



KAATHWISAKS

WISCONSIN

Providing Leadership During Uncertain Times

Chairman Tehassi Hill
PG 4

Oneida Reads Joins Packers for Literacy Celebration

PG 14

Community Generosity Shines at Give Big Green Bay

PG 15

Onlyote'a·ká· ni'í

Oneida Blood Quantum Community Voices Unite
PG 18



From the Kali

Shekóli Swakwe•kú. As Mother Nature begins to wake from her winter slumber, we as Ukwehu•wé welcome the longer and warmer days. Unfortunately, during this time of renewal, we also find ourselves in a period of uncertainty, bringing about feelings of anxiety for many.

Each day, we learn of new federal cuts brought forth by the Trump Administration and the Department of Government Efficiency. These reductions can greatly affect funding sources, which in turn, affect many programs and services across Indian Country. Fortunately, throughout history, we've been able to positively channel these pressures by falling back on our cultural and spiritual ways.

Many have recently completed harvesting Maple Syrup, a tradition handed down through the generations and our original instructions.

Each day, we give thanks for the gifts that Creation provides. May it serve as a reminder for us all to look within to find certainty and ways to help one another. Our ancestors have taught us to grow, hunt, and fish for our sustenance.

Practicing these ways can lead to improved mental and physical health, helping to ease the burden on our healthcare systems. May it also encourage sustainable financial decisions that align with our cultural and community values. Standing in solidarity with one another will once again, reaffirm our resiliency.



Garth Webster
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KALIHWISAKS

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"She Looks For News"



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



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This maple tree is tapped, honoring the Oneida tradition of gathering sweet sap to celebrate the arrival of spring and the rich heritage of the Haudenosaunee people.



Providing Leadership During Uncertain Times

Chairman Tehassi Hill Leads His Team to Ensure Oneida's Treaty Rights are Upheld

By Tehassi Hill



The Oneida Business Committee and I continue to monitor and take action of daily changes to federal government agencies that may impact the Nation. We've been meeting almost daily with our leadership teams to ensure that we are receiving information, consulting with tribes, tribal organizations, our congressional representatives, and federal agencies during these challenging and changing times.

My office continues to be present and at the table of any meetings where our future and sovereignty may be challenged. Former Chairman Rick Hill always said, "If you are not at the table, then you are on the menu." And is something that I strongly believe in.

February 26, 2025

I traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with other tribal leaders, lobbyists and was afforded the opportunity to provide testimony before the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies. This was an opportunity to address the treaty and trust responsibilities of the federal government and to advocate for the use of self-governance as a tool that would assist in getting dollars to Indian Country quickly, lessening government control and creating

efficiency. I took the opportunity to also meet with members of Congress to advocate on the impacts to the Nation on recent executive orders and actions.

March 11 – 13, 2025

I attended the 2025 Leadership Institute, just outside of Washington, DC and was given another opportunity to meet with Senator Tammy Baldwin and Congressman Mark Pocan to once again advocate on self-governance and the impacts of federal actions.

March 18, 2025

Councilmembers and I traveled to the State Capitol for the 2025 State of the Tribes Address, where Chairman Fowler addressed the WI State Legislature to address the State of Tribal Nations in Wisconsin. Issues such as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, the hard work of the WI State Tribal Relations Committee, healthcare, environment and the need for everyone to work together to make change.

The Oneida Business Committee and Intergovernmental Affairs have been doing all that we can do to ensure we are present and at the table for all major arising issues. This is something that we as a committee all agree on - ensuring that General Tribal Council - our membership is

informed. As information is changing daily, please monitor the Nation's website or social media outlets for up-to-date information.

Our ancestors have been through eras of termination that have instilled strong wills in each of us. We are strong. We are resilient. We will get through these times together.



Chairman Tehassi Hill's February 26, 2025 trip to Washington D.C. top testify before the House Committee on Appropriations. During this trip, he as also able to meet with members of Congress, including Tammy Baldwin (top), Mark Pocan, and Gwen Moore to educate about the impacts of any funding cuts.



Greetings to the community as Spring is on the way with longer daylight and warming temperatures. Change in Administration in the White House and Congress has prompted policy response from our Oneida Leadership and Leadership from Tribal Nations.

The policy direction implemented by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) is to reduce Federal spending which is impacting Native communities. The specific scale and detail of reductions at the time of preparation of this article is yet to be comprehensively determined. Announcements are on-going with reductions of Federal employees

and Grant resources. It is expectant that existing levels of Federal Grant resources received by the Oneida Nation will be reduced for the foreseeable future.

Response from our Oneida Nation Leadership includes accelerated focused communication of our Sovereign status to Congress and the White House in support of Trust responsibilities which is based on historical Nation to Nation relationships with Tribal communities. The Legislative Affairs Department and Team has actively monitored and communicated evolving information guiding the Business Committee to pro-actively respond to a very fluid series of significant Federal fiscal policy pronouncements.

Additionally, the necessary, financially responsible policy response is to impart formal Cost Containment by Resolution which, depending on when you receive this article, will be or has been presented for action at the March 26th Business Committee Meeting. Determinant consideration of wants versus needs is the consequence of the noted Resolution.

Formation of the 2026 Budget for the Oneida Nation will reflect resource availability and identifiable reductions of Federal Grant resources. Ideally, funding levels provided for Tribal Nations will be maintained. However, if reductions are determined, the

Organization and community will be compelled to adapt with changes to available financial resources.

Historically, adapting to resource availability is reflective of our resilience as a community. Not unlike the Pandemic, facing current changes are challenging and difficult. Changes to the Federal Fiscal policy changes are prompting resilience and adaptability which we have faced for generations. In addition to our Oneida Nation Leadership's proactive response to Federal Fiscal Policy Changes, response & testimony has been formalized by: Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA), National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST). The voice of Native Communities has to date been exercised and we are optimistic that partnership with Federal Programs will be sustained for Tribal Communities.

We hope to hear your input into the 2026 proposed Oneida Nation Budget. Upcoming Community Budget Meetings will be scheduled and announced soon.

If you have input or concerns, please contact me at 920-860-4394 or email, LBarton2@oneidanation.org.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025 • 12:00-1:30pm

Norbert Hill Center - BC Conference Room

N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI 54155

Join the Legislative Operating Committee (LOC) for a community meeting to gather input regarding the development of the following laws:

◆ **SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES LAW**

The purpose of the Sanctions and Penalties law is to establish a consistent set of sanctions and penalties that may be imposed upon elected officials of the Nation for misconduct in office in order to provide an opportunity for the official to take corrective action to address the misconduct and promote accountability and improved performance of the official.

A copy of the proposed Sanctions and Penalties law can be found at <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/public-meetings/> - Register at LOC@oneidanation.org for a Microsoft Teams invite. The LOC encourages everyone to come participate in the legislative process by providing comments, suggestions, and questions that the LOC can consider and utilize in the development of this new law for the Nation.

Food from the Oneida Cannery will be provided during this community event.

LOC Members: Kirby Metoxen-LOC Vice Chairman, Jameson Wilson-LOC Chairman, Jennifer Webster-LOC Member, Marlon Skenandore-LOC Member, Jonas Hill-LOC Member

Proactive Approach to Self-Governance Yellowbird-Stevens and Melinda Danforth – How Oneida is Strategically Navigating the Current Political Climate

By Garth Webster

Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens, Oneida Nation Vice Chairman, and Melinda J. Danforth, Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Director presented valuable information to Oneida membership Thursday, March 13, 2025 via Facebook Live.

Danforth began the discussion by addressing the current environment brought about by the Trump Administration stating, “Very little communication is coming from federal agencies. We’re finding out information in roundabout ways and that litigation is occurring at every decision point creating a lot of divisiveness.” Danforth states, “In chaos, there can be opportunity.” She goes on to explain that her team tirelessly works to keep informed of any potential political hurdles to the services Oneida provides for the membership. By continuously lobbying, networking with the local congressional delegation and Tribal organizations such as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST), among others, Danforth explained how Oneida has and will continue to stay ahead of the curve during uncertain times like the present, a strategy that

Yellowbird-Stevens concurs with.

Yellowbird-Stevens addressed the many factors impacting the Oneida Nation including the following:

- Department of Education Shutdown
- Federal Government Shutdown (Since the presentation, the Government Shutdown was averted.)
- Dealing with Federal Bureaucracy
- Exercising Oneida’s Sovereign Status
- Tribal Alliance Building
- Proactive Workflow at Capital and here in Oneida

In the end, Yellowbird-Stevens and Danforth both reaffirm the sentiments of Debra Danforth and Brandon Wisneski’s position on healthcare (PG 10) that Oneida will continue to exercise our sovereignty to ensure treaty obligations are met. “Oneida has created a solid infrastructure and a solid capacity in human capital which we will continue to utilize in making our own decisions,” says Yellowbird-Stevens.



Read the
Full Article



Oneida Elected Leadership’s Work

Chairman Tehassi Hill testifies to House Committee on Appropriations to ensure Oneida’s interests are represented in next budget and participated in Childcare Development Conference. Hill was also be attending Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST).

Secretary Lisa Liggins testifies on Senate Bills 85-89 | PG 7

Councilman Marlon Skendanore partners with Feeding American to lobby for Tribal Elders Food Box Program | PG 8

Advocating for Indigenous Rights

Secretary Lisa Liggins



Oneida Nation Secretary Lisa Liggins' testimony before the Senate Committee on Governmental Operations, Labor, and Economic Development underscores the importance of policies that support Tribal sovereignty, cultural recognition, and education. The Oneida Nation registered in support for the bills listed below.

But advocating for these measures, Secretary Liggins reinforces the Oneida Nation's dedication to protecting cultural identity, strengthening tribal governance, and improving educational opportunities for Indigenous students.

Senate Bill 85 – Affirms the right of students to wear traditional tribal regalia at graduation ceremonies and school-sponsored events, ensuring cultural expression is protected and respected.

Senate Bill 86 – Grants tribal governments the authority to copy certified copies of vital records for administrative use, streamlining essential record-keeping processes for tribal citizens.

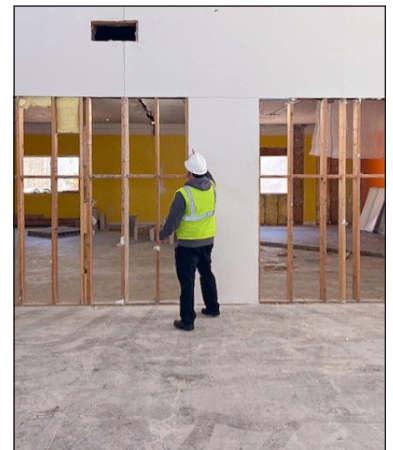
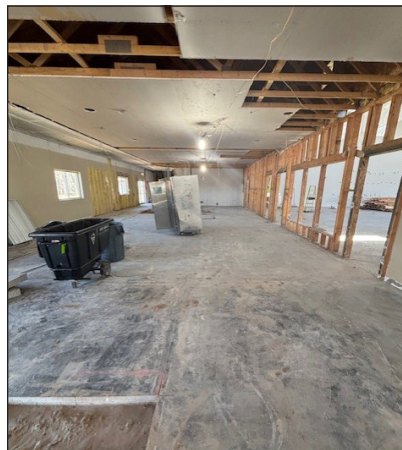
Senate Bill 87 – Establishes a lifetime license for individuals to teach an American Indian language in designated programs, while also modifying existing Department of Public Instruction rules to support Indigenous language preservation and education.

Senate Bill 88 – Adjusts the composition of the Professional Standards Council for Teachers to ensure better representation and input on policies affecting tribal education and Indigenous educators.

Senate Bill 89 – Requires school districts to report data on American Indian students enrolled in their schools, fostering transparency and accountability in addressing educational outcomes for Native students.

Construction Begins

New Cultural Center



On March 12, 2025, the Oneida Nation Museum shared these photos of the construction progress of the new cultural center. Formerly the Woodland Church, located at 760 Airport Drive, Oneida, is targeting 2026 for completion. The cultural center also announced its new name, Kahnekano•lú• meaning "Precious Water". As we await completion, the old location at W892 Cty Rd EE in De Pere remains open Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4pm. Learn more by calling 920.869.2768.

Advocacy in Action

Councilman Marlon Skenandore's First Washington D.C. Trip



Councilman Marlon Skenandore completed his first trip to Washington, D.C., in March 2025, where he advocated on numerous issues impacting the Oneida Nation and discussed the effects of the new administration. He emphasized the importance of representation and vowed to continue fighting for the Nation, regardless of his position. "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu," he asserted, promising to work tirelessly for the Oneida Nation.

