

## KEY EVENTS

Office of the County Administrator

[County.Administrator@co.ontario.ny.us](mailto:County.Administrator@co.ontario.ny.us)

[www.co.ontario.ny.us](http://www.co.ontario.ny.us)

**Brian Young**  
Interim County Administrator

**Cindy Abraszek**  
Confidential Secretary to the  
County Administrator

Published September 30, 2020

### Employee Safety & Wellness

Recordable Injury / Illness			
Municipality	1/1/2020 – 9/15/2020	1/1/2019– 9/15/2019	2019 Year End
Ontario County	3	8	8
Sheriff's Office	6	11	13
Cities	7	12	12
Towns & Villages	7	14	22
FLCC	1	2	3
Fishers Fire District	3	2	3
Victor Fire District	0	0	0
Soil & Water District	0	0	0
Volunteers	13	5	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>69</b>

#### Didn't get your biometric screening in March?

Here's your chance.

<https://wellness.urcew.com/login?returnurl=%2f>

Click on the link above to pre-register. No walk-ins.



October 13	20 Ontario Jail	6am - 12pm 11:20am - 5pm
October 14	Building 3010	8am - 7pm
October 15	Landfill/Recycling Building 3019 Transportation Center	6am - 8am 8am - 7pm 9:20am - 2pm
October 16	20 Ontario Geneva	8:20am - 2pm 10am - 3:20pm

In 2019, more than 36,000 people died in the US as a result of a motor vehicle injury. After years of declining numbers of motor vehicle fatalities, the National Center for Health Statistics reported a 20% increase in motor vehicle deaths in the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 months of 2020. It was also reported the number of miles driven in that period dropped 17%. Unfortunately, this means the rate of deaths per million miles driven increased by 34.4%. Causes for some of these increased numbers include reckless driving, aggressive driving and distracted driving. Experts say these trends can be reversed if we: (1) Obey speed limits; (2) Drive defensively; (3) Coach teen drivers to improve their driving skills; (4) Follow governmental directives regarding travel during quarantines and (5) Be aware that while vehicle traffic may be reduced, pedestrian and bike traffic has increased.

### County Administrator

On September 9, Interim County Administrator Brian Young and Director of Public Health Mary Beer gave a COVID-19 community update on Finger Lakes TV to discuss what's happening in Ontario County related to the virus. Their next update will be recorded on October 8th. FLTV is on Spectrum cable channel 1304.

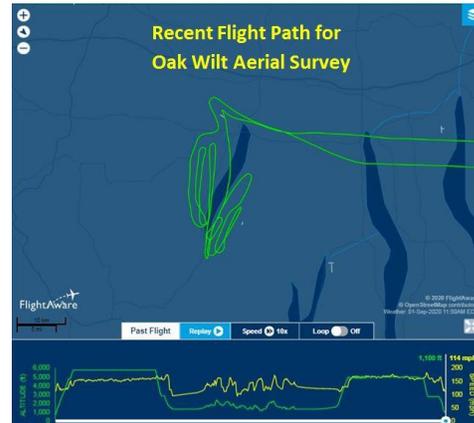
Due to COVID-19, the NYSAC Fall Seminar is being presented virtually between September 15 and October 1. On September 29, Brian Young co-presented a virtual seminar, Technology Options for Public Hearings, where he spoke about Ontario County's experience using the WebEx platform to conduct our meetings.

## County Treasurer

Once again, I would like to thank all that donated to the United Way campaign. Payroll deductions will begin in October. Because of your support, all funded United Way programs will receive their full allocation.

There will be an online only auction of Ontario County tax foreclosed real estate. Online bidding opens September 30 at 12:00pm. Online bidding starts to close October 14 at 10:00am. Click the link for more details. <https://www.auctionsinternational.com/liveauctions/#13224>

## Economic Development



Did you know the Canandaigua Airport (IUA) is routinely utilized by the New York State Police aviation unit in coordination with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) staff as a temporary base to conduct aerial survey flights to monitor for a variety of forest pests and invasive species in the Finger Lakes region?

