



SAVINGS

WISCONSIN



\$6.5 Million in Opioid Settlement Funds

GM Community Meal and Discussion
PG 5

Injury to Inspiration

Cheyenne Elm in Netflix's *Rez Ball*
PG 8

2024 Highlights

Oneida Nation Programs and Services
PG 14

Season of Giving

Toys for Tots, Giving Tree, and Stuff the Bus
PG 27



From the Kali

Shekóli Swakwe•kú. As we enter the new year, I can't help but reflect on all the awesome accomplishments of the Oneida Nation employees. Together, we do it all. From incremental improvements in services, to building new community spaces, and all the revenue-generating activities to make it happen. I could not be more proud of the people that dedicate their time and energy to make it happen.

Currently there are more than 2,300 employees of the Nation working in various capacities to serve the great people of our community. The vast majority of these individuals not only contribute to providing services but are also utilizing the services. Our workforce is serving our community, and at the same time, our community is our workforce. We are in service to each other.

The vision statement of the Nation is "A Nation of strong families built on tsi?niyukwalihotł and a strong economy." The rough translation of tsi?niyukwalihotł is "our ways". Encompassed in that understanding of our ways is the acknowledgement of our interdependence. We work together, to support each other, to grow together. Yawł?kó Oneida Nation employees!

Mark W. Powless

General Manager



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KALIHWISAKS

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A good mind. A good heart. A strong fire.



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A snowy buffalo from the Oneida Herd grazing peacefully during the holiday season.



On behalf of the Oneida Business Committee, we extend well wishes and blessings to you and yours in welcoming the new year.

Our Mother Earth welcomes the cold months as a time to pause, rest, and reset so that upon the arrival of Spring, she is ready to take on whatever challenges the thaw and new life may bring. Just like Mother Earth, we should also take that time to pause, rest, and reset. The new year can be a time to recheck unmet goals and set new goals. A time to reflect on the year past and look forward to what is to come.

This new year may we continue to encourage all to stay strong and steadfast. When we, as Ukwhe, embrace our inherent ways passed down from our ancestors who walked before us, we are acknowledging them and their struggles and strife's. Embracing our ways also shows appreciation for all in which they sacrificed for us to even be here today. I remain steadfast in my personal beliefs and know brighter days will always prevail. We just need to persevere and continue to build one another up, as those before us did. It is always darkest in the midst of any storm, but showing compassion and just being present, can help us all strive for brighter days.

The Oneida Business Committee wishes you all peace and good health, as we keep all of our loved ones in mind, and we pray for those who have walked on, those who are ill, and for those who are facing challenging times. 2024 may have been a year of hardship for many, and we hope the new year will bring comfort and healing to you.

Let's all embrace and be thankful for the many gifts Mother Earth continues to provide for us all, and as a Nation, may we aspire to live in harmony with all creation. Let us all continue to nurture the fire within and encourage and lift others up, so that they may tend to and nurture their own.

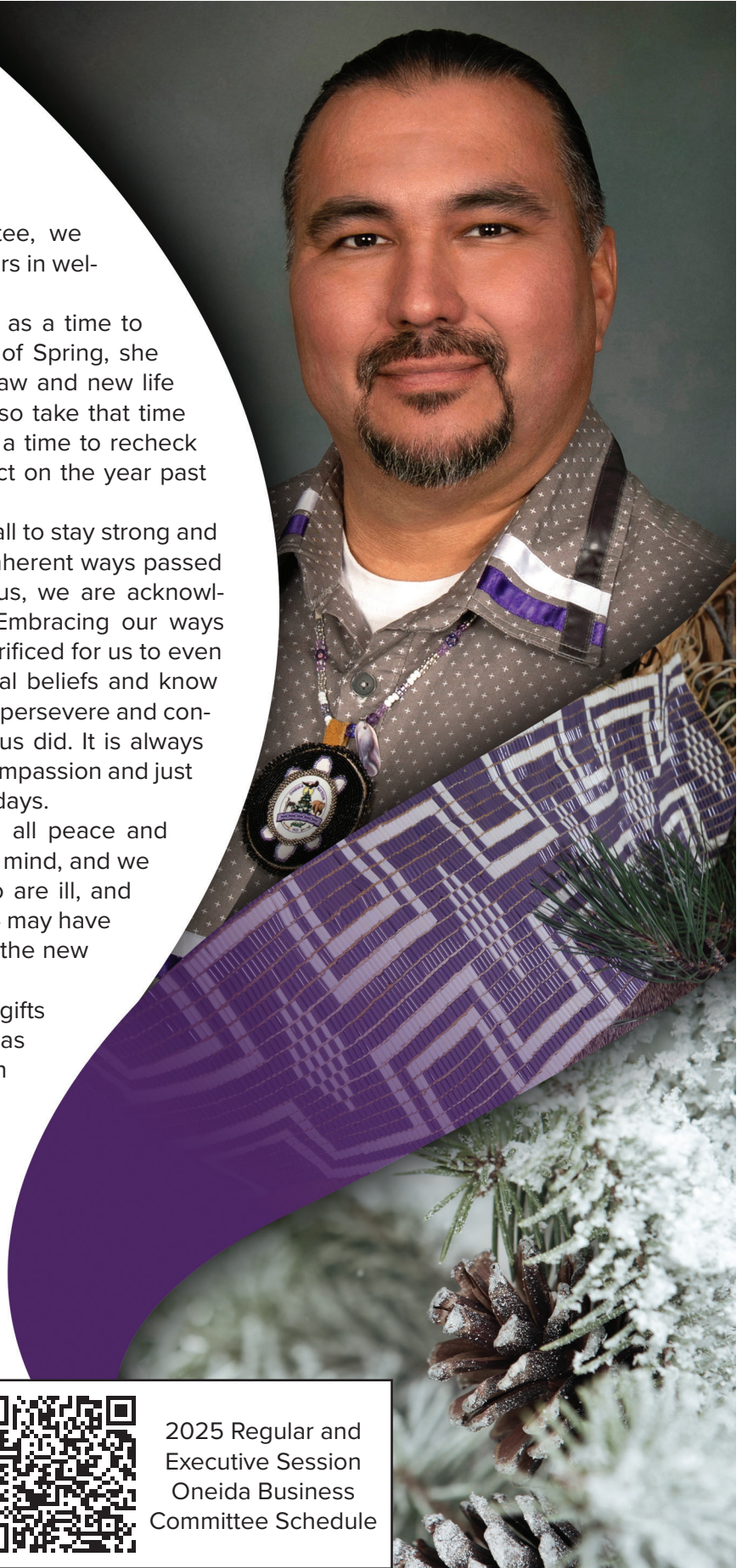
Yaww?kó

Be well and treat one another well.

Sa?nikuhlatsa'niht

(You have a strong mind)

Chairman Tehassi tasi Hill



Regular & Executive Meeting Date	Agenda Request Due Date
Tues., Jan. 7-Exec Wed., Jan. 8-Reg	Tues., Dec. 31
Tues., Jan. 21-Exec Wed., Jan. 22-Reg	Tues., Jan. 14

2025 Regular and Executive Session
Oneida Business Committee Schedule

\$6.5 Million in Opioid Settlement Funds

GM Community Meal and Discussion



Gabriella Van Boxtel

General Manager of Programs, Mark W. Powless, presented on the Opioid Settlement Funds to community members at the Norbert Hill Center Cafeteria.

By: Gabriella Van Boxtel

Communications Specialist Post Graduate · GM Administration

The General Manager Community Meal and Discussion on Opioid Settlement Funds took place at 5:30pm, Thursday, November 21, 2024, at the Norbert Hill Center. Mark W. Powless, General Manager of Programs, discussed the \$6.5 million in funds obtained from lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. These companies were accused of downplaying the addictiveness of opioids, leading to widespread addiction and its negative consequences.

The meeting covered the settlement funds, Oneida addiction data, the decision-making process, expenditure ideas, and sought community input. The focus areas for fund allocation include prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery, with an emphasis on prevention. A gap analysis identified underfunded areas in current services, and community input was crucial in shaping the proposed expenditures. The Oneida Business Committee (OBC) will approve ideas before implementation.

Tsyosha?ah Delgado, a member of the Opioid Settlement Funds team representing the Oneida Cultural Heritage Department, emphasized the need for grief counseling for children

and grandparents affected by the opioid crisis.

“We definitely need to have some grief counseling for the children that have been left behind and the grandparents that are raising those children because there is nobody to raise them now. Oftentimes, one parent might have passed away but then the other one might be incarcerated – or they’re not even part of their life at all,” said Delgado.

The opioid epidemic has affected the Nation’s families in many negative ways. “Community Cultural Healing Events (Condolence, Death Feast)” is one of the proposed expenditure ideas which would be conducted by traditional knowledge keepers – these would be traditional events targeting healing from grief and trauma.

Attendees were given surveys to assess support for over 20 funding suggestions. The focus areas were 50% on prevention, 44% on recovery, 5% on treatment, and 1% on harm reduction. Survey results are pending.

Approved Ideas

1. Presentation to Stakeholders, Focus Groups, & Community

\$7,000 for prevention-focused information sharing and input gathering.

2. Multimedia Campaign Driven by Youth:

\$15,000 for equipment to help Oneida Nation High School students create anti-opioid content.

3. Renovations for Transitional Living

\$500,000 for renovating two houses on Hillcrest Drive to meet Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF) requirements for transitional living.



Opioid Settlement
Funds Presentation

Proposed Opioid
Spending Plan



NWTC-Oneida Nation Partnership Soars Councilman Jonas Hill Accepts Soar Higher Award



Oneida Councilman Jonas Hill accepts the Soar Higher Partner Award from NWTC President, Dr. Kristen Raney during the NWTC Alumni Night Thursday, November 14, 2024.

