

# *Tioga County Sheriff's Office*



**From  
Sheriff Gary W. Howard**

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**News Release  
Thursday, June 04, 2026**

1. On May 27, 2026, the Tioga County Sheriff's Office arrested Chance L. Harding, age 27 of Nichols, New York for the charges of Driving While Intoxicated, Speed Not Reasonable and Prudent, Failure to Keep Right, and Possession of an Open Container in a Vehicle. These charges resulted from an investigation into a personal injury accident that occurred on Hunt Creek Road in the Town of Nichols. During the investigation, it was found that Mr. Harding had been operating the vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Harding was issued appearance tickets to return to the Town of Nichols Court at a later date.
2. On May 24, 2026, the Tioga County Sheriff's Office arrested Madison Barnes age 23 and Jordan Hoyt age 25 of Owego, NY for Five Counts each of Animal Cruelty- torturing/ injuring/ failing to provide sustenance. These charges resulted from an investigation into an animal cruelty case that occurred in Newark Valley. During the investigation, it was found that both Hoyt and Barnes failed to provide proper food, and shelter to five dogs. All five dogs were taken into custody and transported to Stray Haven for further medical treatment. Barnes and Hoyt were processed at the Jail.

Approved by Captain Trevor Yaeger  
Posted 6/4/26 8:30 AM by Diane Rockwell