

DRUMS

Oneida Elder Services
Lee McLester II Building
P.O. Box 365, 2907 S Overland
Rd.
Oneida, WI 54155
Phone: 920-869-2448
1-800-867-1551
Drums contact: Helen Doxtator
Email: hdoxtato@oneidanation.org



ACROSS

Senior Center-Meal Site
134 Riverdale Dr.
Oneida, WI 54155
Phone: 920-869-1551
Fax: 920-869-1526

(Wata?klokwaskó Wahní·tále?)

Great Snow Moon February 2014




Happy Valentine's Day




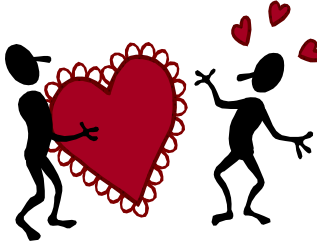

February Menu
February Activities Calendar
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Yaw^ko
February Puzzle
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Elder Financial Abuse/Exploitation
Steps to Take When a Loved One Dies
GLNAEA
Sustain Article 7
Emergency Response System

FEBRUARY 2014 MENU

CONGREGATE MEAL SITE, 2901 S. OVERLAND, ONEIDA, WI, 54155 PHONE: 1-920-869-1551

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All meals are served with milk, coffee, tea, juice, or water.	Menu is subject to change. Lunch is served Monday-Friday 12:00-1:00			
3 Sweet n' Sour Pork Rice Broccoli Apricots/Jell-O	4 Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes Carrots Fresh Fruit	5 Ham Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Applesauce	6 Swedish Meatballs Noodles Squash Cucumber Slices Jell-O	7 Honey Dipped Chicken Roasted Potato Zucchini Melon
10 Liver & Onions Mashed Potatoes Carrots Cookie	11 Spaghetti Meat Sauce Zucchini Fresh Fruit	12 Swiss Steak Baked Potato Brussels Sprouts Fruit Cocktail	13 Beef Stew Biscuits Raw Vegetables Fresh Fruit	14 Fish Oven Roast Potatoes Asparagus Oranges
17 Baked Ziti Mixed Vegetables Fresh Fruit	18 Beef Vegetable Soup Sandwich Lettuce Salad Jell-O Cubes	19 Roasted Turkey Sweet Potatoes Wax Beans Cranberry Sauce Fresh Fruit	20 Beef Stroganoff Noodles Mixed Vegetables Chilled Raspberries Ice Cream	21 Salmon Loaf Parsley Buttered Potatoes Fruit Jell-O
24 Chicken Al A King Biscuits Carrots Lettuce Salad Fresh Strawberries	25 Meat Loaf Cheesy Potatoes Green Bean Casserole Apricots	26 Chicken Tetrzzini Squash Jell-O Pears	27 BIRTHDAY DAY Boiled Dinner Salad Cake	28 Potato Crusted Cod California Blend Vegetables Fruit Cocktail

FEBRUARY 2014 ACTIVITIES

Monday	Tuesday		Thursday	Friday
	<p>* Please sign up for trips at the AJRCCC.</p> <p>* All Trips leave from AJRCCC.</p> <p>* Activities subject to change.</p>	<p>*Is this your Birthday Month? <u>You must sign up in the Birthday Book at the AJRCCC. Must be present at B-day Lunch to receive your gift card</u></p>		
3 Scruples Game AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Main Dining Hall 1:00	4 Crafts 10:00 – 11:30 AJRCCC	5 Oneida Language Main Dining Hall 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Cliff Webster Build 1:30	6 Seroogy's Chocolate Store DE Pere 9:30 Bowling Ashw. Lanes 1:30	7 Banks, Shopping & Lunch Out (On your own) 10:00 – 3:00 No Transportation for lunch this day.
10 UNO Game AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Site II 1:00	11 Valentine Bingo Three Sisters Center Green Bay 10:00	12 What's yours like AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Cliff Webster Build 1:30	13 Wii Bowling Main Dining Hall 9:30 Valentine's Day Party/Bingo Main Dining Hall 1:00	14 Banks, Shopping & Lunch Out (On your own) 10:00 – 3:00 No Transportation for lunch this day.
17 Wheel of Fortune AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Main Dining Hall 1:00	18 Crafts 9:30 – 11:30 AJRCCC	19 Oneida Language Main Dining Hall 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Cliff Webster Build 1:30	20 Chair Yoga Oneida Fitness Center 10:00 Bowling Ashw. Lanes 1:30	21 Banks, Shopping & Lunch Out (On your own) 10:00 – 3:00 No Transportation for lunch this day.
24 Dominoes AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Site II 1:00	25 Crafts 9:30 – 11:30 AJRCCC	26 Pass the Popcorn AJRCCC 9:30 Exercise Main Dining Hall 11:00 Bingo Cliff Webster Build 1:30	27 Big Lots Store Green Bay 9:30 Birthday Lunch 12:00 Main Dining Hall Movie Main Dining Hall 1:00 (Breakfast at Tiffany's)	28 Banks, Shopping & Lunch Out (On your own) 10:00 – 3:00 No Transportation for lunch this day.