Compiled from NWTC.edu and Press Times

On behalf of the Oneida Nation, Oneida Councilman Jonas Hill attended the Northeast Wisconsin Alumni Night on Thursday, November 14, 2024 to accept the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) Soar Higher Partner Award (SPHA).

NWTC describes the SPHA as a recognition given to an industry partner for championing technical education, giving back to the community, and living the College's values, which according to the application form, contains 5 core items that each nominee is evaluated for:

- Promotion of the College
- Financial Support
- Training & Recruitment
- Advocacy
- Community Enhancement
- Measurable Outcomes

The SPHA recognition comes about a year and a half after charter renewal ceremony between Chairman

Tehassill Hill and NWTC President, Emeritus Jeff Rafn. The partnership helps to serve the needs of Oneida Nation communities through educational opportunities for every stage of learning, K-12, post-secondary, and workforce training.

In an NWTC.edu article, Councilman Jonas Hill comments on the SPHA and the Partnership with NWTC, "For decades our Oneida students have been graduating from NWTC, and we see the value of that education all around the community. Students will continue to enrich our entire community, fostering innovation, resilience, and opportunity for generations to come-and for that, Oneida Nation is thankful. Hill adds in a November 2024 interview with Press Times Janelle Fisher, "Every year and every budget cycle, the Nation makes sure that there's money for higher education needs."

ONEIDA HIGHER EDUCATION

The Higher Education Scholarship was the result of GTC Resolution 8-12-96-A. It provides Oneida Members funding at accredited institutions. Vocational and Undergraduate levels are funded up to \$20,000 per year while graduate level students receive up to \$30,000. Here are some statistics from the 2023/24 academic year:

- Approximately 700 Students Funded
- Top five schools attended are NWTC, Univ. of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, College of Menominee Nation and Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 89 Master's Degree Students
- 38 Doctoral Degree Students
- 8 Health Related Doctorate Students
- 3 Law Degree Students
- 2 Medical Degree Students

The top five majors are:

- Business
- Health
- Social Science
- Education
- Trades



Gaming Employee Meeting

A Traditional Event

By **Lucy Neville**

Oneida Casino Employee Engagement Manager

For years, the Gaming Employee Meeting has been a cornerstone event at Oneida Casino, now Oneida Casino Hotel, bringing together employees from various departments to celebrate achievements, share updates, and foster a sense of community. Originally held quarterly, the now bi-annual event maintains its popularity and significance, much to the delight of its attendees.

The primary purpose of the meeting is to provide business updates, ensuring that employees are informed about the latest developments and plans. This year's winter meeting, held in the Three Clans Ballroom Thursday, December 5, 2024, was no exception. With around 250 employees in attendance, Gaming General Manager, Louise Cornelius, kicked off the event stating, "I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the work and the time you put in here. This is like our second home. You have your own home but then you come here for eight, nine, sometimes ten hours or more per day. Again, I personally thank you for this time to make us all shine." Cornelius continued by introducing Oneida Nation Chairman, Tehassi Hill.

"I'd like to thank you and welcome everyone. We wouldn't be where we are today without the help from each and every gaming and hotel employee...Great employees like yourselves along with the leadership of Senior Management being able to grow revenues through the years enables the expansion of services to our community members," says Chairman Hill.

Louise also offered insights into the Casino's recent consolidation with the Hotel, along with Hotel management introductions. A financial update was

provided by the Assistant CFO, Chad Fuss, and profit center updates were provided by directors of those areas.

Employees also eagerly participated in a variety of games, showcasing their skills, and winning exciting prizes. The holiday apparel contest was a particular highlight, with staff donning creative and festive outfits in hopes of winning 1st, 2nd, or 3rd prize. Drawings for additional prizes added to the excitement.

Guest speakers included GB Packers Public Affairs Director, Aaron Popkey (directly right with Louise Cornelius) who provided highlights on the upcoming NFL Draft, adding an extra layer of excitement to the meeting. Other guest speakers provided insight into the soon to be implemented Workforce Management module of My Oneida GHR.

The Gaming Employee Meeting remains a cherished tradition that brings together Oneida Casino Hotel employees. With delicious food and beverages, attendees mingled and enjoyed the chance to relax and connect outside their usual work environment. It's this combination of business updates, festive activities, and camaraderie that not only informs but strengthens the sense of community between employees at Oneida Casino Hotel.



*Travis Cottrell
Oneida Casino Hotel Social/
Digital Media Specialist*

Injury to Inspiration

Cheyenne Elm in Netflix's *Rez Ball*

By Mia Charnon
From the Actor

Firstly, I just want to say I'm so grateful to share conversation with you and whoever reads this. I love being Indigenous and I am blessed to be Oneida. This community and Nation raised the people who raised me and those before them. I know my role and screen time was limited but I sincerely hope I positively represented those who built me, and Oneida as a whole. I wholeheartedly recognize I wouldn't be here without the generations who came before me, and I am unequivocally appreciative.

Experience on *Rez Ball*

How did you get involved with *Rez Ball*?

They had an open casting call on Instagram and I figured, why not. Even though I had no acting experience, I thought I could at least pretend to be a basketball player.

Can you describe your character in the movie and what drew you to this role?

My character was assistant Coach Davis and that's about all you need to know about him. Not to diminish myself, but the character was not of utter importance. I was going to be one of the players, but I tore my ACL and meniscus at the Albuquerque tryout. I'm beyond grateful they found a way to keep me involved.

What was it like working with the director, Sydney Freeland, and the rest of the cast?

Sydney is a blessing and a complete professional. Obviously, I have no other experiences to compare this to, however, the environment she orchestrated was comforting and just overall fun. Everyone on set was amazing to be around and share space with. Almost all who had experience on other projects said this was the easiest and most fun set they've been a part of, and I completely agree.

Themes and Impact

***Rez Ball* focuses on basketball and Indigenous culture. How do you think the film represents these themes?**

Rez Ball checked all the boxes and I credit that to having Indigenous writers, actors, and producers. There's no one better to tell a culture's stories than the people who built that culture.

What message do you hope audiences take away from the movie?

The overall message I hope viewers take away from this movie is that life does get better. I know all people can relate to this but especially Native peoples. This experience we call life can feel incredibly overwhelming and unbearable at times but through community and optimistic perseverance our joy is guaranteed.

Career and Future Projects

How has this experience influenced your career or future projects?

It mostly influenced my perspective on what the future could hold for me. I never wanted to be an actor, but I am an incredibly passionate person, and I can see how this may be an avenue for me to express that. As for future projects, I hope those are on the way. I miss those Netflix checks.

Advice to Future Actors

What advice would you give to aspiring actors who want to follow in your footsteps?

The best advice I have at the moment is you can't be the one to tell yourself no. I still don't necessarily feel like an actor or even someone who deserved to be in a Netflix movie. I was so close to not sending in my self-tape audition because I thought I did such a bad job. I was so close to declining the offer to audition in person in Albuquerque because I was nervous. I easily could've ruined this opportunity for myself by being scared and not pushing my boundaries. Luckily, I had promised myself a couple of months before that I won't be the person to tell me no anymore. I'll leave that up to people who are supposed to make these decisions and thankfully they saw something in me I didn't. Yes, my/your feelings are important and valid, but if I listened to myself and stayed home, I'd feel horrible having missed out on *Rez Ball*. Get out of your own way. Take the opportunity when it presents itself. I'd much rather an obvious "no" and be miserably rejected than ask myself "what if" for the rest of my life. "Be the man in the arena." If you don't know that full quote, I suggest you read up. This is my first interview for Oneida, and it won't be my last. I'd like for it to be stated here in words for all to see that: I will save the world. I love you all. Godspeed.



"Before *Rez Ball*, I actually had zero acting experience."

Cheyenne Elm, up-coming Oneida actor, talks about his experience in Netflix's *Rez Ball*.

Background

- Born in Green Bay, WI.
- 2018 De Pere High School Graduate
- Spent 1 Year at Univ. of Missouri

Personal Insights

- Reading, writing, & meditating
- Walks, basketball, working out, sprinting, and tai chi
- Producing music, volunteering, and taking care of family
- Self-employed and always looking to grow and try new things

Rez Ball released Sep. 2024 based on *Canyon Dreams* by Michael Powell



Cheyenne Elm and co-stars on the set of *Rez Ball*

Two Women Who Started Oneida Bingo Honored

By Mike Hoeft

Son-in-law of Sandra Ninham Brehmer and author of The Bingo Queens of Oneida



National Indian Gaming Assoc. Chairman, Ernie Stevens, Jr., Oneida Casino Hotel General Mgr., Louise Cornelius with Alma Webster and Sandra Ninham Brehmer. Stevens brought Webster and Brehmer Ninham together to reacknowledge them for the recognition they received last spring in Anaheim, CA as they stand below their honorary plaques at the Irene Moore Activity Center/Oneida Bingo Hall.

Flashback: Alma Webster and Sandra Ninham Brehmer together circa 1980's.

It was fitting that in the middle of a recent bingo game, two elders were presented awards for having started Oneida Bingo nearly 50 years ago.

During a break in the game at the Irene Moore Activity Center, Oneida Casino Hotel General Gaming Manager Louise Cornelius got on the bingo caller's microphone to recognize Alma Webster and Sandra Ninham Brehmer.

"These two are the Bingo Queens. This is how Oneida started all this gaming," she said. "They started Oneida Bingo in 1976. That's how long we've been operating here. Give them a big round of applause."

Webster, 85, and Ninham Brehmer, 82, were presented lifetime achievement awards from the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) for their work in rebuilding communities through Indian self-reliance. The plaques were given by NIGA Chairman Ernest Stevens, Jr., a former Oneida Business Committee member.

