



# KAAHTHWA SAAKS

WISCONSIN



## Creating that Welcoming Environment

Kirby Metoxen Recognized with Wisconsin Governor's Legacy Award

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## Rella Swamp, a Prolific Athlete for the Ages

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## Revitalizing the Oneida Language

Ska?nikú·lat Works to Bring the Language Back to Life

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## ONVAC at 81st Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising Military Parade

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Cover: See inside front cover for description of military flyover

# From the Kali

**Shekóli Swakwe•kú.** The return of spring weather signals the return of planning for the next fiscal year. The Oneida Nation operates on a fiscal year that starts on October 1 and concludes on September 30. Two planning efforts – Strategic and Budget – coincide to prepare for fiscal year 2027.

For the many programs and services of the Nation, there is an ongoing effort to assess programming, gather community input, and consider improvements to service delivery.

The implementation of these efforts are mapped out in Strategic Plans and are supported by the allocation of Tribal resources.

Previous years have focused on the Oneida Nation mission statement, “To strengthen and protect our people, reclaim our land, and enhance the environment by exercising our sovereignty.” The guidance for fiscal year 2027 includes an additional emphasis on improving youth services. All

departments of Nation Services are asked to improve an existing youth service or implement a new service.

Our Oneida culture teaches us that raising our children is a shared, community effort. It also reminds us of the importance of developing our future leaders. Through the combined efforts of Nation Services, we hope to improve our already significant youth and family offerings to be even more impactful, for the future of our Oneida Nation.

Yaww?kó,  
*Mark W. Powless*

**Mark W. Powless**  
*CEO-Nation Services*



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## KALIHWISAKS

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



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### Cover Photo: Flyover

The 81st Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising Military Parade was held Saturday, February 21, 2026, in Sacaton, Arizona. To kickoff the parade, vintage fighter planes and helicopters flew over the parade route. Members of the Oneida Nation Veteran Affairs Committee were on hand to represent the Oneida Nation as Indian Country once again came together to honor Ira Hayes. Learn more on pages 18 and 19.

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Rez Dog, Lord Stanley Danforth watches from behind as his neighbor and friend Willy, lunges with happiness during Blizzard Elsa, the second most powerful winter storm in 138 years. See back cover to learn more about the storm.



## LARRY BARTON

### Oneida Nation Treasurer

*Springtime greetings to all as warmer weather is awakening our natural world. Longer daylight and outdoor activities are a welcome change as winter begins to fade. In the past three years of the current Business Committee term, I am humbly reflecting on communication with the membership & community.*

Contact me at  
920.869.4394 or email  
[lbarton2@oneidanation.org](mailto:lbarton2@oneidanation.org)

### Sovereignty Fund (Rainy Day Fund)

I am pleased to report on a specific Financial Policy completion toward meeting our current and future financial responsibilities. At the start of our three (3) year term, the Sovereignty Fund (Rainy Day Fund) was funded to carry the Tribes' obligations for five (5) weeks of expenses should deposit of Revenues & Grant Dollars do not transact. The Sovereignty Fund is funded to carry the organization & community with one (1) year of Tribal Contribution. The balance of the Sovereignty Fund is now at a level to protect the community & organization in the event of financial emergency. Under the Oneida Budget and Finance Law, the noted balance is restricted to emergency use for essential expenses including employee payroll, vendor payments for Retail, Gaming and government operations, and to sustain the Nation during extreme financial distress. Best practice

asserts that it is prudent financial management to reserve a minimum of one-years expenses should unforeseen, yet anticipated challenges emerge.

Effort and sacrifice to accumulate reserves have been shared throughout the community and organization as infinite financial needs are evident in the annual Budgeting process.

Saving resources is culturally aligned for purpose of protecting the membership & community. Preparation to meet our needs for seven generations is the foundation & principle aligned to prioritize development of a "Rainy Day" fund. Importantly, setting aside resources with funding in preparation for unforeseen financial challenge is meaningful. In a post pandemic (Covid) financial environment, addressing vulnerability and mitigate risks is central to financial strategy.

### Economic Impact Study Recognizing All Employees and Volunteers that Powered the Results of the Study

Additionally, I want to acknowledge the recent Economic Impact Study completed by Dr. Shaeffer & Dr. Quinn from St. Norbert College. It is with great humility and pride to report truly remarkable measurable economic impacts identified of approximately \$1 (one) Billion dollars to the immediate region and State of Wisconsin. We will continue to work hard building success for the benefit of our membership and wider communities. Our late Elders who sacrificed and laid the foundation for community development would be gratified.

It is important to acknowledge past & present employees of the Oneida Nation

& Affiliates in recognition of effort, talent and hard work toward the betterment of our Oneida Nation & community. The daily hard work is respected and acknowledged toward continued success.

Lastly, our volunteers who in the past devoted time and resources deserve acknowledgement as their work contributed to the results noted in the Economic Impact Study. Despite the measured success identified, we continue to strive with purpose of meeting expanding infinite unmet needs for membership and community. Please feel free to contact me with questions or input.



## Creating that Welcoming Environment

Kirby Metoxen Recognized with Wisconsin Governor's Legacy Award

By Kristal Hill

Left to right: Joe Klimczak, GM Cave of the Mounds, Kirby Metoxen, Jill Diehl, daughter of Thomas M. Diehl (2025 Legacy Recipient), Tommy Bartlett Show, and Anne Sayers, Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Tourism on stage honoring Kirby as he holds the Wisconsin Governor's Legacy Award. Also on hand to help celebrate the moment were Kirby's family and Oneida Nation Chairman Tehassi Hill.

Councilman Kirby W. Metoxen was recognized March 17, 2026, in Milwaukee, WI with the 2026 Wisconsin Governor's Legacy Award. This honor celebrates individuals who have made long lasting contributions to tourism through decades of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to their communities.

Tourism is often described as an industry. However, more accurately, it's a relationship. It is the quiet, steady foundation of economic growth, woven through community pride, cultural identity, and the simple act of making a place feel welcoming. Behind every strong tourism system are the people who lift it, nurture it, and share their communities with the world yet, it is sometimes overlooked. Individuals like Councilman Metoxen considers tourism to be one of the silent drivers of economic development.

"Before businesses thrive, before families choose to stay, before a community grows, people must feel something good about the place they visit. Tourism makes that possible. It creates first impressions, it builds connections, and it draws people in long before they consider investing, living, working, or returning," says Councilman Metoxen.

Just as Councilman Metoxen has observed and advocated for tourism, people across Wisconsin and the Nation have witnessed his expertise such as Oneida Nation Chairman Tehassi Hill who says, "He seems to know someone everywhere he goes and will always have a story ready to share."

These connections represent years of carrying Oneida's story, values, and warmth into communities across

the state and the country. When Kirby arrives somewhere new, he brings us with him our teachings, humor, generosity, and our standing stone spirit. And everywhere he has been, he has left behind a positive impression of Oneida that opens doors for those who come after him.

In addition to Councilman Metoxen's Legacy award, Oneida Nation's Leah Stroobants, Cultural Engagement Specialist, was also nominated for the Rising Star Award. Although she was not selected, her passion, commitment, and creativity deserve acknowledgment and stands as a reminder that tourism is carried forward by many hands, across generations.

"Tourism does more than create moments; it creates opportunities, it supports local businesses, and it strengthens community identity. It brings revenue that helps fund healthcare, housing, education, elder services, and cultural preservation. It invites visitors to understand who we are and why our community matters," says Councilman Metoxen.

In retrospect, at the center of all this work are the people who welcome others with sincerity and pride. Individuals like Kirby Metoxen and Leah Stroobant's dedication strengthens the fabric of our communities, one connection at a time. Their efforts not only help shape visitor experiences, but they also shape the reputation and economic future of entire communities. The relationships built with local and visitors from afar is what turns a destination into a place people want to invest in, return to, and remember.



Upper Left: Grace with her sister Betty. Right, back row: David, Chris, Larry, Glenn, John, Jeff, Joe, and Carl. Front, left to right: Jim, Barb, Grace, and Gerald. Botto left: Grace stands with her birthday cake.

#### By Garth Webster

In the expansive dining hall of Romy's Nitingale, a supper club in Blackcreek, WI, friends and family gathered to celebrate the 100th birthday on February 15, 2026, of Grace Jordan, the matriarch of a family tree containing 152 descendants.

As the band, *Two of a Kind*, tuned up their instruments to get ready to play and the rest of Grace's family enjoyed a great Sunday meal, I had the chance to speak with Grace about her memories of yesteryear.

Although the get-together happend February 15, Grace informed me her birthday was actually February 21, 1926. She was born and raised by her parents, William and Margaret on a dairy farm in Seymour, WI. It was there she said that every morning, she and her nine siblings, three boys and six girls, would get up very early every morning to care for the cows and do their chores. She did this until she was fourteen, at which time she moved to live with her sister, Mildred.

One faithful evening, while sitting on the porch, three guys pulled up to the house. One of them (Doyle) eventually asked her to go the outdoor theater in Freedom. Grace consulted with Mildred asking, "I don't know these guys so I don't know if I should go." Mildred replied, "He's a good guy, you should go."

When Doyle turned 20 and Grace turned 18, they would happily unite in marriage. Together, they had 11 children who all grew up to be great contributors to society, including the Oneida community.

I asked Grace about her fondest memories and the advice she would give to younger generations trying to make their way in life. She replied, "I have a good memory but really, there are so many things. I just can't believe I'm still here." After which, she continued to tell me about her family. For instance, she lost two brothers to sickness when they were babies and how some of her other siblings became ill. With everything she mentioned, it became evidently clear that Grace's greatest gift in life was her family and how blessed she was to be celebrating with all of them on this day, her 100th trip around the sun.

By this time, the band started playing, inviting the crowd to sing along with them as they serenaded Grace with the song, *Happy Birthday*. After the applause, the band started playing another song, dedicated to her, *Good Hearted Woman* by Waylon Jennings. It was a fitting song that segued to David Jordan, one of Grace's sons and main organizer of the party.

David paid tribute to his mother, expressing to everyone in attendance his love and gratitude for raising them in such a good way. He also named each immediate family member pictured above (see caption). Of the 11 children, Grace is a very proud grandma of 33 grandchildren, 61 great grandchildren, and 47 great, great grand children.