****If you have any questions Please call Michelle at 869 -1551****



Elder Valentine's Day Party

February 13th at 1:00 p.m.

Main Dining Hall at AJRCC

Bingo

Door Prizes

Fun

Oneida Elder Gift Shop

Located inside the Elder Services Complex

2907 South Overland Rd. Oneida, WI

Open Monday – Friday

8:00 To 12:00PM & 12:30PM to 4:30PM

Meet our friendly elder employees.

Beautiful handmade Crafts by
Oneida Elders.

Beadwork, jewelry, birdhouses,
ribbon-shirts, Coasters, t-shirts,
hoodies, and baskets

Oneida Singers Tapes and CD's

Fresh popcorn, soda, and water

No consignment fees for Oneida elders, age 55 and older to display
and sell your arts and crafts.

For more information you may contact:

Barb Skenandore at 920-869-2448



Yaw^ko

In the Oneida language, Yaw^ko means *Thank You!* During these hard economic times, the generosity of our community members means so much, which is why Oneida Elder Services would like to send a very special thank you to the following individual(s):

Josephine Oudenhoven

George Greendeer

Nice Comments....

“Thank you, ” to Jeanet Mittag for Christmas bingo donations.

“Thank you,” to Pearl McLester for gifts to Elder Services for bingo prizes.

“Thank you,” to Carolyn Redhail for gifts to Elder Services for bingo prizes.

ONCOA Meetings:

Second and Fourth Tuesday of every month

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Elder Services Conference Room

2907 S Overland Rd

Oneida, WI 54155



Happy Valentine's Day



B	Q	Q	J	D	F	I	R	S	T	K	I	S	S	N	T	T	U	K	O
O	C	Q	E	Z	Y	D	P	K	K	G	E	Y	O	D	H	J	Q	K	A
X	Z	T	S	H	E	J	F	P	T	U	I	W	C	U	G	R	J	T	U
I	A	C	R	L	H	V	W	L	V	B	U	G	K	E	I	O	C	C	Q
O	V	V	J	U	P	O	R	D	V	L	V	C	I	I	L	M	N	D	F
Q	I	L	H	G	E	A	Q	B	A	P	O	V	I	Z	E	A	M	V	Z
T	K	N	I	P	I	L	A	S	O	P	O	R	P	S	L	N	E	G	X
O	K	O	N	P	G	P	O	E	M	M	P	P	T	Q	D	C	H	M	H
K	H	J	X	E	W	R	M	V	O	S	Z	V	T	P	N	E	F	A	F
Y	P	I	S	M	R	L	A	P	E	P	A	G	R	W	A	U	G	D	E
P	N	K	D	Z	K	A	K	S	D	L	T	O	A	X	C	H	W	W	L
E	T	U	R	D	P	E	O	O	E	S	W	Z	E	P	B	W	M	O	P
S	E	L	A	A	Y	R	Z	N	U	M	I	L	H	E	D	E	R	Y	Z
S	D	E	C	R	L	M	T	E	N	E	P	X	T	S	W	X	Y	H	L
B	D	G	C	O	S	I	M	Y	A	M	Z	G	E	N	O	L	I	J	X
F	Y	R	E	N	N	I	D	M	X	O	L	T	E	C	K	L	M	X	N
P	B	W	Q	E	Y	T	S	A	Z	R	U	O	W	D	D	J	V	Z	P
D	E	H	K	Q	K	U	D	V	T	I	G	E	S	N	C	G	Q	C	C
B	A	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	S	Q	D	I	P	U	C	T	O
J	R	V	D	C	F	X	T	N	E	S	R	Y	J	J	I	Z	T	A	F

