



CITY OF ONEIDA

August Newsletter



**Mayor
Rick Rossi**



**City Manager
Kyle Lovell**

MEETING SCHEDULE

COMMON COUNCIL

06:30PM

AUGUST 4, 2026
Common Council Chambers

WATER BOARD

03:30PM

AUGUST 11, 2026
Water Department Conference Room

PLANNING COMMISSION/ZBA

TBD

AUGUST 11, 2026
Common Council Chambers

COMMON COUNCIL

06:30PM

AUGUST 18, 2026
Common Council Chambers

DRI UPDATE-SPECIAL MEETING

05:30PM

AUGUST 11, 2026
Common Council Chambers

All meetings are open to the public.

SPECIAL MEETING

Many of you have been asking for updates on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) projects.

At the request of the Common Council, a Special Meeting has been scheduled to provide the community with the latest updates. Planning Director Steve Vonderweidt, accompanied by Parks and Recreation Director Luke Griff, will present the current status of the DRI projects, discuss recent progress, and provide an overview of the next steps.

The meeting is open to the public, and all interested residents are encouraged to attend.



**Tuesday,
August 11**



5:30PM



**Council
Chambers**

109 N. Main St. Oneida, NY



KYLE LOVELL
City Manager

AUGUST MESSAGE

As we move into the final stretch of summer, there is a great deal happening throughout the City of Oneida, and I encourage residents to stay informed and involved.

First, please join us for Family Fun Day on Friday, July 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This free community event is a wonderful opportunity for families to get outside, spend time together, and enjoy some summer fun.

On Tuesday, August 11, at 5:30 p.m., the City will hold a special public meeting in the Common Council Chambers to provide an update on our Downtown Revitalization Initiative projects.

Planning Director Steve Vonderweidt and Parks and Recreation Director Luke Griff will discuss the status of the projects, recent progress, and the next steps ahead. Residents have understandably been asking for more information, and I encourage anyone interested in the future of our downtown to attend.

This edition also contains important information regarding the proposed \$3 million sewer collection system project. The project would address infiltration and inflow within the system, improve reliability, and reduce strain on the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Because the bond resolution is subject to a mandatory referendum, voters will have the opportunity to consider the proposal on November 3. In the months ahead, the City will continue providing residents with clear information about the project, its costs, available grant funding, and its anticipated benefits.

I would also like to recognize the many employees, local businesses, organizations, and residents whose efforts are highlighted in this edition. Their service, generosity, and investment in Oneida continue to strengthen our community.

Please enjoy the remaining weeks of summer, use caution around road work and City crews, and stay connected through the City website and Facebook page.





SCAN
TO DOWNLOAD!

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App Store

 ANDROID APP ON
Google play



9:41
46°F

City of Oneida Police Department
Chief of Police Steven Lowell

Notification History



Report a Tip Contact Us

 Chief's Welcome  News and Alerts  Commend an Officer

 Inmate Search  Most Wanted  Sex Offenders

Built by:



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



A PATCH WITH A PURPOSE

You may notice some of our officers wearing a new shoulder patch over the next several months. To commemorate 250 years of American freedom (1776-2026), the Oneida City Police Department has authorized a special commemorative patch for wear on department uniforms through December 31, 2026.

Years ago, our department moved away from a generic shoulder patch in favor of one that uniquely represented the history of the City of Oneida. This commemorative patch carries that same tradition forward by recognizing a significant moment in our nation's history while reflecting the mission of the Oneida City Police Department and our commitment to the community we serve.

At the center of the design are officers interacting with children, representing the relationships we strive to build every day through trust, service, and community engagement. The banner, "Serving Better Together," reflects our department's belief that the strongest communities are built when law enforcement and the people we serve work side by side.

The symbols at the bottom of the patch each represent an important part of our mission: Protection, Partnership, Compassion and Unity.

We hope you'll enjoy seeing this special patch on our officers throughout the remainder of the year as we celebrate both our nation's milestone anniversary and the community we are proud to serve.