Webster and Ninham Brehmer were

two young moms who worked at the Civic Center in Site 1 housing development and started bingo simply as a way to pay the electric bill. It was the first tribal-authorized bingo game in Wisconsin. Oneida Bingo offered higher jackpots and prizes than other bingo games permitted under state law. It quickly turned a profit that not only paid the light bill, but generated funds for other Tribal programs. Bingo profits allowed the Tribe to build the Irene Moore Activity Center - the current home of Oneida Bingo - and move out of the cramped Civic Center.

As a teenager, Stevens played basketball at the Civic and later worked there.

"I was one of those who didn't like gaming at first because it was taking up our gymnasium," he said. "And I learned firsthand from them why we needed to do that: literally we couldn't turn the lights on if we didn't play bingo. These ladies taught me that."

"Bingo was all Alma's idea," Ninham Brehmer said. Alma was Tribal

Treasurer and knew the numbers; Sandy was good at hosting events.

The two women don't take credit for starting bingo. They said it was a group effort by men and women in the community. Sonny King, Norbert Hill, Sr., Tribal Chairman Purcell Powless, and attorneys Francis Skenandore and Jerry Hill supported early efforts to keep bingo going. Anna John, Priscilla Manders, and Audrey Doxtater supervised weekly bingo games that earmarked proceeds for a tribal nursing home which was later named for Anna John. Many other people contributed to make bingo - and later casino gaming - a success.

"What we have today is a community of people who are educated and trained," Stevens said. These women are examples of the hard work and leadership that helps Oneida survive and thrive," he said.

"And they learned that right here in the heart of Oneida," Stevens said.



Legacy of Strength Tae Kwon Do Tournament Triumphs

By Mia Charnon

On Saturday, November 2, 2024, several students from the Oneida Family Fitness Center participated in the annual Tae Kwon Do tournament in Appleton, Wisconsin. The participants, ranging in age from 6 to 49, competed in up to three events: forms, board-breaking, and sparring. With around 200 competitors, it was a significant test for the students, who competed against others of the same belt and age level from across the state. Many students from Oneida achieved 1st to 3rd place in their divisions, earning awards for their hard work and dedication. These students train under Master Kevin Schoenebeck at Oneida Family Fitness.

Some of the awards were earned by the Nishimoto/Cornelius family, who have reached a remarkable milestone. In 1999, Ian Nishimoto and his eldest son Justin began training in Tae Kwon Do under

Master Schoenebeck. Later, Ian's second son Adam joined the program. All three trained diligently and earned their Black Belts. Today, Justin and Adam continue the tradition, with their children now training in the same program. When asked why he started martial arts, Ian explained it was to build confidence, discipline, physical attributes, and to engage in a healthy family activity.

Master Schoenebeck has been teaching martial arts for the Oneida Nation since 1992. He has earned the trust of many families, including the Nishimoto/Cornelius family, by educating them on the benefits of martial arts training. He encourages people of all ages to join Oneida Family Fitness and experience the benefits of martial arts firsthand. Embrace the journey and see how it can enrich your life!



JUST MOVE IT ONEIDA

WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY
15TH
4-6PM

2025
NEW YEAR'S
Challenge

Oneida Nation Elementary School
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RECEIVE THE NEW 2025 JMIO T-SHIRT &
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For more information or questions contact Hanna :

920-490-3927 hleisgan@oneidanation.org @JustMoveIt Oneida

**NEW YEAR...
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at Oneida Family Fitness

Membership Benefits & Amenities....

- Cardio & Strength Equipment
- Full Court Gymnasium
- Walking Track
- FREE Group Fitness Classes
- FREE Fitness Assessments
- Diabetic Programming
- Personal Training
- Martial Art Programs
- Adventure Programs
- Member Incentive Programs
- Massage Chair
- Pro Shop
- Vending / Juice Bar

Memberships are FREE for ages 13 and older that are Oneida Enrolled, Oneida Descendants and/or Oneida Employees!

FACILITY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
6am - 7pm

Friday
6am - 6pm

Saturday
8am - 1:30pm

The Next ONHS 1,000 Point Scorer Arrived

Jaylyn Caldwell



By Dan Ninham

Contributing Writer

While the current high school basketball seasons are at their mid-point, Oneida Nation HS senior Jaylyn Caldwell continues to make her team better. Being Oneida, Menominee, and Stockbridge-Munsee, Caldwell is representing her nations and family every time she steps on and off the basketball court. She also did this during the fall volleyball season.

There will be another post-season banner on the wall at the Turtle School Gym. Caldwell scored her 1,000th point at the beginning of the season and she had to wait since the end of her junior year to get it.



Jaylyn Caldwell with Jeffrey Caldwell and Raylene LeMieux celebrating her 1,000th point scored on Dec. 3, 2024 at ONHS.

“Ending my junior year with 997 points was humbling to say the least,” said Caldwell. “But in the end, I am grateful it happened that way. I was able to score my 1,000 points at home with a win as a team.”

The first game of the season was home against Bowler HS. This was the perfect game to set the milestone.

The host Thunderhawks won 85-39.

Caldwell is grounded in her athleticism and mental toughness helps guide her each day. “I think just having a peace of mind while playing is the most important thing,” said Caldwell. “Always remain calm and respectful no matter the situation or outcome.”

“Jaylyn is honestly one of a kind when it comes to her natural IQ on the court,” said Anthony Cornelius, head coach of Oneida Nation girls’ basketball team. “She understands everything that is thrown at her. She can adapt very quickly to any change that needs to be made.”

“She’s currently taking dual credit classes at UWGB. She has high expectations for herself in the classroom and that’s something that’s translated from the basketball court,” added Coach Cornelius.

Derrick King is the Assistant Coach for the Oneida Varsity Lady Thunderhawks. He and his wife Mariea coached Jaylyn beginning in the third grade when she played for the Oneida Futurez.

The versatile athletes are who opposing coaches and players worry about. This is very true for Jaylyn. “Jaylyn is a great shooting guard, she assists with bringing the ball up the court, willing to guard the best player and has played the post position as well,” said Coach Derrick King. “She has grown to be a great player and the game comes natural to her.”

Jaylyn put in the quality time with quality skill development. Her work ethic is noteworthy and is a great example for her teammates to follow.

“Jaylyn has earned the recognition and accomplishments which are the result of her intense commitment to put the work in leading to success in the classroom, in practices and in competition,” said Artley Skenandore, Oneida Nation HS Athletic Director and Principal.

“She represents herself with a quiet



intensity that is demonstrated on her consistent performance in competition. She honors family tradition by mirroring her sisters, who also had a similar intensity for the classroom and competition,” added Skenandore.

“Jaylyn has a determination that will allow her to continue to lead and I look forward to the chapters of accomplishment that she will achieve after high school,” said Skenandore.

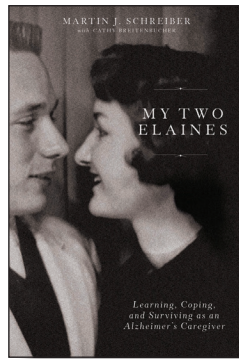
When Memories Fade, Love Endures Former Governor's Caregiving Insights at ONHS

By Mia Charnon

On Thursday, December 3, 2024, former Wisconsin Governor Martin J. Schreiber visited Oneida Nation High School to share his experiences as a caregiver for his late wife, Elaine, who lived with Alzheimer's disease. He spoke openly about his challenges and mistakes, highlighting how compassion and humor can bring comfort to both caregivers and those with dementia. Schreiber also discussed his book, *My Two Elaines*, which chronicles his journey and the lessons he learned as a caregiver.

Schreiber's honest and practical advice aims to inspire other caregivers to find patience, courage, and love as they navigate the complexities of Alzheimer's disease. The event, held in partnership with

Oneida Comprehensive Health, also featured a representative from the Alzheimer's Association. This representative introduced Schreiber, provided insights on the disease, and offered information on local events while answering questions from the audience.



Learn more about Schreiber's book *My Two Elaines*



“ Alzheimer's disease is bad. Ignorance of the disease is worse. ”

Martin J. Schreiber
Former Wisconsin Governor

Connect, Reflect, Thrive Kickstart the New Year with Mental Wellness

By Mari Kriescher

Oneida Behavioral Health Director

January is Mental Wellness Month—a time to reflect on our mental health and make choices that foster well-being. Mental wellness affects how we think, feel, and act, influencing stress management, relationships, and decision-making. Prioritizing mental wellness is essential for a fulfilling life.



Learn more about OBH Wellness Support

What Does Mental Wellness Look Like?

Positive Relationships: Supportive connections with family, friends, and community.

Emotional Resilience: Coping with challenges and bouncing back from setbacks.

Self-Awareness: Understanding your thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

Healthy Coping Mechanisms: Effective strategies to manage stress and anxiety.

Balanced Lifestyle: Healthy habits like regular exercise, a nutritious diet, adequate sleep, and mindfulness.

Improving & Sustaining Mental Wellness

Practice Self-Care: Engage in activities that promote relaxation and joy.

Connect with Others: Foster relationships to reduce isolation and enhance well-being.

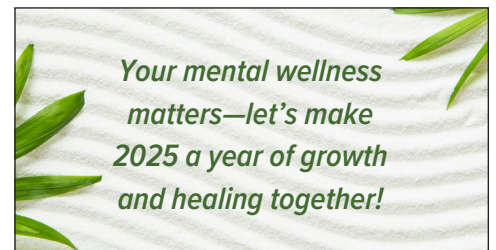
Stay Active: Regular exercise improves mood and reduces anxiety.

Mindfulness and Meditation: Manage stress and enhance self-awareness.

Seek Professional Help: Reach out if feelings become overwhelming. Oneida Behavioral Health offers support, including a weekly Wellness Support Group.