Transportation & Self-Governance

Councilman Jonas Hill and Secretary Duffy



Oneida Nation Councilman Jonas Hill congratulated Wisconsin's Sean Duffy on his confirmation as Secretary of Transportation. Councilman Hill had the opportunity to discuss with Secretary Duffy the importance of maintaining self-governance under the Federal DOT. He emphasized that fostering working relationships with all Federal officials is crucial and highlighted the paramount importance of demonstrating how constituents benefit from programs and services.

Discussing Executive Budget

Councilwoman Jennifer Webster and Governor Tony Evers

By Jennifer Webster, *Oneida Nation Councilmember*

On Thursday, March 6, 2025, I was able to join a roundtable discussion with Governor Evers at Karvana Coffeehouse in Green Bay. This discussion included local professionals and small business owners focusing on his Executive Budget, particularly on making healthcare more accessible and affordable, lowering prescription costs, expanding Medicaid, and auditing insurance companies that deny healthcare claims. Several members expressed concerns over the rising costs of healthcare—more specifically, how families are expected to afford increased healthcare costs while balancing other essential expenses. No family should have to choose between keeping the lights on and accessing the healthcare they need.

From Oneida's perspective, I shared that we have over 17,000 members worldwide, with approximately 5,000 Tribal Members residing in Brown and Outagamie Counties. Our Business Committee and Intergovernmental Affairs Department are meticulously reviewing all Executive Orders from the White House

to assess their potential impact on our members. Additionally, I highlighted that the Oneida Community Health Center serves over 14,000 patients, offering a wide range of services, including Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Dental, Optical, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, Purchased and Referred Care, Behavioral Health, and the Anna John Resident Centered Care Facility.

I explained that Oneida's healthcare programs are funded through a combination of Indian Health Service (IHS) funding, received via a Self-Governance compact and funding agreement that allows us to manage our own healthcare services, along with revenue from Third-Party Billing, which includes private insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare. Governor Evers acknowledged our unique government-to-government relationship with the United States, demonstrating his understanding of sovereignty, Oneida's specific needs, and our deep commitment to serving our community.

Additionally, I emphasized the power and importance of the Native vote. Native



communities, including Oneida, play a crucial role in shaping policies that directly impact healthcare, education, economic development, and sovereignty.

Elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels must recognize and address our needs, which is why voter participation is essential. Ensuring that our voices are heard in elections directly influences decisions on Medicaid expansion, healthcare funding, and policies that support tribal sovereignty. By voting, we advocate for the continued well-being of our communities and the protection of vital programs that serve our people.

Protecting Our Services Oneida Nation's Response to Federal Cuts

By Mark W. Powless, *General Manager of Programs*



Many Tribal members are aware of the efforts at the federal level to cut spending. These cuts have been implemented by reducing federal allocations of funds, firing federal employees, and terminating federal contracts.

For the Oneida Nation, this could result in a reduction of funds that support critical services to Tribal membership. Examples of services supported by federal funding include Oneida Behavioral Health, Oneida Health Center, and Comprehensive Housing Division. At this time, due to a low level of communication from

our federal agencies, we do not know what areas will be impacted or the level of funding reductions.

This uncertainty requires programs to closely monitor expenses. Reducing our own expenditures will allow greater flexibility should we need to support critical services with tribal funds. Ideally, we will not experience a significant reduction in funding. But, if we do experience a reduction in funding, our initial goal will be to maintain the same level of service and retain the staff providing those services.

Regardless of federal impacts, our mission remains the same. The mission of the Oneida Nation is to strengthen and protect our people, reclaim our land, and enhance the environment, by exercising our sovereignty. We strive to achieve our mission despite any obstacles on our path.

As we receive more information, we will do our best to inform the community.

Should you have any questions, please feel comfortable calling my office – 920-496-7414.

Timeline of Executive Order Impacts

By Michelle Danforth-Anderson

Jan. 27 - Office of Management & Budget issues temporary pause of agency grant, loan and other financial assistance programs. Head Start had a slight delay in normal monthly draw down due to system being down. Drawdowns resumed later in the week. (Source: Jackie Smith, Oneida Education & Training Area Manager)

Feb. 13 - The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Response Center Strategies to Support Children Exposed to Violence funding opportunity has paused all previously posted Notices of Funding Opportunity. (Memo from Office of Justice Programs received by Oneida Grants Department)

Feb. 13 - An email is sent out to 950 Indian Health Services personnel notifying them of layoffs. (initial number was 2,200) Two hours later, Robert F. Kennedy Jr verbally rescinded the order. (ictnes.org – Indian Country Today ITC)

Feb. 14 - 2,600 other probationary employees laid off at the BIA, BIE, DOJ, and other agencies. (ictnes.org – Indian Country Today ITC)

Feb. 14 - 1,000 Department of Veterans Affairs employees have been terminated.

(Nativenewsonline.net)

Mar. 8 – DOGE to terminate BIA office leases around the country including Ashland and Shawano, WI. (Nativenewsonline.net)

Mar. 11 - USDA eliminates \$1B in funding. Impacts in the Local Food for Schools (LFS) are low-income student meals, and childcare centers. (Reuters.com)

Mar. 13 - The Office of Head Start will not approve the use of federal funding for any training and technical assistance (TTA) or other program expenditures that promote or take part in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. (Memo from Office of Head Start received by Oneida Grants Department)

Mar. 14 – Trump rescinds Biden's executive order that strengthened tribal sovereignty and expanded self-determination. This would make it easier for tribes to access federal funding and reduce the interference of the federal government with how tribes spend their money. (nativenewsonline.net)

Mar. 15 - Trump executive order cuts Community Development Financial Institutions which provides economic development, busi-

ness funding, and home loans to Native and Non-Natives. (nativenewsonline.net)

Mar. 17 - Trump's DEI Executive Order prompts the removal of some Navajo Code Talkers from some military websites. (Nativenewsonline.net) This action was reversed on 3/19/25 according to apnew.com.

Mar. 17 – DOI-HUD Partnership – Dept. of Interior and Housing and Urban Development aim to open federal lands for tribal, rural housing. The goal is to reduce bureaucracy that slows down the building of affordable homes. (hud.gov)

Mar. 20 – Social Security rule changes to require in-person visits. Beginning March 31, individuals will no longer be able to confirm their identity with the SSA via phone. Those unable to verify their identity through the agency's "my Social Security" online service must visit a field office in person to complete the process, SSA officials announced Tuesday." (nativenewsonline.net)

Treaty Obligations and Oneida Healthcare Oneida is Sovereign Tribe with Unique Political Status

By Garth Webster

On March 11, 2025, Oneida Comprehensive Health Division Director, Debra Danforth and Self-Governance Manager, Brandon Wisneski appeared on Oneida Nation's Facebook Live to discuss the impact of the numerous executive orders are having on Oneida's healthcare services. To have a better understanding of these impacts, however, it's important to know the protections Oneida has in place to mitigate them.

Many of the federal cuts negatively effecting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) groups and the various minority populations identified in DEI are fortunately, not affecting Oneida as much as one might think. Says Danforth, "We are a sovereign entity, not a minority group. We have a government-to-government

relationship with the federal government." This fact was further explained by Wisneski, "We are a sovereign Self-Governance Tribe that is authorized under the Indian Self-Determination Act to assume management and control of healthcare programs previously run by the federal government."

For instance, federal funds provided to Self-Governance Tribes enable them to hire their own employees to manage how healthcare programs and services are delivered. In this way, Oneida is not subject to the federal employee cuts affecting Tribes who are not self-governed. Both Danforth and Wisneski work closely with elected leadership to provide talking points for them on these trust and treaty-related obligations so they can

then, in turn, testify at state and federal levels in support of vital tribal healthcare programs. Danforth and Wisneski also work diligently with Councilwoman Jennifer Webster on federal tribal advisory committees to educate on Oneida's unique political status. With these types of proactive, educational approaches, Danforth says, they have been able to secure funding with advanced appropriations, another critical safeguard when federal government shutdowns occur.

Another wildcard item on Danforth and Wisneski's radar, however, is monitoring potential cuts or caps to Medicaid, Medicare, and other third-party resources. Danforth provides reassurance stating, "We're making sure our voices are heard on a unified platform."

New Fee to Trust Process Accelerates Land Transfers GM Community Meal and Discussion



By Gavriella Van Boxel

Communications Specialist Post Graduate · GM Administration

The GM Community Meeting regarding Fee to Trust happened at the Norbert Hill Center on Thursday, March 13th, 2025. Presented by Mark W. Powless, General Manager of Programs and Services, and Nicole Rommel, Deputy Director of Land Management, this meeting explained the process of Fee to Trust as well as relevant updates in the Nation's efforts.

The previous fee to trust process consisted of 16 steps with no timeline; however, in 2024, a new process was created where this process is incontestable and has a 120-day timeline. "The Oneida Nation hopes the new process will dramatically expedite the process of putting land into trust for Tribal membership.", said General Manager, Mark W. Powless.

There is 65,400 acres of land within reservation boundaries – 28,888 of which is tribally owned. Of the approximate 900 Oneida Nation acquisitions, about 450 are in trust and 450 are in fee. The most recent approvals are 8 applications between Hobart and Green Bay, totaling 570 acres.

Parcel Submission Questions,
Nicole Rommel
NRommel@OneidaNation.org
920.869.6505



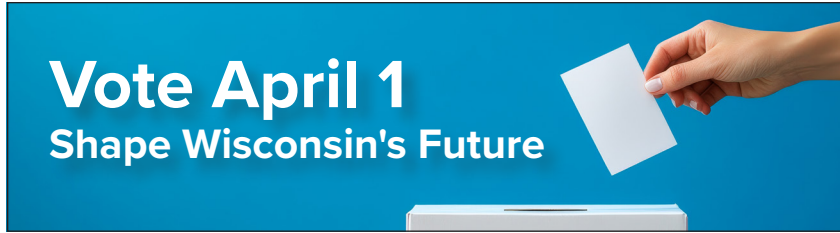
Fee to Trust
Presentation

Fee Land:

Under complete control of its owner and is the highest form of property possession.

Trust Land:

Land to which the title is held in trust by the United States on behalf of an individual Indigenous person or Tribe.



By Anne Eagan-Waukau

WI Native Vote Communications Manager & Urban Organizer – MKE

On April 1, Wisconsinites will elect a new justice to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. By voting, Indigenous people will have the opportunity to shape our future and the future of the generations to come.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court holds the power to make decisions related to environmental protections, Tribal sovereignty, abortion access, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and much more.

Native Americans must head to the polls to protect the work of past generations who fought to protect our families, our culture, and our future, because ***the Wisconsin Supreme Court may make decisions that are crucial to Indigenous people.***

Beyond tribal concerns, the Wisconsin Supreme Court plays a vital role in upholding checks and balances within state government, ensuring that voters' voices are heard.

Wisconsin Native Vote remains committed to protecting Indigenous rights, language, and sovereignty. ***We encourage you to vote on Tuesday, April 1*** – because our future, and that of the next seven generations, depends on it.

Crucial Issues to Indigenous peoples

- 1. Protecting our Indigenous children and families** through the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA). WICWA protects the best interests of Indigenous children and promotes the stability and security of Wisconsin Tribes and families. WICWA ensures that Native children placed into the foster care system are placed into the custody of fit and willing Indigenous relatives. In the past, Native children were placed with white families, a practice that may have contributed to historical trauma.
- 2. Our sovereignty**, which protects the inherent authority of tribes to govern themselves and allows tribes to honor and preserve their cultures and traditional ways of life.
- 3. Our right to clean water and the protection of our waterways** that hold our wild rice beds, and ancient walleye and sturgeon spawning grounds that travel from Lake Superior and wind through the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin's pristine Wolf River.

VOTE

APRIL 1

The Wisconsin Supreme Court is on the ballot!

The Wisconsin Supreme Court may decide critical matters including Tribal sovereignty issues, water protection, reproductive rights, and voting rights.

conservationvoices.org/vote

VOTE

BECAUSE YOUR VOICE MATTERS

VOTE WITH EASE ✓

- Register to Vote
- Update Voter Info
- Check Voter Status
- See What's On Your Ballot
- Find Polling Place
- Vote Absentee By Mail
- Track Ballot

**2025 SPRING PRIMARY
TUES. APRIL 01**

MYVOTE WISCONSIN
myvote.wi.gov

Oneida Nation High School

THUNDERHAWK TIMES



HMH Test Results Show Consistent Improvement

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

A March 5, 2025, data review by Oneida Nation School System (ONSS) Staff showed increased scores for students across the board.

HMH is a company heralding itself as “an adaptive learning company” with “a focus on what moves each learner” delivering “what educators need to foster growth and build lasting momentum.” HMH grew from the merger of long-time educational publishers Houghton, Mifflin, and Harcourt which merged in 2007.