Please Slow Down in Work Zones

Road workers safety is in your hands. A few seconds of caution can save a life—protect the people who keep our roads safe.

*Thank
you!*

Congratulations **MONIQUE LUDWIG**

Congratulations to our very own Deputy City Clerk, Monique Ludwig, on completing her 7th Utica Boilermaker! 🏃🏆

Seven Boilermakers is an incredible achievement and a true testament to your dedication, determination, and perseverance. Every mile represents the hard work and commitment you've put in, and it's inspiring to see you continue challenging yourself year after year.

We are so proud to celebrate this accomplishment with you. Your drive, positivity, and commitment shine through in everything you do, both in the office and beyond.

Congratulations on another outstanding finish—we're cheering you on every step of the way and wish you many more successful races ahead!



2026 UTICA BOILERMAKER

A FRESH LOOK FOR THE POOL!

Thank You,



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Finish Line Designs for creating and donating our beautiful new Howard T. Chapman Pool signs!

Their generosity and commitment to our community help make projects like this possible. The signs look fantastic, and we truly appreciate their willingness to give back to the City of Oneida.

Thank you, Finish Line Designs, for helping us make the Howard T. Chapman Pool even more welcoming for all of our residents and visitors. We are incredibly grateful for your support!





FINISH LINE DESIGNS

Custom Embroidery

Vinyl Graphics

Screen Printing

Why Choose Local?

Created With Care

High-Quality Products

Friendly Customer Service

Unique & Exclusive Designs

VISIT OUR STORE

5609 Main St. Oneida



315-813-5250

<https://shopfld.com>

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

At the July 7th meeting of the Common Council, a resolution was passed authorizing, subject to MANDATORY REFERENDUM, the reconstruction of the Sewer Collection System in and for the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$3,000,000 and authorizing the issuance of \$3,000,000 Serial Bonds of said city to pay the cost thereof.

A subsequent resolution authorized the City Engineer to proceed with Capital Project 23-9 (Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) Improvements).

The purpose of the project is reduction of I/I in the city sewer system, improve system functionality and reduce the operational strain on the WWTP. Proposed improvements involve targeted rehabilitation of the system through Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) lining and main replacement. Approximately 1,450 linear feet of main replacement and 2,050 linear feet of CIPP lining. Estimated completion date Fall 2027.

City of Oneida

Sewer Collection System Improvements Referendum

Frequently Asked Questions | November 3, 2026

What is this referendum about? City voters will be asked whether to approve a bond resolution authorizing up to \$3,000,000 for improvements to the sanitary sewer collection system. The project is intended to reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I), which occurs when clean groundwater or stormwater enters sanitary sewer pipes through cracks, leaking joints, deteriorated manholes, or other aging infrastructure.

Why does I&I matter?

Clean water entering the sanitary sewer system takes up capacity that should be reserved for wastewater from homes and businesses. During significant wet weather, sewer flows can increase substantially, placing added stress on the wastewater system.

What work would be done?

The project would focus on targeted sewer collection system improvements. Trenchless lining methods would be used wherever possible, allowing a liner to be installed inside existing sewer mains without digging up and replacing every section of pipe. Only the most deteriorated sections would require full pipe replacement. The City has inspected approximately **12,000 feet** of its roughly **40-mile** sanitary sewer system using CCTV to identify priority areas.

Who would pay for the project?

The cost would be paid through the **sewer system**, not the City general fund. During the July 7 meeting, it was clarified that repayment would be the responsibility of the sewer system, not residents outside the sewer system.

Why is this on the ballot?

The bond resolution is subject to a mandatory referendum. Voter approval is required before the City can proceed with the borrowing authorization.

What does each vote mean?

A YES vote means	A NO vote means
A YES vote means the voter approves the City moving forward with the bond authorization for the sewer collection system improvements. If approved, the City would be authorized to borrow up to \$3,000,000. Final borrowing, project timing, and financing terms would depend on factors such as grant funding, final project costs, interest rates, and available financing options. A YES vote does not mean the City automatically spends the full \$3,000,000 immediately. It gives the City legal authority to finance the project, subject to final project development and available funding options.	A NO vote means the voter does not approve the bond authorization. If the proposition is not approved, the City would not have voter authorization to borrow the funds for this project as proposed. The City would need to reassess the project scope, funding options, and timeline. The underlying sewer system issues would remain, and the City would need to determine how to address inflow and infiltration through other means.