This January, reflect on your mental health and incorporate practices that promote well-being.

If you or someone you know is struggling, Oneida Behavioral Health is here to support you. Call (920) 490-3790 or visit Oneida Behavioral Health for resources and support.



She Gives Everything

Oneida Bear Clan Manager-Tsyosha?aht Delgado

By Garth Webster

As a follow up to the Cultural Heritage Department center spread in the November 2024 edition, I had the opportunity to sit down with Tsyosha?aht Delgado, whose name means ‘She Gives Everything’ to talk with her about her role as Bear Clan Manager.

Previously, Delgado was the Area Manager for Social Services. Like many, Delgado was laid off during the pandemic. However, she was able to quickly pivot when Human Services Division Director, Tina Jorgenson contacted her, including Bob Brown, Artley Skenandore, Jr, Randy Cornelius, Leann Thompson, Leander Danforth, Tracy Williams, and Sonny Hill, and Stephenie Muscavitch VanEvery to revamp the Cultural Heritage Department. One of several results was the Clan Manager positions.

A large portion of Delgado’s responsibilities is working directly with Bob Brown and his two apprentices, Eddie Santiago and Yuntle?kala•ú McLester. Together, some of their larger roles are learning the Great Law and Kalihwiyo & the Handsome Lake Code. Week-to-week, they oversee numerous ceremonies, including weddings, funerals, condolences, and tobacco burnings which Delgado explains, “Are to clear the path and clear the negative energy to make sure what happens next goes well.” Thus, Tobacco Burnings are often held at

groundbreakings, or to make sure everyone stays safe as they travel, or when someone is ill and preparing to go into surgery, for instance.

Delgado’s team also works to educate those interested in learning about Oneida culture. Throughout the year, they hold educational events at the Longhouse. These events, which are in English, are open to Oneida and non-Oneida alike. Conversely, Delgado says they do outreach education as well. Presentations at local schools to share Oneida culture with students and their faculty are common. Recently, they have even provided presentations at the Milwaukee Department of Corrections. “The more that we can get out there, and teach about our culture, the more people will have an ownership about it. And the more they’ll have a belief about it. However, we’re not trying to convert people. We just want to be heard, respected, and understood. To have that teaching moment,” says Delgado.

Another educational component for Tsyosha?aht is working with the Oneida Healing to Wellness Court Committee. Within this system, a team of professionals along with Delgado works directly with those on the road to recovery. As the Cultural Advisor to the Committee, she coaches formerly-incarcerated individuals on stress-management, overcoming



temptations, being mindful of their triggers, finding employment, housing, and even, reconnecting with families by providing Cultural Education and teachings with each of these areas.

In every aspect of her work, Tsyosha?aht describes how she works to get people focused and to understand their energy, healing, and what they have to do, “All the energy that we have of all creation is where our medicines are, including ourselves. We’re medicine for each other.” In so doing, she utilizes traditional Oneida teachings to provide lessons to more contemporary circumstances.

“These medicines enable us to come together as one and establish our best intentions.” When asked what she wants people to take away from their experience with her she says, “I want to make that connection so that when they leave me, they have a better feeling about our ways and that they feel more loving and at peace.”



Sky Woman
(An Iroquois Creation Song)
This depiction of Sky Woman was created by reknown watercolor artist Dawn Dark Mountain.

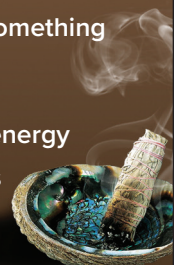
The original can be seen in the Oneida Nation Museum.

Listen to Tsyosha?aht use the story of Sky Woman to provide life lessons



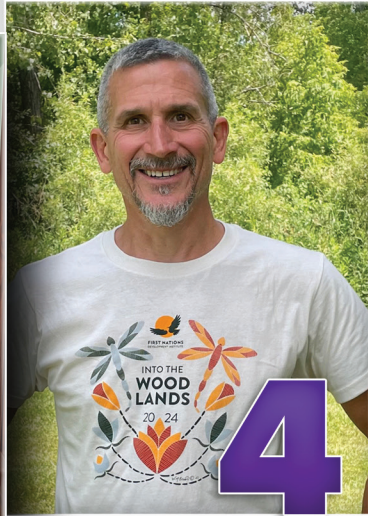
Smudge Ingredients

- Indigenous Tobacco
- Used for prayer for something good to come about
- Sage
- Wiping off negative energy
- Cedar and Sweetgrass
- Brings rejuvenation and good energy





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2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Oneida Nation Programs and Services

1. Oneida Nation achieved national accreditation status through the Public Health Accreditation Board and provided care to 375,000 patients.
2. Human Services assisted 126 Elders with major home repairs after receiving \$1.75 million in grant funds and Tribal contribution while the Recreation Program had 13,282 visits for their After-School Program.
3. Big Bear Media published the 50th Anniversary Edition of the Kalihwisaks. Without missing a beat, they also carried out the 50th Annual Pow Wow.
4. Tony Kuchma of the Environmental, Land, and Agriculture Division received the Champions of Conservation Award while assisting his team to plant 38,816 trees on the 57 acre Trout Creek Headwater Reforestation area on the corner of Olson and Reformatory Rd.
5. Digital Services Technology improved the Nation's cybersecurity awareness with their Digital Security Awareness program while continuing to bolster Oneida's broadband infrastructure.
6. The Comprehensive Housing Division received a \$6 Million Indian Housing Grant, which will be utilized to build 16 affordable homes by 2026 for Oneida Members. They also hosted the National Night Out at Mission Park. The event builds neighborhood camaraderie, safety, and promotes police-community partnership.
7. The Oneida Reads initiative was launched in August 2024 by the Oneida Youth Enrichment Services team. Since then, programs and training have taken place for the community and Oneida Employee Leadership positions, alike. Oneida Higher Education funded 701 students, distributing nearly \$7.8 million to students seeking college degrees.
8. Division of Public Works held the Oneida Nation Spring Drop-Off event, collecting 128.1 tons of bulky items and tires over 11 days. The Three Sisters Park finished renovations in October 2024 featuring safer equipment, surveillance, and new basketball court.
9. Tribal Action Plan facilitated 68 events for an estimated 3,300 adult and youth community members, featuring the Gathering of Native Nations event in February 2024 and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives awareness walk/event in May 2024. 1,316 harm-reduction materials were distributed, including Narcan and information to promote Tetwatatehsnye' (We all take care of each other).
10. The State Small Business Credit Initiative was made by possible by the Grants Division. The program provided over \$3.8 million in start-up funds. Grants also secured \$17 million and another \$29 million of pending capital.



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Oneida Nation High School

THUNDERHAWK TIMES



Back to the Future

By Jasani Myke

I'm at the Oneida School System and it feels good to be around kids who are like me. I know I'll fit in perfectly because we all share something similar, our culture. It feels good to be a part of this school in the shape of a turtle. It feels like home.

Last year, I was in 6th grade at Seymour. Seymour was okay, but not anything like Oneida. There are some big differences between the two school systems. The first is the fact that I am able to learn more about myself and where I come from.

I love that we start the week with smudging to ensure there are good vibes at the beginning of the school week. We also include an end of the week smudge, too. I love being back at Oneida. Oneida has many opportunities. I am looking forward to the rest of the year and happy to be back.

Weekly Guitar Group is Grooving

By Steven Guzman

What has 66 strings, 22 hands, 11 plectrums, and the sweet harmony of learning and collaboration?

It might just be the weekly guitar lessons in the ONHS library held on Thursday afternoons.

Taught by local music legend, Chris Dame, these lessons are meant to take students wherever they are at in terms of playing a guitar and make them even better. Students in the group range from "I've never picked up a guitar but want to learn" to "I know a few songs and I'm learning more and more chords."

Dame is a local musician performing in such groups as Johnny Wad, Project Pink, and Red Clover with his wife, Maggie.

To date, he has taught the group the basic chords such as the G, C, A, and E chords and riffs and some basic songs such as the theme from Stranger Things.



Denis Gullickson

Area musician and guitar teacher, Chris Dame, works with ONHS senior, Steven Guzman, on the Kansas song, "Dust in the Wind."

As a student in the group, this writer really likes the makeup of the group and the way it is going. It's allowing the students to each grow their music ability.

For his part, Dame said, "I am really enjoying this. I usually teach one-on-one, so this is doing a lot of different things at once. I especially appreciate how well the high school students get along and collaborate while learning."

Watch for more on a developing music program at ONHS. There is already a small keyboard group that started up a year or more ago and is being revitalized and other pieces will be added over the school year.

A Lot Happening at ONHS

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

It's always busy at the high school, but it gets really hectic around the holidays. Just a

few of those happenings include:

A school-wide effort continues to improve overall attendance – especially as cold and flu season close in.

ONHS students continue to distinguish themselves at area colleges including NWTC, CMN, and UWGB.

Students continue to participate in the Whose Land Project working with community elders, cultural heritage, and Professor James Levy. They held their most-recent student-elder lunch and sharing session at the Oneida Arts Program cottage on November 13, 2024.

Winter Sports are up and running including boys' and girls' basketball and wrestling. Senior Jaylyn Caldwell joined the 1000-point club early in the season.

Mid-quarter grades have been posted. These grades are indicators for students and families of student progress in their classes before semester grades, which are permanent grades, are posted to the student's transcript after January 21, 2025.

Former Wisconsin Governor Martin Schreiber spoke to the high school students and staff about Alzheimer's disease on December 3. Schreiber, who served two separate terms as Wisconsin's governor in the 1970s, wrote a book about his experience taking care of his wife who suffered from the disease.

On December 4-5, 2024, Science classes toured the Barlow Planetarium in Menasha.