The company’s website states: “We create integrated K–12 learning solutions for core, supplemental, intervention, assessment, and professional learning—delivered on one streamlined platform. Our technology can flex, uncovering smarter insights about students and helping educators act on what motivates them.”

According to HMH, 90% of U.S. K-12 schools use HMH core, intervention, and supplemental programs; 50 million students in 150 countries use HMH’s research-backed learning programs; and 1.9 average years of student growth can be gained in one year by using HMH intervention solutions. The ONSS has used the HMH curriculum since 2021.

To measure growth and develop strategies, students are tested three times a year. In the fall to set a baseline, again around the middle of the school year, and again at the end of the year.

The data reviewed on March 5 indicated positive gains in all areas. In Reading, 26.6% of students were at or above grade level, 13.1% of them since the beginning of the year. In Math, 35.3% of students were at or above grade level, 15% of them since the beginning of the year. Those scores showed 7.3% and 2.7% increases respectively since last year. Overall, positive increases were seen at every grade level in Reading and Math.

Reflecting on these data points, ONHS

principal Art Skenandore said, “I have included a graphic from January 2025 that illustrates that Wisconsin as well is working to improve reading scores. The picture demonstrates that we are not far behind and improving, making progress toward our goal of proficiency in reading. Our work is to achieve our reading improvement goal is an investment in our students! For each student to enjoy success in meeting their long-term career goals reading is pivotal!”

Daylight Saving Time, Basketball Successes, & School Happenings

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

Clocks moved backward in the early morning hours of Sunday, March 9. The sunset was then around 7:00 pm and over the month of March, our area gained almost three minutes of daylight a day. By the end of April, sunset will be almost 8:00 pm with more than 14 hours of daylight and the end of the 2024-2025 School Year a mere month+ away.

Winter sports wrapped up with a loss by the Lady T-Hawks in Sectional action against Sevastopol on March 6 at Manitowoc’s Lincoln HS. Spring sports started on Monday, May 10 with the track and lacrosse teams gathering for the first time. Watch for reports on spring sports in these pages.

A letter from Retired Manitowoc Administrator Biff Hansen lauded the Lady T-Hawks, coaches, and fans for their sportsmanship at the sectional basketball game. I “have no problem putting Coach [Anthony] Cornelius and his staff as one of the best examples of how it should be done as leaders of a high school team.” Hansen added, “Not sure if the team reflects the community or the community is a reflection of the team, but the Oneida Nation adults and student fans were also pretty good examples of good sports during the flow of the game.”

Two ONHS seniors etched their names in the ONHS basketball record books. Jaylynn Caldwell broke the 1000-point mark early in the season and ended the campaign as the all-time leading scorer in Lady T-Hawk history. Fellow senior Mariah Cloud also broke the 1000-point mark. Both Caldwell and Cloud were named to M&O Conference Second Team All-Conference Honors while fellow senior Madalyn King was given Honorable Mention.

ONHS Juniors took the ACT Test at the Community Education Center on March 11. The day started with breakfast followed by testing instruction. Then, students took the English and Math tests followed by Reading and Science. After lunch, the Writing test was completed. Juniors stated that the test was “tiring” and “exhausting.” One said, “Who knew that a day of testing could make you more tired than working out?” For all that exhaustion, smiles were plentiful.



Jennecia Jaimes

Annual Maple Celebration Continues

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

These photographs show a welcome spring tradition underway at ONHS on Monday, March 3 when students and staff gathered for the annual tobacco burning to celebrate the maple trees that overlook Oneida’s Norbert Hill Center...

Thunderhawk Times Staff

Randell Denny, Joie Gutierrez, Steven Guzman,
Jasani Myke, Saniya Ninham-Clark
Advisors: Denis Gullickson and Johnny Danforth



Read more **ONHS**
Thunderhawk Times

Like a Fish in Water

Nalani Powless is Making Waves as Young Swimmer

By Garth Webster

Nalani Powless with coach Barb Kolitsch as they sit atop Kolitsch's private 1,500-gallon practice pool at her home in Howard.



In 2023, when eight-year-old Nalani Powless had the opportunity to attend a swimming competition with her Aunt, she was instantly enamored with sport and the thought of becoming a competitive swimmer herself.

At the time, Nalani was attending school in Freedom, WI. Due to a lack of facilities at Freedom, she joined another local small swim club. However, she still wasn't getting the right coaching and direction to help her excel. Then, one day Nalani's Great Grandma, Dorothy Ninham was speaking with a healthcare provider at Oneida Community Health Center, who referred her to Barb Kolitsch.

Kolitsch, a competitive swimmer both in college and at open-water events, began coaching Nalani at her home in Howard. In Kolitsch's heated garage, she provides private lessons in her specially designed 1,500-gallon pool. While working with Nalani, Kolitsch quickly identified Nalani's natural talent, stating, "Nalani is one day going to be a great breaststroke swimmer." In fact, the Howard-Suamico Stormbreaker Swim Club where Nalani is currently a team member,

also spotted Nalani's ability, moving her through the rookie, bronze, and on to silver swimming levels in just two months of joining. Most swimmers follow the footsteps of a competitive swimmer in their family. Thus, many people knowledgeable of the sport are pleasantly surprised to learn that she is a first-generation swimmer.

Nalani, now ten-years old, just completed the winter swim season where she placed first at state regionals and then continued to the state competition. Soon, she will be starting the spring season in April. When asked how she trains outside the water she says, "Pullups and pushups," adding, "I also work on my diet which includes apples and oranges." After swimming in a long event recently, finishing a mile in a little over 37 minutes, she says that she wants to compete in open-water events like Coach Kolitsch and eventually, aspires to become an Olympian like Katie Ledecky. Despite being a standout individual swimmer, Nalani says the team relay races are her favorite. It's with little surprise that during these team events, Nalani swims the anchor leg.



Varsity athletes from any grade level and hold a Grade Point Average of 3.5 receive a certificate from their school recognizing them as WBCA Academic All-State. Congratulations (top to bottom) to Jaylyn Caldwell from Oneida Nation High School, Aubrey Doyen from West De Pere, Josalyn White from Notre Dame Academy, and Marley Atkinson from Notre Dame Academy.





Oneida Reads Joins Packers for Literacy Celebration

By Mia Charnon

On Saturday, March 1, Lambeau Field was filled with excitement as the Green Bay Packers hosted their literacy-themed event, "Timeout for Reading." The event, free to the public, aimed to promote literacy among young children and featured a variety of engaging activities.

One of the highlights of the event was a special story time with Ashlee Alicea, member of the Oneida Nation, and author of *Luka and Little Feather*. Alicea captivated the audience with her reading, followed by a children's book reading in Spanish, and a reading by a Packers celebrity.

Attendees were delighted to receive free books and bookmarks, distributed to kids in pre-K through 5th grade. The event also featured literacy activity booths hosted by Howe Community Resource Center, Bellin Health, and Oneida Reads, offering a range of fun and educational activities for children and their families.

Special reading areas were set up for participants to enjoy their new books or a favorite brought from home, creating a cozy and inviting atmosphere for all.

"Timeout for Reading" is part of the Green Bay Packers Give Back initiative, the team's comprehensive community outreach program. This event, along with other Packers' charity endeavors, contributed to a remarkable \$13 million impact on the community last year.



Ashlee Alicea



Learn more about Oneida Reads



Learn more about *Luka and Little Feather*





By Mia Charnon

The Give BIG Green Bay campaign, held on February 27-28, 2025, raised significant funds for local nonprofits. Notable beneficiaries included Ukwakhwa (Our Foods), which received \$17,148 to support traditional agricultural education, and Wise Women Gathering Place, Inc., which garnered \$20,003 to aid individuals affected by domestic violence and trauma.

The event featured 50 organizations and successfully amplified generosity through a 24-hour giving period. It not only provided crucial financial support but also increased visibility and donor engagement, showcasing the community's commitment to fostering resilience, healing, and cultural preservation. *Learn more at GiveBIGGreenBay.org.*

Ukwakhwa (Our Foods)

\$17,148 Raised | \$15,000 Goal | 173 Donors

About Ukwakhwa (Our Foods)

Ukwakhwa is a nonprofit dedicated to teaching traditional Haudenosaunee agricultural methods. They grow heirloom foods, focusing on Haudenosaunee varieties of corn, beans, and squash, and host events on planting, harvesting, seed keeping, food preparation, and crafting. Their property, named Ukwakhwa: Tsinu Niyukwayaylthoslu (Our Foods: Where we plant things), serves as a hub for these educational activities.

Their Story

In 2017, Oneida Nation citizens Steve and Becky Webster purchased 10 acres on the Oneida Reservation and built a home. They envisioned a space for research, learning, and community sharing. Over the years, they hosted various events and continued to assess community needs. On January 6, 2025, they acquired an additional 5 acres to expand their programming.



Wise Women Gathering Place, Inc.

\$20,003 Raised | \$29,999 Goal | 181 Donors

About Wise Women Gathering Place, Inc.

Wise Women Gathering Place supports individuals affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and trauma using a Native American cultural approach. Their services include advocacy, housing assistance, healing resources, and workshops to build skills and interrupt cycles of abuse. They cater to people of all genders, ages, and backgrounds, helping them create safety, stability, and healthy relationships.

Their Story

Thirty years ago, Alice Skenandore welcomed women to her kitchen table to learn about midwifery. Through these gatherings, she realized that midwifery encompasses cradle-to-grave care and plays a vital role in addressing the needs of our community.





Enabling Oneida Youth to Realize Their Potential

Lexi Levinson Continues Rites of Passage Program

By Garth Webster



"ROP is so important because the youth that are participating, are the future leaders of the community."

— Lexi Levinson

[f Tetwatunhatényehse](#) • Tetwatunhatényehse@gmail.com
920.372.8699

The July 2024 edition provided a detailed look at Tetwatunhatényehse? (We are changing our lives), otherwise known as Oneida Rites of Passage (ROP). This invaluable program doesn't happen if not for a team of volunteer community members, including Alexandria (aka Lexi) Levinson who says, "ROP is so important because the youth that are participating, are the future leaders of the community."

Levinson reminisced how ROP came to be by discussing her participation in the inception of the program about ten years ago, in 2015. "I participated in the program every week for at least two years, if not three. It was a big part of why I became so interested in language and culture and it was the beginning of the rest of my journey in language learning and cultural engagement. It's kind of what ignited everything for me."

Levinson says a few dedicated parents and community members, including Margaret Ellis, Daniel Guzman, Lou Williams, Jr., Latsi Hill, Keshia Belisle, Kerri Tucker, Anita Barber, Theresa Barber, Toni House, and others from the Oneida Cultural Heritage Department traveled to the Akwesasne Mohawk territory in upstate New York to begin learning the cultural practice, whose program is called Oherokon (Under the Corn Husk). In this way, they are like the

corn, preparing to be free of its husk. Until then, they are protected, prepared, and matured for their roles in world. Upon their return, these individuals implemented this practice in Oneida. Through a series of organizational changes and circumstances, including the pandemic, the ROP lost some of its momentum but recently, has become rejuvenated, thanks to Levinson, Guzman and their team.

In 2022, Levinson and Guzman worked diligently to revive the ROP. They began implementing a business-like structure to organize their activities, including becoming a non-profit project venture under the Sacred Bundle organization, led by Mike Meyers, mostly known for his Nation Rebuilding programming. Under the advice of Meyers, Levinson and Guzman assembled a council, which includes herself, Sonyowa Hill, Simone Ninham, Wati Sickles, Shakira Stevens, and Daniel Doyen. Together, they utilize the Clans system to orchestrate their proceedings.

Currently, Oneida's ROP, like its participants, is also maturing. A growth opportunity recently came when Oneida ROP was approached by the Clanmothers from Oneida, Canada in 2024. "They wanted to know about the program, in an effort to hopefully one day implement it there," says Levinson. She hopes these and future opportunities will enable ROP to form

their own non-profit.

In the short term, Levinson is excited to share the program with our relatives in Canada but in the here and now she says, the small sum approved by the Oneida Business Committee in February 2025 will fully fund their upcoming year.

Levinson says, "It's important to continue the program for our youth." Even for our young adults up to age around 25 who are blossoming and venturing out on their own, Levinson describes the reassurance from the lessons they've learned, "Knowing that you have this part of us here at home is important. They know they are supported and are always welcomed home, no matter where life takes them."

As Levinson reiterates her acknowledgment to Daniel Guzman, who she credits for ROP's rejuvenation, she expressed how she's working tirelessly for our community's youth, "I want them to never have to question who they are. They can go across the world and never get lost. And that they will know what they want, what they need, know what they deserve, and how to get it."