Candlelight Card Chocolates Cupid Poem

Proposal Pink Memories Date Romance

Roses St Valentine Sweethearts Teddy Bear

Red True Love Dinner First Kiss Movie

Nutrition Information

Contact: Loretta Mencheski – 920-869-1551

Effective Immediately: to receive a bingo pass you must sign-up before the 10th of each month.

Questions: Loretta Mencheski-Meal Site Supervisor.



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Volunteers Wanted: The meal site is looking for volunteers, age 55 or older; services needed are assistance in the kitchen and delivering Meals on Wheels to homebound elders. If you would like to volunteer, call Loretta (920) 869-1551, or you can stop by the meal site at 2901 S. Overland. Oneida, 54155.

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Attention All Participants of the Senior Center Meal Site:

Policies & Procedures Specific to the Older Americans Act – Funded Nutrition Program

Effective October 1, 2008 the meal site will maintain a reservation system for participants who eat at the meal site. Participants who eat at the meal site are asked to call in the day before to reserve or to cancel their meal for the next day, week, or month before 4:00 p.m. Contact Loretta Mencheski – 920-869-1551

No participant will be denied a meal

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Upcoming Nutrition Advisory Council Meetings

- When: 3rd Friday of the Month
 - Time: 1:00 P.M.
 - Where: Oneida Senior Center Meal Site
-

Attention All Participants of the Senior Center Meal Site:

Effective June 17, 2013 the meal cost for ages under 55 will increase to \$8.00. We are asking all participants who plan on eating at the meal site to call in the day before to reserve their meal for the following day, week, or month. We also ask if you have reserved your meal and you cannot make it please call and cancel your reservation.

To Reserve or Cancel your meals please call (920) 869-1551

Oneida Elder Services Native American Family Caregiver Information

Oneida Elder Services would like to introduce the "Native American Family Caregiver Voucher/Stipend Program". It is designed to give established primary caregivers the opportunity to have a break from their caregiving responsibilities for up to 4 hours a month. It also provides an hourly stipend/wage to the relief caregiver. You may qualify for this program if you are a caregiver, recipient, or grandparent who is legally caring for their grandchild(ren), Native American, age 55+ and live within the reservation boundaries.



Please contact Barbara Silva/Native American Family Caregiver at (920) 869-2448 for details.

****Services are dependent on available funds****



Please join us for our Alzheimer's & Native American Family Caregiver Support Group at:

Elder Services Complex – Pod A
2907 S Overland Rd, Oneida WI 54155
4th Wednesday of the Month
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

For more information, contact Barbara Silva/Native American Family Caregiver at (920)869-2448.



BENEFIT SPECIALIST AT ELDER MEAL SITE



On the **second** and **fourth Monday** of the month Angela Ortiz, Benefit Specialist for Oneida Elder Services will be at the Elder Meal Site located at 2901 S Overland Rd, Oneida, WI 54155 from **11:30 a.m. to**

1:00 p.m. She will be there to answer questions and offer assistance with Medicare, Medicaid, Senior Care, and similar programs that are available for Elders. Please feel free to stop by with questions on those days or contact her in the office.

Any questions please contact: Angela Ortiz, Benefit Specialist at (920) **869-2448**



Make a Difference in your Community become a Foster Grandparent or Senior Companion:

Are you a senior, 55 years or older who enjoys spending and/or sharing your time, knowledge of tradition and culture? If income eligible, you can make a difference in your community by volunteering up to 8 hours a day while receiving extra income.

