



Fall Issue 2016

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



*From the
County
Executive*

Today more than ever people should know there is another side to government. One that isn't cynical and flippant. A government that doesn't defy the public trust or abscond with the people's money. A government of hardworking people who take pride in what they do while doing what they believe is best for all the people they serve. Government that is idealistic, positive and honorable. That's why I serve. I'm proud of what we do here in Oneida County. I'm proud of the work we have accomplished and the work we will still accomplish together.

Anthony J. Picente Jr.
County Executive
Oneida County



Griffiss Hosts the 2016 DJI SDK Development Challenge

Griffiss closed out August 2016 by hosting the 2016 DJI SDK Developer Challenge. The eyes of the international drone world were on Oneida County in August as Griffiss International Airport hosted the 2016 DJI SDK Developer Challenge. This international competition, now in its third year, brings together talented people in the startup and developer community to collaborate with industry-leaders to create a search and rescue system for the future. This year, the challenge centered on a theoretical search-and-rescue mission. Of 130 proposals received by DJI to begin the competition, the 10 remaining teams from around the globe were tasked with building an application that enables a drone to autonomously take off from

a moving vehicle, collect data on the whereabouts of survivors and transmit the information from the disaster site back to the vehicle, then land autonomously on the same moving vehicle.



PRIDE IN GOVERNMENT

Tomidy Accepts the 2016 Sara Tullar Fasoldt Leadership Humanitarian Award



Dave Tomidy has been awarded the prestigious 2016 Sara Tullar Fasoldt Leadership and Humanitarian Award From the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. The award pays special tribute to outstanding individuals in the field of community corrections who demonstrate extraordinary professionalism, personal commitment and dedication—all hallmarks of the life and work of Sara Fasoldt, former head of the NYS Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives.

David Tomidy has been employed with the Oneida County Probation Department for 43 years as a Probation Officer, Probation Supervisor, and Probation Director. Under his capable leadership, the Department effectively supervises over 1,550 juvenile and adult probationers as directed by the courts. Director Tomidy has worked collaboratively with juvenile justice, child welfare, and criminal justice professionals to reduce recidivism and unnecessary reliance upon out of the home residential placements and incarceration.

Tomidy has established a strong partnership with the law enforcement, education, and service provider systems throughout Oneida County. This has included establishing a probation presence in 10 school districts and in 15 buildings. The depart-

ment's probation officers serve as school resource officers and mentors in the schools with a strong focus in identifying at-risk youth, providing preventive services, and engaging students, parents, and school officials to prevent and reduce youth involvement in the Juvenile Justice System. Director Tomidy has also played a key role in the implementation of the Second Chance Grant to explore how to better meet the needs of youth who are returning to the community from placement, and review the county's juvenile justice practices which may help to guide practice throughout New York State and the country. He also serves on the Arrest Diversion Committee where the County has established an Arrest Diversion Program starting in the larger school districts for youth up to the age of 17. At the other end of the justice spectrum, Director Tomidy serves as the Co-Chair of the successful Oneida County Re-Entry Task Force, strengthening the collaboration between community corrections professionals and service providers. He has championed the cause of bringing a positive re-entry message to the community.

Dave and his wife Anne have two married children and one grandson, Jessica and Michael Bevivino, and their son Luke and Greg and Nikki Tomidy

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Did You Know **SAM TRAPANICK** Celebrated **50** years of County Service

Sam has worked for every County Executive since the Executive form of Government was established, from Charles Lannigan to Anthony J. Picente Jr. Sam's story began with the Sign Department, and has continued with dedicated service to many parts of county government.

04/1/66 to 12/29/66 – Sam started as a Summer Laborer, working in the Sign Dept., installing and repairing road signs.

02/9/67 to 01/24/68 – Sam was hired as a Laborer in the Division of Traffic Control. He was responsible for installing and repairing road signs, stripping roads and painting bridges.

01/25/68 to 07/24/80 – As a Sign Maintenance Man, Sam was involved in the complete resigning of the County Road System.

07/28/80 to 12/31/81 – Sam moved indoors after he was promoted to Sr. Account Clerk in the Traffic Control Office, in charge of accounting.