Additional Questions

Does the City have grant funding?

The City is pursuing grant funding. Grant awards are typically announced later in the year or early the following year, so final grant information may not be available before the referendum.

Where can residents learn more?

Residents may contact the City Engineer's Office or visit the City's website for project information, maps, meeting materials, and future updates.

Why does the proposition mention up to 40 years?

The ballot uses legal bond language. The resolution authorizes financing for a period not exceeding 40 years, but that does not necessarily mean the City will borrow the full amount for the full period. Final terms would be determined later based on the best available financial options.

Is this document advocating for a vote?

No. This document is intended for informational purposes only and is not intended to advocate for or against the referendum proposition.

City Manager Kyle Lovell
klovell@oneidacityny.gov

City Engineer Jeff Rowe
jrowe@oneidacityny.gov

**A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A CERTAIN
PROPOSITION AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026
RESOLUTION 26-103**

Moved by Councilor Jones

Seconded by Councilor Smith

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, has heretofore at this meeting duly adopted a bond resolution which will take effect only after its approval at the Election to be held on November 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the submission of a proposition for the approval of said resolution, and for other matters in connection with said vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The Clerk of said City is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be included in the Notice of the Election the following additional notice with respect to the proposition to be presented to the qualified voters of said City for their approval or disapproval of the resolution referred to in the preambles hereof, in substantially the following form:

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that at such Election to be held on November 3, 2026, the following proposition will be presented to the qualified voters of said City:

PROPOSITION

Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Oneida, dated July 7, 2026, authorizing the reconstruction of the sewer collection system in and for the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$3,000,000 and authorizing the issuance of \$3,000,000 serial bonds of said City to pay the cost thereof, to mature over a period not exceeding forty years; pledging the faith and credit of said City for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, delegating powers to the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of such bonds; and providing for an estoppel procedure, be approved?

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

MOTION RESULT: Passed

DOG LICENSE NEWS

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER

New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Section 109 requires all municipalities to include a clearly marked, voluntary donation section on dog licensing and renewal applications. These funds are dedicated to supporting municipally managed or contracted local animal shelters and pounds.

The City of Oneida contracts with Wanderers' Rest Humane Association for animal shelter services. All voluntary contributions collected through the City will be remitted to Wanderers' Rest Humane Association on an annual basis.

For City of Oneida dog license information and application, please visit our City Website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

315.363.7378

HAPPY GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2026



Congratulations



The City of Oneida proudly congratulates the Oneida High School Class of 2026 on reaching this remarkable milestone. During the school's 142nd commencement ceremony, held June 20 on the front lawn, 109 graduates celebrated the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance, and achievement. Leading the Class of 2026 were Valedictorian Irene Barris and Salutatorian Dylan Roberts. The City extends its best wishes to each graduate for continued success as they begin the next chapter of their lives.



Oneida Public Library
Where the community connects



CONGRATULATIONS

And Success

Congratulations to Oneida resident and former Oneida City Police Department Criminal Investigations Division Sergeant Michael S. Burgess on the addition of his two books to the Oneida Public Library's collection. Following a 20-year career serving our community, Mike continues his commitment to public safety through his work in proactive crime prevention. His generous donation allows library patrons to explore practical strategies for building safer, stronger communities. Thank you, Mike, for your continued service and congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



[Proactive Prevention Strategies](#)

APPLYING FOR A PASSPORT



If you need a U.S. Passport, please visit the [NYS Department of State website](https://travel.state.gov) for information.



VISIT MADISON COUNTY!

Discover everything Madison County has to offer! From exciting local events and unforgettable attractions to delicious dining and unique places to stay, your next adventure starts here. Visit the Madison County website for inspiration, and don't forget to download the FREE Visitor's Guide [HERE](#) to start planning your perfect getaway!



