are filling up fast! Please
contact Sandy LaPera at
slapera@oneidacityny.gov to apply.

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 4TH
MOTT STREET-ONEIDA-11:00-5:00PM.

For more information, visit
our [Facebook Page](#)