## Rella Swamp, a Prolific Athlete for the Ages

By Garth Webster, with excerpts from Jim Nitz from the Society of American Baseball Research



Photography: Marilyn Wilson

On a warm and sunny Saturday afternoon, June 19, 2019, three sisters, Judy Dordel, Marilyn Wilson, and Jayne Beatty all appeared on the jumbo-tron of Miller Park, now known as American Family Field (AFF), the home of the Milwaukee Brewers Major League Baseball team.

The reason the Brewers organization invited Judy, Marilyn, and Jayne for the on-field experience was to pay homage to the descendants of former players, in this case their mother, Rella Swamp, who played in the inaugural year of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL).

In 1943, World War II had its grip on the man-power of the US population so much so that it caused many Minor League baseball teams to disband. To counter this, Chicago Cubs owner Philip K. Wrigley began scouting for and recruiting female athletes to play in the AAGPBL.

Rella was born to Joel and Irene (Hill) Swamp on January 5, 1924 in Appleton, WI. Just 7 years later, Rella lost her Mother to a kidney condition and thus, because Joel never remarried, he raised them on his own until passing on at age 91. After the loss of her mother, Rella also had a brief stay at a boarding school in Wittenberg, WI. In the late 1930's and after graduating in 1941 from Appleton High School, Rella excelled in athletics, despite growing up through the years before the Title IX legislation was enacted, which required schools to provide equal athletic opportunities for all students. Nevertheless, Rella played softball for several teams in the Fox Valley region, including the Appleton Merchants, Menasha Merchants,

Appleton Bluejays, among others. Among her other athletic achievements was becoming a ping-pong champion and an accomplished basketball player for the Appleton St. Joseph Sodality team.

All of Rella's athletic greatness eventually provided her enough attention that resulted in a tryout for the AAGPBL in 1943 with 50 others at Borchert Field in Milwaukee. Needless to say, Rella advanced through the finals at Wrigley Field in Chicago, eventually earning a roster spot on the Rockford Peaches.

Out of respect for Rella and her family, all that I will mention here is that her career was far shorter at the professional level than it should have been. More than likely, the reasons may have been due to the negative bias towards minority populations during this era. Later, the AAGPBL was made even more famous after being portrayed in the 1992 movie, *A League of Their Own*, which Rella never watched or discussed due to her less-than-happy experience in the league.

Shortly after in 1944, Rella enlisted in women's reserve of the Marine Corp and honorably discharged in 1946 with the rank of Sergeant. Her love of sports kept her connected to it. She stayed involved with sports, married a fellow Marine, John Murray, and settled in her husband's home state of Florida where they raised 4 children.



Read Jim Nitz's article from the Society for American Baseball Research for a more detailed account of Rella Swamp



# Revitalizing the Oneida Language

## Skaʔnikú·lat Works to Bring the Language Back to Life

by Yewe Cornelius



Language revitalization has become one of the biggest topics facing Tribal Nations today due to the steep decline of proficient speakers. Because of this, there are many different approaches and methods, from modern-day classrooms and immersion schools, to online programs like Rosetta Stone's Ojibwe course. Mentorship programs also enable people to learn directly from proficient speakers.

Of all the methods, one of the most popular is immersion programs run by nonprofit language-nest organizations like Skaʔnikú·lat. This local organization, founded by Dr. Rosa King, has a primary goal of building proficient Oneida-language speakers. The success of these programs derives from the autonomy they garner when developing materials, methods, and classes. However, existing resources to develop them are scarce and thus, developing culturally-sensitive lesson plans and materials often require, metaphorically speaking, breaking ground and building from the ground up. Creating these original curriculums, Dr. King explains, is a worthwhile cause.

"You're doing generally a lot more than any average teacher does in a mainstream school, and it is foundational to really creating a shift in what we understand to be the cycle of language loss," says Dr. King.

Dr. Rosa King has spent the past 15 years working on language revitalization through different avenues. Obtaining her doctoral in First Nations Education from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, she taught in public schools, Tribal schools, and Tribal colleges, spending the last 7-8 years in immersion learning settings, with two of those years ded-

icated to Skaʔnikú·lat. Throughout her years working not only to learn Oneida but to teach it as well, she's come to realize the connections Indigenous languages create between everyone, ceremonies, songs, cultural stories, traditional foods, world views, and other aspects of Indigenous cultures. They also build people's understanding of treaties and treaty rights. Thankfully, Oneida ancestors made sure to write down everything they could for

future generations, making it easier for today's Oneida language teachers to create needed resources. This also means that most of Oneida's language learning comes from these writings as we work to bridge the gap between these resources and proficient speakers. Now, as Dr. King explains, it's this generation's turn to bring life back to the language and culture so that the next seven generations will be able to speak Oneida.

"That's one thing I don't think we always realize as a community, we have extensive documentation of Oneida language, audio transcriptions, recordings, cultural, and historical. You name it, we have an extensive array of it, but we don't quite

have the speakers to show for that so we're still at a gap," says Dr. King.

Founded in 2023, Skaʔnikú·lat has been operating for three years to revitalize the Oneida language. The word Skaʔnikú·lat translates to "one mind" which is a common concept within Oneida teachings, often thought of as coming together with a "good mind." Dr. King takes this understanding a step further, viewing this concept as a collective consciousness for a group of people sharing their

“This has always been my personal philosophy on language learning; language is a medicine. When I first started learning [our] language, I realized how powerful our words are in terms of healing this idea of identity loss, language loss, and historical trauma that we each carry at some level in ourselves.”

**Dr. Rosa King**



sense of self, community, and culture, not just with those she currently works with, but also those who have passed, and those yet to come. By embodying this sentiment into her work at Skaʔnikú·lat, she's able to create a welcoming environment ensuring that all are on the same page and that their ideas align with their goals and values, both personally and culturally. As an all women-led team, the program works hard to bring vitality back to the language and obtain their goals. With diverse backgrounds and skill sets allowing a variety of perspectives and approaches, the program grows more every day.

Dr. King is a huge driving force for Skaʔnikú·lat, not just as the founder but also as the head instructor of Teshakonatnʔshotalhu, Skaʔnikú·lat's language-medium charter school. Currently, the school has students aged 4-10 who spend 30 hours a week from September-May in an Oneida language immersion environment. However, to create a year-round traditional learning school, there is a need for more proficient speakers who can balance teaching the language and unlearning generational traumas.

One way they hope to accomplish this and break the language loss cycle in the long term, is with their current

initiative to develop and plan for a 3-year adult language learning cohort, Shakotiwanakéhtskwas. In the program participants spend the first two years building a foundation for speaking Oneida, and teaching Indigenous philosophies, healing, and decolonization. The third year of the program focuses on teacher placements within Teshakonatnʔshotalhu.

Skaʔnikú·lat's team is also preparing a report on the state of the Oneida language in the community to identify resources needed to increase proficient speakers. Their most recent endeavor to advance this goal included a community needs survey allowing people to share their thoughts and hopes for the future of the program.

During the interview with Dr. King, she talked about her pride in her work with Skaʔnikú·lat, the other women she works with, and how thankful she is to get to dedicate time teaching the language in a culturally relevant way. She continues by explaining that being part of bringing the Oneida language to life (using modern tools and technologies in tandem with ancestral resources) has been healing. She also expressed how she hopes more people will come to understand this.

Learn more by contacting Skaʔnikú·lat



Facebook.com/Skanikulat



Skanikulat.org



admin@skanikulat.org



The 2026 Wetland Science Conference, themed *Wetlands: Going Beneath the Surface* brought together more than 400 professionals in the wetland and water management fields from across Wisconsin and the Upper Midwest for an enriching three days of learning, collaboration, and field-based exploration.

As a distinguished sponsor, the Oneida Nation received five complimentary registrations for the conference from the WI Wetlands Assoc. (WWA) to guarantee their participation. This year's conference was held February 24-26 at Ho-Chunk Gaming in WI Dells, showcasing a dynamic agenda that spanned scientific discussions on identification, assessment, policy, and the future of wetland science through presentations, workshops, field excursions, and networking events. The Nation sponsored a lunch for all staff and attendees on day two of the conference.

The gathering focused on science, restoration, and innovation and offered a wide range of sessions aimed at advancing wetland knowledge and stewardship. Attendees had opportunities to:

## Going Beneath the Surface

### Oneida Nation Sponsors Annual Wetland Science Conference

by Amber E. Powless

Left to right: Conference attendees Michelle Danforth-Anderson, Willie-Deven R. Metoxen-Hamilton, Alaina Noll, Tony Kuchma, Leah Stroobants, and Amber E. Powless take time for a photo take time for a photo by the famous layered sandstone rock formations in Wisconsin Dells.

- Share new wetland research, restoration outcomes, and management techniques.
- Learn identification, assessment, and monitoring methods used across the region.
- Explore strategies for integrating wetlands into watershed and community planning.
- Discuss emerging issues in wetland protection, policy, hydrology and climate resilience.
- For more videos on WWA and Tribal partnerships go to: [www.wisconsinwetlands.org/videos](http://www.wisconsinwetlands.org/videos)

Presentations ranged from oral sessions and lightning talks to an afternoon poster session, providing space for students, researchers, practitioners, and tribal natural resource professionals to share their work. Sarah Baughman, Volunteer Coordinator for the Oneida Bird Monitoring Group of UWGB and bird expert, was winner of the top science symposium poster competition, featuring her original watercolor paintings.



# *lutehsesturnihe?*

looh-day-sehs-doo-knee-hay  
**they are making maple syrup**

As reported in the March 2026 edition, the thunder beings made themselves heard on February 18, 2026. As the sap began flowing, we asked the community to share their sugar camp photos.

The first photo below is Isaiah Skenandore's photo of his daughter, followed by the hot coals and boiling sap from Jamison King's camp. Next is boiling sap, a tree tap, and a night shot of sparks flying from Steven Webster's camp.

Steven also shows his families basketwork beside a maple used to haul supplies. Finally, Stephanie Stevens submitted photos of her daughter and son, Lucia and Orion handling the drill to tap the trees. Good work everyone and thank you for sharing.

On the facing page, check out Thunderhawk Times for more photos from Oneida Nation High School as they make Maple Syrup.