This June 2025, Oneida ROP will be seeking Aunty's and Uncles to sponsor the youth, volunteer, and provide donations. Reach out to help Levinson encourage tomorrow's leaders.



Oná Yaʔkáhweʔ Atwatahkalo·tá· Wáhta Kalutaʔshuha "Now It's Time We Will Tap The Maple Trees"

By Kaylee Schuyler

On March 3, 2025, the Maple Sugar camp at Oneida Nation High School opened with a traditional Maple tree tobacco burning ceremony, led by Bob Brown and Artley Skenandore. This maple tobacco burning, known as Wáhtaʔ Kayú:kwáthoʔ, is held at the end of February or early March when the warm winds return after winter. It marks the time when the Grandfather Thunders reappear, signaling the start of the maple sugaring season.

During the ceremony, tobacco is burned to extend greetings, love, and thankfulness to the Maple Trees and the Grandfather Thunders for their continuous responsibilities. The Maple tree is honored as the leader

of all trees, being the first to wake up after a long winter. This practice reflects the Indigenous people's highest regard for the maple tree.

Each camp in the community holds its own tobacco burning, with everyone contributing a small pinch of homegrown or bartered tobacco. This plant comes from the Creator's world and deserves utmost respect, as told in the creation story. A designated speaker, communicating in the Indigenous language, speaks on behalf of all gathered to express gratitude and respect

to the Maple tree before tapping begins. This tradition acknowledges the tree's vital role and honors its contributions.

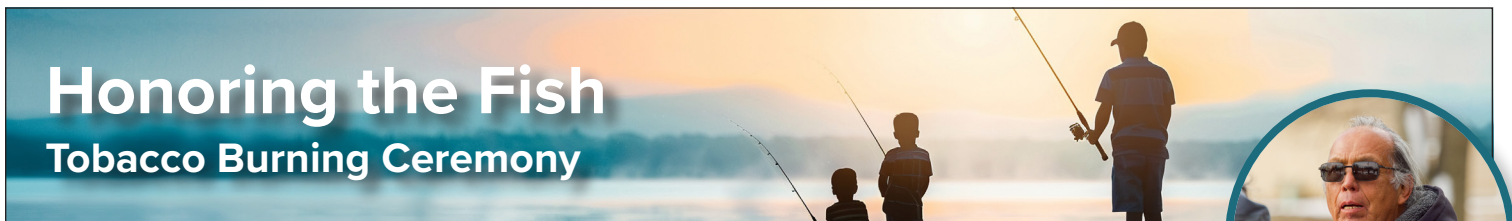


wáhtaʔ kalu-tóteʔ - Maple Tree

otsikhé-taʔ - Maple Sugar

olutáklíʔ - Maple Syrup

oyuʔkwaʔu-wé- - Original Tobacco



Honoring the Fish Tobacco Burning Ceremony



By Mia Charnon

On Friday, March 21, 2025, the Oneida Nation held a tobacco burning ceremony to welcome back and give thanks to the fish on the banks of Duck Creek in Oneida, WI.

Leander Danforth led the ceremony, and both he and Gerald Hill shared valuable insights on protecting our ancestral rights to harvest fish and preserve our language. Hill also reminisced about his time as an apprentice to Amos Christjohn and honored Christjohn and Maria Hinton for their contributions to preserving

the Oneida language, including their work on the Abbott, Christjohn, and Hinton Oneida Dictionary.

The event was attended by community members, including the Oneida Nation Business Committee, and Oneida Nation Royalty. The Buffalo Creek Singers concluded the event with an honor song.



yetsyakwáthaʔ - Fishing Place, Fishing Outfit

kátsi - Fish

-ahlyoʔkwawine- - Fish with a pole (verb)

-itsyak- - Eat fish (verb)

Oneida Blood Quantum: Community Voices Unite

I AM Oneida Community Meetings Recap

During the Oneida Nation Facebook Live on March 4, 2025, Taryn Webster, Chair of the I AM Oneida Committee, provided a recap of recent community meetings about the Onλyoteʔa·ká· niʔi Project Plan (OPP) that addresses the Nation's current enrollment criteria, especially as it relates to the blood quantum requirement. Bobbi Webster, Public Relations Director, shared some historical context, noting that in the 1960s, the Oneida Nation had around 2,500 members, which grew to 9,000 in the 1990s. Today, the membership exceeds 17,000.

Research gathered to date, identifies the Nation's current enrollment criteria is derived from "Article II – Membership" of the Nation's Constitution; a constitution that was first adopted in 1936 as a result of the forced U.S. government policy known as the Indian Reorganization Act. One of the four criteria identified in Article II, is section (b) which in part states that "any child of a member of the Nation...who is of at least one-

fourth degree Indian blood..."

Oneida's current membership law (under section 124.4) outlines qualifications for enrollment in three ways. In part, these qualification(s) require individuals be: 1) "...at least one-quarter (¼) degree Oneida Indian blood; and 2) "Under no circumstances are the one-quarter (¼) blood quantum requirements...be diminished." The law further identifies that the calculation is based on the bloodlines of parents and grandparents.

The OPP approved by General Tribal Council guides the Committee's work. Under the current enrollment criteria, the Nation's enrollment numbers are on a declining trajectory. It is the intent of the plan to address this declining enrollment by identifying alternative criteria that encompasses the community's self-identification as Onλyoteʔa·ká· niʔi.

Taryn noted the importance of the work the "I AM Oneida Committee" is doing by gathering community input on various topics; she recapped that approximately 40 individuals par-

ticipated in the first two community meetings held in February. Additional community input sessions are scheduled throughout the month of April, with an additional notation the team is preparing for the non-stipend GTC meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025. Taryn concluded by stressing the importance of participation, highlighting that this issue will impact everyone, and that the community must unite to find a solution for future generations.

If members are unable to attend the meeting, they are encouraged to participate and share their voices by completing the online survey.


Onλyoteʔa·ká· niʔi
Plan Survey



Community Input Sessions: Onλyoteʔa·ká· niʔi Project Plan

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Meeting Purpose and Background
- Video on Blood Quantum
- Focused Conversation
- Wrap Up/Closing

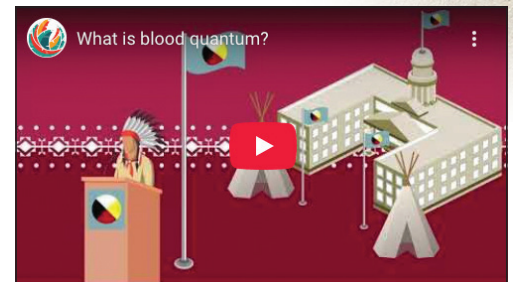


Wednesday, April 16
2 Sessions
10am-Noon or 1:30-3:30pm
Oneida Hotel

Friday, April 18
Enrolled and Descendant Youth,
ages 14-21 Only · 11am-1pm
Descendants, all ages · 2-4pm
Oneida Hotel

Pre-Registration Required by Fri., April 11

For more info., a complete schedule of upcoming sessions, or to pre-register, call 920.869.4481 or go to Oneida-NSN.Gov/IAMOneidaProject



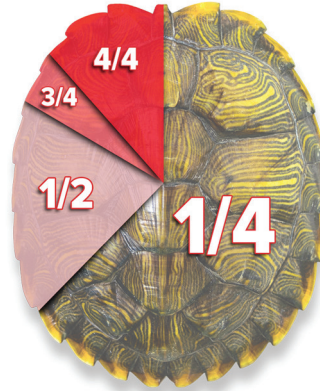
What is
Blood Quantum?



“We are encouraging as much participation as possible; this is going to affect us somehow; some way and we need to come together and figure out a solution for our future generations.”

Tayrn Webster
I AM Oneida Committee Chair

Blood Quantum



4/4
995 Individuals

3/4
645 Individuals

1/2
3,611 Individuals

1/4
8,269 Individuals

Current Membership Statistics

As of 03/11/2025

On Reservation
4,491

Brown/Outagamie Counties
3,132

Milwaukee Area
1,941

State of Wisconsin
2,330

Out of State or Location Unknown
5,387

Total
17,281

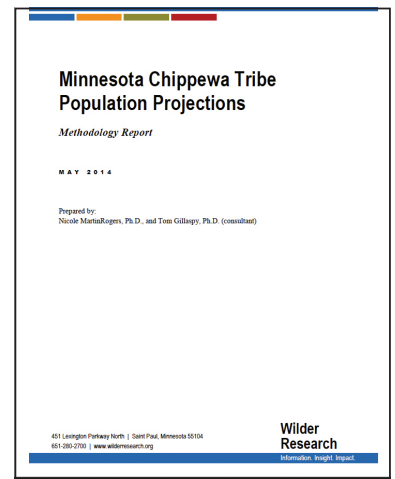
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Hot Topics in Tribal Governance- Blood Quantum



Native Leaders and Scholars: The Movement Away from Blood Quantum



Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Populations Projects Methodology Report

Early Detection, Bright Futures

Oneida's Free Child Development Screen

By BIA Early Intervention

Several Oneida programs are implementing a free online infant, toddler, and child development screen that parents and caregivers can use in their home with their computer or cell phone. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) and the Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social & Emotional (ASQ:SE2) provides dependable, accurate developmental and social-emotional screening for children between birth and age six. Drawing on your knowledge of your child, the ASQ has been specifically designed to pinpoint developmental progress and catch delays in young children.

The ultimate goal of Oneida Early Childhood Programs is to give parents and caregivers the necessary information, tools, and resources to help children reach their full potential and be ready for kindergarten.

Screening young children is an effective tool to help parents celebrate their child's milestones and know what to look for next and determine

whether follow-up steps are needed. It is also an essential first step toward identifying children with delays or disorders in the critical early years, before they start school.

For more information: Cindy Liebers
CLieber@OneidaNation.org | 920-490-3840
BIA Early intervention



Ages and Stages
Questionnaire (ASQ)
Online Screenings
(ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE 2)



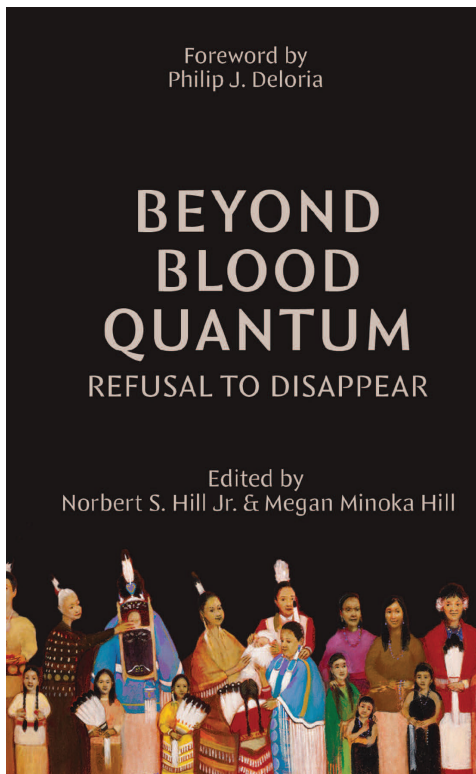
Early Steps to Success

Your child's scores can help determine if your child is developing appropriately or if they should be referred for further evaluations to one of the following Oneida Programs:

- ◆ Oneida BIA Early Intervention
- ◆ Oneida Early Head Start / Oneida Head Start
- ◆ Oneida Health Center
- ◆ Oneida Airport Road Childcare Center
- ◆ Oneida Family and Child Education (FACE) Program

Continuing the Conversation

Beyond Blood Quantum Expands on the Great Vanishing Act



Foreword by
Philip J. Deloria

BEYOND BLOOD QUANTUM

REFUSAL TO DISAPPEAR

Edited by
Norbert S. Hill Jr. & Megan Minoka Hill

Beyond Blood Quantum: Refusal to Disappear is now available from Fulcrum Publishing. Edited by Norbert S. Hill Jr., Megan Minoka Hill, and Desirae Louise Hill, the anthology examines the complexities of Native identity, belonging, citizenship, and sovereignty beyond the confines of blood quantum. Featuring essays, poetry, and personal stories, this collection serves as both a guide for in-community conversations and a declaration of survival.

Beyond Blood Quantum: Refusal to Disappear is a vital intertribal and intergenerational resource for communities facing the challenge of securing the future of their nations. Readers are invited to engage with a range of powerful themes, from examining the lasting impacts of colonial policies and the legal complexities surrounding Indigeneity to the pressing need for tribal nations to reclaim authority over their own criteria for citizenship.