Foster Grandparents provide an inter-generational exchange between Elders and youth. Elders can serve as mentors to youth at tribal schools, day care centers, head start, after-school activity groups and youth centers.

Senior Companions provide opportunities for healthy older adults to serve Elders who may be homebound, alone, and/or isolated without family support. Senior Companions may serve clients within reservation boundaries.

Come share with our community, enjoy life, help others and earn tax-free money!

For an opportunity in your area contact:
Angela Ortiz, Benefit Specialist
(920) 869-2448

**You must be a least 55 years of age, complete a background check and meet
Income guidelines to earn a stipend!**

Planning for Emergency Health Situations

Feb. 6, 2014

12:00 P.M.

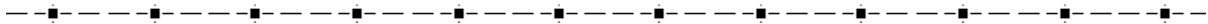
Elder Meal Site

2901 S. Overland Rd.

Oneida, WI 54155

Community Health Nurses will discuss what preparations you can make in case of a health emergency. What documents to have on hand, where you can obtain information, and etc.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Angela Ortiz at (920) 869-2448.



Steps to Take When a Loved One Dies

Managing the affairs of a spouse or loved one who dies can be confusing – especially at such an emotional time. Following is a non-exclusive list of things a family can do for preparation for finalizing the decedent's affairs:

- ❖ Look for a will in the person's home, a safe deposit box, or something filed at the county Register in Probate Office.
- ❖ Consult an attorney about the need for probate and payment of outstanding debts. A Transfer by Affidavit may be an option for estates of less than \$50,000.
- ❖ Consult the preferred funeral home and find out if the person had advance burial planning in place.
- ❖ Notify a landlord in writing that the person has passed away. This limits the rental liability to two months of rent past the month of notification.
- ❖ Notify utility companies if cable or phone can be stopped.

Steps to Take When a Loved One Dies cont.

- ❖ Notify the Social Security Administration so benefits are not overpaid and the widow's benefits can be properly paid.
 - ❖ Notify a life insurance policy. Usually a death certificate is needed to pay out the beneficiary of record.
 - ❖ Notify a POA agent or guardian that his/her authority has ended.
 - ❖ Close out credit cards.
 - ❖ If there is a surviving spouse and property is jointly titled, complete an HT-110 form to notify the county Register of Deeds office that one spouse has passed away. A death certificate must accompany this request.
 - ❖ Notify Medicaid estate recovery if the person received Medicaid benefits.
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- ❖ Note that many of these actions will require a person who has authority to act on behalf of the decedent meaning the executor or personal representative of the estate. This is a very important role and we recommend that a personal representative consult an elder law or probate attorney to ensure the estate is handled properly according to state statutes. Paying creditors in the wrong order could cause personal liability on the part of the personal representative.

By the GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Area Agency Resources) Legal Services Team.

Elder Services Congregate Meal Site at the new AJRCCC

“A dream come true” said Loretta Mencheski, Meal site Supervisor.

“We are happy that we are finally moved and have such a beautiful Congregate Meal Site and are better able to accommodate all the Elders who wish to join us.” The new Elder Service Congregate Meal Site would not have been possible without the elders who worked so hard and diligently to get our new meal site built.

“Our dream has come true” said Loretta. Oneida Nation Commission on Aging Board members deserve kudos for their continued advocacy and participation in the planning of the building. We would also like to thank Dan Skenandore, Project Manager for ensuring the elder’s needs were met in providing the 150 seating meal site.

Elder Services has a Memorandum of Agreement with AJRCCC to provide the meals for our Congregate Meal site and for our Home Delivered Meals. The cooks, Brenda Jorgenson and Bonita Nicholas/Marlewski work in the kitchen along with the AJRCCC kitchen staff.

Congregate meals began serving lunch on November 4, 2013. Lunch is served Monday thru Friday from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 P.M. The Elder Meal Site is still using the reservation system. This entails calling in the day before by 4:00 P.M. To reserve or cancel your meal for the day or you may let the reception know when you will be eating.