BRUCE BURKE

JULY 12, 1941 - JUNE 10, 2026

May you find eternal peace and everlasting rest.



The City of Oneida extends its deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for the life and service of Bruce Burke, whose dedication to our community left a lasting legacy.

Through his work with PAC 99, Bruce faithfully filmed and televised Common Council meetings, helping ensure transparency, accessibility, and a lasting public record of the City's proceedings. His commitment allowed those who were unable to attend meetings in person to remain informed and engaged in the work of their local government.

Bruce also served with distinction as Chairman of the City of Oneida Traffic Safety Board. In this leadership role, he generously gave his time and expertise to promoting traffic safety, thoughtfully reviewing community concerns, and helping make our streets safer for all who live, work, and travel in our community.

Bruce's quiet dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to public service exemplified the very best of civic involvement. Whether behind the camera or leading discussions on public safety, he served with integrity, kindness, and a genuine desire to make the City of Oneida a better place.

On behalf of the Mayor, Common Council, City Manager, Department Heads, and staff of the City of Oneida, we extend our sincere condolences to Bruce's family and loved ones. We honor his memory with profound gratitude and recognize that his many years of dedicated service and lasting contributions to the City of Oneida will not be forgotten. His legacy of service will remain an enduring part of the City of Oneida's history.

Rest in Peace, Bruce





Small businesses are the heart of our community, and the Greater Oneida Chamber of Commerce works year-round to help them thrive. From promoting local businesses and sharing community events to creating networking opportunities and supporting economic growth, the Chamber plays an important role in strengthening the Greater Oneida area.

Whether you're a business owner looking to grow or a resident who enjoys supporting local, consider becoming a Chamber member and be sure to follow the Greater Oneida Chamber of Commerce on Facebook to stay up to date on local events, business spotlights, and everything happening in our community. Together, we can continue to support the businesses that make Greater Oneida a great place to live, work, and shop.

 FOLLOW

FACEBOOK

EAT WELL PLAY HARD

FAMILY FUN DAY

FRIDAY, JULY 24TH
10AM - 1PM

PRESENTED BY:



FREE FAMILY EVENT
WITH ACTIVITIES,
CONTESTS, PRIZES,
AND GIVEAWAYS

📍 ALLEN PARK
558 BROAD ST
ONEIDA · NY

VIRTUAL LUNCH & LEARN

Join us for a one-hour virtual session to learn about BRiDGES Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and the support available through our services.



First 30 Minutes: EAP 101 – What is an EAP, what services are available, and how BRiDGES EAP can help.

Second 30 Minutes: Open Q&A and discussion.

Whether your organization currently partners with BRiDGES' EAP or you're interested in learning more about what we offer, this session is a great opportunity to explore the benefits of an EAP and have your questions answered.

THURSDAY, 7/30

12:00pm - 1:00pm

via Zoom



SCAN QR CODE TO
REGISTER



BRiDGES
STRENGTH. HOPE. COMMUNITY.



315-697-3947



www.bridgescouncil.org



Pay One Price
\$10 Gate-Ride All Day

(Children Under 36" Tall
 FREE Gate & Grandstand)

APPEARING DAILY

PARTY ANIMALS PETTING ZOO
Robin's Heavenly Birds
 The Great American Challenge
 (Scavenger Hunt)

THURSDAY-JULY 30th

Gates \$10 Open @ 10 am/Midway Open @ 12 pm
 10 am Poultry Show
 12 pm Ribbon Cutting
 2 pm Rabbit Show
 6 pm Hot Laps
 7 pm Stock Car Racing
 (Grandstand \$10- Ages 11 & Under FREE)

FRIDAY-JULY 31st

Gates \$10 Open @ 8 am/Midway Open @ 12 pm
 9 am Youth Horse Show
 Showmanship-Dairy Cattle
 Dairy Cattle Show
 10 am Brookfield Garden Tractor
 Pullers (Track)
 7 pm Gas & Diesel Truck Pull
 (Grandstand \$10 -Under 36" FREE)