Contributors:

Essays from: David E. Wilkins, Amber Starks, Doug Kiel, Gabriel S. Galanda, Laurence M. Hauptman, Kanyahtakelu Rebecca M. Webster,

Amelia M. Webster, Karl Eschbach, Jonathan Taylor, Suzan Shown Harjo, Danielle Lucero, Kadin Mills, Jennifer Hill-Kelley, Sadie Kelley, Marena Bridges, Toni House, Kcheyonkote Burton W. Warrington, Artley M. Skenandore, Matthew L.M. Fletcher, Lois Stevens, John Danforth, Jim Gray, Jill Doerfler.

Poems from: Kenzie Allen, Richard "Lotni" Elm-Hill, and Joy Harjo.

Cover Art by: Daniel Ramirez ("Passing on Traditions").



Beyond Blood Quantum
Refusal to Disappear

Bulk Book Order:
Orders@FulcrumBooks.com

Connect with us:
GreatVanishingAct.com
Beyond Blood Quantum

Norbert S. Hill Jr
StillHere@GreatVanishingAct.com
920.544.9220



By Mia Charnon

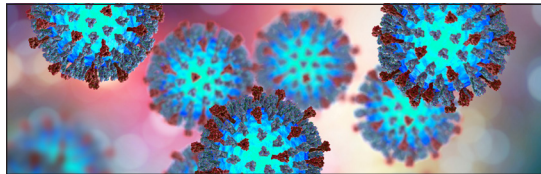
According to the CDC, measles cases are on the rise. As of March 6, 2025, there have been 222 cases reported across 12 states. This is an increase compared to 285 cases in 2024. Measles is a highly contagious disease, especially dangerous for young children. Most of the cases are among those who are unvaccinated. It's important to recognize the symptoms and get vaccinated to protect yourself and others.

Stay informed and help beat measles!

Measles (Rubeola)

- A disease caused by the measles virus
- It can be dangerous, especially for infants and young children.
- Measles is highly contagious.

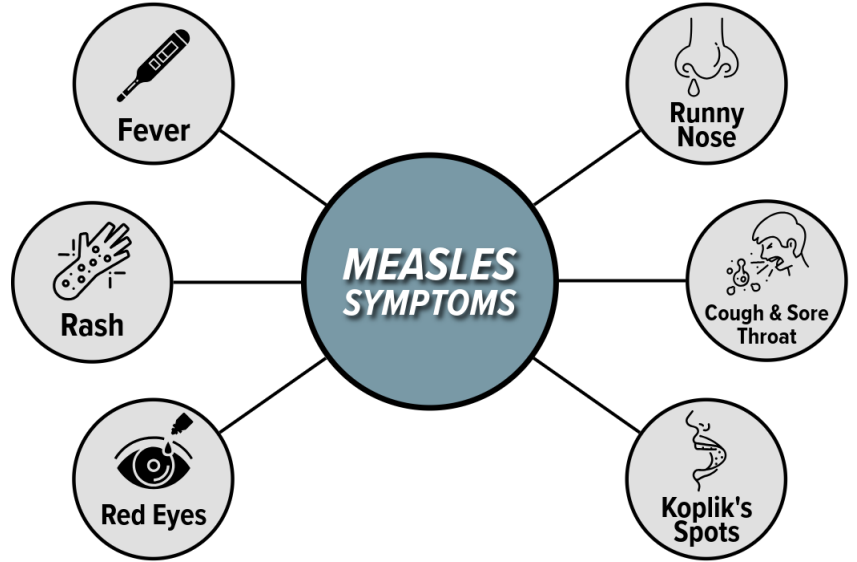
If one person has it, up to 9 out of 10 people nearby will become infected if they are not protected.



Serious Health Problems

Measles can cause:

- Pneumonia (infection of the lungs)
- Brain damage caused by swelling
- Deafness



Spread of Virus

Transmission: Direct contact with infectious droplets or airborne spread from breathing, coughing, or sneezing.

Infectious Duration: Virus remains infectious in the air and on surfaces for up to 2 hours after an infected person leaves.

Contagious Period: Infected individuals are contagious from 4 days before the rash starts to 4 days afterward.

Vaccination

The best way to avoid measles is to get vaccinated.

MMR Vaccine

Protects against measles, mumps, and rubella.

Effectiveness:

- 1 dose: ~93% effective
- 2 doses: ~97% effective

Long-Lasting Protection

Effective against all strains of measles.

Measles Cases Update

Total Cases: 222 reported across 12 states and jurisdictions:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| · Alaska | · New Mexico |
| · California | · New York City |
| · Florida | · Pennsylvania |
| · Georgia | · Rhode Island |
| · Kentucky | · Texas |
| · New Jersey | · Washington |

Age Distribution:

- Under 5 years: 76 cases (34%)
- 5-19 years: 99 cases (45%)
- 20+ years: 40 cases (18%)
- Age unknown: 7 cases (3%)

Vaccination Status:

- Unvaccinated or Unknown: 94%
- One MMR dose: 4%
- Two MMR doses: 2%

Schedule your immunization appointment today!

Oneida Community Health Center
920.869.2711



By Mia Charnon

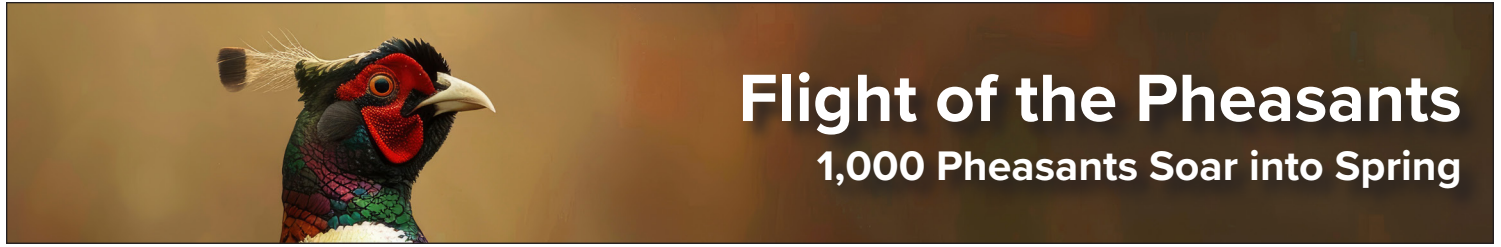
On March 18, 2025, students from Lycée Marc Chagall in Reims, France, visited the Oneida Nation. As partner schools with Manitowoc Lincoln High School, this marked their first return since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This visit also kicked off the first tour of the season, which typically runs from April to the end of October. Special accommodations were made to set up early for this group traveling from France. The French students spent an exciting day exploring the rich culture and history of Oneida, led by Cultural Engagement Specialists Leah Stroobants and Kaylee Schuyler of Oneida Tourism.

The tour began at the Amelia Cornelius Culture Park, where the students toured the replica longhouse, participated in a medicinal plant activity, sorted seeds of the Three Sisters (corn, beans, and squash), and identified various feathers. The next stop was the Oneida Veterans' Services Building, where the Cultural Heritage team shared stories and earth songs.

The students then visited the Aquaponics facility and the Buffalo Overlook, followed by an exploration of the Oneida Museum. The day concluded with a shopping stop at Turtle Islands Gifts.

The students and their chaperones expressed their gratitude for the enriching experience and are already looking forward to their next visit in 2027.





Flight of the Pheasants 1,000 Pheasants Soar into Spring

By Michelle Danforth-Anderson

On Friday, March 21, 2025, The Oneida Nation Conservation Department has successfully released 500 pheasants, evenly divided between males and females, across various locations on the reservation. This marks the first of two planned releases, with an additional 500 pheasants set to be released next week.

To ensure a higher survival rate, the pheasants require beneficial habitats that offer shelter and food. These habitats include high grass, low pressure, and protection from predators such as foxes, coyotes, and birds of prey. According to Shad Webster, Natural Resources Director, "By releasing them early in the season, we aim for the pheasants to mate and raise their young throughout the year, ensuring future hunting seasons."

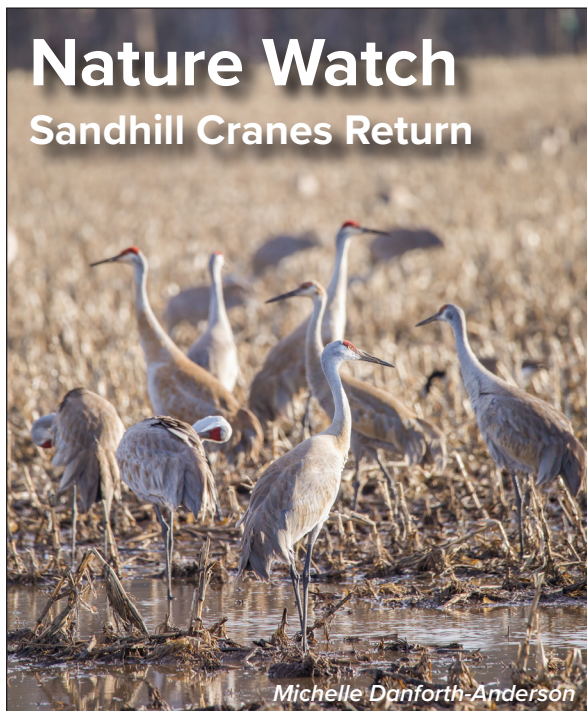
Conservation also stocks rainbow trout, brown trout, walleye, black crappie and limited perch. Currently, the Conservation Department does not have any federal grants that impact their efforts at this time.



Michelle Danforth-Anderson

“Our goal is to provide hunting opportunities for Oneida hunters and sportsmen by harvesting natural wild game. This effort will ultimately support our food sovereignty initiatives.”

Shad Webster
Natural Resources Director



Nature Watch Sandhill Cranes Return

Michelle Danforth-Anderson

By Mia Charnon

Calling All Birdwatchers

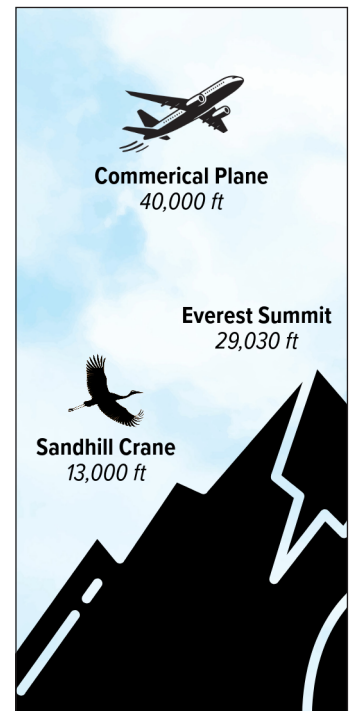
Grab your binoculars and head to County Road U to witness these incredible birds in action!

Sandhill Cranes Spotted

In March 2025, Sandhill Cranes were spotted off County Road U in Oneida, WI. These majestic birds are part of the migratory population that travels between northern breeding grounds and southern wintering areas. Some non-migratory populations reside year-round in places like Florida, Mississippi, and Cuba.

Fun Fact

Sandhill cranes are powerful flyers and can reach heights of up to 13,000 feet and fly up to 400 miles in a single day during migration!



Honoring Oneida's Warriors Local Veterans Receive Plaques Acknowledging Distinguished Service



◀ Ed Skenandore, (right) is known throughout the community as a selfless and kindhearted man who will do anything for his fellow veterans. As a member of the Wisconsin Indian Veterans Association (WIVA) Oneida Chapter, Eddy has donated countless time and energy to give back to his community as well as his fellow veterans. Whether its rain, snow, wind, freezing temps, or any other kind of inclement weather, Ed is always there to lend a helping hand. Much of what the veterans do for each other and the community could not be accomplished without Ed. Dale Webster (left) presents a plaque from WIVA to Ed for dedication to the Wisconsin Indian Veterans Association Oneida Chapter and his service as a proud Veteran of the Oneida Nation.

Dave Cornelissen (left), along with Deke Suri, current Commander ▶ at the Robert Cornelius VFW Post 7784 (right), present former Commander, Cletus Ninham, Sr. (middle) with a frame displaying Ninham's many military commendations for his meritorious service in Vietnam. These include the Bronze Star (marked with a "V" for Valor), Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantry Badge. Ninham was commander of VFW Post 7784 from 2005 until his retirement in 2022, handing over the reigns to Suri. To honor the legacy of Ninham's leadership, Cornelissen gathered the trio together on Thursday, March 6, 2025 to present the framed commendations to Ninham.



JUDGE
CRAWFORD
FOR SUPREME COURT

ABSENTEE BALLOTS
MAILED AROUND
MARCH 11

EARLY IN PERSON
BEGINNING ON
MARCH 18

ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, APRIL 1

**FAIR.
IMPARTIAL.
COMMON SENSE.**

Judge Susan Crawford has dedicated her career to protecting our rights & freedoms.