Oneida Nation High School

THUNDERHAWK TIMES

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

By Micah L. Goodeagle

Don't look now, but the days are getting longer and it's about to warm up. By the end of the month, Northeastern Wisconsin will have seen an increase in daylight hours from 11 hours on March 1st, to 13 hours on March 31st. To help things along, Daylight Saving Time started on March 8th, when the clocks "spring forward" one hour. The following day saw record temperatures in our area.

Temperatures are also trending in the right direction. From March 1 through March 31, the average daily temperature increased from 30-40 to 45-55 degrees.

The school calendar also got busy in March. On the 17th there was a cultural day and early dismissal. On the 18th there was a teacher development day with no school. March 25th, the third quarter ended and March 30 - April 3rd was spring break.

April continues the trend. Daily high temperatures increase by about 13 degrees from 47 to 61 degrees and daylight hours increase by 1 hour and 25 minutes. May promises even more of the same.

So, if you are suffering from cabin fever after a long, chilly winter, there are lots of things to look forward to in the days ahead.

BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON ENDS

By Mason Laster

[Advisor's Note: This piece was written in early March, just before the boys' team took on its cross-town partners in sports

including football and rivals on the basketball court from NEW Lutheran High School. Unfortunately, the THawk Men lost that game in a nail-biter, 69-63, ending their season with a 14-9 record.]

It's the longest sports season of the school year! And it's winding down.

Prep basketball season begins in the first days of November and ticks along through December, January, February, and now, March as teams consider end of the season conference rankings and the state basketball tournament and championships.

This year, the state championship for guys takes place in the Kohl Center, Thursday-Saturday, March 19-21, 2026.

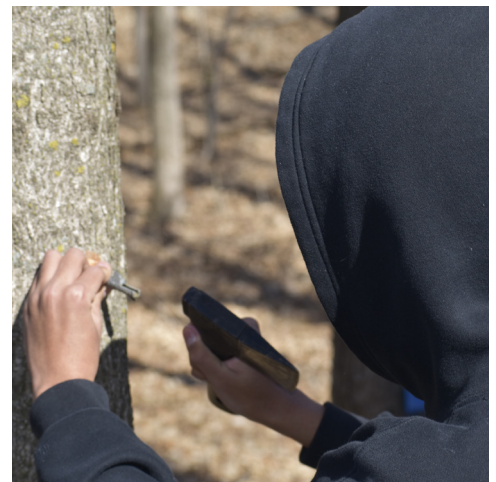
As March gets started, the ONHS boys varsity team holds a record of 13-7.

"Looking at the possibilities for the guys," Coach Caleb Anderson said, "This is where the fun begins, we have the luxury of getting to host the first round which I know brings great pride to our boys and our team. We have had to fight some adversity this season, mostly injuries that have taken away 16 games from one and 6 from 2 others. This has been a long journey to getting our guys back, but I am happy to say those boys are back and hungry as ever. In the meantime, our team and players have grown and found themselves and identity to a 13-7 record."

"I don't like to talk about the future as if it's already here, but we really have the chance to make a statement this year. I believe this team has the pieces to fight for a Regional Championship and more. These young men are grounded in who we have become this season. Don't count us out and we strive for our Next Possession Concept and not stopping the Grind until that second buzzer. According to the coach, team leaders for the season included: Mason Laster "Quietly, playing his role and facilitating the offense." Davian Gutierrez "playing aggressive and scoring big." Cory McIntyre "getting rebounds and driving hard."

Iutehsestu'nihe?

looh-day-sehs-doo-knee-hay they are making maple syrup



Thunderhawk Times Staff

Aurthur Boyiddle, Harmony Ferrell, Joie Gutierrez, Mi'quel LaRock, Saniya Clark-Ninham, and Gabby Velasquez-Skenandore, and Mason Laster Advisors: Johnny Danforth and Denis Gullickson

# APRIL IS FAMILY STRENGTHENING MONTH

April is nationally recognized as Family Strengthening Month in dedication to honoring the strengths of families that enhance nurturing, stable, and safe environments for children. In 2019, the Oneida Nation proclaimed April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month in an effort to support family wellbeing and to prevent child maltreatment.

Throughout April, Oneida Family Services will be connecting with the Oneida community to highlight, celebrate, and strengthen families.

On April 1 at 9am there will be a community tobacco burning led by Larry "Sonny" Hill. The tobacco burning will kickstart the month with a good mind, a good heart, and a strong fire. It will take place at the Ka^nikuhli-yo Family Center (2640 W. Point Rd. Green Bay), near the flag poles. All are welcome to attend.

Every Wednesday in April Oneida Family Services encourages everyone to wear blue to show solidarity in preventing child maltreatment.

Oneida Family Services encourages all families to participate in the daily activities listed on the Family Strengthening calendar to build connections, foster resilience, and to have fun as a family.

On April 29 there will be a Family Strengthening Celebration. The celebration will be at the Oneida Nation Elementary School from 5-7pm. There will be food, a bouncy house, face painting, a photo booth, basket raffles and resource tables. The event is free and open to the Oneida community.

Children are our most valuable resource, yet the most vulnerable, of our Nation. Their safety and wellbeing are of the utmost importance because they are our future tribal leaders. Our traditional way of life was built on Twawatsilay^ (all of us are family), the value of Kinship, meaning we took care of one another. All children were seen, nurtured and safe and it is our job to uphold that.

## FREE EVENT

Open to families  
in the Oneida  
Community

hosted by  
Oneida Family Services  
920.490.3700



## Family Strengthening Celebration

Wednesday, April 29 • 5-7pm

Turtle School Gymnasium

N7125 Seminary Rd, Oneida, WI 54155

Join us for food, 920 Adventure Bouncy House,  
We Lit Photo Booth, Face Painting, family yoga,  
basket raffles, and community  
resource tables.

FREE SHIRTS TO THE  
FIRST 100 PARTICIPANTS!

Catered by  
Off the Trail



Yaw^ko to the following Oneida Nation programs for their collaboration and sponsorship: School System, Child Support, Economic Support, Birth to Six-Early Intervention, Head Start, Behavioral Health, Family Fitness Center, Family and Child Education (FACE), and Veteran Services.

Check out  
Oneida Family Services'  
Calendar of Events



In 2025 there were 465 Oneida children who were provided with safety services. If you are worried about any child in our community, or suspect child abuse / neglect may be occurring, do the right thing and report it.

Oneida ICW: 920.490.3700 • Brown Cty CPS: 920.448.6035  
Outagamie Cty CPS: 920.832.5161 • Oneida Police Dept.: 920.869.2239  
Imminent Danger or Emergencies: 911

Oneida Family Services offers Parenting Programs, Kinship/Foster Care, Indian Child Welfare, Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs, and Prevention Programs to Oneida families. Browse our webpage for details at [Oneida-nsn.gov](http://Oneida-nsn.gov).



Congratulations to ONHS Seniors for being selected to attend the M&O Honors Banquet. As a result of their outstanding academic achievements during their high school year, they have each earned the All-Conference Academic Team Award for 2026.

- Senior Wileena Bigjohn**
- Senior Jamison Quiver**
- Senior Aniyah Bain (Photo not available)**

Congratulations to ONHS Boys and Girls Basketball student athletes for earning M&O Conference titles!

- Senior Davian Gutierrez - 2nd Team All-Conference**
- Senior Cory McIntyre - Honorable Mention**
- Junior Mason Laster - 2nd Team All-Conference**
- Sophomore Lanata Summers-Berg - Honorable Mention**
- Javonna Espinoza - Honorable Mention and WBCA Academic All State**

**Also making the Girls Basketball Academic All State is Marley Atkinson, a junior at Notre Dame Academy (photo unavailable).**



Landon Melchert, New Richmond Tiger Hockey Defenseman and son of Jeremy and Wendy Melchert of New Richmond, WI, helped his team defeat Mosinee 8-1 in the state championship game. Landon and his Bantam A level team have won 4 out of 5 of their state appearances. As it turns out, Landon is continuing the winning legacy of his father and coach.

Landon's dad Jeremy coached the team all 5 years. When Jeremy "okwali" played defense for the Hudson Raiders hockey team, they won Bantam A State Tournament in 1997 and the Coca-Cola classic in Canada in 1999. The CC Classic featured teams throughout Canada. In 2001 his team won high-school state championship for the first time for Hudson.



On March 21, 2026, Madison Anderson and her Vermont Norwich University women's hockey team beat Hamline University MN 1 to 0 in the Division 3 Quarterfinals and punched their ticket to the Frozen Four.

Says Madison, "It felt amazing and we are one step closer to achieving a spot in the National Championship out of 67 teams in the U.S."

At presstime, with Norwich's victory, they were scheduled to play Nazareth University on Friday, March 27, 2026, for the semi-finals in River Falls, Wisconsin.

***Congratulations to all the student athletes!***

# Oneida Once Again Welcomes Back the Fish

By Garth Webster



On Friday, March 20, 2026, the Oneida Nation held its 31st annual Fishing Ceremony to welcome back and give thanks to the fish. Leander Danforth opened the ceremony talking about the ceremony, and it's deeper meanings that it goes beyond honoring the fish, but also to honor cultural and treaty rights. He also took a moment to encourage everyone to learn the Oneida language.

Oneida elder and attorney, Gerald Hill, also addressed the participants of the Tobacco burning, just as he's done for many years, since 1995 when five Oneida men who gathered at Pamperin Park to fish were cited by park wardens for doing so. Oneida disputed these citations and eventually were victorious in the Brown County Circuit Court, which was later upheld in an Appellate court. This is the origin of the current fishing ceremony, which Mr. Hill writes about in his April 3, 2020 historical account of the legal triumph. In so doing, each year since, Oneida people have met each spring to celebrate and show appreciation to the Creator for the return of the fish and reaffirm our cultural rights.

Top: Gerald Hill and Leander Danforth preside over the Tobacco Burning. Middle, participants circle around the fire to listen, offer their support, and most importantly, honor and thank the Creator for the return of the fish. Bottom, the Buffalo Creek singers render an honor song to acknowledge the proceedings.