Marena Pamanet, Jeanette Teller, and Nancy Torres will gladly reserve your meal when you call. Nancy also assists in the dining area.

Call the reception phone number 920-869-1551.

The new Elder Service Congregate Meal Site, at the AJRCCC (Anna John Residential Community Care Center) Building is located at 2901 S. Overland. Oneida, WI 54155. There is plenty of parking in front of the building for your convenience.

Any questions regarding the meal site, contact Loretta Mencheski, Meal site Supervisor

“HELPFUL HINTS FOR ELDER DRIVERS”

Aging takes a toll on drivers. Reaction times slow, Vision is affected, Judgment can be impaired. Here are some helpful hints you may be interested in.

Statistics have shown:

- Seniors making left turns are 28 percent more likely to be involved in a vehicle crash.
- Onset of Dementia and Alzheimer's can affect ones driving skills.
- Side effects of medications, especially new ones.
- Natural slowing of reaction time such as frailty, arthritis etc.
- Drifting into oncoming traffic.

Being aware of these statistics will help drivers make good decisions while driving.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me anytime.

Joyce Ann Hoes – Transportation/Activity Supervisor 920-869-2448
jhoes@oneidanation.org

Oneida Elder Services Transportation Activities

Provides **free** transportation to all Elder Services Activities
See the **Activity Calendar** in **Drums Across Oneida**
Plan your day, including lunch (Mon – Thurs) at the Meal Site
Door to Door Service!!

For more information please contact:
Michelle Cottrell, Activity Specialist or
Joyce Ann Hoes, Transportation Supervisor
(920) 869-2448
RIDE the BUS!!



Elder Services Senior Transportation



We have Oneida Public Transit & Green Bay Metro bus passes available to

Elders 55 years or older who are gainfully employed,

Serve on a board, committee or commission that pays stipends.

While Supplies Last!

For more information please contact:

Joyce Ann Hoes, Transportation Supervisor (920) 869-2448



Maintenance Corner

Justine Hill, Maintenance Supervisor

2013-2014 Snow Plowing

Due to limited staff and an extensive list, we will be plowing out our Priority List first then we will begin to get the remaining list when we can.

- Must be on Emergency Response System (ERS) otherwise known as “Life Line” or “Care Gard” and/or on dialysis
- 70+ are our priority
- You must be the homeowner and must reside at that residence
- Must provide proof of homeownership
- Must reside within Oneida Reservation boundaries
- Snow plowing will begin with measurable snowfall of three (3) inches or more
- A Needs Assessment must be completed and up-to-date

The purpose for snow plowing is to allow emergency vehicles access to those that are on ERS and dialysis.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated as we go through our lists. We will salt your main entrance; however, we do not salt the whole driveway.

**Please contact Kristine Hughes, Services Coordinator for any service requests*
869-2448*

We strongly encourage family members to help the elders with snow removal.



Preventing Frozen Pipes

By Staff writer State Farm™ Employee

In cold climates, pipes freeze for a combination of three central reasons: quick drops in temperature, poor insulation, and thermostats set too low. Both plastic and copper pipes can burst when they freeze, and recovering from frozen pipes is not as simple as calling a plumber

Here are a few simple tips:



Before The Cold Remember the three central causes of frozen pipes? Quick drops in temperature, poor insulation, and thermostats set too low. You can prepare by protecting your home during the warmer months.

Here's how: Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces and attic, even if you live in a climate where freezing is uncommon. Exposed pipes are most susceptible to freezing. Remember: The more insulation you use, the better protected your pipes will be. Seal leaks that allow cold air inside near where pipes are located. Look for air leaks around electrical wiring, dryer vents, and pipes, and use caulk or insulation to keep the cold out. With severe cold, even a tiny opening can let in enough cold air to cause a pipe to freeze.

Before winter hits, disconnect garden hoses and, if possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house.

Here are a few more steps you can take: A trickle of hot and cold water might be all it takes to keep your pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall. Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature during both day and night. You might be in the habit of turning down the heat when you're asleep, but further drops in the temperature – more common overnight – could catch you off guard and freeze your pipes. Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.

