

THE WEEK IN HISTORY**Speakeasies
and Civic Center**

The Onondaga Historical Association looks back at the week in local history:

95 years ago: On Jan. 16, 1919, the 18th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, although it didn't take effect until Jan. 17, 1920.

The amendment prohibited the production and sale of alcoholic beverages.

This ushered in an era of speakeasies and bootleg liquor (much coming from Canada). An exhibit titled "The Culture of the Cocktail Hour" is currently on display at the Onondaga Historical Association, depicting the effects of Prohibition on the citizens of Syracuse, as well as a replica speakeasy, which is available for rent.

38 years ago: On Jan 15, 1976, Onondaga County's new \$25 million Civic Center opened with a gala performance featuring the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra and Ella Fitzgerald, a nationally known jazz vocalist.

— *Daniel Connors of the OHA*