12/31/81 to 07/4/97 – Sam moved to the Division of Buildings and Grounds as a Principal Account Clerk in charge of Office Operation. In this role, he had charge of the county telephone system.

07/14/97 to 12/30/02 – Sam shifted to the Dept. of Social Services, and undertook the task of Computerizing the Dept. of Social Services budget.

12/30/02 – Sam Trapanick retired, but not for long!

02/03 to present – Sam returned as a part-time employee, first with the Dept. of Social Services then as a Buyer for the Purchasing Dept.

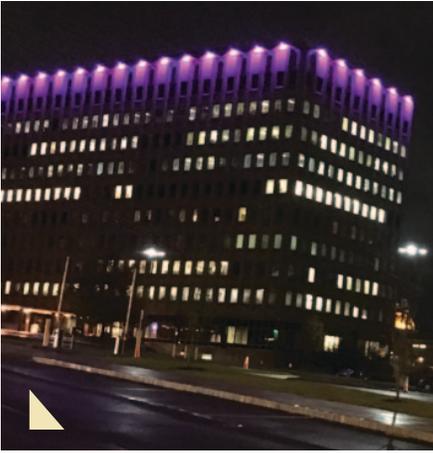
Annual Intergenerational Fall Clean-Up held on October 22nd and October 23rd

The Oneida County Youth Bureau and the Oneida County Office for the Aging and Continuing Care united area youths with the elderly to deliver general yard clean-up services through their 8th Annual Intergenerational Fall Clean-Up on Saturday October 22nd and Sunday October 23rd. The initiative is collaboration between the Oneida County Youth Bureau, the Oneida County Office for the Aging and Continuing Care, Oneida County colleges, school districts and youth organizations.

This year 800+ youth volunteers throughout Oneida County raked and collected leaves, swept porches, sidewalks and driveways and brought light refuse to the curb over a 100 senior citizen households during our Annual Intergenerational Fall Clean-Up. The Annual Intergenerational Fall and Spring Clean-Ups deliver these much needed services to our



Oneida County senior citizens who physically can no longer do the work themselves or being on a fixed income, can't financially afford to have the work done for them.



Oneida County Goes Pink For Breast Cancer Awareness

October 17th Began Cancer Screening Week In Oneida County



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Oneida County has a series of events throughout October to assist spreading the word about mammograms and encourage our employees, community, families, and individuals to get screened and spread awareness.

Oneida County events including awareness efforts like the Human Pink Ribbon at Murnane field and placing over 500 pink ribbons in County Office windows as well as lighting the Oneida County Office Building pink for the last week of October.

“Oneida County has proactively encouraged raising cancer awareness by engaging the community through educational efforts as well as offering 8 hours of paid leave for cancer screening for employees.” Said County Ex-

ecutive Anthony J. Picente “This year we have added our pink ribbon initiative and lighting of the County Building as well as raising \$1305 for our Team Oneida County participation in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, with a dress down day.

In addition to awareness initiatives the County Health Department’s Cancer Services Program, covering Oneida, Madison and Herkimer counties, holds Cancer Screening Week, beginning on October 17th. The Oneida County Health Department works with the imaging centers at the Mohawk Valley Health System, Rome Memorial Hospital, Little Falls Hospital, Mohawk Glen, Community Memorial Hospital and Oneida Healthcare to provide free screening mammograms to uninsured women. Additionally, Planned Parenthood provides breast exams and Pap/pelvic exams to un-

insured women. These facilities each block off a chunk of time during the week to provide the service to Cancer Services Program’s clients. Each woman who gets a mammogram receives an informational packet and many of the facilities offer their own gifts and raffles for the women as well.

Picente said “Cancer Services here in Oneida County are a key component to delivering preventive health care to people in the region. Preventive health care is essential to a healthy community; it saves lives and reduces healthcare costs community wide.”

Director of Public Health Phyllis Ellis said “in 2015 we provided nearly 600 cancer screening procedures to people in our community in addition to providing educational and awareness outreach in our community.”