First step: Don't panic. Just because they're frozen doesn't mean they've already burst. Here's what you can do: If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and call a plumber. Do not use electrical appliances in areas of standing water: You could be electrocuted. You may be able to thaw a frozen pipe with the warm air from a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe. If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house; leave the water faucets turned on. Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shutoff valve is and how to open and close it.

Call Elder Services for assistance at 869-2448.

Elder Financial Abuse/Exploitation

By Joyce A. Johnson
Elder Abuse Prevention Supervisor
Oneida Elder Services

Elder Abuse is one subject that many of us do not like to talk about or even think about. Unfortunately it is one of those sad truths that occur daily in our society and tragically even in our Indian Communities.

One form of elder abuse is Financial Exploitation. This means to obtain an elder's money or property by deceiving or enticing the individual, or by forcing, compelling, or coercing the individual to lend, give, sell at less than fair market value, or in other ways convey money or property against his or her will without his or her informed consent.

Some suggestions to protecting elder's and their assets whether they reside at home, in an assisted living home or in a nursing home, are to visit the elder/s often. Your visit might be in the morning one day, at lunch another day and at another time in the evening. This conveys the message to anyone who may have plans to victimize an elder is that their activities are being observed. Unlawful and suspicious activities can be reported to the authorities and investigated. If a crime is substantiated it may lead to criminal charges and prosecution. A background check may be warranted if any circumstances seem suspicious such as a stranger suddenly visiting often and showing an unusual amount of interest in an elder or their finances. If the person has any type of criminal background you may be preventing the elder from becoming a crime statistic.

Last year within the State of Wisconsin elder at risk reporting agencies received 970 reports of possible Financial Exploitation. This was 16.8% of all reports of suspected elder abuse. .

If you know or suspect that an elder community member is being financially exploited please contact: Joyce Johnson- Oneida Elder Abuse Prevention Coordinator at (920)869-2448.

GLNAEA



Great Lakes Native American Elders Association
Sponsored by Lake Superior Chippewa
March 6 & 7, 2014 – Lac Du Flambeau
Lake of the Torches Resort/Casino
717 Peace Pipe Rd, Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538
1-715-588-9262 or 1-800-25-torch

All GLNAEA member elders who want to participate in coordination with Elder Services please sign up at the Oneida Senior Center Meal Site by Monday, Feb. 18, 2014. Payment must be received at sign-up and GLNAEA membership verification will be requested at time of payment. We will make arrangements for 8 people and will be using our tribal van, (please bring no more than 1-bag per person). Participants must be independent, (able to help themselves), and be in good health (to prevent spread of illness). We will be staying at the Lake of the Torches Resort/Casino and the cost is \$35.00 per person. We will leave the Congregate Meal site at 12:30 pm on Wednesday March 6. If you have any questions please call Oneida Elder Services Meal site (920) 869-1551. Thank you.

Next Meeting Information:
June 5 & 6, 2014 – Carter (Potawatomi)
Sept. 4 & 5, 2014 – Ho-Chunk Nation



This series of articles is designed to inform Oneida citizens about Tribal enrollment issues. The goal of these articles is to generate community conversations leading up to and beyond the Sept 7th Sustain Oneida Summit which will explore potential solutions for citizenship and belonging.

So far we have discussed the future consequences of Indian people and non-Indian people producing generations with 'diluted' Indian blood. But, what about those individuals with multi-tribal ancestry? There are many Indians across the country who may have $\frac{1}{2}$ or greater amounts of Indian blood, but when it comes to enrolling in a specific tribe, they don't meet the requirement. Consider the child who is a full-blood Indian, but only $\frac{1}{8}$ th of any tribe in particular. Where does that child belong? This article will explore how tribes in the U.S. and Canadian First Nations deal with this question.

As we have seen, blood quantum is an exclusively North American phenomenon and primarily, a U.S. one. Within the broad class of tribes using blood quantum, several variations exist. Tribes may use blood quantum to measure either *Indian* ancestry, *tribal* ancestry, indignity, or parentage. In other words, depending on the tribe you want to enroll in, you may be required to have any combination of Indian blood, or you may need specific tribal blood (i.e., Oneida); you may need to be from a certain place, or you may need to prove that your ancestors were Indian. Confused yet? It is mind boggling to think about all the different ways someone may 'count' as Indian.