SATURDAY-AUG 1st

Gates \$10 Open @ 8 am/Midway Open @ 12 pm
 9 am Showmanship-Goat
 10 am Goat Show
 Talent Show
 12 pm Bike Giveaway
 (Age 15 & Under Must be Present to Win)
 4 pm Power Wheel Demo (Track)
 6 pm Demolition Derby
 (Grandstand \$10.00-Under 36" FREE)

SUNDAY-AUG 2nd

Gates \$10 Open @ 8 am-Senior Citizens Day 65+ FREE
 Midway Open @ 12 pm
 9 am Open Gymkhana Horse Show
 Showmanship-Beef Cattle
 10 am Beef Cattle Show
 Tractor Pull
 (Grandstand \$10.00-Under 36" FREE)
 12 pm Daniel Frost (Stage)
 Chicken BBQ
 1 pm Showmanship-Sheep
 2 pm Sheep Show
 Senior Citizen Prize Drawing

Scan Here for Tickets



Madison County Fair
 1968 Fairground Rd.
 Brookfield, NY

www.madisoncountyfairny.com

Capitaland Carnival



EXTRA
SPECIAL
EVENT!

The Eclectic Chic
presents

ANTIQUE CITY

in our Event Center!

An extra 14k sq ft of
Antique & Vintage Fun!

➤ THIS SPECIAL EVENT RUNS ➤
AUGUST 1ST THRU AUGUST 22ND!



Opening at 10 AM



2044 Glenwood Plaza
Oneida, NY 13421

Event by The Eclectic Chic
and Madison-Bouckville Promotions



SCOOPS FOR SENIORS

OHS SENIOR
CLASS OF
2027
FUNDRAISER

CONEHEADS ONEIDA WILL
DONATE

10%

OF ALL SALES

ON AUGUST 8

FROM NOON TO 9:30 PM



Every
SCOOP
HELPS CREATE
SENIOR
MEMORIES!

ENJOY SWEET TREATS. SUPPORT OUR SENIORS.

Thank you for helping us shine!

**Madison-
Bouckville**
**A COLLECTOR'S
DESTINATION**



30

MORE SLEEPS!

MADISON-BOUCKVILLE
ANTIQUE WEEK
AUGUST 9 - 15, 2026

— Plan Your Adventure. Find Your Treasure. —



MADISON-BOUCKVILLEPROMOTIONS.COM

FREE ENTRY

8:00AM to 5:00PM DAILY

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT FACEBOOK!



FREE COMMUNITY ART EVENT

Painting on Cottage Lawn

August 11 from 10 am - 1pm

Join us for a creative afternoon on the beautiful grounds of Cottage Lawn, where local artists, hobby painters, families, and anyone who loves the historic site are invited to paint or sketch the house from life.

The event features designated painting spots with stunning views, a warm welcome with a brief history of the home, and the opportunity to create your own interpretation of this historic landmark.

The finished artwork will be displayed at the Craft Festival. Family-friendly additions include a lemonade table, a kids' art corner with washable paints, and a "People's Choice" ribbon that will be awarded at the Craft Fair.

Participants should bring their own supplies and register in advance at www.mchs1900.org under events.



ONEIDA COMMUNITY MANSION HOUSE

And VISIT MADISON COUNTY, NY



Eden Cultivated: The Historic Gardens & Grounds of the Oneida Community

"The 13 acres surrounding the Oneida Community Mansion House are a riot of color and storied heritage in every season. On our premier "New Garden of Eden Tour," guests journey through the landscape to uncover the evolution of these historic grounds.

Discover a remarkable transformation—from a rugged communal farm to an elegant pleasure garden and exclusive private club. As you walk, admire the seasonal blooms and "champion trees" that serve as a living, natural complement to the grand architecture of the Mansion House. Join us to witness the gardens and grounds in their full late summer glory!"