List of Events and Activities for October For Breast Cancer Awareness

Month of October – County Building to be lit Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness

Month of October – Over 500 Pink Ribbons have been placed in windows in all County offices

10/1 – Breast Cancer Education at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church

10/4 – Lunch and Learn at MV Psych Center “Breast Health”

10/7 – Human Pink Ribbon at Murnane Field

10/14 – Dress Down Day in support of Breast Cancer month, \$5 bracelets to support Team Oneida County at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Saturday October 15th.

10/17-10/21 – Cancer Screening Week

10/20 – Flyer to all employees to remind them to use their 8 hours of paid leave for Cancer Screening Time.

10/21 – Lunch and Learn at S.R. Sloan on Breast Health

10/21 – Blue Jeans/Pink Shirt Day for OC employees to Spread Breast Cancer Awareness

10/28 – Blue Jeans/Pink Shirt Day for OC employees to Spread Breast Cancer Awareness



Legislative District Maps - Where do They Come From?

Every November there are elections across Oneida County. In some cases, the contests are for a city mayor, sometimes a city councilor, and sometimes maybe a county or state legislator. In many cases the elections are not for offices defined by municipal boundaries – like town supervisors – but by a geographic area within either the county or a community. Examples of these are some city councilors and county legislators. Did you ever wonder how those boundaries are created or who creates those maps that depict the district boundaries that don't follow a municipal boundary? Well here in Oneida County, city and county legislative district maps are created by the Oneida County Department of Planning's Geographic Information System (GIS) staff. At the direction of the appropriate re-districting committee, which is selected by the governing body doing the re-districting, the Department of Planning creates the maps. The goal is to make the population of each district balanced. This is done using data from the most recent available Census.



Oneida County Legislative District 9

In 2013 the Oneida County Board of Legislators voted to reduce the number of legislators from 29 to 23 members. Due to the change, a redistricting process was necessary to create 23 legislative districts in Oneida County rather than the existing 29. The Board of Legislators created a re-districting committee and enlisted the help of the Department of Planning's GIS staff. A new series of maps had to be developed for the public to understand where the new districts would be and who they could potentially vote for in the 2013 elections. Working in conjunction with the re-districting committee and the Oneida County Board of Elections, GIS staff created this new map series using GIS mapping and data management software. Hardcopy maps of the new districts were generated and, maybe more importantly, portable document format files (PDFs) of the maps were created. This has allowed the Board of Elections to post the new districts on their website and eliminate much of the need for hardcopy map printing. It also makes it easy for the public to simply view the maps on their computer at home or work. An example from one of the new maps is shown above.

Did You Know?

Law Department

Sole Legal Advisors of the County

Did you know the County Law Department and the County Attorney is the sole legal advisor to the County and every agency thereof in matters of a civil nature? The County Attorney prepares all necessary papers and written instruments in connection with representing county officers and employees in relation to their official duties. The department also prosecutes and defends all civil actions and proceedings for or against the county and prepares resolutions, ordinances, and local laws as requested by the Board of Legislators and the County Executive.

Health Department

Importance of Using Colon Screening

Many cancers are highly treatable if diagnosed early. In some cases, like colorectal cancer, cancer can be prevented if a colonoscopy is done and pre-cancerous polyps are found and removed.

Full time employees of Oneida County get 8 hours of paid leave per year to obtain cancer screening. The paid leave is for screening for any type of cancer, such as breast cancer, prostate cancer, cervical cancer, skin cancer, colon cancer, ovarian cancer, bladder cancer or lung cancer. On the Oneida County Intranet, under Personnel, there is a copy of the full Cancer Screening Leave Policy, and a copy of the Cancer Screening Statement Form, which the employee needs to have the medical provider sign when the employee goes for the cancer screening appointment.

Included under this policy, colon cancer screening is a preventive screening that most health insurance plans cover in full. Colon cancer screening should begin at the age of 50 and can be as simple as a screening kit that you can do in your own home. Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in New York State yet it is preventable if screening is done as recommended.

If you or a loved one does not have health insurance, the Oneida County Health Department's Cancer Services Program (CSP) may be able to pay for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screenings. The CSP pays for breast and cervical cancer screening for women ages 40 to 64, and colorectal cancer screening for women and men ages 50 to 64. For more information, please call the Cancer Services Program at 798-5248.



The best protection is early **detection**



Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties
Cancer Services Program
 Your partner for cancer screening, support and information