The Wisconsin Civics Test was administered on December 18, 2024. This is a graduation requirement of all high school grads in our state.

Winter Break starts with a 1/2 day on Friday, Dec. 20 - Wednesday, Jan. 1. Classes resume on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025!

Thunderhawk Times Staff

Steven Guzman, Giovanni Pocan, Syndee Thayer, Natalia Torres, Angelina Cantu, Randall Danforth, Earth Holder, Gaven Beauprey, Lily Lakehouse, LaDainan Danforth, Joie Gutierrez, Braeven Lakehouse, Saniya Ninham-Clark

Advisors: Denis Gullickson and Johnny Danforth

First Sacred Food Lactation Space Initiative



By Maternal Child Health Services · OCHD

Since 2018, the Oneida Prenatal Care Coordinator, Candi Cornelius, has been dedicated to improving lactation spaces in the workplace for the Oneida Nation through a grant objective.

All approached department managers have been very cooperative in creating or upgrading lactation rooms for staff. Notably, the Human Services and Oneida Casino departments have successfully implemented policies outlining the location and use of these rooms, ensuring sustainability.

In total, there are nine newly decorated lactation rooms and four retail locations with supply bins that include all the necessary items for breastfeeding moms to comfortably pump during the workday.

Yawλ?kó to everyone who has helped to support breastfeeding women in the workplace, helping them provide their babies with the First Sacred Food!

Lactation Spaces & Supplies

2018: 3 rooms at Oneida Casinos
(Main, IMAC, and W. Mason)

2019: 1 room at Skenandoah Building

2020: 1 room at Oneida Elementary
(Turtle School)

2021: 4 bins at Oneida Retail
(Hwy 54, W. Mason, Larson, Shell)

2022: 2 rooms at Human Services
(Social Service & Arts Cottage)

2023: 1 room at Little Bear Building

2024: 1 room at Norbert Hill Center
(first floor)



For questions or if a lactation room needs attention/supplies, contact:

Makenit Gutierrez, Maternal Health
MGutier1@OneidaNation.org · 920.869.4885

Candi Cornelius, Prenatal Care Coord.
CCorne13@OneidaNation.org · 920.869.4940

Shienne Red Hail, Oneida Education & Development Specialist, has launched Civic Chronicles, a platform for youth to submit articles on topics they care about.

Enjoy these articles and inspire the youth in your life to read and write!

By Brandon Blackowl Jr.

My two favorite memories at the Civic Center were when I came in after school and saw myself as the Member of the Month. The day before Ray took me into the Learning Center, and I was confused why I was in Shi's room. I also was scared because I thought I got in trouble, but I was actually taking a picture. The next day was when I saw myself on the Member of the Month board. I saw Ray standing right in front of the door, then I looked up at the board and there I was. I looked at Ray and smiled. I felt very proud of myself and happy that Ray chose me.

By Evelyn Rodriguez

I love when I can meet Divine at the Civic. I love when my grandpa picks me up at the Civic. I love when I do math with Shi and do homework sheets with her in the Learning Center. I love when I play kickball with Ray in the gym. I like to play in the game room. I can't wait to

ask the Civic when the summer program is because I am so excited for it to start.

By Charles Littlebull III

I like to trace pictures in the art room because it is for my grandma.

By Cyra Thundercloud

My favorite memory about the Civic is when I was in Shi's room. When I was in Shi's room we got to watch *The Little Mermaid*. It was dark in the room and we got to eat popcorn. It was so much fun and we got to move the big bean bag by the TV and we all got to lay down and watch the movie together.

By Camille Blackowl

My favorite memory at the Civic is when I was making Model Magic. First I put lotion on it then I mixed it then I put purple marker all over it but it was still hard. Then I put water in it but it melted away.

ANNA M. HAVEN**August 4, 1965 - November 21, 2024**

Anna Marie (Doxtator) Haven, age 59 of Oneida WI, passed away at home on November 21, 2024. She was born on August 4, 1965, to the late Vernon and Ruth (Peters) Doxtator.

She graduated from Pulaski High School in 1983. She was married to Doug Haven September 4, 1997, and together they had two daughters, Kelsey and Sydney.

Anna worked for the Oneida Nation and was also a member of the Wisconsin Conservation Corps. She loved to cook and bake and spend time with her family. She also enjoyed going to the casino often. She always enjoyed playing games with her family, including her recent favorite dice game Ten Thousand. She was a pet lover, and always took great care of her animals. Anna was always a hard worker and was an amazing overprotective mother to her daughters.

She is survived by her daughters, Kelsey Haven and Sydney Haven, granddaughter Kamela. She is also survived by her ex-husband Doug Haven. She is further survived by her siblings, Patty Doxtator, James Doxtator, Gerald (Penny) Doxtator, Pam (Fred) Skube, Steve Doxtator, Connie Cox, Toni Thomas, Mona (Matt) Ellis, as well as many other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vernon and Ruth, siblings, Carey Anderson, Vernon "Butchie" Peters, her nieces, Kayla Thomas and Leslie Manwell, Christopher Cox, and Raeanne Cox.

Friends and family may come to call on Saturday, November 30, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N Tenth Street in De Pere. The Oneida Hymn Singers Song service will begin at 12:30 PM, and a funeral service will immediately follow.

DANIEL (DIGGY) J. WEBSTER**March 31, 1956 - November 16, 2024**

Daniel (Diggy) J. Webster, age 68, of Green Bay passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at Caraton Commons Assistance Living. He was born on

March 31, 1956, to the late Louie and Mary Webster. Dan loved watching the Green Bay Packers, listening to his radio, enjoying the outdoors, and riding his bicycle. He retired from festival foods which he worked for 25 years. He is survived by his siblings; Doreen Reed, Judith Bozeman, Darrold Webster, Tom Webster, Luke Webster. He is preceded in death by his parents, sisters; Betty, Verna, Joyce, Marie, Lois, brothers; Robert, Donald, Ronald.

The family would like to thank Caraton Commons, Guardianship Sara and Andrea Lasecki from Hospice for caring for our brother.

A Funeral service for Daniel will be held on Friday, November 22, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Malcore Funeral Home, 1530 West Mason. Visitation will begin from 11 a.m. until the time of service. Burial to follow immediately at Zion Cemetery, 480 Riverdale Dr in Oneida.

JAN "BERDIE" FRION**January 2, 1936 - November 20, 2024**

Jan "Berdie" Frion (nee Bertha Jan Summers) passed peacefully on November 20th, 2024, at the age of 88, surrounded by her family. She was born on January 2, 1936, to the late Milton and

Mildred (James) Summers. Jan married the late Eugene Frion on July 7th, 1962, together they had two children, Matt and Mary.

For most of Jan's professional life, she was employed at the Chrysler Corporation in Baseline, MI, and supported the government contracts for the Redstone and Jupiter Missiles programs. After completing that assignment, Jan returned to Milwaukee, where she worked for the Culter-Hammer Corporation. In 1976, Jan began a new career with the IBM Corporation in Green Bay, WI, retiring in 1991.

Jan is survived by her children: Matthew Frion, La Quinta, CA, Mary (Todd) Graves, Green Bay, WI; three grandsons: Jon (Screen) Frion, Green Bay, WI, Connor Kestell, Green Bay, WI, Justin Welton, Ankeny, IA. Siblings: Noel Clevon, Oneida, WI, Arvilla Summers, Orem, UT, Lynn (Claire) Summers, Oneida, WI, and Philip (Theresa) Summers, Phoenix, AZ, Step great grandchildren: Monte Powless-Perez, Adonte Mercado, and Kingston Pamonicutt, and her buddy Landyn Jordan.

Jan is preceded in death by her husband, Eugene; siblings: Amanda Summers, Ella Sauer, Lavinia Metoxen, Rita Summers, Emaline Schultz, Milton "Tony" Summers, and Lou Anne Green.

Friends and family may visit at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints N6135 Seminary Road, De Pere, WI 54115, from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM on Saturday, November 23rd, 2024. Bishop Keith Stoddard will officiate the service at 10:00 AM and the Oneida Hymn Singers will attend at 9:30 AM. Following the service, a private moment for the immediate family will be held at Fort Howard Memorial Park for entombment. After the entombment a "celebration of life" luncheon will follow for the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred. Friends and family may offer condolences online at www.muehlboettcher.com.



Read the full obituary

KIMBERLY A. HUNDT**February 23, 1965 - October 26, 2024**

Kimberly Anne Hundt, age 59, of Winona, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 26, 2024, in the comfort of her home with her family at her side after a battle with cancer

Kim was born on February 23, 1965, in Neenah, WI, to Phillip Peters, Sr. and Rose Mary King. She was then adopted by Richard and Joanne House, and then later, her adopted mother married stepfather Charles Sackett. She graduated from Winona Senior High School and Winona Technical College where she studied Cosmetology.

Kim married the love of her life, Thomas (Tom) of 40 wonderful years.

Kim worked for K-Mart, Winona Knits, Watkins, and Fastenal, to name a few.

Kim is survived by her husband, Tom; her daughters, Kathryn (Jonathan) Fenton and Angela (Christopher) Hundt-Dietrich; her grandsons, Jeremy Fenton and Jasen Hundt-Dietrich; her brothers, Phillip (Butch) Peters, Richard (Lisa) House; her stepsister Cindy; her brothers-in-law, Michael (Charlotte) Hundt and Todd Hundt; her sister-in-law, Brenda (Brian) Knutson; her mother-in-law, Marguerite Hundt; and many nieces and nephews.