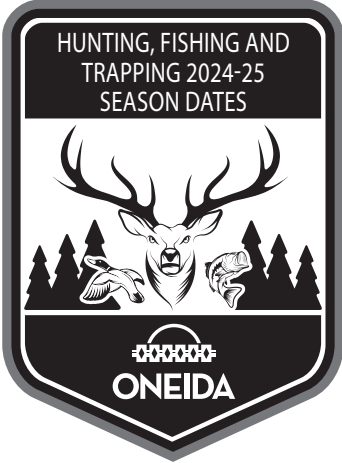
Paid for by Susan Crawford for Wisconsin. www.crawfordforwi.com/vote

The family of "Ranger" Christjohn will be having a fundraiser for his One-Man Hand Drum special held at the Oneida Pow Wow this June 2025.

... SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025 ...
Oneida VFW, 2980 E. Service Rd, Oneida, WI
11am-5pm (Food while supplies last)

50/50 Raffle items, Raffle Baskets
Items made by local Indigenous artists.
Need not be present to win. Winners will be announced via Facebook Live.

Questions contact Carissa at 920.246.3443
or Renita at 920.595.1318



2025 Spring Turkey Permits

Dates:

Start: Saturday, April 5, 2025
End: Sunday, May 23, 2025
Last Day to Buy Permits: May 24, 2025

Bag Limit:

2 birds per set
(1 Tom/Jake and 1 Hen)

Registration:

Method: Phone, email, or drop off
Permits: Mail or drop off application and payment to Oneida Conservation.
Permits will be mailed upon receipt

Payment:

Not Accepted: Cash (will be returned)
Accepted: Check or Money Order (payable to Oneida Conservation Department)

Send Application and Payment to:

Mail: Oneida Conservation Department, P.O. Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155

Drop Off: Designated mailbox 470 Airport Dr., Oneida, WI 54155

Requirements:

Valid 2024-2025 Oneida Sportsman license

Fees:

Spring Turkey Permits

(up to 2 sets per sportsman)

\$5 per set - Enrolled Member

Free - Enrolled Elder

\$10 per set - Spouse/Descendant/Other Affiliation/Non-Oneida Sportsman

Administrative Fee

\$25 for all license/tag/permit replacements

Registration, Questions and to Report Violations

Conservation Department
920.869.6500
Conservation_Department@OneidaNation.org



Oneida Spring Turkey Permit Application



Spring Turkey Regulations 2025



Oneida Tribal Hunting Map 2024 - 2025

Oneida Nation Farm Completes Exterior of New Multi-Purpose Facility

By Garth Webster

The Oneida Nation Farm has completed the exterior construction of a new 14,400-square-foot, 3-in-1 structure. This versatile building will offer storage space for hay, straw, equipment, and machinery, as well as office and retail space. The interior of the facility is expected to be finished by June 2025. Additionally, the farm has unveiled a new Oneida Nation Farm sign, marking this exciting development.

GREGGLORIA V. "GLORIA" DOXTATOR
October 6, 1947 - February 20, 2025



Greggloria Vera "Gloria" Doxtator, 77, Oneida, passed away Thursday evening, February 20, 2025. She was born October 6, 1947, to Clifford and Melinda

Doxtator.

Gloria accepted Jesus Christ as a personal Savior in May 1980. She served at Victory Worship as a lay minister, beginner Sunday school, substitute adult Sunday school, worship leader and treasurer.

She is survived by her son, Christopher; grandsons, Tyler and Arien; sisters, Marilyn Danforth and Ruth Ann Miller; and other extended family.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Melinda; siblings, Clifford, Donald, Roman, Clarissa, Rachael, Patricia, Allen and Victor; and other extended family members.

Family and friends may visit at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N. Tenth Street, De Pere, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2025. The Oneida Hymn Singers will begin at 11:30 a.m. followed by a prayer service at noon.

Gloria would like to thank Oneida Health, Victory Worship, St. Vincent Oncology, Anna John, Unity and the many people who prayer for her, sent cards, called and brought food.

HELMUTH "GUS" A. KOSBAB
August 16, 1946 - February 20, 2025



Helmuth "Gus" August Kosbab, 78, of Seymour went to his heavenly home on February 20, 2025. He was born on August 16, 1946, in Shawano County Hospital

to the late Alvina (Woodman) Close and Helmuth R. Kosbab.

Gus was a Vietnam Veteran and graduated with a bachelor's degree from UW-Oshkosh. Gus worked for the Oneida Casino for many years until his retirement in 2023.

He enjoyed traveling, gambling with his lady friend, Patsy, and spending time with his sisters and many nieces and nephews. Gus had a vegetable garden almost every year and enjoyed fresh vegetables that he shared with his family.

Gus is survived by three sisters: Joanne (Ernie) Close, Marianne Close, and Alvira Close; 17 nieces and nephews, many great-nieces, and great-nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Arnold (Elsa) Kosbab; step-father, Arthur F. Close; nephew, David A. Doxtator; and uncle, Lewis O. Woodman.

Visitation will take place at Muehl-Boettcher Funeral Home, Seymour on Thursday, March 6, 2025, from 10:00 am until the funeral service at 12 noon with the Oneida Hymn Singers at 11:30 am. Military Honors will be conducted following the service. Interment will take place at a later date in the Tigerton Union Cemetery. Online condolences may be expressed to Gus's family at www.muehlboettcher.com

JOAN DAUGHERTY
October 17, 1953 - February 23, 2025



Joan was born on October 17, 1953, in Chicago, Illinois to William Chambliss and Ann Metoxen and passed away on February 23, 2025, in Waskom, Texas.

She married K.R.

Daugherty on March 3, 2007, and the two remained married until her passing. She worked for J.C. Penney for 30 years and went to work for McDonalds after retirement. She was a member of the Oneida Nation Turtle Clan of Wisconsin. She was an avid Green Bay Packers and Nascar Fan.

She was preceded in death by mother, Ann Spigell; father, William Chambliss; sister, Tina Peterson, Shirley Bennett and Carol Gonzales and brother, Ronald Webster.

She is survived by her husband, K.R. Daugherty of Waskom, Tx; step children, Juanita Martin and husband, Ronald, Jr. of Waskom, Tx, Kendall Daugherty and wife, Hope of Elysian Fields, Tx, Holly Daugherty

of Keithville, La and Misty Daugherty of DeBerry, Tx; brother, Stan Webster and sister, Barbara Isham, both of Wisconsin and grandchildren, Thomas Daugherty, Trent Hornaday, Lilyann Martin, Melody Martin, Kaylee Hurdle, Jacob Hurdle, Tori Martin, Evan Martin, Silas Whitmer, Mataia Cates, Sami Daugherty and Angel Daugherty along with numerous nieces, nephews and other friends and family.

KURT L. ELM
April 19, 1963 - March 5, 2025



Kurt Lee Elm, 61, born on April 19, 1963, passed peacefully at home on March 5, 2025, with his family surrounding him. Kurt is the son of Carol (Skenandore) Elm and Clayton Elm.

Kurt enjoyed a life of hunting with his dad, and they collected many coon-hunting trophies and awards. He also enjoyed watching Nascar races and Packer games.

Later in life, he began painting on canvas and many of his paintings are hung up throughout his home. Kurt loved telling stories and jokes with his family and making them laugh. Despite his severe medical conditions, Kurt carried an internal strength that surprised all of us, and on difficult days his mother Carol was always there, taking care of him.

Kurt is survived by his mother Carol Elm, his brother Clayton (Celene) Elm, and his sister Cherie Elm. He is further survived by nephews; Lotni (Desirae) Elm-Hill, Quanah (Tasha) Vasquez, Quincy Vasquez, Cheyenne Moosey Elm, Cody, Marcus, and Cincere Williams and nieces Jadia (Spencer) Jameson, Raven Nooyen, Brionne Elm, Autumn Elm and MaKaelyn (Sage) Elm-Williams. And further survived by his Auntie Gloria Lusia and his cousins, Evie (Odin) Anderson, Rick Lusia, and Karl (Tami) Lusia.

Kurt was preceded in death by his father, Clayton Elm, his brothers Douglas and Paul Elm, and his nephews Dustin and Douglas Elm Jr.

The Elm family would like to thank Unity Hospice, St. Vincent Hospital staff, Fresenius Dialysis Center, Dr. Flood and Britney from the Oneida Health Center for their care and support. Special gratitude

to our grandson/nephew, Cody Williams, who spent much time with his Uncle Kurt.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. <https://www.cff.org/donate>

Visitation will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 am on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at Newcomer Funerals, Cremations & Receptions (340 S. Monroe Ave, Green Bay, WI 54301). Oneida Singers will begin at 10:30 am, with a funeral service to follow immediately at 11:00 am.

MARY JO BURNS

April 30, 1947 - February 21, 2025



Mary Jo passed away peacefully, with her family lovingly surrounding her, following a courageous bout with cancer on Friday, February 21, 2025.

MJ was born to Raymond and Jane (Hill) O'Loughlin on April 30, 1947, the fourth oldest of seven siblings, including sisters Carol and Janet, as well as brothers Jim, David, Daniel and Shawn. She was proud of her Oneida (from Jane) and Irish (from Raymond) lineage.

MJ grew up in North Fond du Lac, WI, where not only was she a great role model to her family, but also assisted her parents in helping raise her younger siblings. MJ always put family first, making time to utilize her gift as a teacher. After 20 years living in Fond du Lac, TB and MJ had the opportunity to relocate their family to Minnesota. Post retirement, MJ enjoyed spending time with family and friends, golfing, arts and crafts, and spending time with her seven grandchildren.

MJ is survived by her children, Shannon (Jenny) Burns of Whitefish Bay, WI, Sean (Kim) Burns of Cottage Grove, MN, Sarah (Dennis) Neitz of Cottage Grove, MN and Shane (Jen) of San Diego, CA.; her siblings sister Carol (late Bob) Smart of Waukesha, WI and Shawn (Janet) O'Loughlin of Venice, FL; seven grandchildren including Mikaela, Abby, Max, Kacie, Jack, Truxton and Beau; sister-in-law Sharon (Doug) Terrill of Fond du Lac, WI, sister-in-law Judy (Rev. Bob) Gurgel of Milwaukee, WI, brother-in-law Dan (Michelle) Burns of

Kenosha, WI, brother-in-law Mark (Karen) Burns of Oshkosh, WI, and sister-in-law Wendy (Rich) Petak of Fond du Lac, WI; and many, many beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Terry Burns; her parents, Raymond and Jane (Hill) O'Loughlin; sister Janet Merz and brothers Jim, David and Dan O'Loughlin.

A Celebration of Life for MJ will be held Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 4-8pm at River Oaks Golf Course, 11099 US-61, Cottage Grove, MN 55016. There will also be a burial ceremony on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 3pm at St. Charles Cemetery, W4287 Golf Course Dr., Fond du Lac, WI 54935, followed by a Celebration of Life from 4pm-9pm at the American Legion, 500 Fond du Lac Ave, Fond du Lac, WI 54935. The family would like to thank United Hospital in St. Paul, MN and Our Lady of Peace Hospice in St. Paul, MN.



Read the full obituary

RAMONA J. POWLESS-CARLSON

July 12, 1929 - February 20, 2025



Ramona J. Powless-Carlson, 95, passed away peacefully at Anna John Nursing Home on February 20, 2025. She was born in Cass Lake, Minnesota, on July

12, 1929, to Merville Powless (Oneida) and Jessie Snow (Red Lake Ojibwe). She was later raised by Merville and Adeline Powless.

Ramona spent her early childhood raised by her father and in an orphanage with her brother and sister until their father remarried.

She trained at a secretarial school in Milwaukee, WI and worked for a newspaper and many manufacturing companies. She also worked as an au pair for several wealthy families. Ramona had lived in many cities, including Milwaukee, Chicago, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Dallas, and San Francisco.

Ramona was always very popular, and she loved to entertain friends and family who loved her dearly. She worked for her

younger brother as he started several businesses focused on environmental recycling and manufacturing for Native American tribes throughout the country. Ramona was very well loved by all the tribes she came in contact with, including the Oneida Nation.

Ramona retired in Southern Wisconsin, with her husband Stew Carlson, on a beautiful lake. After Stew's passing, Ramona moved to the Oneida Reservation where she met and made many new friends. Her final days were spent in the Anna John Residence Center where she received excellent care until her passing.

She is survived by her sisters, Dr. Donna (Dave) Powless Grignon and Shirley (Robin) Moore (deceased); her brothers, David Powless, Lloyd (Darlene) Powless and Ron (Shirley) Powless (deceased); and by her cousins Kathy Hughes, Barb Dixon, and Dottie Krull. She is further survived by her nieces, Darnel Powless, Crystal Powless, Rami Hoaglin, Kenew Tucker, and Jane Wagner; her nephews, John Powless, Grant Powless, Doug Powless, Cameron Cunningham and Shawn Cunninham; and many other family and friends whom she loved dearly.