Read Gerald Hill's historical account of the Fishing Ceremony



## Growth in Action-FY27 Strategic Plans

by Gavriella Van Boxel

Planning season is underway once again for the Oneida Nation. As part of Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) preparations, Nation Services departments are developing their annual strategic plans. Generally, these plans focus on addressing critical organizational or community issues. This year there is an added element focusing on youth services.

Collectively, these plans will align around a shared effort for FY27: the improvement of existing youth services or implementation of new youth services. As part of this unified approach, departments will also participate in the FY27 Youth and Family Services Fair, reinforcing collaboration and shared accountability across programs.

This strategic focus is grounded in data collection on the current state of Oneida youth. A comprehensive count of enrolled youth ages 0-17, within Brown and Outagamie counties, amount to approximately 1,446 youth. These sources included the most recent Ages and Stages Questionnaire results, third grade reading proficiency data, chronic absenteeism rates in local schools, unhoused families data, Oneida youth obesity rates, and statistics from Indian Child Welfare and Oneida Behavioral Health.

Taken together, the findings clearly indicate that youth services will require additional support in the coming fiscal year. In response, the Nation also identified several existing gaps in services that impact tribal youth: autism services, access to mental health providers, vaping educa-

tion, supportive housing, mentoring programs, youth leadership programming, youth council development, relative caregiver support, internet and technology safety, financial literacy education, case management, access to nutritious foods and agricultural programming, and increased family engagement opportunities.

**For questions related to the FY27 Strategic Plans, please contact Mark W. Powless, CEO - Nation Services at [POWLES1@oneidanation.org](mailto:POWLES1@oneidanation.org) or 920.496.7414**

## A Labor of Love Oneida Apple Orchard Has its Eye on the Future

by Gavriella Van Boxtel



Above is a photo of the area marked on the map where the new Oneida Apple Orchard storefront will be developed. The area is located on the northern side of the property off the North Overland Road entrance.



The Oneida Nation Orchard, currently located at 3976 West Mason Street, is looking to the future for exciting changes. The Orchard maintains 4,443 apple trees – a majority of those being McIntosh, Cortland, and Honey Gold, among other varieties. While the Orchard, boasting a total of 32 acres, is primarily known for their apples, they house much more. Chickens, bees, blackberries, strawberries, and additional fruit trees – such as peach, cherry and plum – call the Oneida Orchard their home.

Tentatively beginning in April 2026, the Orchard will be building a new storefront and focusing their main operations on one side of Highway 54 instead of two. This effort prioritizes community safety by reducing foot traffic across the highway 54. The move will not be far – the new storefront will be built on existing land just behind the current storefront. This new building will include a dedicated kitchen, set to offer items such as apple cider, dried apple chips, and caramel apples. The new entrance

to the Orchard will be just off Overland Road and the new building will have an extensive parking lot for customers.

The move includes an eye on growth. 672 dwarf trees will be planted adjacent to the new storefront. In two to three years, these trees will start to produce fruit. There are plans to create a pick-your-own strawberry patch for the community as well. The Orchard will also continue harvesting fruits and vegetables from their high tunnels.

As with everything grown from the earth, the agriculture present at the Orchard is weather dependent. The status of the fruit trees is not yet known but the increasingly warm weather has pushed the trees to begin waking up ahead of schedule.

**Orchard Hours: Wednesdays 10am-3pm.  
Call 920.869.2468 or email Orchard Manager Heather Jordan at [hjordan@oneidanation.org](mailto:hjordan@oneidanation.org)**

## April is Alcohol Awareness Month

### Supporting Healing, Strength, and Community

Submitted by Oneida Comprehensive Health Division

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, a time to increase understanding about the impact alcohol can have on individuals and the community. It also serves as a reminder that support, education, and healing resources are available.

Alcohol use is common in many social settings, but when drinking begins to affect a person's health, relationships, work, or responsibilities, it may be a sign of a deeper concern. Alcohol misuse does not happen overnight, and is often normalized. It's at celebrations, gatherings, and weekend get-togethers. For some, it stays there. For others, it slowly begins to take up more space affecting health, relationships, parenting, work, or spiritual well-being. The shift can be gradual, making it difficult to recognize when social drinking has crossed the line into problem drinking.

One simple way to check in is to ask a few honest questions. Have you felt the need to cut down on your drinking? Have you felt irritated when someone mentioned your drinking? Have you felt guilt about it? Have you needed a drink in the morning to steady yourself? Answering yes to more than one of these may be a signal that alcohol is becoming a problem.

Alcohol Awareness Month is not about judgment but recognizing patterns early and understanding the risks. Drinking beyond recommended limits increases the chance of long-term health problems. Some individuals should avoid alcohol entirely, including those under age 21, pregnant women, and individuals living with health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, or liver disease.

Alcohol can also interact dangerously with prescription and over-the-counter medications, so it is important to speak with a healthcare provider about possible risks. If a person chooses to drink, medical providers recommend moderation, no more than one-to-two drinks per day for men and one drink per day for women.

Alcohol misuse affects more than just the individual. It impacts families, children, workplaces, and the overall wellness of our community. In Indigenous communities especially, we recognize that generational trauma, grief and ongoing stressors can contribute to substance use. Alcohol Awareness Month is not about shame or blame but about education, compassion, and healing.

At Oneida Behavioral Health, we are here to help. Our clinical staff provide education, support, and treatment for individuals and families affected by problem drinking. See the callout below for a list of services.

We also offer Recovery Coaching, which provides ongoing support before, during, and after treatment. Recovery Coaches help individuals set realistic goals and connect with resources. Recovery is not just about stopping alcohol use, but also rebuilding a meaningful life with stability and support.

This April, we encourage our community to have open conversations about alcohol use, check in with loved ones, and seek support if needed. Whether you are concerned about your own drinking or someone else's, Oneida Behavioral Health is here to walk alongside you on the path to wellness.

#### Oneida Behavioral Health Services

- Confidential assessments and screening
- Patient and family education
- Referrals to inpatient, detox, and intensive outpatient treatment
- Individual and family counseling
- Information on AA, Al-Anon, and other community supports
- Support for those with a loved one who is using or abusing alcohol
- Individualized treatment planning
- Same Day Substance Abuse Care

Learn more at [Oneida-NSN.Gov/Resources/Health/Behavioral-Health](https://Oneida-NSN.Gov/Resources/Health/Behavioral-Health) or call 920.490.3790



Oneida  
Behavioral  
Health





## Improving Community Health Together

By Amanda Riesenber, Oneida Stroke Prevention Wellness Coach

A1C is a key indicator for diabetes, and is the focus of this second article of a three-part series highlighting the most common chronic health conditions in the Oneida community. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) explains that an A1C test provides the average blood sugar levels over the past three months, helping to identify prediabetes or diabetes. A healthy A1C is below 5.7%, prediabetes falls between 5.7% and 6.4%, and diabetes is diagnosed at 6.5% or higher. The NIH notes that diagnosing diabetes typically requires confirmation with a second test, unless the person has clear symptoms of diabetes. Higher A1C levels increase the chances of developing diabetes-related complications, making early testing important.

The Oneida Health Center Electronic Medical Records shows important trends among patients who receive routine A1C testing. Adults aged 70–79 have the highest average A1C at 7.1%, while those aged 20–29 have the lowest at 5.9%. This tells us that A1C levels can change with age, making regular testing important for long-term health. Statewide CDC data shows that one

in five (20%) of American Indian/Alaska Natives adults live with diabetes, compared to about 1 in 9 adults in Wisconsin. **The Oneida Community Health Assessment highlights an even greater disparity, where 1 in 4 (25%) of people in Oneida have diabetes.**

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) aims to reduce chronic health conditions in Oneida. Choosing healthy fats, lean meats, fruits and vegetables, staying active, and drinking plenty of water all support better health and blood sugar levels. An easy water tip to follow is the “half your body weight rule.” If you weigh 180 lbs., try drinking about 90 oz of water daily.

If you have questions or would like personalized guidance, please reach out to your medical provider.



Read the entire  
Community Health  
Improvement Plan



**By Garth Webster**

While keeping the United States informed of stories from the frontlines of the WWII Pacific Theater, Associated Press photo journalist Joe Rosenthal captured this iconic image of six Marines planting the American flag atop Mount Suribachi on February 23, 1945.

The photo, *Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima*, includes Harlon Block, Franklin Sousely, Michael Strank, Harold Schultz, John Bradley, and Ira Hayes, Pima Gila River Indian Community member, shown on the far left.

This year marked the 81st Anniversary of the inspirational photo. Since 1988, Veterans from every corner of Indian Country have converged on Hayes' hometown in Sacaton, AR to to acknowledge Hayes, and all service members past, present, and future, during a dinner banquet, parade, flag-raising, and pow wow.

A contingent of Oneida Veterans have participated for many years. This year, the group included John Breuning, Jerry Cornelius, Kerry Metoxen, Deke Suri, and Connor Kestell.



*"It was truly an Honor for the ONVAC to be invited to participate in the 81st Annual Iwo Jima Flag Raising Commemoration Parade and Ceremony. Our participation was greatly received by the Ira Hayes American Legion Post 84 officers and staff, the Gila River Indian Community tribal leadership, as well as the massive crowd along the parade route. Multiple standing ovations were acknowledged by our Color Guard and as we marched and made a presentation to the VIP Stage participants at the end of the parade. We recognize that we were there to represent the Oneida Nation and feel that we did an outstanding job of doing so."*

*John L. Breuning – Secretary, ONVAC*



*It is always an honor to recognize a fellow veteran, but even more so for Ira Hayes for what he has accomplished. The picture of him is in the history books around the country, maybe even the world. He was from a small town on a reservation in Arizona. He makes us all proud to be Native and for that, Ira Hayes, I salute you.*

*Jerry Cornelius – Chairman, ONVAC*



*We honor our brothers and sisters and the commitment to continue the legacy of service to a cause greater than one individual. Sacrifice is a core pillar of one's service, as is being willing to put your life on hold and on the line to serve the greater good. We attend these events to honor that core pillar of service.*

*Connor Kestell – Oneida Veterans Services Manager*



The members of the Oneida Nation Veteran Affairs Committee (ONVAC) take great pride from not only their military service, but also through their efforts to represent the Oneida Nation to ensure Veterans and all those who support this country's warriors are provided 1st class hospitality and recognition. Top left, during the Ira Hayes Parade banquet Friday, February 20, 2026, ONVAC presented Senior Vice-Commander of the Ira Hayes American Legion Post 84 Bill Dixon (far left) with a Tobacco pouch. They also thanked the Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Roe Lewis (back row) and Lt. Governor Regina Antone (front row) for welcoming ONVAC to their community. ONVAC added levity to the presentation by giving Lewis and Antone Cheeseheads. Scan the QR code to watch the tribute.