Kim was preceded in death by her daughter, Krystal; her parents, Phillip Peters, Sr. and Rose Mary King; her adopted parents, Joanne Sackett, Richard House Sr, and later Charles Sackett; her step-brother, Alan Sackett; her siblings, Robert King, Anthony Peters, Dena Peters, and Richard Peters; her grandmother, Atanza Valentine; and her father-in-law, Donald Hundt.

Kim was a very strong woman. She loved her family and pets. Her favorite time of the year is when the air cools and the leaves turn to such beautiful orange, red, and brown colors. This would be when her favorite holiday would be near, Halloween. She always enjoyed decorating her house with her loving husband, Tom, for the neighborhood to enjoy and handing candy out to the children that stopped by with their amazing costumes.

MICHAEL L. HILL

AUGUST 31, 1946 – DECEMBER 1, 2024



Michael Lee Hill, 78, passed away at home on Sunday, December 1st, 2024. He was born in Sturgeon Bay, WI on August 31, 1946, to McKenzie John and Helen Parker. He was later adopted by

David Skenandore and Josephine John.

Michael graduated from West De Pere high school and graduated 1964. He was very involved in sports, playing football, basketball and running track. He loved going to high school football games even later in life. After high school, Michael joined the Navy during the Vietnam War and served until 1967. He retired from Procter and Gamble in 1986 and started his bowling alley, Mike's Pin Inn in Greenleaf.

Michael was always there for his family. He could never say no to a family member in need and loved his family, including his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He enjoyed bowling, playing darts, golfing, and softball. He also loved going to the casino where he would often be found playing cards, bingo, and slots. Michael also loved his dogs, Noah and Harley and his cat Kitty. Michael was a proud member of the Oneida VFW and a huge fan of the Green Bay Packers.

Michael is survived by his daughters Michelle Hill, Marsha (Hartman) Skenandore, and April Hill; grandchildren Brittney, Mikey, Star, Marissa, Brandon, Shania, Saqora, Armani, and Ant; great grandchildren Isaiah, Justus, Elayna, Ekyrah, Jayiene, Amaiah, Jezarayah, Elijo, Rae-Lynn, Kingston, Korteze, and Baby T on the way. He

further survived by his sister Delores Groth as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by both sets of parents; brothers Arnold, Bernard, Artley, David (Jerry) and sister Kate; nephew JR; niece Susie; half-siblings Arline, Ruth, Arnold, Lorraine, Geraldine, Patricia. He was also preceded in death by his beloved dog Harley.

Friends and family may come to call on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church, 2937 Freedom Rd, Oneida, WI 54155 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The Oneida Hymn Singers will begin their song service at 10:30 AM. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM. Military honors will be held immediately following the service.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Cousin Fran Brigham for all her support and taking care of our dad. Because of Michael's fierce love of the Packers, the family is asking those who attend to wear their Packer gear in his honor.

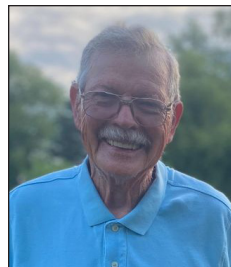
The family respectfully requests food donations and fire keepers at 2815 Metoxen Ln. Oneida WI 54155.



Read the full obituary

ROBERT "BOB" W. BARTON

December 6, 1935 - November 23, 2024



Robert "Bob" Willis Barton, 88 of Oneida, WI passed away peacefully on November 23, 2024, surrounded by his loving family. He was born December 6, 1935, in Maplewood

West Virginia to the late James Barton and Elizabeth Miller Barton Chapman. He was married to his loving wife of 68 years Julie Cornelius Barton in Chicago Illinois at Lincoln Methodist Church on November 25, 1956.

Bob served in the Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland where he was honorably discharged. He moved to Chicago to work where he met Julie Cornelius and married her in 1956. In 1967 they moved to Oneida Wisconsin and raised their family. After 27 years he retired from Georgia Pacific. Bob enjoyed turkey and deer hunting with his sons and grandsons. He also enjoyed being in his garden where he was known for his green thumb and shared his bountiful harvests with family, friends, and community. He was an avid

Brewers and Packers fan. Bob was known for his unique sense of humor and leaving everyone with a smile on their face. He enjoyed his Sunday morning breakfasts with his son Kendall and anyone else who stopped by.

Bob is survived by his wife Julie, his siblings Walter (Gilda) Barton, Mary Ann (Mike) Holiday and Harry (Lois Ann) Chapman, his sister-in-law Cleo Cornelius, his five children Robert C. (Kerry) Barton, Nancy Barton, Larry (Jane) Barton, Lori (Mel) Webster, Kendall (Sue) Barton and his special bonus son John (Mary) VanStippen. He is further survived by his 18 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and 3 great great grandchildren. And many close friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his parents James and Elizabeth, siblings Amy (Gard) Willis, James Jr (Macel) Barton, and Gene Barton, mother-in-law and father-in-law Frances and Charles Cornelius, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Harriet (Norbert Sr.) Jorgensen, Harold Cornelius, Harrison (Louise) Cornelius, Merlin (Janice) Cornelius, Evangeline VanStippen, Roberta (Rueben) Anderson, Irene (Leroy) Lenhart, Charlene Cornelius, Wayne Cornelius, and Ronald (Rosalea) Cornelius and his grandson Jason Peters.

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the St. Vincent's Hospital staff, Odd Fellows Home Rehabilitation Level 1 staff for their kindness to Bob and excellent care.

Friends and family may visit Muehl-Boettcher Funeral home in Seymour, WI, Friday, November 29, 2024, from 10:00 AM until the time of services at 12:30 PM. The Oneida Hymn Singers will be in attendance at 12:00 PM until 12:30 PM. Following the service, burial will be at Oneida Sacred Burial Grounds.

In lieu of flowers please donate to any food pantry because he was an advocate for those who are in need.

DERRICK J. CHRISTJOHN

JUNE 9, 1977 - NOVEMBER 10, 2024



Derrick James Christjohn, 47, of Fort Collins, Colorado passed away unexpectedly on November 10, 2024. Derrick is survived by his mother Carol, sister Kristi (Will)

Hensley, and niece Jordan (Noah) Pardue.

Derrick was an avid Green Bay Packers and San

Continued on PG 20

Derrick J. Christjohn

Continuing from PG 19

Derrick J. Christjohn

Francisco Giants fan. He loved bike riding, hiking, playing cribbage, and spending time with family. He was such a kind-hearted, caring man and bought and repaired bikes to give to unhoused Veterans.

Derrick was preceded in death by his nephew Jaden Carvert Hensley. At the family's request, no funeral services will be held.

Additional information added by his Wisconsin family: Even though we were miles away, we always remembered and loved you. Derrick is also survived by father Theodore and sisters Shantel and Eva and brother Calvin Johnson.

Upon you making your journey, we put down tobacco, had a feast and enjoyed sharing memories around the fire. Always in our hearts, we love you and will miss you. Yaw[^]ko to family, friend, and the community who has been there for us in this time of mourning. Watch for a memorial in the February edition.

WENDELL W. MCLESTER**October 24, 1930 - December 1, 2024**

Wendell William Yowelunh Mc Lester, 94, Oneida, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, December 1, 2024, with his family at his side. He was born on October 24, 1930, son of the late Lee Gordon

I and Blanche (King) Mc Lester. Wendell was united in marriage to Thelma Marie Kahalunkwa (Cornelius) Mc Lester on October 3, 1956, and they enjoyed 68 years of marriage together.

Wendell worked tirelessly for the Oneida Nation in various capacities and elected positions including on the Business Committee, as Tribal Treasurer, and served on many boards, committees, and commissions in addition to his business endeavors. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Navy, Naval Reserves, and Marine Corps from 1948 through 1953 during the Korean Conflict and was honorably discharged. Wendell was an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Robert Cornelius Post #7784.

He enjoyed traveling. His favorite destination was the golf course. Wendell was an avid singer, performing the Oneida Te Deum since 1975 at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church (HAEC) until 2019 at the age 89. He thoroughly enjoyed being a lifelong member of the HAEC and was a dedicated Oneida Hymnal Singer.

He always looked forward to eating and visiting with family, church meetings, and veteran events.

Wendell is survived by his wife, Thelma, daughter Joan (David Davis) Mc Lester, granddaughter Dr. Lauren Wendelle Yowelunh (W. Cannon Matthews) Mc Lester-Davis, and many nephews, nieces, and extended family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Wayne Steven Dekanohdus Mc Lester, siblings Lee G. Mc Lester II, Clarence Mc Lester, Mary Edna (Mc Lester) Greendeer, Winifred (Mc Lester) Masterson, Winona (Mc Lester) McIntyre, and many other relatives whose presence he will cherish in heaven.

Visitation will be held at 9:30 am on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church (2937 Freedom Rd, Oneida, WI 54155). Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11 am at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church. Interment with full military honors will be conducted at 10 am on Monday, December 9, 2024, at the Holy Apostles Episcopal Church cemetery on the Oneida reservation.

Condolences may be expressed to Wendell's family at www.ryanfh.com.



Read the full obituary

DAMON J. GOW**November 3, 2024 - November 26, 2024**

Damon James Gow passed peacefully in the arms of his parents on November 26th, 2024, at 2:35 pm. He was born at 6:44 am on November 3rd, 2024.

Damon is the son of Kenny J. Gow and Shelby L. Schiltz. He is survived by his 2 siblings Elaina and Awinita. His paternal grandparents are Leann and Kevin Hodgkin and his maternal grandparents are Terri and Roger Schiltz. Damon's godmother is Sarah Schiltz.

Damon gave us a lifetime of love during his short time on earth. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14.

**BEVERLY M. RUBIO****October 14, 1928 - November 19, 2024**

Beverly Mabel Rubio (nee Archiquette) was born October 14, 1928, and passed away November 19, 2024, with her husband of 71 years and family by her side.