Friends and family may call at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N Tenth Street, for visitation from 10:00 am until the time of funeral service at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, February 26, 2025. Oneida Hymn Singers will begin at 11:30 am.

Her father told her, "There is no Oneida word for death. There is just those who have gone on ahead of us."

RANDY POWLESS

June 23, 1957 - , February 25, 2025



Randy Powless, AKA Saawin DeBoy AKA Dekuss, 67, of Seymour, passed away Tuesday, February 25, 2025. He was born June 23, 1957, in Milwaukee to the

late Myron A. Burns Sr. and the late Eleanore (Powless) Ellis.

Randy was a man who enjoyed his time

Continued on PG 28

Randy Powless

Continuing from PG 27

Randy Powless

outdoors hunting and fishing. He spent countless hours collecting eagle feathers on Lake Superior and he knew the Bad River like the back of his hand. He was a member of the Bad River Tribe of the Ojibwe as well as a member of the Oneida Nation. Randy took great pride in his 2023 Anniversary Edition Harley Davidson motorcycle, which he kept spotless. He cherished going on road trips with Chrissy and delighted in hearing his favorite Motown singers through the speakers as they hit the road. Randy had an incredibly strong work ethic and always got things done. He even put in new flooring at home, a gift he lovingly gave to Chrissy. Above all else, Randy was also a dedicated father who loved spending time with his family. He will be deeply missed by all that knew him.

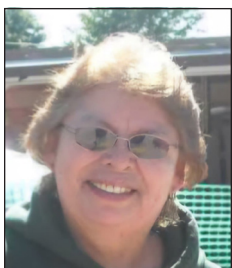
Randy is survived by the love of his life, Chrissy; son, Saawin Powless; grandson, Wakiza Powless; step-children, Katie (Jamie) Burns, Kelly (Frank) LaRoque, Michael LaRoque; 11 step-grandchildren; siblings, Bill (Hiedi-Beth) Burns Sr., Myron A. Burns Jr., Christina (Bob) Ante, Etta Burns; he is further survived by his auntie, Babe, as well as many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Randy was preceded in death by his children, Cory Joe Powless, Rebecca Powless; parents, Myron and Eleanore; sisters, Rhonda Schroeder and Joetta Powless; brother, Donald Burns.

Friends and family will gather at Blaney Funeral Home, 1521 Shawano Ave., from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 2nd. Randy will be laid to rest at Bad River Cemetery in Odanah, WI. To send online condolences, please go to www.BlaneyFuneralHome.com.

ROSE MARY "GUSHA" METOXEN

August 13, 1949 - March 2, 2025



Rose Mary "Gusha" Metoxen, Kaukauna, age 75, died unexpectedly at her home on Sunday, March 2, 2025. She was born on August 13, 1949, to the late

Hazel (Smith) Metoxen-Noble and Freeman Metoxen, Sr. Rose worked as a catastrophic claims adjustor for American Family Insurance, retiring after 35 years of service. She also worked part time at the Oneida Casino E & EE One Stop for many years. Gusha was a huge Packer fan and loved to travel. She and her niece Lori Metoxen took numerous cruises together and traveled to New Orleans for a Packer game. Rose was a proud member of the Oneida Nation. Through the years, Gusha played softball and shot pool in various local pool leagues.

Gusha is survived by her brothers: Dewey, Gary (Pat), Allen, Roger, and Daryle Metoxen; sister-in-law, Carole Metoxen; special niece Lori Metoxen; and loving dog, Flower. She is further survived by many additional nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers: Gordon (Ann), Ronnie, Michael, and Freeman, Jr.; sister, Patti Metoxen; sister-in-law Beverly Metoxen; her good friend, Maxine Smith; and her beloved dogs Sampson and Sunshine.

The family would like to give a big thank you to the Kaukauna Police Department. Visitation will be held Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at PEACE FAMILY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (2300 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Kaukauna) from 10:00 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. Her Funeral will follow at 12:00 Noon, officiated by the Rev. Elizabeth Jacob. She will be buried in the Oneida United Methodist Church Cemetery. To sign the guest book, please visit oconnellfh.com. O'CONNELL FUNERAL HOME 1776 E. Main Street Little Chute 920-788-6237

LEONARD J. "JAMIE" STEVENS

December 21, 1962 - February 17, 2025



Leonard James "Jamie" Stevens passed away Monday, February 17, 2025, at the age of 62 after a long battle with cancer. Jamie was born in Appleton on December 21, 1962, to Mary and Baptist Stevens, and had a stepdad, Louie Danforth.

He was a hardworking and dedicated to his job with the Oneida Nation. Jamie loved get-togethers and cookouts, fishing, playing volleyball, and casino hopping. But his favorite pastime was going to the lodge spending time with his good buddies, the Red Hails and many others.

Jamie is survived by his wife Georgia "Jo" Stevens and their four children together, Jerilyn, Desiree, Roman and Cameron "Cubby". Brothers and sisters include Eunice "Chicky", Baptist Stevens, MaryLou Danforth and Sam Danforth. He is further survived by his grandkids, Andre Stevens, Kyara Skolaski, Shalyn Guillermo, Wanbli King, Sequoia King and Rhianna Stevens. Jamie will be missed by many other family members and friends.

Services will be held at the lodge at 2546 S. Overland in Oneida. A fire has begun and will continue until the time of his burial at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Jamie's body will be present beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 21 until the time of burial.

LATAKEH "DUCK" SMITH

February 22, 1981 - March 7, 2025



Latakeh "Duck" Smith, 44, Appleton, passed away unexpectedly at home on Friday, March 7, 2025. The son of Diane Moore and Paul

Smith was born in Akwesasne, New York on February 22, 1981.

Duck grew up in Oneida and attended Oneida Nation schools, where he was very active in school sports. He was raised in the traditional Longhouse beliefs as a part of the Bear Clan of the Onyote'a'ká ("People of the Standing Stone"). Latakeh means The Runner.

He loved music and was a great cook, grilling any time he had a chance. He was the type of person who loved to make people laugh, and though he loved "talking his sh*t", he was always helping others in any way that he could. He was an avid Packers, Brewers and Bucks fan and he had a huge collection of hats and shoes to match every outfit.

On April 11, 2009, he married his best friend, Tara Adams. Together, they had

seven children, and he was very proud to be a stay-at-home father.

He is survived by his wife, Tara; mom, Diane; father, Paul; children, Vianna, Vashantai (Marc Doxtater), Vintz, VaRyeuce, Vontayveuce and Valynteno; grandchildren, Matthew and Madeleine, whom he was extremely proud of. Duck is further survived by Meadow (Rolf) Moore, Nikal'tha "Bug" Smith, Sterling (Chantelle) Webster, Devin Webster, Preston Harrison, Tavia "Bunny" Moore, Oka-Rose "Yonakwala" Scow, Synala Smith, Kwnwahta Smith, and Qualayou Smith; step-mother, Beverly Scow; and other members of his extended family.

Duck was preceded in death by his daughter, Vaniecia; sister, Yotsitsyakele "Jiggy" Smith and baby sister, Rose; niece, Yoseline Carolina Smith; uncles; Loren Avery Moore, Rory L. Moore and Keith "Tink" Moore; aunties, Terry (Moore) Skenandore, Caroline Sue VanEnkenvoort, and Bruceelyn Benson; special cousins, Krystal Torres Smith and Dwayne Moore; and grandparents; Bernice Moore, David C. "Joker" Moore, Evans P. Smith and Rose Denny.

Family and friends may visit at the Oneida Longhouse, W370 Reformatory Road, Seymour, on Thursday evening, March 13, 2025. Visitation will continue overnight until the time of service on Friday, March 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Burial will take place at a later date.

Special thanks to the firekeepers, our friend Kanataloloks, and everyone at the Longhouse for all their help and support during this difficult time. Additional thanks to Josephine Webster for making ribbons shirts.

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

Sustaining the Tribal Elder Food Box Program

By **Lea Zeise**, Assistant Coordinator of Ohe-láku

Jen Falck, Intertribal Food Business Development Coordinator – Menominee Tribe



You can Help! Contact the USDA at 202.720.4517 to tell them to keep the Tribal Elder Food Box Program going. You can also donate to the Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition at GreatLakesIntertribalFood.org.

"Elders eat first," is something we hear from a young age in Oneida. We grow up learning how important it is to make sure elders eat well. This value is also at the core of the Tribal Elder Food Box Program. Since 2021, elders have received 90,000 boxes with local foods, including Oneida-made products like corn mush flour from Ohe-láku. Last year, the program purchased food from 66 small producers who rely on the program as a dependable customer and take pride in providing elders with high quality and culturally important food.

Roughly half of the program in 2024 was funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) thanks to the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) program. LFPA has four purposes: 1) purchase food from local, small-scale food producers, 2) provide it to people who need it, 3)

improve local food systems and 4) build local economies.

With federal funds in place for 2025 and 2026, plans were set in motion by farmers, tribes, and program administrators to reach more elders. In February, those plans were put at risk when the USDA terminated all LFPA contracts. Why cut such a popular and effective program? The USDA's termination letters bluntly state that the LFPA program "no longer effectuates agency priorities." In other words, the USDA has decided to stop supporting small local food producers like Ohe-láku and programs that provide healthy food to our elders.

The program will run this season with the first week of delivery May 26. The Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition is working hard to keep the program alive in 2026 and beyond.



2025 Tribal Elder Food Box Distribution Schedule

N7372 Water Circle Place, Oneida, WI 54155

ALL DATES ARE FRIDAY, 10AM

**May 30 • June 13 & 27 • July 11 & 25 • Aug. 8 & 22
Sep. 5 & 26 • Oct. 10 & 24 • Nov. 7 & 21 • Dec. 5 & 19**

Each box contains proteins, produce, and shelf-stable items, sourced from Indigenous and non-Indigenous local producers and will be representative of traditional foods whenever possible. The average box will be 20 pounds. The contents of the boxes will change for each distribution based on what is available seasonally for the given distribution week. PLEASE NOTE: Food provided is for Tribal members, 55 and older. This project is funded by a Feeding America National Organization grant, Feeding Wisconsin's Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection ARPA grant, and an Intertribal Local Food Purchasing Agreement grant.

Setting Time and Notice to Creditors

The following estates are being prepared for probate by the Oneida Nation, Land Commission Hearing Body.

To attend a scheduled hearing virtually contact:

Diane Wilson, Oneida Nation Land Management, • 470 Airport Dr., PO Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155 920-869-6500 • DWilson@OneidaNation.org

Second publish date of the following cases is April 2025

Estate of Elaine A. Melchert, Case No. 2024-LCP-0001

1. An application for probate was filed.
2. The decedent with a date of birth of 08/11/1940 and date of death 5/21/2023, was not an Oneida Nation member, domiciled on the Oneida Reservation at W670 County Road EE, De Pere, WI 54115
3. The deadline to submit claims is March 31, 2025.
4. All interested persons are hereby noticed.

Estate of Karen K. Nolan, Case No. 2024-LCP-0004

1. An application for probate was filed.
2. The decedent with a date of birth of 5/13/1959 and date of death 12/28/2024, was an Oneida Nation member, domiciled on the Oneida Reservation at 2775 Metoxen Lane, De Pere, WI 54115
3. The deadline to submit claims is March 31, 2025.
4. All interested persons are hereby noticed.

Estate of Merlin Melchert, Case No. 2024-LCP-0002

1. An application for probate was filed.
2. The decedent with a date of birth of 10/02/1941 and date of death 08/02/2023, was an Oneida Nation member, domiciled on the Oneida Reservation at W670 County Road EE, De Pere, WI 54115
3. The deadline to submit claims is March 31, 2025.
4. All interested persons are hereby noticed.

Estate of Russell Metoxen, Case No. 2024-LCP-0003

1. An application for probate was filed.
2. The decedent with a date of birth of 07/06/1934 and date of death 07/05/2023, was an Oneida Nation member, domiciled on the Oneida Reservation at 235 Valley Dr., Oneida, WI 54155
3. The deadline to submit claims is March 31, 2025.
4. All interested persons are hereby noticed.