At the most basic level, there are two types of blood rules used in tribal constitutions:

- 1) those measuring *Indian* blood quantum
- 2) those measuring *tribal* blood quantum

Tribal blood rules may require a specified degree of 'Ho-Chunk blood' or 'Menominee blood,' making the person's other tribal affiliations irrelevant. Indian blood rules (also called pan-tribal rules) allow people with large amounts of multi-tribal blood quantum, who may lack tribe-specific descent, to enroll.

The most frequently used Indian blood quantum is $\frac{1}{4}$, which is used by the majority of tribes today, such as the Oneida.

It is interesting to note how tribal governments have changed over time when it comes to enrollment requirements. Over the past 70 years, tribal constitutions have shown a huge increase in the use of tribal blood rules, from 44% of pre-1941 constitutions to 70% today. The U.S. federal government does not make a distinction between Indian's and tribal affiliation in the same way that many tribes do. It is the tribes that are more concerned about how tribal members are related (i.e., kinship or shared descent). The Federal

Government just wants to make sure that Indian tribes are composed of Indians. Rather, it is the tribes that have become more nit-picky about who belongs. Many tribes, in fact, (does this include WI Oneida?) insist that applicants show genealogical ties to the community. This shift toward favoring tribal specific blood may be surprising. It shows that tribal governments have been gradually evolving in a more conservative direction when it comes to choosing who gets to be a member and who does not. There are many who say we must reverse this trend.

The majority of U.S. tribes (57%) do not allow multiple tribal memberships. Some will even dis-enroll you if they find out you are enrolled in another tribe.

In contrast, in Canada blood quantum rules have a stronger pan-tribal character. The vast majority of Canadian groups using blood quantum rules use Indian blood rather than tribal blood. Registered Canadian Indians may move between Bands (tribes) without changing their status. In this way, Canadian First Nations are keeping the idea of Indian's as a quality shared in common by all First Nations. Some Canadian groups define blood quantum as 'the quantum of Indian blood in those persons who are direct descendants of aboriginal people of North America.' These tribes begin by designating each original member as a 'full-blood' so that a child who has at least '50%' blood quantum, effectively has at least one Indian parent. This suggests that Canadian First Nations maintain a strong concept of pan-tribal Indian's, something that U.S. tribes may want to consider.

One tribe that takes a more flexible approach to multi-tribal enrollment is the Quinault Nation on the Pacific coast of Washington. The tribe recognizes any individual who can verify at least one-quarter combined heritage from seven tribes (Quinault, Queets, Quileute, Hoh, Chehalis, Cowlitz, and Chinook). Individuals, who do not meet the membership criteria, may apply for adoption into the Quinault Nation. Perhaps the Oneida could use a variation of this criteria and allow individuals with a collection of Haudenosaunee ancestry (i.e., 1/8 Cayuga, 1/8 Mohawk) to enroll.

No doubt many will argue that this approach is only a Band-Aid and does little more than delay the inevitable: the eventual dilution of Oneida blood to the point that there will no longer be any "Oneida" left. More all-embracing change will need to occur before the Oneida are out of the blood quantum woods. But perhaps taking a closer look at multi-tribal membership criteria is the first stepping stone on the road to creating a broader definition of belonging.

For more information about Sustain Oneida please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/OneidaTrust>

<https://www.oneida-nsn.gov/TrustEnrollmentCommittee.aspx>

or call: Dottie Krull: 920-869-4372 Education & Training Admin.

For comments or questions please email: sustainoneida@oneidanation.org



Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155-0365

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Emergency Response System (CareGard)

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014 @ 12:00 noon



Elder Meal site – 2901 S. Overland Rd. Oneida WI 54155

Representatives from Communication Engineering Company (CEC) will speak about the CareGard Program and answer questions.

Any questions, please contact Sandra Summers, Outreach Worker at (920) 869-2448