Beverly was a proud full-blooded Oneida

Nation member. She was born in Tigerton, WI, lived in Green Bay and eventually, moved to Milwaukee where she and Luis Rubio made a home for themselves and eight children.

Beverly's artist name was Turtlewoman. She painted, wrote poetry (which was published), and authored several book and stories. She attended many pow wows, flea markets, and the 7 Mile Fair. Together with Luis, they owned and operated several businesses. Earlier, Beverly sewed a lot and taught her 3 daughters to sew as well. She also loved to travel, going on adventures all over the continental U.S., including Hawaii, Puerto Rico and 19 European countries.

She is survived by husband Luis F. Rubio, sons Jerold Archiquette (Suzy), Luis A. Rubio, and Ronald R. Rubio (Lori), and daughter Denise A. Miller (nee Rubio) (Harry), many nieces, nephews and great, great-great, and great-great-great grandchildren. Grandchildren include Mary Malouf, Lisa Archiquette and Randy Archiquette, and Colleen, James and Christopher Worden, Anthony L. Rubio, Shawn Levinson, Vanessa Ramos (nee Rubio), Gwen Gniot, and Gerald Gniot.

Beverly is preceded in death by parents, Soloman B. and Alpha Archiquette (nee Doxtator), sisters Arvilla Webster, Effie Louise Peterson (nee Archiquette), Bertina Dodge, Elizabeth Arbutus Smith (nee Archiquette), Lavina Orosco, and brothers, Nicholas, Benjamin and Llwelan, children Angelo Rubio, Joseph Rubio, Marlene Floresta Gniot (nee Rubio), and Gayle Worden (nee Archiquette). Beverly was the youngest and is the last of her immediate family to make her journey.

The family would like extends a heartfelt thanks to all those near and far who provided their respect and love for Beverly, the Oneida Hymn Singers, the drummers, and finally, Mitchell Manor and staff for the care they provided. Beverly loved well and was well loved. Services were held November 22, 2024, at Joseph E. Sass Funeral Home in Milwaukee and laid to rest at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee.



TOM M. CALDERON

MAY 8, 1960 - DECEMBER 3, 2024



Tom M. Calderon passed away peacefully on December 3, 2024, with his wife and family by his side. Tom was born on May 8, 1960, to the late Joseph Calderon in Waukesha, WI. Tom and Marianne have been

together for 25 years and have been inseparable ever since.

Tom was known by many names, including, Tomas, Thomas, and Tommy by his Waukesha family and friends. Tom loved to fish and sit by a fire on those warm summer nights. He was good for some laughs, loved to watch the Packers, Bucks, and sometimes would root for the Dallas Cowboys. He loved listening to his Tejano music, and his heart lived in San Antonio.

Tom is survived by his loving wife, Marianne and his children, Michelle, Michael (Lexi), and Marina, his niece Cecilia, and his little fur baby Chula. He is further survived by his siblings, Maryjane, Josie, Stella (Marcus), John (Sarah) and Ray (Jody). He is also survived by his mother-in-law Eva Doxtator, and in-laws Boyd (Sally), Clark, Monica, Terry, and Gerald (Tonya).

He was preceded in death by his father, his brother Joe Jr., sister Valentina, father-in-law Martin Doxtator, and brother-in-law Dean Doxtator. Tom was a favorite uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Friends and family may come to call on Monday, December 9 from 12:00 – 3:00 PM at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N Tenth Street, De Pere, WI. A funeral service will begin immediately following the visitation at 3:00 PM.

The family would like to thank Unity Hospice for their care of Tom. Thank you to sister Stella and Sister-in-law Monica for the care they offered to Tom in his final days, and to the honorary pall bearers, John, Marcus, Bobo, Candy Boy, Robert Garcia, Joey Medina, Michael, Ray.

A ten-week, evidence-based workshop combining bingo, exercise, and nutrition education

Don't miss out on the fun & fitness!

- Exercises to improve range of motion
- Balance enhancement
- Muscle strength building
- Cardiorespiratory endurance training

Starting Jan 7, 2025
Tues. & Thurs.
10-11am

2x/week
45-60 min
10 weeks
Ages 55+

Apply Now!
Registration Required

Schuyler Metoxen: 920.869.6839
Denise Johnson: 920.869.6840

Developed by experts from the University of Nevada-Reno, following the SNAP-Ed framework

Oneida Med Site
2901 S. Overland Rd. Hobart WI 54155 | 920.869.2448

On Their Journey

Please submit obituaries
(300 words or less)
and a high quality photo to
Kalihwisaks@OneidaNation.org

Obituaries longer than 300 words
will be linked online

ONEIDA AGING & DISABILITY SERVICES

I WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE

Seeking your input on Elder Abuse

Short & anonymous interviews
In-person or over the phone

Open to all Oneida Enrolled Elders

How can Elder Abuse Prevention help?
For you, a family member, or the community

Jodi Tess
Elder Abuse Prevention Supervisor

Schedule an appointment with me today!

Oneida Aging & Disability Services
920.869.6828 | 2970 S. Overland Dr. Oneida, WI 54155



Aging and Disability Group

Dementia Speaker Heather Flick

Wed., Jan. 22 • 1:30-3:30pm
Aging & Disability Conf. Room
2907 S. Overland Rd

Heather is the Dementia Care Specialist for Brown County and has been working with families on the dementia journey for years. She has contributed to bringing various programs and supports to Northeast Wisconsin for those living with dementia and their loved ones. Heather has a MS in Psychology and a background in research. She has co-authored book chapters on positive psychology.

Aging and Disability Native American
Family Caregiver

920.869.6830
pharms2@OneidaNation.org



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.

ONEIDA NATION BLOOD DRIVE

Oneida Hotel
2040 Airport Dr. • Green Bay, WI
Oneida and Cayuga Room

Mon., Jan. 6 • 10am-3pm

For appointment:
1.800.RedCross or RedCrossBlood.org
Appointments are preferred. Walk-ins welcome.
Complete your pre-donation reading at
[RedCross.org/RapidPass](https://www.RedCross.org/RapidPass)
Sponsored by Employee Health Nursing

Holy Apostles Church Fish Fry 2025



\$15



March 7, 14, 21, and 28 • April 4 and 11
3pm-6pm, or until gone. Dine in or take out
Includes Fish, cole slaw, potato, bread,
beverage, and dessert.

50/50 Raffle, Tickets sold each Friday.
Drawing held Friday, April 11.

Parish Hall-Across from Holy Apostles Church
2937 Freedom Rd.
Questions: 920.869.2565

THE RECOVERY NEST PRESENTS



Mid-Winter New Moon GAME NIGHT

Culture, Games, Food, & Fun!

MON
JAN 27
5-8PM

COTTAGE #2
1240 PACKERLAND DR.
GREEN BAY, WI

Parents/Guardians must supervise children

Winter Wellness Talks

January 8
Being active in the Winter - Crystal Danforth

When: 12:10pm

Where: Oneida Community Health Center Conference Room

Questions?
Contact Taylor Jean at 920-490-3940

01/30/2024 

ONEIDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY & ONEIDA FILM SOCIETY

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE


ONEIDA FILM SOCIETY

FIND YOUR NEW FAVORITE MOVIE! ENJOY FILMS WITH INDIGENOUS THEMES, CAST, AND STORIES

THURSDAYS 4:45 PM | **FEB 13**
APRIL 10
JUNE 12
AUG 14



 **ONEIDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
201 ELM ST. ONEIDA, WI 54155
920.869.2210

Health and Wellness Expo

JANUARY 23, 2025
11:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Oneida Community Health Center

- INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS • BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS • RECIPES
- NEW ONEIDA TRAIL GUIDES • GIVEAWAYS • AND MORE


Expert Presentations

11:00 AM Dr. Robert Dempsey
Stroke and Brain Health in the Oneida Nation

12:00 PM Dr. Christine Garstka
Power of Connection for our Mental Wellness

1:00 PM Stephenie Muscavitch
Health and Wellness Stored in Our History

Space is limited for presentations.
Facebook Live Stream - Oneida Comprehensive Health Division

FREE EVENT  **ALL ARE WELCOME**

Need more information?
Contact: Amanda 920-490-3984 or ariesenb@oneidanation.org

11/21/2024

ONEIDA NATION CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

CO-PARENTING ESSENTIALS

Strategies for Effective Co-Parenting.



MONTHLY SESSIONS

2ND MONDAY 9:30AM-11:30AM
4TH MONDAY 3:00PM-5:00PM

LOCATION:
Kanikuhliyo Family Center
2640 West Point Rd.,
Green Bay

REQUIREMENTS:
 Need to be a participant of the Oneida Nation Child Support Agency case. Please contact us if you are not sure.

HOW OFTEN DO I ATTEND?
 This is not an ongoing workshop. Complete in one attendance.

OTHER INFORMATION:
 You may attend with your co-parent or on your own. Free gifts & certificate upon completion.

TO REGISTER: 920-490-3700 (option 1)
kponton@oneidanation.org





ONEIDA JUDICIARY

Tsi nu téshakotiyawtolétha / Trial Court

Payment can be made either in person at the Oneida Trial Court located at 2630 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303; or by mailing said payment to Oneida Trial Court P.O. Box 19, Oneida, WI 54155

NOTICE OF INTENT TO GARNISH

Debtors Name:
Joshua J. Bailey
Oneida entity owed a debt
Second Publish: Jan 2025



ONEIDA FAMILY COURT NOTICE OF HEARING

A diligent attempt was made to notify the Respondent/Custodian of a Petition to Establish Third Party Legal Custody filed by Petitioner. A hearing shall take place Monday, March 17, 2025 at 1:30pm in the captioned case at the Oneida Family Court office located at 2630 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303.