AUG 27, 2026

5:00PM - 6:30PM | 170 KENWOOD AVE. ONEIDA, NY

2025-2026 Registration is OPEN!



YCARE Your Before & After School Partner!



Scan for Details!
ymcatrivalley.org





Are you having vehicle problems?

ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR YOU!!!

Requirements

- You live in Madison County
- Meet income guidelines (listed Below)
- Have enough income to maintain your vehicle expenses moving forward

Assistance options for qualified applicants could include

- Car repairs, new tires, insurance payment, and loan payment

For more information and assistance, please call and leave a message with your name and phone number stating that you are asking about help with your transportation issues.

Morrisville (315) 684-3144 ext 10 or Canastota (315) 697-3588 ext 10

All inquiries & information are confidential

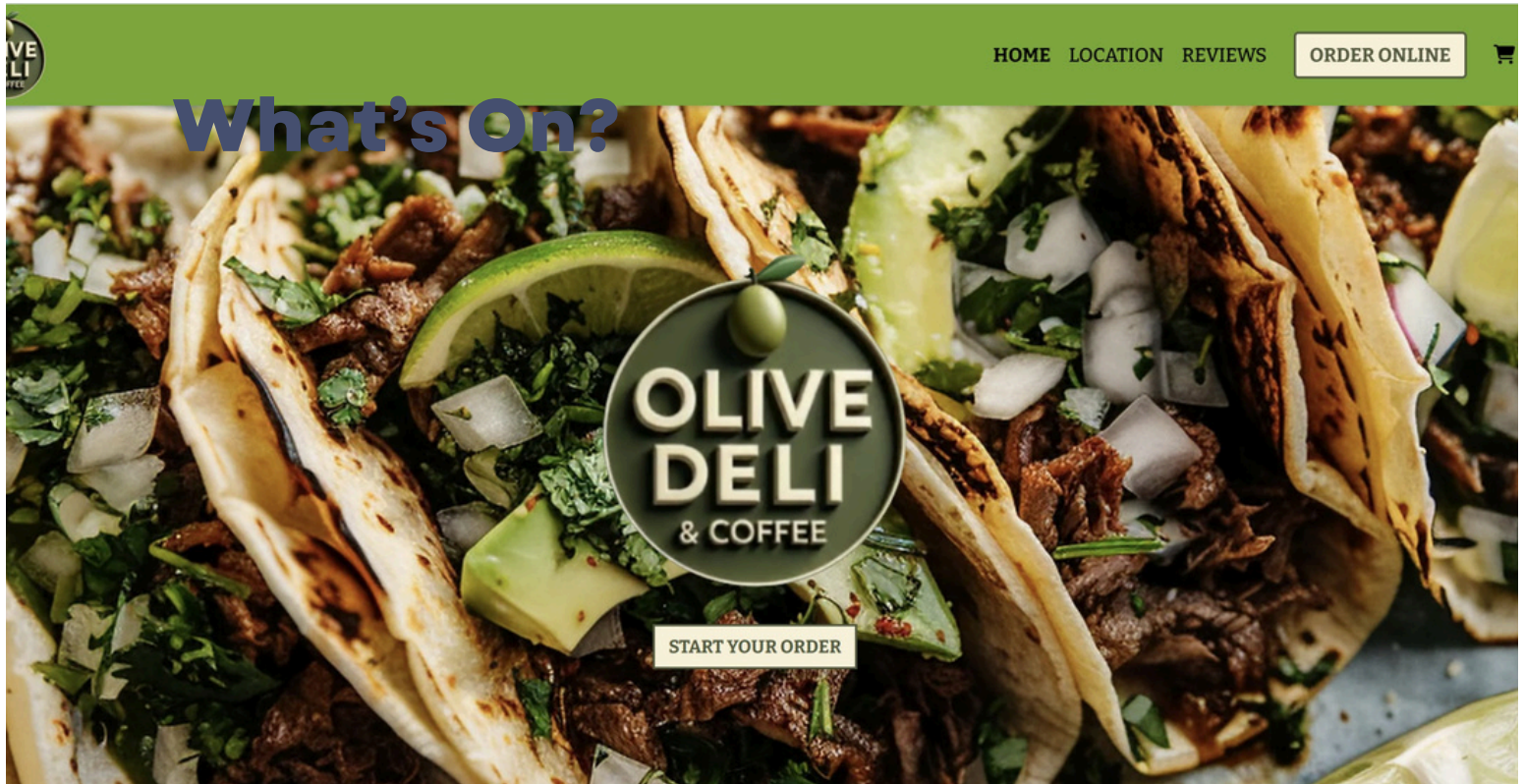
Family Size (Family members per household)	Maximum Gross Annual Income Before Tax
1	\$31,920
2	\$43,280
3	\$54,640
4	\$66,000
5	\$77,360
6	\$88,720
7	\$100,080
8	\$111,440

