



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Otsego County

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
June 22, 2009

Reality Check Teens Host a Night with the Oneonta Tigers

Members of the public will get discounts on tickets and an anti-tobacco message when Reality Check teens host a Night with the Oneonta Tigers. General admission tickets will be half price, just \$5., when teens pitch their healthy messages to baseball fans before the game, set for 7 p.m., Saturday, July 11, at Damaschke Field. Teens will hand out "quit smoking" tips and will run games before the Tiger's play.

Mayor John Nader has agreed to throw out the first pitch of the game.

One reason to celebrate is a decision by the City of Oneonta, voted for on May 20, 2008, to create tobacco-free zones in both Neahwa and Wilber Parks. Smoking is no longer permitted near the children's playgrounds, swimming pools, the skateboard park, at the Field 6 playing field, and at the entrance to Damaschke Field. "A baseball game is the perfect place to enjoy fresh air, summertime, and our beautiful local parks," said Marcia Kozubek, Otsego County Coordinator for Reality Check, a program of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Cooperstown.

Other municipalities have followed the lead of Oneonta, Broome County, and the City of Syracuse in creating tobacco-free parks. Most recently the Village of Milford voted June 18 to make Wilber Park tobacco free. Last October, the Village of Cooperstown voted to make five village parks tobacco-free. "No smoking" signs were furnished by Rural Three for Tobacco-free Communities, based at the Bassett Research Center in Cooperstown.

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