Below, ONVAC with 101-year-old Thomas Begay, one of the last surviving WWII Navajo Codetalkers. Begay is a 5th US Marine Division Veteran who served from 1943-1946 and survivor of the Battle of Iwo Jima and recipient of the Silver Medal in 2001. He also served in the US Army from 1947-1953 in the 7th Infantry Division and 11th Airborne Division. He is also a survivor of the Chosin Reservoir that occurred during the Korean War. For these reasons, he was the Grand Marshal of the 2026 Ira Hayes parade.



On Saturday morning, February 21, it was a clear and sunny morning, albeit only about 35 degrees, as organizers directed each Veteran group to their starting positions in the 81st Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising military parade.

The parade began with spectacular fly-overs from both vintage fighter planes and a helicopter. Oneida was group 32 of over 60 organizations/floats that marched down Casa Blanca Rd, ultimately ending at the Mathew B. Juan – Ira Hayes Veterans Memorial Park.

At the park, parade participants gathered, enjoyed free food and each other's company before presentations were made once again by Gov. Lewis and Lt. Gov. Antone, among others honoring the legacy of Hayes. Before the flag-raising ceremony, retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel Joey Strickland had this to say, "As we stand here today in Sacaton, we do not just remember Ira Hayes as a Marine in a photograph, we remember him as a son of this land, a warrior, and brother in arms."

After each flag was raised, and flower wreaths were placed on the monuments in the park. The event was capped off by Thomas Begay singing the Marine Core Hymn in his Native Navajo language.



Watch and listen as Thomas Begay sings the Marine Corp Hymn in Navajo



## OBITUARY CORRECTIONS:

In the March 2026 edition, Charise Mary Webster's first name was incorrectly spelled as Cherise and Charise's name, birthday, and date of passing was applied to Judith "Judy" Ann Matthew's obituary. Judy was born February 1, 1942 and began her journey February 11, 2026. The Kalihwisaks sincerely apologizes for these errors.

**DIANNE MARIE HUFF****March 20, 1963 - August 8, 2025**

Dianne Marie Huff, 62, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, made her journey to the creator's world on August 8, 2025, peacefully surrounded by family and

friends at St. Mary's Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She was a cherished friend, sister, aunt, and great-aunt; and her presence will be deeply missed.

Dianne was born on March 20, 1963, in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Daughter to Roy and Alice Huff (both deceased), of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Sister to Donna Domineck (deceased), brother Dale Huff (deceased), survived by brother Dennis Huff and wife Debbie Huff of Green Bay, Wisconsin, sister Debra Porter of Oneida, Wisconsin, sister Denise Delcorps and husband Scott Delcorps of Green Bay, Wisconsin, multiple nephews and nieces; and best friend of 26 years to Jenny Long, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dianne was a second mother to her nephews and nieces.

She graduated from Grafton High School, Grafton, Wisconsin, continued her higher education and graduated from Milwaukee Area Technical College in film and video, graduated from University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in Elementary Education, and graduated from Cardinal Stritch University, Master's Degree in Education. Dianne also studied abroad for one semester at the University of London, London, England.

After completing her education, Dianne taught elementary education at Indian Community School, Franklin, Wisconsin, and Milwaukee Public School Doerfler Elementary School and Elm Creative Arts School of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dianne enjoyed teaching and loved her students. Dianne enjoyed traveling with her friend Jenny. Her last vacation was to Yellowstone Park, Wyoming. She enjoyed playing slot machines and tried her luck at every casino she came across on vacation. She lost some money and won some money.

To Dianne, it was all fun.

Dianne was smart, funny, easy to love, and everyone enjoyed being around her. She was a huge Green Bay Packer fan and always went out to her favorite tavern to meet friends and watch her favorite team on TV. Her knowledge of football and how it's played added more excitement to the atmosphere. She loved her friends and spent as much time with them as she could. She knew how to tell a joke, she animated her story as she told her friends. She was hilarious and always had a funny one liner that made everyone around her laugh. She was a wonderful person. We were lucky to have known her and call her our sister and friend. We will truly miss you Dianne. Rest in peace sister and friend. You will always be in our hearts.

Funeral service and burial took place at Forest Home Cemetery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin on March 20, 2026.

**EDNA JEANNE MCREYNOLDS****January 14, 1940 - February 20, 2026**

Edna Jeanne "Jeanne" McReynolds passed away February 20, 2026. She was born January 14, 1940, in Los Angeles, California

to Ward Warren McReynolds and Mildred Rowena Doxtator. She graduated from El Monte High School and later moved to Oneida, Wisconsin.

She is survived by her brother Ward W. McReynolds, Jr., and was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Wayne L. McReynolds, and her sisters Barbara Joan McReynolds and Madeline Alta Ellsmore.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the staff at Allouez Senior Living and Unity Hospice for their dedicated care and support during her final days.

As per her wishes, no formal services will be held. Ryan Funeral Home, De Pere, is assisting the family. To leave your condolences online, please visit [www.ryanfh.com](http://www.ryanfh.com).

**FERNANDO SILVA, JR****April 22, 1985 - February 16, 2026**

Fernando "Feldy" Silva Jr., 40, passed away on February 16, 2026, in Milwaukee, WI. Born on April 22, 1985, Fernando was a beloved figure in his community and

family circle.

Fernando's life was marked by his dedication to helping others, a passion that culminated in his role as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for County Rescue Services since 2022. His technical diploma in Emergency Medical Technician, earned in August 2022, was a testament to his commitment to his profession. Working alongside EMTs and paramedics, Fernando found immense fulfillment in his work, forming deep connections and friendships that enriched his life.

Fernando is survived by his wife, Tiana Silva, and their two children, Daniel and Aaliyah. He is also survived his parents, nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Fernando was predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Lavinia and Stewart Webster; his paternal grandfather Samuel Silva Sr. "Papi", and cousin Danny.

In his spare time, Fernando had a deep love for working on cars and fixing computers. However, his true passion was creating music, a hobby that brought him immense joy. He also enjoyed cooking for his family and teaching his children the art of navigating a kitchen.

Fernando was a pure-hearted man who loved fiercely with undying loyalty. He was an amazing husband, father, brother, uncle, and grandson. A special mention goes to his mother-in-law, Diane Jourdan, whom he considered his real mom and always thanked for her love and support. Fernando also expressed his gratitude to the transplant teams and nursing/tech staff at Froedtert Hospital's Center for Advanced Care TICU for their exceptional care and the opportunity they provided.

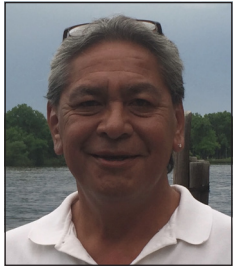
Additionally, he was thankful to Kathy's House for offering a safe place for his family during his hospital stay.

Read Feldy's  
full obituary



### KENNY L SKENANDORE, JR.

December 30, 1958 - February 26, 2026



Kenneth "Kenny" L. Skenandore Jr., 67, Oneida, completed his purpose on this Earth and left this world having given all he came to give. On February 26, 2026, after a courageous battle with cancer and other health challenges, he chose to begin his journey to the spirit world. Surrounded by his family, he was held in deep love and gratitude as he made his peaceful transition.

Kenny was born on December 30, 1958, to Kenneth Skenandore Sr. and Loretta (Summers) Skenandore. On June 27, 1997, he married the love of his life and soulmate, Lorna Hennigar, with whom he shared a bond rooted in devotion, partnership, and joy.

Kenny was a loving husband, son, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. He adored his children and grandchildren and took immense pride in every one of their accomplishments, whether big or small.

Kenny is survived by his devoted wife, Lorna; his children Jennifer (Pah-Nesie), Jessica, and Nevada; and stepson David (Kim). He was a proud grandfather to Jose, Alex, Malia, Pah-Nesie, Bella, Malaki, Noah, and Packer.

He is also survived by his siblings, Pam (Jerry), Kim, Kelly, Keyna, and Kyle (Mona); his brother-in-law Daryl (Amy) Hennigar; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and other extended family members and special friends Lynn and Kevin.

He was preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Loretta (Summers) Skenandore, Sr., in-laws Loren and Winona (Skenandore) Hennigar, son Kenneth Skenandore III, siblings Keith and Karey, Grandparents Austin (Margaret) Summers, Loretta F. Webster, and Roland W. Skenandore, and his beloved companion dogs

Hunter and Teken.

Family and friends may call Ryan Funeral Home 305 N. Tenth Street, De Pere, Monday, March 2, 2026, from Noon until time of service at 4pm. A celebration for Kenny will continue immediately after the service at Rendezous Bar 2928 W. Mason Street, Green Bay.

Read Kenny's  
full obituary



### KENNETH WILLIAM WEBSTER

February 15, 1943 - February 24, 2026



Ken W. Webster (Turtle Clan) was born February 15, 1943, to Wilfred and Lena (Cornelius), began his journey February 24, 2026, shortly after turning 83.

After graduating from West De Pere High School in 1961, Ken bravely served with the 1st Battalion, 8th Calvary, aka The Jumping Mustangs in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1967. Shortly after, he met and married Pearl McLester, recently celebrating 57 years together, along with their three children (see survivors below).

Ken proudly worked for many years maintaining machinery at Response Graphics, retiring at the age of 55. During retirement, if you didn't find Ken on the golf course or the bowling alley, where he threw a few perfect 300 games, you'd find him in his home mechanic's shop. In fact, there are very few community members whose lawn mowers, chainsaws, among others, that he hasn't repaired or maintained. Often, he provided full service by picking up and delivering at a great price, much to the delight of everyone he served, which is symbolic of the true nature of his legacy, especially his family. Ken was a quiet man who unconditionally loved and provided for his family as he guided and celebrated his children through all of life's trials and victories, respectively. He continued this priority by caring for his three grandchildren.