Disclaimer: To be considered for the program, an intake session with a Temporary Services team member is required and documentation must be submitted. Limits and restrictions apply. In no event shall Community Action Partnership of Madison County be liable nor held responsible for committee selections.

NEW BUSINESS

169 Madison St.

315-280-0276

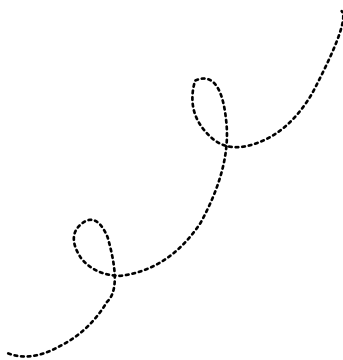


“We offer the best types of hot and cold food and fresh smoothies



“Olive Deli & Coffee in Oneida, brings together the cozy charm of a neighborhood café with the satisfying comfort of a classic deli, creating a spot that feels instantly welcoming whether you’re stopping in for a morning latte or a hearty lunch. The menu leans into fresh-made sandwiches, crisp salads, and warm daily specials, all prepared with an attention to quality and consistency. The coffee program adds another layer of appeal—smooth espresso drinks, brewed-to-order cups, and seasonal flavors that pair naturally with the pastries and baked goods. With its primary location on Madison and Main streets, its relaxed atmosphere, friendly service, and a sense of local pride, Olive Deli & Coffee stands out as the kind of community hub where people linger, recharge, and return often so make sure you drop in or place your order for pick up or delivery today!”

Visit our website: www.olivedelincoffee.com



WELCOME 7 BREW

COMING SOON!



Coffee lovers will soon have a new place to visit in Oneida! The City's Planning Commission has approved plans for 7 Brew Coffee to build a new drive-thru stand at 216 Genesee Street.

Known for its quick, friendly service and upbeat atmosphere, 7 Brew offers an extensive selection of hot and iced espresso drinks, lattes, mochas, teas, smoothies, lemonades and its popular 7 Energy drinks. Customers can personalize their beverages with a wide variety of flavors and syrups.

An opening date has not yet been announced. The new Oneida location will join nearby 7 Brew stands in Rome and New Hartford.

The City of Oneida is pleased to welcome 7 Brew Coffee to our growing business community and looks forward to its arrival!

<https://7brew.com>



THANK YOU D-RAY'S PIZZARIA

Thank you, D-Ray's Pizzeria, for choosing Oneida as your home since opening in 2022. In just a few short years, your delicious food, friendly service, and welcoming spirit made a lasting impression on our community. Whether it was a family pizza night, lunch on the go, or a favorite takeout order, you became a local favorite for so many.

On behalf of the City of Oneida, we wish D-Ray and the entire D-Ray's family all the best as they begin this exciting new chapter. While your business will certainly be missed, we are grateful for the memories you've created and the positive impact you've had on our community.

Thank you for being part of Oneida's business community. We wish you continued success, happiness, and all the best in whatever comes next!





CITY OF ONEIDA
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

FALL FESTIVAL



FOOD | ACTIVITIES | CRAFTERS

3 OCTOBER, 2026 11:00-4:00PM

FREE ENTRY

Mott Street, Oneida

