

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCIES

CART Offers Support to Pets and Owners During Disasters

Times of crisis are traumatic for all members of the family – even the four-legged ones. To help alleviate this burden during disasters or other emergencies in Oneida County, the newly formed County Animal Response Team (CART) was established to coordinate assistance for citizens and their pets.

CART is equipped to support domestic, owned, stray or wild animals in a disaster, including pet-friendly shelter and other care needs during times of displacement.



PRIDE IN OC GOVERNMENT

114 OC Employees CPR-Certified

Following trainings earlier this year, 114 Oneida County employees (and counting!) are now certified in CPR from the American Heart Association.

According to the American Heart Association, more than 326,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in the United States every year – with 70 percent of Americans feeling unprepared to take action to help. However, thanks to rigorous training efforts, more than 114 Oneida County employees are now CPR-certified.

If you would like to sign up for future trainings, contact Melanie Adams at madams@ocgov.net or 798-5099.



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Oneida County Named Top Digital County

Probation Officers Make an Impact at Local Schools

August is National Immunization Month

Refreshed Pictometry Program Boosts Planning, Public Safety

Single Mother Success Story

Airport Employees Also Serve as Firefighters

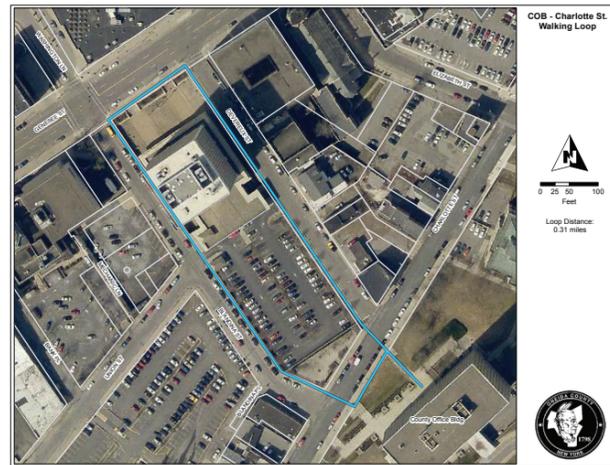


OC United celebrates all aspects of Oneida County government to unite and instill pride in the great work we achieve together.

Did you know?

Walking Maps Help You Get Out and Move

Looking for something to do on your lunch? How about taking a walk? Walking maps are available via the intranet and provide you with convenient paths and calorie expenditure estimates.



As summer is coming to a close, I'm happy and proud to say that we've had a productive season – you've worked hard.

The exciting activities and achievements you'll read about in the coming pages is a testament to your continued dedication and passion for serving the people of Oneida County.

Together, we're moving Oneida County forward – and I couldn't be more inspired.

Keep up the good work.

Anthony J. Picente Jr.
County Executive
Oneida County

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCIES

Oneida County Named Top Digital County

Oneida County was recently named one of the nation's top digital counties by the Center for Digital Government and the National Association of Counties.

Contributing to this designation includes the County's investment in efficiencies such as converting paper records into electronic form, reducing paper storage costs while enhancing search and data-sharing capabilities, and ensuring compliance with the New York State Archives records retention schedule

For example, the Oneida County District Attorney's office has been working toward becoming the first DA's office in New York State to go paperless. The county's new Laserfiche system has streamlined court operations by:

- Allowing staff to digitally retrieve records in court using laptops or tablets

- Automatically identifying and emailing documents that need to be shared with defense attorneys

- Integrating with the court's case management system, where any record stored in Laserfiche can be accessed directly

The Board of Elections and Health Department have also benefited from technology updates.

"Our goal is to ensure that we're performing our duties in the most efficient way possible," said Anthony J. Picente Jr., Oneida County Executive. "This approach allows us to run government more effectively, and to provide benefits and savings for agencies and taxpayers."

Additional infrastructure projects, including upgrading the county's server, storage, and back-up systems, are being implemented this year.



COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Probation Officers Make an Impact at Local Schools

The members of the Oneida County Probation Department take their primary responsibility to heart – providing professional and competent supervision of assigned offenders for the benefit and safety of the community. But what makes this department stand out among others is its commitment to preventative initiatives aimed at reducing the number of youths who become involved with the legal system.

One such example is the positive outcomes seen through the recently implemented program that places probation officers into local school districts. These probation officers personally invest themselves into working in conjunction with school-based programs, such as Safe Schools/Healthy Students, and critical school personnel, including

administrators, teachers, guidance counselors and child study teams.

Together, probation officers, youths and key school members have been extremely successful in developing individual plans aimed at diverting students from further trouble.

Oneida County Probation Department Deputy Director Patrick Cady attributes part of the program's success to the dedication of the officers.

"These probation officers have gone above and beyond their day-to-day responsibilities and immersed themselves within their districts," said Cady. "You'll see them not only at school, but at many school functions – sporting events, awards ceremonies, or even helping to supervise school dances. The impact is evident in the positive program results."