The most recent aerial survey was for [oak wilt](#). These flights are typically conducted from 1200 feet above ground elevation. More focused aerial surveys (as low as 300 feet from helicopters) look for expansions within two miles of known infection sites and new infections in nearby high-risk areas with large oak populations. Flights are done in mid-July and early September when oak wilt symptoms are more easily distinguished from the healthy green appearance of non-infected oaks. Any sightings of infestation are quickly managed by the DEC from the ground.

For the aircraft aficionados, this most recent survey from IUA was from a 1984 (Italian built) Partenavia P68 Observer. With just over 100 of these aircraft ever made, and only one of seven currently operating in the United States, this is a rare bird to be seen anywhere. Kudos to the State Police for keeping such a practical and rare aircraft in service for nearly 35 years.

## Office for the Aging

### Community-Wide "Drive Thru" Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Ontario County Residents Only

Each household will receive boxes of groceries containing dairy, cooked meat and produce

**Fall Schedule**

**First Come First Serve – No Registration Necessary**

(Remaining dates and locations are listed on page 3)

**Geneva – Boys & Girls Club**  
160 Carter Rd, Geneva NY 14456  
**Monday October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monday October 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Canandaigua – Zion Fellowship**  
5188 Bristol Rd,  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
**Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Clifton Springs - Wellspring Food**  
Distribution Center, 22 Teft Ave,  
Clifton Springs, NY 14432  
**Monday October 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 – 7:30 pm**

## **Office of Sheriff**

The Office of Sheriff would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for supporting the Ontario County Sheriff's Office Body Worn Camera program.

The NYSCOC (New York State Commission of Corrections) completed an annual cycle review of the Ontario County Jail this month. It is to ensure we follow the NYS Minimum Standards within our facility, standards which our policies and procedures mirror. They are established to ensure the safety and security of the inmate population, the corrections staff working with them and the members of the community. The results of the review are reviewed at the end of the week with Chief Correction Officer Smith and Sheriff Henderson. The NYSCOC notes the positive and follows up with what needs to be improved upon. It is a check and balance of the overall operation within the Jail.

The Office of Sheriff would like to recognize the following employees who retired in September for their service and dedication to the residents of Ontario County, with a combined 310 years of service:

Chief Deputy **John Storer**, 35 years of service  
Sergeant **Everett Roach**, 37 years of service  
Investigator **John Abraham**, 31 years of service  
Deputy **Paul Hagen**, 28 years of service  
Deputy **Floyd Cooley**, 25 years of service  
Correction Officer **Tammy Vienna**, 33 years of service

Deputy **Bob Holland**, 22 years of service  
Correction Officer **Dave Barnard**, 25 years of service  
Dispatcher **Terry Parrish**, 30 years of service  
Cook Supervisor **Doug Randall**, 20 years of service  
Cook **Bill Phelps**, 24 years of service

## **Probation**

Probation Officer Patricia Bertino serves as one of the probation representatives for the Ontario County Restorative Justice Collaborative (OCRJC). Their mission is to educate community members about restorative practices, support practitioners, and provide accessible opportunities for community members to have equal say. PO Bertino, working with the Center for Dispute Settlement, submitted a grant application to Walmart Community Grants and was awarded a \$750 grant to fund for guest speakers and print off rack/informational cards for the OCRJC.

## **Public Defender**

The Public Defender's Office, with the rest of the Court system, has returned to in-person operations in all Courts throughout Ontario County, and at nearly all stages of Court proceedings. While the Public Defender's Office was open for business throughout the COVID shutdown, there were many challenges inherent with working off-site while brick and mortar locations were closed. PDO staff, with significant assistance from Sean Barry and the IT Department, did a remarkable job of navigating new technology and finding innovative ways to connect with clients while the Courts were not able to accommodate appearances. A tremendous resource during this time was the PD contract Social Worker, Justine Higley, to whom the office owes a tremendous debt of gratitude. Justine was tasked with supporting clients in this time of unprecedented stress and uncertainty, and she not only rose to the occasion, but was an exceptional asset. Justine worked directly with 111 clients during the COVID shutdown, a number of whom were participants in the treatment courts. The majority of these clients