Inquiries for additional information may be directed to:
Oneida Family Court • PO Box 19 • Oneida, WI 54155 • 920.496.7200

CASE #24CU024

Lila Denny
vs
Cheyenne Starr,
Lela Kaquatosh
and Brandon Jourdan

First Published: Jan 2025

2024 LATE GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS REMINDER

- Oneida Nation Assistance Fund (\$1500.00/18+) **18 years old by 9/1/2024**
- Oneida Nation Assistance Fund (\$2000.00/62+) **62 years or older by 12/31/2024**
- Elder Assistance Program (\$703.54/65+) **65 years or older by 12/31/2024**
- Food Assistance Program (\$500.00/18+) **18 years old by 12/31/2024**

The deadline to submit Late 2024 General Welfare Assistance Applications is
Monday, March 3, 2025, 4:30 PM (CST)

Payments for all acceptable applications will be deposited/mailed by Monday, March 31, 2025.

ALL GWA CHECKS EXPIRE 90 DAYS FROM THE DATE ISSUED. ANY GWA CHECKS NOT CASHED WITHIN THE 90-DAY EXPIRATION DATE WILL BE RETURNED TO THE GWA PROGRAM.

Oneida Trust Enrollment Department • PO Box 365, Oneida WI 54155-0365 • (920) 869-6200 • 800-571-9902

No Mailbox. In person or courier delivery only (Fed Ex, UPS) at street address: 210 Elm St, Oneida WI 54155

WATCH YOUR MAILBOX

Trust Enrollment Department will be mailing information regarding the Oneida Life Insurance Plan-Death Benefit designation beneficiary form for Minors and Oneida Trust Account Beneficiary designation form for Minors.

Oneida Life Insurance Plan

- All Oneida enrolled citizens are eligible for the death benefit up to \$15,000 to use towards funeral expenses.
- The primary beneficiary for all tribal members is the funeral home chosen by the decedent's family. If there should be any remaining funds, a listed beneficiary(ies) must be on file with the department for those remaining funds to be disbursed.

Oneida Minor Trust Account

- All Oneida enrolled citizens under the age of 18 are eligible for a minor trust account.
- This account starts from the time they are enrolled.
- For a payout of the Trust Account upon death the following is determined:
 - Is a Trust Beneficiary form on file?
 - If Yes, then payout will be in accordance to the name (s) listed on the Trust Beneficiary form.
 - If No, then payout will be in accordance to the Decedent process.

Life
Insurance
Beneficiary
Form



Trust
Account
Beneficiary
Form



Transit Transformation

Public Transit Garage Ready by March

By Garth Webster



As noted in the July 2024 edition, Oneida Public Transit broke ground June 4, 2024 for their new facility located just south of the Oneida Food Distribution Center on Water Circle Place in Oneida. The new structure will include office space, vehicle storage, and a wash bay. Carol Stiff,

Oneida Public Transit Manager said she and the transit leadership team went on their first site visit this past October 2024 and they were very pleased with the progress. Stiff says the targeted substantial completion and move in date are January and March 2025, respectively.



Adobe
Stock

Sounding the Alarm

Outagamie Donates Mobile Siren to Oneida Nation

By Garth Webster

In early October 2024, Outagamie County's Director of Emergency Management, Paula Van De Leygraaf sent a notice to the surrounding communities that they were giving away a portable emergency warning siren trailer. After running out of room to store the unit, Leygraaf decided that rather than disposing of it, it would be better to donate it to one of their neighbors.

Oneida Nation Emergency Manager, Kaylynn Gresham, says, "Oneida borrowed this unit in the past for major events held in our community. It would be very useful to have for outdoor events the Nation hosts."

Groundskeeping recently acquired a new building on Flightway Drive where it will be stored. The benefits with this unit include:

- Onsite early warning of severe weather
- Public-address system

Oneida Nation Public Works took possession of the unit on November 14, 2024. Oneida Nation Emergency Management and Division of Public Works thanks and appreciates Outagamie County for this generous donation.



By **Emily Swagel** *NEW Bird Alliance*

Edited by **Erin Giese** *UW-Green Bay*

This year, we completed our breeding bird surveys as part of the Oneida Bird Monitoring Program (OBMP). During the summer, we conducted surveys in grasslands, marshes, and forests to monitor the birds that breed and raise their young in these habitats before migrating south for the winter.

Grassland Birds

In the grasslands near the Trout Creek headwaters and pastures where bison and cattle graze, we focused on grassland birds, which are the most rapidly declining group in North America due to habitat loss. Programs like the National Audubon Society's Audubon Conservation Ranching (ACR) help farmers create better habitats for these birds on working lands. Our 5-minute surveys, starting at 5am, record all birds seen or heard. Despite the early start and challenging terrain, the experience is rewarding with beautiful sunrises and bird choruses.

Sarah Baughman, UWGB student

Illustration of Henslow's Sparrow

Oneida word for Sparrow is
atakʰlaʰshúhaʰ



This year, we observed a pair of Henslow's Sparrows (a state-threatened species) with fledglings, Clay-colored Sparrow fledglings, Wilson's Phalaropes (a shorebird) at probable nesting sites, and Savannah Sparrow nests with eggs. Although we did not record the state-threatened Upland Sandpiper this year, we hope they will return to breed in the Trout Creek grassland.

Marsh Birds

Our marsh surveys, conducted at various restoration sites, last 10 minutes each and focus on secretive species like the American Bittern, Least Bittern, Sora, Virginia Rail, Common Gallinule, and Pied-billed Grebe. This year, we

heard and saw American Bitterns with their distinctive "ker-plunking" song, observed Least Bitterns during waterfowl surveys, and detected Soras, Virginia Rails, and Common Gallinules.

The Oneida word for American Bittern is *Tu-táweʰ* (she's coming back this way), and for Pied-billed Grebe is *Tsyohyakwi-lés* (it has long toes).

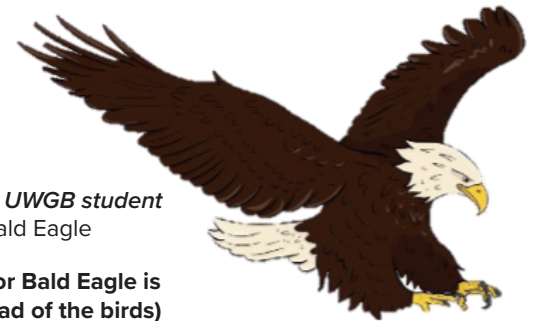
Forest Birds

In Oneida's forests, including high-quality cedar swamps and northern mesic forests, we conducted 10-minute surveys to monitor forest birds. Although forest activity was quieter than expected, we recorded species such as Veery, Wood Thrush, Northern Waterthrush, Scarlet Tanager, and Willow Flycatcher. Bald Eagles, which nest near wetlands, were also observed.

Haley Spargur, UWGB student

Illustration of Bald Eagle

Oneida word for Bald Eagle is
Atú·nyuteʰ (head of the birds)



The Bald Eagle is significant in the Oneida Creation Story, symbolizing how birds got their songs and their connection to the Creator.

We're excited for next year's breeding bird surveys! We welcome volunteers of all experience levels.

For more information, contact:

Tony Kuchma, Oneida Wetlands Project Manager
AKuchma@OneidaNation.org



Learn more about
the Oneida Bird
Monitoring Program

Season of Giving

Toys for Tots, Giving Tree, and Stuff the Bus

By Garth Webster

Each holiday season the *Giving Tree* program helps under-privileged Oneida families in Brown and Outagamie county by providing gifts for the children.

Once again, Raquel Hill (top picture below) and Heather Vandenlangenberg (bottom, middle row, right) of Human Services and Family Services, respectively, led efforts to accumulate toys, clothing, games, fuzzy stuffed animals, among other items to bring some holiday cheer for our less fortunate kiddos.

Together, these two branches of the *Giving Tree* provided for 502 children, which included a very generous Santa Claus by the name of Aimee Brenkus (bottom photo in

back row, brown jacket) who was so moved by the energy of the staff and the mission to bring toys to children in need, she purchased a large quantity of toys and baby items.

Another shout-out goes to the Oneida Public Transit Department for working along with the *Giving Tree*. They braved the weather outside of HyVee grocery store to *Stuff the Bus* with gifts for the children.

Finally, props to Connor Kestell and Joe Valentino of the Oneida Veterans' Services Department for inviting Marine Corp Staff Sergeant Clinton White to retrieve \$3,750 worth of gifts for the *Toys for Tots* program (See cover).





KALIHWISAKS

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www.oneida-nsn.gov/resources/kalihwisaks/

@kalihwisaks



WINTER Gathering

**Public is
Welcome
Free Admission**

POW WOW

**Dancing,
Singing &
Craft Vendors**

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Oneida Hotel • 2040 Airport Dr, Green Bay, WI

Grand Entries: 1pm & 7pm • Registration Closes 4:30pm Sharp

MC: Ronnie Goodeagle • Arena Director: Jeremy King
Womens Head Dancer: Connie Danforth, Mens Head Dancer: TBD

Host Drum: Ho-Chunk Station • Drum Split – All Drums Welcome

Pow Wow Event Team Sponsored Specials
Hand Drum All Ages • Luck of the Draw Men/Women
Smoke Dance Teen Boys/Girls

All craft vendors will be assigned a spot once payment is received. First come first assigned. For payment call Tonya Webster 920-362-5425 or email twebster@oneidanation.org. To reserve a hotel room at the Oneida Hotel, mention the Oneida Pow Wow Room Block when calling 920.494.7300. Rates will vary if there is a Packer home game. For more information call Tonya at 920.362.5425 or Trista at 920.496.5621 or email tcorneli@oneidanation.org or follow the Oneida Pow Wow Event Team on Facebook.