Ken is survived by his wife, Pearl, sons Scott (Linda) and Garth (Fاليا), and daughter Tonya (Gerald). He is further survived by brother Dale (Bobbi), grandchildren, Joshua, Skye, and Justice as well

as many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Ken is preceded in death by his parents, father and mother-in-law Pearl and Lee Gordon McLester II, siblings: Joe, Donald, Leroy, Arleen, Orville, Ronald, and Murial and all of his aunts and uncles.

Family and friends may gather for visitation on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N. Tenth Street, De Pere, WI, from Noon-3pm. The Oneida Hymn Singers will begin at 2:30PM. A prayer service will begin at 3:00pm with Military Honors and Drummers immediately following. Dinner will be held after services have concluded at Parish Hall, 2936 Freedom Rd., Oneida.

Special thanks to Unity Hospice, Anna John Resident Care Community Center, and Bellin Hospital and the firekeepers. The family requests in lieu of flowers and plants, that memorials be offered to the National American Indian Veterans (NAIV), Oneida.

### PERRY MORGAN LASEE

July 5, 1965 - March 2, 2026



Perry Morgan Lasee, 60, passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, March 2, 2026, from a long battle with COPD with family by his side. He was born on July 5,

1965, to Perry Sr. and Theresa (Williams) Morgan.

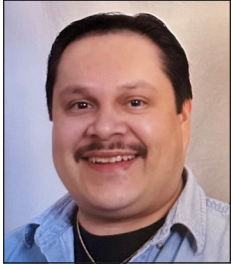
He enjoyed fishing, working with leather, and beading. Listening to music and hanging out with family and friends were some of his favorite pastimes.

Perry is survived by his three children; Sheena Beth Lasee, Alexis (Geoffrey) Hardy, and Jakotah Lasee; grandchildren, Neegee, Raelyn, Cole, with two grandchildren on the way; siblings, Louis (Brennan) Morgan, Stacy Krenzke, John Morgan, Travis (Silas) Morgan, and Roland Morgan; many nieces, nephews, and friends also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Austin (Helnore) Morgan and daughter Ashley Lasee. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Ryan Funeral Home, De Pere, is assisting the Lasee Family.

**RICHARD LEE SWAMP**

January 28, 1958 - February 23, 2026



Richard Lee Swamp, 68, Oneida, passed away Monday afternoon, February 23, 2026. He was born on January 28, 1958, to Karen Skenandore and the late Clarence

Swamp.

Formerly married with two Children.

A huge sports fan, Rick shot pool and played softball in his younger days. An avid Packers, Bucks, and Brewers fan, he enjoyed spending time with his dad Clarence and watching the games together. Lately he took part in Fantasy Football Leagues and won the championship many times.

Rick and his mother Karen lived together for many years, and they had a special bond.

A private person by nature, Rick is remembered for his sense of humor and his great smile. He was the life of the party.

While living in Milwaukee, he was employed for 17 years at Stroh Die Casting, before relocating to Oneida, and working for the casino for many years, retiring as a Floor Supervisor for table games.

He is survived by his children, Kelly Jo (Willard) Johnson, and Erik (Angela) Swamp. Grandchildren; Dakota, Marissa, Willard Jr., Devin, Kaleigh, Koty, Jonas, Sofia, and Madelyn. Great grandchildren; Kayson and Aria. His mother Karen Skenandore, and siblings; David (Judi) Swamp, Brian (Chely) Swamp, Craig (Peggy) Skenandore, Julie Mehojah, Kathy (Pete) Young, Reggie (Paula) Skenandore, Tammy Skenandore, Tim Skenandore, DeeDee Skenandore and Tina Skenandore.

He was preceded in death by his father Clarence, stepfather Reginald Skenandore, his brother Gregory Swamp, infant sister Karen, as well as other close family. Friends may call Ryan Funeral Home 305 N. Tenth Street, De Pere from 4pm, Thursday, March 5, 2026, until time of service at 6pm.

**ROGER BUFFALO-SPIRIT METOXEN**

September 9, 1956 - February 22, 2026



Roger Buffalo-Spirit Metoxen, 69, of Oneida, died unexpectedly on, Sunday, February 22, 2026. Roger was born on September 9, 1956, to the late Elmer and Bernice

Metoxen.

Roger went to school in Lawndale, Chicago at Farragut, Hess, and Coin University. He worked at the Oneida Casino as a slot technician in 1993, where soon after he met his future wife Donna J. Antone and was married in 1994.

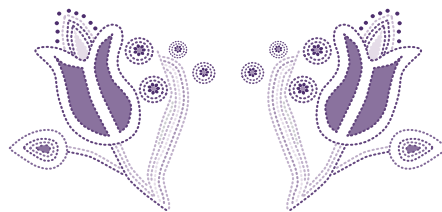
His favorite pastimes included smoking cigars, playing with his cats, making knives, listening to and playing music, visiting and talking with his friends and family, fishing, shooting guns, and watching tv.

He will be missed by his wife of 31 years Donna; his daughters, Olivia (Damien), Kenyetta Presswood (Fred), Toya Presswood, Nicole Herlasch (Chris); sons, Howard Cooley, Sonny Cooley (Jennifer); brother, Micheal Metoxen (Nancy); sisters, Sharron Williams (James), Mildred Flores; nephews, Russel Metoxen Bobby Mills, and Mikey Mills and Duwayne Matson; best friend, Rich Tehatsi-Stowkwat Cornelius. Roger is further survived by his many grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

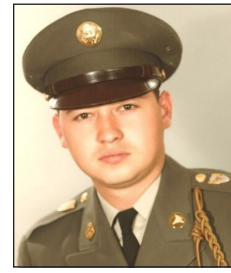
In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by, his brothers, Gerald, Elmer, Russel Sr., Raymond, and grandson, Seandel.

Visitation for Buffalo-Spirit will be held at Proko-Wall Funeral Home, 1630 E. Mason St., on Thursday, February 26, 2026, from 11am until the time of Funeral Service at 1pm. In lieu of flowers and expressions of sympathy a memorial will be established in Roger's name.

The family expresses their sincere gratitude to the firekeepers.

**STANLEY KING, JR**

November 25, 1942 - February 9, 2026



Stanley King Jr, 83, was reunited with his late wife, Linda, Mom, Ruth, and sister, Sandy, on February 09, 2026. Services were held in Greenfield, WI, on February 20th.

**ANDREW DEAN WEBSTER**

May 18, 1977 - February 27, 2026



Andrew Dean Webster, 48, was called home to the Skyworld (Heaven) to join Our Creator on February 27, 2026.

He was born on May 18, 1977, to the proud parents of

Joanne and Edward Webster of Hartland. On that day he became the little brother to Tabitha (Tabi) and Alicia (Lisa.)

Andrew has fulfilled his responsibilities as assigned by Our Creator extending his gifts and talents to all he has touched.

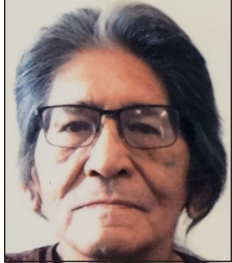
Andrew took every opportunity to put a smile on someone's face. He loved wholeheartedly and knew how to make everyone laugh (especially his mother.) His support for his nieces and nephews was unmatched. "Uncle" attended hockey games, baseball games, swim meets, and soccer tournaments like it was his job. You would see him on the sidelines grinning and beaming with pride. For a large part of his adult life Andrew was family to anyone he met. He never hesitated to reach out and help someone in need. He extended grace in all situations to anyone who reached out for help. He saved countless people from struggles and supported them until he was needed elsewhere. His passion for honoring Our Ways through drumming and singing became just another one of his talents. It was through drumming and singing he was able to connect to The Creator. He spent countless hours learning the Oneida way and passing on those teachings to those around him.

Andrew is survived by his loving and proud mom and dad, Joanne and Edward Webster. His sisters Tabitha Mc Bride (Sean) and Alicia Mays (Gary) as well as his nephews and nieces Connor (Lauren), Colin (Lauren), and

Kira and Kaitlan and Elijah. He also leaves on earth his beloved girlfriend Krystal. As well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. He is preceded in death by his grandparents Lavinia and Tony Webster and Agnes and John Gratz and many other extended family.

## LEROY H. JOHN

January 19, 1954 - February 28, 2026



Leroy H. John, 72, passed away on February 28, 2026. He was born on January 19, 1954, to the late Hyson Sr. and Ramona (Ske-nandore) John.

Leroy is survived by his brother Hyson John, Jr. and his sister Judy John.

Family and friends may call at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church, 2937 Freedom Road, Oneida, WI 54155, on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, for visitation starting at 9am until the time of service at 11am. The Oneida Hymn Singers will begin their song service at 10:30am. Burial will take place at Holy Apostles Cemetery directly following the conclusion of the funeral service.

## 2026 Minor Trust Payment Information

**If you were born between 9/2/2004 – 9/1/2008**

**There may be a Minor Trust Account available for you to claim or defer.** Minor Trust Accounts have been established for enrolled tribal members under the age of 18 for those members eligible to receive their Minor Trust Account or the members who previously deferred.

The Minor Trust Payment Deferral forms were mailed the first week in March 2026

**If you do not receive a PINK Minor Trust Payment Form packet in the mail by April 1, 2026 contact Trust Enrollment Department or find the Minor Trust Payment Deferral forms available online:**

<https://oneida-nsn.gov/resources/enrollments/>

**Deadline to submit the PINK Form to Defer or to Claim all is:**

**Wednesday July 1, 2026, 4:30 PM (CST)  
(No Exceptions)**

**Receipts:** A receipt will be mailed within 2 weeks of your submission whether you defer or claim all.

If not received, contact the Oneida Trust Enrollment Department.