Estate of Martha Braeger, Case No. 2024-LCP-0005

1. An application for probate was filed.
2. The decedent with a date of birth of 03/29/1950 and date of death 12/18/2024, was an Oneida Nation member, domiciled on the Oneida Reservation at 2700 He Nis Ra Lane, Green Bay, WI 54304
3. The deadline to submit claims is May 9, 2025.
4. All interested persons are hereby noticed.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 11:00am

Little Bear Development Center Conference Room
N7332 Water Circle Place, Oneida, WI 54155

In accordance with the Administrative Rulemaking Law, Land Management and the Oneida Land Commission is hosting this Public Meeting to gather feedback from the community regarding the following rule:

Topic: Agricultural Leasing Rule

This is a proposal to revise a rule through:

- ◇ A full review and revision of existing agricultural leasing regulations created to make agricultural lands available to tribal members and third parties for leasing that implements the following new provisions:
- ◇ A clear and concise requirement for an absolute tribal member preference in agricultural lease selection;
- ◇ Easily identified pricing models that follow market trends;
- ◇ New limitations on chemical use on tribal lands aimed at improving future soil health while protecting the Reservation's air, soil, and water health; and
- ◇ Financial incentives to encourage lessees to use the best regenerative agricultural practices available

To obtain copies of the Public Meeting documents for this proposal, please visit www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSURES: Wed, April 16, 2025

During the Public Comment Period, all interested persons may submit written comments and/or a transcript of any testimony/spoken comments made during the Public Meeting. These may be submitted to Oneida Land Management by U.S. mail, interoffice mail, e-mail or fax.

Oneida Land Management
P.O. Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155 • shunting@oneidanation.org
920-869-6610

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 10:00am

CHD Conference Room
2913 Commission Street, Oneida, WI 54155

In accordance with the Administrative Rulemaking Law, the Comprehensive Housing Division (CHD) is hosting this Public Meeting to gather feedback from the community regarding the following rule:

Landlord-Tenant Rule No. 1 - General Rental Program Eligibility, Selection and Other Requirements

This is a proposal to amend a rule through:

- ◇ Updating the rule's existing income eligibility requirements to better assess affordability as the Nation transitions the general rental program into more of a market rate program.
- ◇ Updating various sections of the program rule to better align with daily operations and implementation of the rental program.

To obtain copies of the Public Meeting documents for this proposal, please visit www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSURES: Wed, April 16, 2025

During the Public Comment Period, all interested persons may submit written comments and/or a transcript of any testimony/spoken comments made during the Public Meeting. These may be submitted to The Comprehensive Housing Division by U.S. mail, interoffice mail, e-mail or fax.

Comprehensive Housing Division
2913 Commissioner Street, Oneida, WI 54155 • sdenny@oneidanation.org
920-869-2227 • Fax: 920-869-2836

Just Move It Oneida
Spring
INTO ACTION

WEDNESDAY | **APRIL 16** | 4-6PM
 2025

ONEIDA NATION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 N7125 SEMINARY RD, ONEIDA, WI 54155

- Join us for a delightful evening of walking, games, music, and free corn soup!
- Monthly incentive is a JMIO baseball cap.
- Exercise bingo from 5-5:30pm!

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

Class of 2025

High School Graduates Photo submission

All Oneida seniors graduating high school!

Email Full Name, Photo, and High School Name

Submit by Thursday, May 1, 2025 to Kalihwisaks@OneidaNation.org

*Submissions will be published in the June 2025 Kalihwisaks

Save The Date

TRIBAL CAREGIVER CONFERENCE 2025

"Finding Moments of Joy"

| | |
|---|--|
| Tues. Sept. 16 8 am - 4:30 pm | Oneida Casino Hotel 2020 Airport Drive, Green Bay, WI |
| Wed. Sept. 17 8 am - 12:30 pm | <i>Presented by Wisconsin's Tribal Dementia Care Specialists</i> |

Looking for a venue for your event?
 The Parish Hall might be just what you need!

Oneida Members, call or email for more info:
 920.869.1059 or Parish_Hall_1@OneidaNation.org

They will respond to requests
 between 8am-4:30pm, Monday-Friday

*Please note that funeral services may impact schedules and reservations.



APRIL Memory Café

APRIL 9, 2025 1:30PM-3:00PM
Main Conference Room at the Oneida Health Center

Memory Café is open to anyone the with early memory loss and other dementia symptoms. Feel free to bring your spouse, friend, family member, or significant other to this fun, comfortable environment. It's a great way to socialize and connect in an understanding stigma-free setting.




Memory Café happens every 2nd Wednesday of the month.

May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10

This month's activity will be planting!



ONEIDA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



525 Airport Drive
Oneida, WI 54155
920-869-4995

Hop over to...

****CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED****


Parent Group

Who: Parents, Expecting Families, Caregivers

When: April 9th, 2025 530pm-630pm


Place: Oneida Library 201 Elm St, Oneida

RSVP: Please text/call Makenit Gutierrez at 920-655-2146 or call Rosemarie T. Navarro Redhail at 920-490-3880.





Coping with stress

Enjoy dinner with us this month, as we aim to address common stressors that parents and caregivers often face. We will explore effective tools designed to help you enjoy life more easily, ensuring that stress doesn't take control while making some calming teas to take home.



Sponsored by: Oneida Comprehensive Health Division, Maternal Child Health Services, BIA Early Intervention

February 26, 2025

Oneida Community Library Culture Sessions

April 22, 4:30PM
With Layukwilakéhte², Turtle Clan Manager

Join us for the Creation Story and Craft Activity



April 24, 5-6PM
With Kaluhya, Wolf Clan Manager

Learn about Oneida Culture and Storytelling.



For more details, visit:
oneida-nsn.gov/resources/library

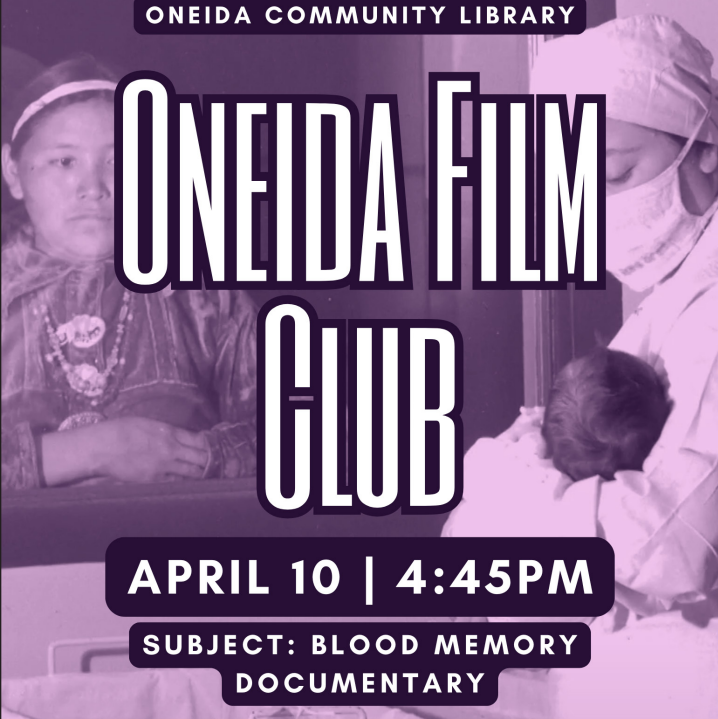



Oneida Community Library | 201 Elm St, Oneida Nation Reservation, Oneida, WI 54155




ONEIDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY ONEIDA FILM CLUB

APRIL 10 | 4:45PM

SUBJECT: BLOOD MEMORY DOCUMENTARY



ONEIDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
201 ELM ST. ONEIDA, WI 54155
920-869-2210


Winter Wellness Talks

April 2
Culture - Danial Thomas

When: 12:10pm

Where: Oneida Community Health Center Conference Room

Questions?
Contact Taylor Jean at 920-490-3940

09/30/2024 

 ONEIDA NATION CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

CO-PARENTING ESSENTIALS

Strategies for Effective Co-Parenting.

Shakoti'niki'iale' Latiksashiba'
"They Watch Over the Children"

MONTHLY SESSIONS: ****One 2-hour session completes the workshop.**

2ND MONDAY 9:30AM-11:30AM
**limited child care available upon request for AM session

4TH MONDAY 3:00PM-5:00PM

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

LOCATION:
Kō'nikuhli-yō Family Center
2640 West Point Rd.,
Green Bay

REQUIREMENTS:
Need to be a participant of the Oneida Nation Child Support Agency. 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 gift & certificate upon completion.

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

Seed Ceremony

EDUCATION NIGHT


WEDNESDAY
APRIL 9, 2025
5:30-8PM

ENJOY A LIGHT MEAL

ONEIDA LONGHOUSE
W370 REFORMATORY RD
ONEIDA WI

CULTURE IS PREVENTION

CONTACT: ISIS CROSTON
920.490.3796



Strawberry Ceremony

EDUCATION NIGHT

WEDNESDAY
MAY 14, 2025
5:30-8PM

ONEIDA LONGHOUSE
W370 REFORMATORY RD
ONEIDA WI

ENJOY A LIGHT MEAL

CONTACT: ISIS CROSTON
920.490.3796



ONEIDA NATION

Board, Committee, or Commissions



AVAILABLE

BCC POSITIONS

APPLY NOW

BCC Highlight

ONEIDA NATION ARTS BOARD (ONAB)

Provide advisory guidance & support to the Oneida Nation Arts Program (ONAP)

Oversee Dollars for Arts Project



BCC Position Vacancies & Applications



Qualifications



Application






920.869.4303

CONTACT GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE (GAO)

FOR MORE INFORMATION



 turtleislandgifts

PRESENTS

Gentle/Restorative YOGA CLASSES

All levels are welcome. Space is limited. Sessions will focus on slow mindful movements and restorative poses.

*RYT - Registered Yoga Teacher

\$15

PRE-REGISTER & SAVE YOUR SPOT



WEDNESDAYS

5-6PM

TEXT/CALL:
Heather (200 RYT*) @ (920) 530-7596
or Theresa (200 RYT*) @ (920) 378-6699

AT INWARD BOUND

1641 Commanche Ave. Suite D | Green Bay | (920) 785-4318 | Open: Sun & Mon 11AM-3PM, Tues-Sat 11AM-5PM

Carter King Research Continues to Go Above and Beyond



By Michelle Danforth-Anderson

In the summer of 2024, Carter King embarked on his next Tourism project to recreate four sets of boarding school uniforms for the Salt Pork Avenue Log Home exhibits. The uniforms will include two styles of girl's everyday dress, boy's everyday suit, and boy's everyday dress uniform. For uniform reference, Oneida is blessed with an assortment of Oneida boarding school photos from the early 1900s housed at the Oneida Museum. His research also uncovered documents from several archives, including the Nation Archives in both Chicago and Washington DC to find purchasing and fiscal records that are not present in the Gordon McLester archive materials. Additional photographs were found at Milwaukee Public Museum, the Neville Public Museum, the Wisconsin State Historical Society, and the Library of Congress. In the Department of the Interior's Warehouse for Indian Supplies, at the National Archives, there is a list of anything and everything to run a boarding school from food to clothes and more, as determined by the federal government. A ledger from the Oneida Boarding school purchases, letters, and employee costs for the school are additional examples. "This has been such a worthwhile investment of our resources. The most exciting addition on

top of all the valuable information provided was the colorization of some of the boarding school photos. It is unbelievable how it makes that period of time come alive." said Michelle Danforth-Anderson, Director of Marketing and Tourism.

Carter commented, "Our next steps are drafting patterns and procuring the final cuts fabrics. In the next few months, the stitching process will begin, and we will see these reproduction uniforms come to life. I feel like it's critical now to keep the buzz around the Federal Boarding School Initiative's dialogue open with the renewed interest between Canada and U.S. governments and organizations in boarding schools. By creating these uniforms, we have an opportunity to learn and heal generational trauma. This could be an incredibly unique opportunity for a living exhibit and the Amelia Cornelius Culture Park making history come alive and educating students and community members beyond just looking at photographs and archival material.





KALIHWISAKS

She Looks for News

PO Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155-0365
2701 W. Mason St., Green Bay, WI 54303

WE'RE HIRING!




ONEIDA
CASINO-HOTEL
Gaming and Hotel Positions




ONEIDA
Program and Service Positions

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

 @kalihwisaks



◆◆◆ 51ST ANNUAL ◆◆◆

ONEIDA

Pow Wow

June 27 – 29, 2025 • Norbert Hill Center
N7210 Seminary Rd • Oneida, WI

Public is Welcome
Food and Craft Vendors

With a good mind, a strong heart, and strong fire, the Oneida Nation invites all to enjoy song and dance at this year's 51st Annual Pow Wow.

ADMISSION

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Weekend Pass | \$15 |
| Daily Pass | \$10 |
| 62 & Over | Free |
| 5 & Under | Free |

GRAND ENTRIES

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Friday, June 27 | 7pm |
| Saturday, June 28 | 1pm & 7pm |
| Sunday, June 29 | Noon |

ExploreOneida.com



OneidaTourism