had (COVID-safe) contacts with Justine on a weekly to daily basis. She assisted people with needs ranging from substance abuse to mental health to housing struggles, and her impact on the people we serve cannot be overstated. The Public Defender’s Office is able to have Justine as a resource due to a grant through the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services, which allows for the provision of this much needed support without additional cost to Ontario County taxpayers. Thank you, Justine!

The Public Defender’s Office and District Attorney’s Office, as co-applicants, are pleased to announce that Ontario County’s Year 3 continuation application for grant funding through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has been approved. Through a contract with Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, Ontario County can continue to provide additional staffing and support to the Finger Lakes Drug Treatment Court, with the aim to bolster drug court participants in their path to recovery and ongoing sobriety. Also, through this grant, treatment court graduates will have the benefit of a post-graduation alumni support group through a partnership with FLACRA. Many thanks to Peter Brown for his hard work in submitting this application and tracking the improvements this grant has produced.

Public Defender Leanne Lapp has been elected President-elect of the Chief Defenders Association of New York, a statewide organization of providers of mandated representation. She looks forward to advocating for the needs of clients and offices in the Finger Lakes region while in this capacity.

## Public Health

### Ontario County Public Health Awarded National Accreditation!

*Accreditation Demonstrates Commitment to Excellence in Serving the Community*



Ontario County Public Health is proud to announce that it has been awarded a national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). This accreditation was not only awarded to Ontario County Public Health but to several local health departments in our region that participate in the S2AY Rural Health Network. PHAB is the nonprofit organization that administers the national accreditation program, which aims to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of governmental public health agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

“The application for accreditation was submitted jointly with six other county health departments (Steuben, Seneca, Schuyler, Wayne and Yates) in our region making this the very first (and only) regional accreditation in the United States. Ontario County Public Health works closely with these counties on a routine basis and we were the lead agency on the PHAB submission. We are celebrating this

accomplishment because it was a long and arduous process (five years) and we are convinced that meeting these standards improves the health of our entire region. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic it is extremely important that we continue to improve our services and performance. Ontario County Public Health strives to meet the needs of those we serve as effectively as possible.”

The national accreditation program sets standards used by public health departments to continuously improve their quality of programs and services. More than 80 percent of the U.S. population now reaps the benefit of

being served by a health department that has undergone PHAB's rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets a set of quality standards and measures.

Across the nation, health departments provide services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air, and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies. The need for public health has never been more evident than during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ontario County Public Health staff has worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and health of our community. Please do your part by wearing a mask, staying out of crowds and getting your flu shot.

**Save the Date:** The Annual Employee Flu Clinic will be held this year on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am to 5:30pm as a drive-thru operation. All employees and family members are welcome to participate. Watch your emails for more details and a registration link.

## Records and Archives (RAIMS)

October is Archives Month; however due to the COVID 19 situation RAIMS will not hold their annual open house to celebrate this event and display an exhibit. There is an online exhibit on our website that RAIMS' staff assembled describing four of the worst epidemics/pandemics during the 19th/20th century:

<http://www.co.ontario.ny.us/1853/Outbreaks-Major-Diseases-of-the-20th-and-21st-Centuries-that-Influenced-Societal-Changes-in-Ontario-County>.



We hope next year we will be hosting our Open House and seeing our faithful visitors.

In working with the historical records located in the Archival vault; the document specialists, Kris Martin and Robin Cuppernell have organized and are in the process of scanning a record series: Lunacy 1858-1928. This record series is a treasure of facts and information about the admission procedures and records of patients of several treatment facilities including the Willard Asylum for the Insane (1869-1995). The documents reflect a time when mental health issues were not fully understood. The institutions were established to be a better alternative to systems in place for taking care of the mentally ill. In the early 19th century, those without anyone to care for them and incapable of taking care of themselves were left to almshouses (basically shelters) which were overcrowded and under resourced; however, these institutions still did not address the underlying nature of the disease.