(From left to right) James Fister coaches modified girls soccer, basketball, and track for Waterville Central School District; James Sojda coaches boys varsity basketball for Clinton Central School District; Scott Lee is a coach/helper for boys varsity soccer at Remsen Central School District; Mark F. Joseph coaches varsity basketball at Proctor Senior High School.

Refreshed Pictometry Program Boosts Planning, Public Safety

Pictometry is a versatile program, used by a variety of Oneida County government departments, which provides high-resolution images that are geo-referenced and viewable from five or more angles.

Users can precisely measure height, distance, altitude and surface area directly on the images for assessment, public

safety, emergency response and many other needs.

In the spring of 2015, grant funding paid for the purchase of an update to the Pictometry program that allowed new aerial views to be obtained. These images are available for official use by contacting sjones@ocgov.net.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT



August is National Immunization Month

With flu season just around the corner, the Oneida County Health Department is taking advantage of August – National Immunization Awareness Month – to remind parents and students that staying up to date with recommended vaccinations protects everyone from serious, sometimes life-threatening, diseases.

Getting immunized is a life-long, life-protecting effort, regardless of age, sex, race or ethnic background," said Phyllis Ellis, Director of the Oneida County Health Department.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the benefits of immunization for people of all ages are among the most significant public health achievements of our time. Vaccines have eradicated small pox, eliminated poliovirus in the United States, and significantly reduced the incidence of measles, rubella, pertussis and other diseases.

The immunity provided by many vaccines wanes with age, making it necessary to repeat or receive a booster, in many cases. It is recommended that adolescents and adults 11-64 years of age receive a Tdap shot to boost their immunity for pertussis, particularly if they have regular contact with infants.

In addition, most adults should receive an annual flu vaccine, and older adults, especially those with chronic respiratory conditions, should consider a pneumonia vaccine. The shingles vaccine should also be explored for anyone who had chicken pox during childhood.

For more information on immunizations or for a complete schedule of immunization clinics, call the Oneida County Health Department at 798-6400 or visit www.ocgov.net/oneida/health.

DSS Runs in the Family

Compassion and commitment to caring runs in the family at the Oneida County Department of Social Services. Within this one department, there are 13 parent/adult child employees, as well as seven sibling employees!

(Left to right) Lauren Oleksy and sister, Maureen Boehlert; Steven Soldato and mother, Lucille Soldato; Nicole Hutchins and mother, Gail Smolinsky; Richard Ferris and daughter, Emily Hawkridge; Jodylyn Jones and brother, Michael Jones; Theresa Wands and sister, Jackie Inman; Sean Demma and mother, Pam Demma; Tim DiMare and mother, Johanna DiMare; Colleen Fahy-Box and daughter, Meghan Olney; Pat Roper and daughter, Elizabeth Mayo; Melissa Jones; Alexandria DiMaggio; Mavis Leseczynski; Nicole Genovese; and Marie Roy and daughter, Catherine Roy. Not pictured are Chris Yozzo and Aaron Breault; Ruth Conception and Michelle Navedo; Wendy Delia and Nick Delia; Seth Richardson and Elinda Hamel; Dian Knopka and Denise Knopka; Heather Dunham; Denise VanDreaser-Berry and Darci Barrett; Keri Morris and Samantha VanderWorken.



A Single Mother's Success Story



The Oneida County Department of Social Services (DSS) Employment Unit shared the recent success story of a client who overcame adversity to achieve self-sufficiency.

Since 2007, a DSS client and mother of four had been fighting to become self-sufficient. Despite efforts, the mother struggled with a number of challenges, including reliable day care, lack of transportation, and addiction. On and off public assistance, the mother turned to the DSS Day Care and Employment Unit for help. Staff members were able to support her in her quest to obtain addiction support and placed her into a work

experience program – which later turned into a paying job. In addition, staff connected her with the childcare assistance she so desperately needed to be a reliable employee.

With the help of DSS, this mother not only secured a job, she also gained experience and confidence – leading to a full-time employment position.

Today, she is proud to work two full-time jobs, day and evening shifts, to maintain self sufficiency and remains grateful to those at DSS who helped her achieve this success.

Did you know?

Airport Employees Also Serve as Firefighters

Did you know that the Griffiss International Airport has its own firefighters? As part of their duties, airport maintenance workers are trained in aircraft firefighting and rescue.

Known as aircraft rescue and firefighting personnel, these employees complete rigorous instruction and live-fire training, annually.

In addition to airport employees, neighboring fire departments have been invited to attend this training to increase cooperation and cohesiveness, should an emergency arise. Departments that have participated include Rome, Barneveld, Holland Patent, Floyd, Maynard, Stittville, Whitesboro, Yorkville, Western, Lake Delta, and Taberg.