**Deadline for Proof of Graduation Document & Direct Deposit Form is:**

**Tuesday September 1, 2026, 4:30 PM (CST)  
(No Exceptions)**

**If you have not yet claimed your Minor Trust Account and you are 21 contact the Trust Enrollment Department immediately.**

**Minor Trust Payment will be issued...  
end October 2026**

Please visit our website for additional information: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/resources/enrollments/>  
Oneida Trust Enrollment Department

Mail-ins USPS -> PO Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155-0365  
920-869-6200 • 800-571-9902

Please deliver in person or by courier delivery only (Fed Ex, UPS) at street address below  
210 Elm St, Oneida WI 54155 (No office mailbox)



2040 Airport Drive • Green Bay, WI 54313  
[www.OneidaCasinoHotel.com](http://www.OneidaCasinoHotel.com)

Brunch held in the Iroquois Complex

**Reservations Recommended  
920-321-4116**



## EASTER BRUNCH

**April 5, 2026  
9:30am - 2:00pm**

### Menu

#### Carving Station

Rosemary Garlic Smoked Beef Baron  
Bone In Ham

#### Main Line

Fresh Salad Bar  
Muffins & Danishes  
Fresh Fruit & Vegetables  
Cheese & Sausage  
Broccoli Salad  
Omelette and Egg Station  
Scrambled Eggs  
Easter Sunrise Eggs  
Bacon and Sausage  
French Toast w/ Syrup  
Broasted Chicken  
Corned Beef Hash  
Pesto Cheese Tortellini  
Roasted Root Vegetable  
Roasted Green Beans with Bacon  
Smashed Baby Red Potatoes  
Fresh Baked Pies & Desserts

\$39 Adults • \$29 Seniors (over 60)  
• \$19 (Under 12) • Free 3 & Under  
A gratuity of 23% will be added for groups of 6 or more



2040 Airport Drive Green Bay, WI 54313  
920-327-7911 • [www.CedarandSageGrill.com](http://www.CedarandSageGrill.com)

**Reservations Recommended  
920-327-7911  
(Please call between 8am - 8pm)**



## Easter BRUNCH MENU

**April 5, 2026  
9:30am - 2:00pm**

#### Carving Station

Smoked Prime Rib  
Maple Glazed Ham

#### Main Line

Strawberry Farro Salad  
Spring Green Salad  
Fresh Fruit Platter  
Smoked Salmon Platter  
Omelette and Egg Station  
Brioche French Toast  
Truffle Fingerlings  
Bacon & Sausage  
Benedict Florentine  
Broccolini  
Cavatappi & Boost Meatballs  
Fresh Baked Pies & Desserts

\$54.99 Adults • \$34 Seniors (over 60)  
• \$24 (Under 12) • Free 3 & Under  
A gratuity of 23% will be added for groups of 6 or more

## DAVID "FLEET" JORDAN

Reliable and Ready to Serve as your  
(Councilman) for OBC election 2026



Respectfully requesting your vote, I am eager to bring my experience and dedication to the role of Councilman. My commitment to Nation Building is unwavering, and I am ready to work tirelessly to support our community's growth and prosperity. With your support, we can create a brighter future for all our tribal members and their families. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. Your voice matters, and together, we can make a significant impact.



**Caucus: April 11, 2026**  
**Primary Election: May 9, 2026**  
**General Election: July 11, 2026**

✉ gaslight2@new.rr.com ☎ 920-362-0271



## MAUREEN PERKINS Yuntlehahelha

"She puts lightening on everything"  
ONEIDA NATION BUSINESS COMMITTEE

**Transparent Service Leadership  
to UNITE our Community**

### Oneida Nation Work Experience

- Legislative Analyst and Assistant
- Records Technician
- Environmental Compliance Specialist
- Student Advocate

### EDUCATION

- PhD (abd) - Public Administration- Policy Analysis
- Masters - Public Policy Analysis
- Bachelors - Psychology

### SKILLS

- Legislative Analysis
- Project Management
- Public Relations
- Teamwork

# JAMESON WILSON

Candidate for  
**ONEIDA BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

**VISION**  
Rebuilding our Nation together with compassion, kindness, empathy and optimism.




**CONTACT**

✉ Jameson4OBC@gmail.com

Facebook - Jameson Wilson - Oneida Business Committee Councilman

Candidate for  
Oneida Business Committee-  
Councilwoman

## Kristal Hill



Strong Nations rise when decisions honor our past, strengthen our present, and protect our future.

I am here to listen, learn, and work with our community toward a shared future.

<https://www.facebook.com/kristal.c.hill>

Education: PhD Studies in Applied Leadership (In Progress) • M.S. Sustainable Management • B.S. Business Administration • A.A. Accounting • Certificate in Indigenous Governance • Certificate in Public Relations

Experience: BC Executive Assistant • Employee Services Executive Assistant • Environmental Contaminant Surveyor • Vault • A Field Guide to Culturally Significant Plants of the Oneida Nation Reservation in Wisconsin



## APRIL Memory Café

**APRIL 8, 2026 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 13, June 10, July 8, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov.(Canceled Veteran's Day), Dec. 9



**This month's activity is painting rocks.**




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



## CMN MINI GRANTS - YEAR 4

**ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**  
Up to \$5,000 per project.  
Projects related to forestry, agriculture, natural resources, and sustainable foods.  
Projects must be completed within one year

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**  
Enrolled members or descendants of the 12 Tribes in Wisconsin  
Must operate in Wisconsin  
Tribes, Tribal entities, businesses, or school organizations

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**  
03/15/2026  
4:00 PM

[Apply Now](#)





## LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER

**Our Expertise Includes:**

**INFORMATIONAL SESSION FOR GTC MEMBERS**  
*(Limited attendance to the first 25 individuals.)*

- Friday, April 3, 2026
- 9:30am - 11:00am
- Community Resource Center (CRC)  
*(Formerly Community Education Center)*  
2632 S. Packerland Drive  
Green Bay, WI 54313

\*Any questions please contact the Legal Resource Center 920-496-5320

ALL ARE WELCOME

## READERS AT THE READY

**APRIL 25** \* DONATION BASED READERS  
Saturday 11-3pm \* FREE SNACKS/NIBBLES






Tiffany Ember  
Shamanic Tarot Reader

Lynette Jordan  
Oneida tribal member  
Oracle/Tarot Reader

Aleksandra  
of aStarLit Mind, LLC  
Rune Reader

Brett Terrien  
Shamanic Water Scrying (Hydromancy)



**NEW RETAIL SPACE**  
Metaphysical tools & gifts  
*Indigenous Owned Business*

Check/like our NEW Inward Bound Facebook Page  
FIND UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES AND GATHERINGS  
[f Inward Bound](#)  
Open 7 days/week 11AM-3PM

1641 Commanche Ave. Suite D | Green Bay



Just Move It Oneida

## Spring

INTO ACTION

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 15 2026 | 4-6PM

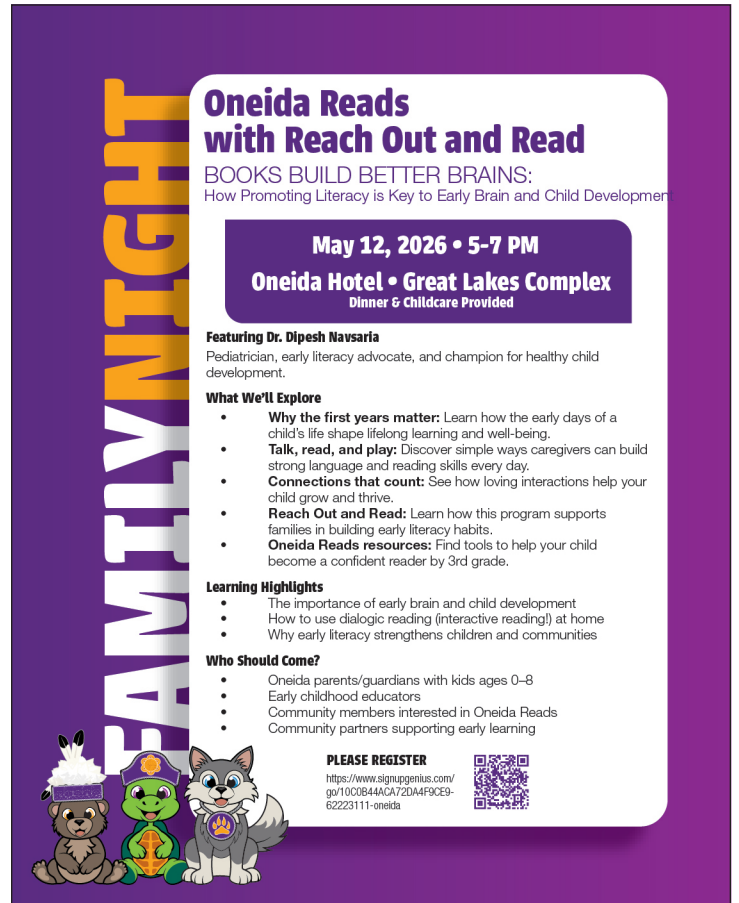
**ONEIDA NATION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 N7125 SEMINARY RD, ONEIDA, WI 54155

- Join us for a delightful evening of walking inside or outside, games, music, and free corn soup!
- Monthly incentive is a JMIO carabiner keyholder.
- 2026 JMIO punch card - receive your monthly punch to be entered in the grand prize drawings at the end of the year!

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



ONEIDA  
 Comprehensive Health Division  
 2/19/26



## FAMILY NIGHT

### Oneida Reads with Reach Out and Read

BOOKS BUILD BETTER BRAINS:  
 How Promoting Literacy is Key to Early Brain and Child Development

**May 12, 2026 • 5-7 PM**  
**Oneida Hotel • Great Lakes Complex**  
 Dinner & Childcare Provided

**Featuring Dr. Dipesh Navsaria**  
 Pediatrician, early literacy advocate, and champion for healthy child development.

**What We'll Explore**


- Why the first years matter:** Learn how the early days of a child's life shape lifelong learning and well-being.
- Talk, read, and play:** Discover simple ways caregivers can build strong language and reading skills every day.
- Connections that count:** See how loving interactions help your child grow and thrive.
- Reach Out and Read:** Learn how this program supports families in building early literacy habits.
- Oneida Reads resources:** Find tools to help your child become a confident reader by 3rd grade.