The record series contains:

- Certificates of Qualifications of medical examiners
- The medical certificates of certified examiners- describes the characteristics of the applicant
- Court orders of patients including petition, inventory of their possessions
- Report of patients in Willard.

As of now, access to the names of the patients and their files is restricted in accordance with Section 33.13, Mental Hygiene Law, relating to confidentiality of clinical records. Access is permitted under certain conditions upon application to, and approval by, the Office of Mental Health.

The new record retention schedule is available and can be accessed on the NYS Archives website:

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/records/local-government-record-schedule/lgs-1-title-page>

We have been contacting each department via email with a link to their specific records schedule and a list of revisions and additions that pertain to their department records. Please contact RAIMS if you have any questions. On January 1, 2021 the old CO2 schedule will expire and therefore cannot be used.

Congratulations to Casey Maves, Document Specialist who received a master's degree (MA) in History from SUNY at Brockport. Great job Casey!!

## **Sustainability and Solid Waste Management**

A big thank you to the Town of Farmington for hosting our most recent household hazardous waste collection event. Cornell Cooperative Extension recorded 410 participants. According to Clean Harbors, the company that collects for this event said very little latex paint was delivered. The majority of products collected were oil-based paints and related paint items, pesticides, auto fluids including gasoline, cleaning fluids, and fluorescent tubes.



Upcoming collection events include Electronic Waste Collection event on October 17<sup>th</sup> and Pumpkin Collection/Composting event on November 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information please check out:

<http://ontariocountyrecycles.org/150/Events>

The County's Backyard Composting sale is still open! Start your backyard composting adventure this fall.

<http://ontariocountyrecycles.org/158/Organics>

## **Workforce Development**

Workforce Development has expanded their services to Youth! We are now able to offer WIOA funded services to In School Youth (enrolled in formal education). For those that meet the eligibility and are between 14-21 years old, we offer the ability to enhance educational skills, develop work readiness skills, prepare for employment success, and develop skills as a leader. In addition, we can help with basic skills instruction, paid and unpaid work experience, supportive services and leadership opportunities. Additional details and the application are on our webpage [co.ontario.ny.us/workforce](http://co.ontario.ny.us/workforce) or contact our In School Youth Counselor, Amanda Bollinger, 585-396-4020.

## Youth Bureau

### Youth Bureau's Board Seeking Youth Members

Apply today and share in this rewarding opportunity to make a difference for all youth in Ontario County. We are especially looking for representatives for the following school districts: Canandaigua, Victor, Marcus Whitman, Honeoye, Red Jacket, and Naples.

Come and share your ideas, concerns, hopes and dreams. Help us strengthen the safety nets of our youth as we seek preventive measures around suicide, addictions, exploitation, trafficking and sexting. Help us find inventive ways to increase school attendance, higher graduation rates, and lower dropout rates. Help us promote the various activities and services available for youth so that we build a stronger connection with the vast diversity of youth within our County.

Join us and invest in the leaders of tomorrow and the visionaries of today. Application can be found on the Ontario County Webpage under Youth Bureau. Any questions feel free to call Marsha Foote at 585 396 4035. She would be happy to provide answers. Until further notice, our monthly board meetings are being held through WebEx. We meet the fourth Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted due to holidays or other significant events.

### **StampItOut** Important News

A smartphone app loaded with resource information including hotline numbers for immediate help was developed. The **#StampItOut** app is available where all smartphone apps are sold.

## SEE WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR TEAM AGENCIES

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension**

**Parenting Skills Workshop Series #98** started September 1 and is currently being offered by ZOOM to 14 participants who are parenting 24 children. Anne Lahr and Pat Owen, our long-time facilitators, have successfully transitioned the eight-week course from "in person" to a ZOOM delivery format.

**Parenting Skills Workshop Series #99** will start on October 27 and will be offered every Tuesday evening, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm through December 15, 2020. This will be the final series for the year. It will be offered by ZOOM. For more information, call 585-394-3977 x 429. We hope to have a joint celebration of these two series in December, if COVID restrictions allow.

**The Ontario County 4-H Program** is working on preparing for a great 2020-2021 year. We will hold our achievement night as a drive-by ceremony at the fairgrounds on Sunday, October 11 and are also encouraging families to decorate their cars to show their 4-H spirit. We started accepting new enrollments and are planning events for the fall. We plan to hold many of our normal 4-H events such as Harvest Food Fest and other programming with modifications to allow for social distancing. We also just started a new teen group that will assist with creative programming activities for the year.

### **Summary of Composting Survey**

Six composting workshops were done during November 2018 through January 2019 in conjunction with Ontario County Planning, the Sustainability and Solid Waste Management Department, and the Towns of Bristol, East Bloomfield, and West Bloomfield. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County provided training on the

fundamentals of home composting. At the end of the training, participants were given a composter at no charge to take home to use. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County sent a survey last month to each participant. 105 surveys were returned, and results show 95% of attendees gained more knowledge on how to compost. 54% had been composting prior to attending while 46% had not. 97% are currently composting kitchen food waste and the **approximate pounds of food waste diverted per year from the landfill is 12.935 tons**. 83% are currently composting yard and/or garden waste. **A few comments received:** Awesome concept-should be in EVERY Community! FYI- my kitchen garbage waste has been cut down substantially and does not have to be emptied as much-thank you. This composter works best for us in the cooler months. My best experience is seeing people exclaim how well my wife's garden responds to high organic/nitrogen amended soils. Thank you for the composter drum.

**Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County Buy Local Guide** is your source for locating the bounty of fresh produce at farm stands, farmers' markets, and U-pick farms in Ontario County. The guide is a representation of the diversity of producers providing you a farm fresh direct to you experience and find local farms based on location and product. It can be accessed online at [www.cceontario.org](http://www.cceontario.org).

**Farm Woodlot Management Course:** Want to get more from your woods? Examine the methods to assess forest resources and discuss common woodland activities such as cutting firewood, harvesting logs for mushroom cultivation, and support for wildlife and long-term forest health in our Farm Woodlot Management online course offered by Cornell's Small Farms Program. It is a 6-week course. The bulk of the course happens on your own time, with discussions, readings, and assignments in Teachable, our online course platform. To add to the experience, live webinars will be held during the live instruction period — from September 21 to November 2, 2020, on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. ET (skipping October 12). These webinars allow you to meet on a weekly basis to learn from presenters and ask questions in real time. If you miss one, they are always recorded and posted for later viewing. Register for the course at <https://smallfarmcourses.com/p/bf-150-farm-woodlot-management>

**Tasting Rooms adapt to COVID-19:** An astute observer driving around the Finger Lakes will note that there are many outdoor tents set up to accommodate outdoor tasting, food service, and social distancing - all new requirements. The tents are one among many adjustments' wineries have had to make to their business plans in the wake of COVID-19. Make sure to visit your favorite Ontario County wineries this fall!

**Best Management Practices for Agritourism Farms During the COVID-19 Pandemic.** Agritourism is a critical activity and marketing approach for many of our farms, particularly in the fall. It provides customers with a unique outdoor opportunity for farm-based entertainment and food system education, as well the opportunity to purchase fresh produce grown close to home. The Cornell Small Farms Program has developed a resource guide that provides management and communication strategies for agritourism activities for the 2020 season to support farms as they navigate the COVID-19 outbreak. To view the guide, along with a recorded webinar on Agritourism Best Management Practices During COVID-19, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDPsNIhM17Y>

## **Finger Lakes Visitors Connection**

Our #VisitConfidently Resource Center is expanding! As we begin to shift indoors with fall upon us, we are starting our HVAC Indoor Air Quality assessments to ensure our small businesses are prepared for indoor operations. With the support of Ontario County Economic Development Corporation, we are thrilled to be able to offer this program. If you are aware of small business, especially those with front-facing operations like

tourism, retail, and hospitality that want to prepare for the inevitable “cold spell” we’re going to have, please contact Julie in our office at (585) 394-3915 or [julie@visitfingerlakes.com](mailto:julie@visitfingerlakes.com)!



The above images are from the first appointment we coordinated between Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning, and Victor Cross Fit.

## Humane Society



The Ontario County Humane Society invites the community to the second annual “Paws for Fall Celebration and Festival.” The community celebration will be held at Happy Tails Animal Shelter, 2976 County Road 48 Canandaigua, NY on Sunday, October 4th, 2020 from 11am-3pm.

There will be many free activities for the whole family, including donuts & cider, pumpkin decorating, face painting, petting zoo animals and much more. Local vendors will also be at the event and we will be selling the Cutest Pets of the Finger Lakes calendars for \$15 each.

This day promises to be an enjoyable event for the family while practicing social distancing and guidelines as recommended by the CDC (Center for Disease Control). Please wear your facemask and bring the family for a celebration of 31 years of assisting the homeless and abused animals of Ontario County.

For any questions regarding this celebration, please contact the Ontario County Humane Society at (585)396-4590. Please do not bring any pets to this event.

## Soil & Water Conservation District Stream Crossing Installed

The Ontario SWCD recently worked with the Town of Seneca to complete a stream crossing on Little Church Road using the Nationwide Permit. To meet the aquatic connectedly requirement of the permit, the new steel arch culvert was embedded 20% into the streambed and has a width of 125% of the stream ordinary high water mark. The Town used their own labor and did an excellent job installing the culvert to permit specifications.



## The Wildlife Benefit of Upland Water Retention



In 2018, the Ontario SWCD worked with a landowner to install a water and sediment control basin on farmland in the Seneca Lake Watershed. This project helps protect downslope agricultural land and public infrastructure as well as reduce erosion caused by storm water runoff. The landowner was interested in the pond holding water in between storm events for wildlife so SWCD designed some additional water storage below the outlet elevation of the basin. A few weeks ago, we revisited the site and were pleased to see that the basin is providing great habitat for both aquatic and terrestrial species. The landowner has done a great job managing the basin for his goals. While slowing down stormwater is the main priority of this basin, providing ecological benefits such as increasing wildlife habitat increase the practice's overall conservation value.

## The Partnership for Ontario County

CDGA Coffee made a \$650 donation to the Suicide Prevention Coalition which was then matched by Young Lion Brewing - \$1300 donation to the Suicide Prevention Coalition. What an honor and blessing to receive these funds – especially during Suicide Prevention Month. To read the Facebook Post – click [here](#).

The Community Support Center is extremely grateful to Kayleigh Woodard (Woodard Rentals) for generously donating and collaborating for two years with the CSC to provide free kayaking on Canandaigua Lake through our wellness program. Families in our community are significantly affected by suicide and mental illness and by Kayleigh sharing her Mother's story (see link to FL Times article [here](#)) and fundraiser, it only increases community awareness surrounding topics that can have stigmas attached.

September is Suicide Awareness month and during the COVID-19 pandemic, statistics show increased numbers of young adults and children in need of coping skills to deal with anxiety and depression. The CSC was graciously awarded a \$40,000 grant on behalf of The Florence M. Muller Foundation to provide free therapy to young adults and children ages 22 and younger. We are currently accepting new clients of ALL ages (up to 8 free one-hour sessions). These sessions can be virtual or in person, with proper protocols in place. Additional information can be found at [thecommunitysupportcenter.org](http://thecommunitysupportcenter.org) or by contacting Shawna Bonshak, Program Coordinator, at [shawna@partnershipoc.org](mailto:shawna@partnershipoc.org).

If you would like additional information on any of the key events, please feel free to contact my office or the appropriate department head.

Sincerely,

Brian Young  
Interim County Administrator  
/ca