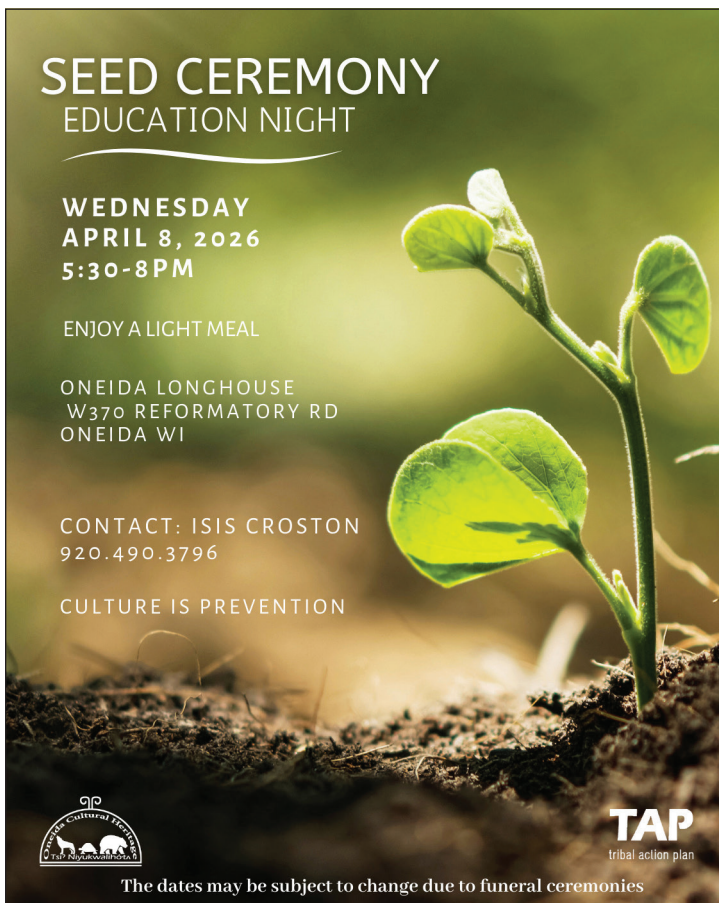
**Learning Highlights**

- The importance of early brain and child development
- How to use dialogic reading (interactive reading!) at home
- Why early literacy strengthens children and communities

**Who Should Come?**

- Oneida parents/guardians with kids ages 0-8
- Early childhood educators
- Community members interested in Oneida Reads
- Community partners supporting early learning

**PLEASE REGISTER**  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44aca72da4f9ce9-62223111-oneida>  


## SEED CEREMONY EDUCATION NIGHT


WEDNESDAY  
 APRIL 8, 2026  
 5:30-8PM

ENJOY A LIGHT MEAL

ONEIDA LONGHOUSE  
 W370 REFORMATORY RD  
 ONEIDA WI

CONTACT: ISIS CROSTON  
 920.490.3796

CULTURE IS PREVENTION



TAP  
 tribal action plan

The dates may be subject to change due to funeral ceremonies



## SEOT'S MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT FAIR

FRIDAY MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2026  
 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

SOUP AND BAKE SALE!

For vendor requests, please scan the QR code or use the website.



<https://forms.office.com/r/cypXE8pVCw>

5233 W. MORGAN AVE  
 MILWAUKEE WI  
 414.329.4101



ONEIDA  
 SOUTHEASTERN ONEIDA  
 TRIBAL SERVICES



## Open to Native Americans age 7-85

This study is open to both multi generational families living together and individuals. All study activities will be completed on the Oneida Reservation.

Develop New Skills      Impact Your Health

### FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

- Amanda Riesenber
- 920-490-3984



This is a partnership between the Oneida Nation and UW Madison Stroke Team to help decrease Stroke and Stroke Risk Factors in Native Americans.

# VOTE APRIL 7

for the Wisconsin Supreme Court

“ We must vote from our hearts, our compassion, and our understanding. There isn't anyone in this country who understands this land better than we do because of our participation here and our stories.

– Guy Reiter, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin



[conservationvoices.org/vote](https://conservationvoices.org/vote)



# NOW HIRING

SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

*Everything we do makes the world a better place.*



Environmental Services • Construction Services  
Engineering and Design Services  
Technology and Professional Services

Owned by the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin  
[www.oescgroup.com](http://www.oescgroup.com)

ARE YOU PROVIDING SUMMER PROGRAMMING FOR ONEIDA YOUTH?

# CALL FOR SERVICES

ONSS YETHI program is creating an event for all summer programming services to be at one spot for parent/guardian sign-up

EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE:  
MAY 2ND, 2026  
11AM TO 4PM

If your program is interested in participating please complete the link below:  
<https://forms.gle/j9ipWq8zdQXMhNAZ6>

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM  
BY: APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2026

Contact information:  
Mandy Schneider:  
[mschnei2@oneidanation.org](mailto:mschnei2@oneidanation.org)  
Kirsten Van Dyke:  
[kvandyk1@oneidanation.org](mailto:kvandyk1@oneidanation.org)

Oneida Nation Arts Program






# JINGLE DRESS WORKSHOP

**MAUREEN PERKINS**  
Professional Artist Award

Learn the art of jingle dress making. I have danced jingle dress for 32 years and I'd like to pass this healing skill on to the community.

Must have sewing experience and commit to finishing the dress. The participants will be brought into the pow wow circle at the Oneida Pow

**CLASS 1:** April 6, 8, 13, 15  
**CLASS 2:** April 27, 29 | May 4, 6

# OPTIONS for INDEPENDENT LIVING

*with* **Josh Theis**

**April 15, 2026 • 1-3PM**  
2907 S Overland Rd • Oneida, WI 54155  
Elder Conference Room

Josh will be talking about his organization and their commitment to empowering people with disabilities to live independently and productive lives through advocacy, information, education, technology, and related services.

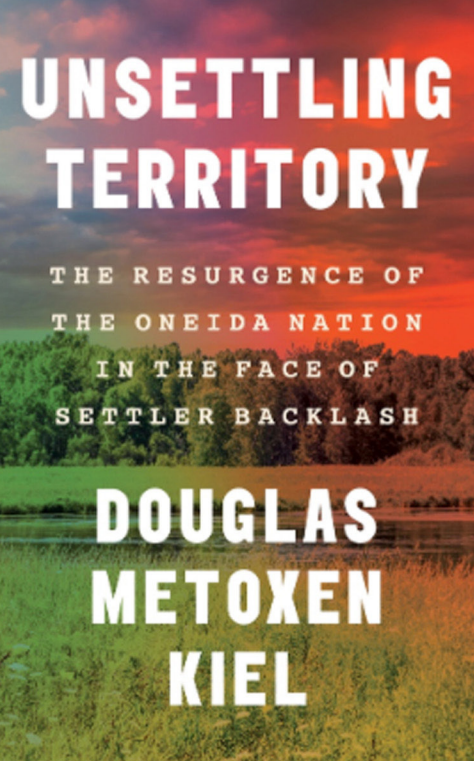
**CONTACT:** NAFCG Schuyler Metoxen  
920.869.6830 • smetoxe9@oneidanation.org

# UNSETTLING TERRITORY

THE RESURGENCE OF THE ONEIDA NATION IN THE FACE OF SETTLER BACKLASH

**DOUGLAS METOXEN KIEL**

How the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin got their land back  
[chicagoreader.com](http://chicagoreader.com)



*Unsettling Territory* chronicles the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin's resilience during the 20th and 21st centuries, challenging common myths about Indigenous decline and presenting a hopeful yet realistic outlook for future land-back efforts.



\$30.00

Purchase the book the Yale University Press Website



Read the full review by Emily McClanathan on [ChicagoReader.com](http://ChicagoReader.com)



## ONEIDA MAN CLAN

**Gathering 9 • Saturday, April 25, 2026**  
**Oneida VFW-2980 E. Service Rd, Oneida, WI 54155**  
**7:30am until complete**

**FREE Food • Talking Circle**  
**Come to share, come to heal, come to a safe place**  
**to enjoy brotherhood and camaraderie.**

 **Oneida Man Clan | Email: OneidaManClan@Gmail.com**

BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

# AVAILABLE BCC POSITIONS

**APPLY NOW**

**BCC SPOTLIGHT**

The Oneida Nation is looking for qualified applicants to fill positions for the Oneida Election Board Alternate. The purpose of the Oneida Election Board and Alternates is to conduct the Nation’s elections in compliance with the laws of the Nation and assist with GTC meetings in reference to voting.



**VIEW VACANCIES!**



**APPLICATION**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**CONTACT GOVERNMENT**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
 **920.869.4303**



# ONEIDA LIVING HISTORY STORIES

## Call for Elder Interview Participants

**Oneida Elders 55+**

**\$65 for Time & Contribution**

**Interviews Held at ONAP**

**In-Home Interviews Available**

**Interviews on YouTube**



**ONEIDA CULTURAL HERITAGE** is pleased to announce the continuation of our Elder Interview Project. This initiative was warmly received in the past, and we are honored to carry it forward to preserve and share the voices, stories, and knowledge of our community for future generations.

**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?** Only minimal information is required to complete payment paperwork. The interviewer will assist with all required forms during your visit.

**Contact Oneida Cultural Heritage**  
P: (920) 496-5384  
E: [culturalheritage@oneidanation.org](mailto:culturalheritage@oneidanation.org)

We look forward to hearing your story and thank you for helping preserve Oneida history.

Yawłkó  
Oneida Cultural Heritage

# FY26 MAJOR HOME REPAIR

**30 DAY TIMEFRAME**

APRIL 1-30, 2026

**MUST BE**

Health & Safety Repair

**65+**

or documented disability & own home

**RESIDE**

Brown, Outagamie, or Milwaukee Counties

**250%**

at or below federal poverty level

Must be an Oneida Enrolled Member


Must show proof of homeowner's insurance.

250% poverty level equals:

- 1 Person: \$39,125/year (\$3,260/month)
- 2 People: \$52,875/year (\$4,406/month)

Last 30 days of earned/unearned income within the household. We will review all deposit transactions to verify income eligibility for those that are 18 + residing in the home. (account deposit or tax statements)

**Raffle ticket drawing**—if more than 25 applicants



**Aging and Disability Services**  
**For More Information: 920.869.2448**



## 2026 ELECTION SEASON

**Caucus  
Sat., April 11**

**Primary  
Election  
Sat., May 9**

**General  
Election  
Sat., July 11**



**Learn more  
on Elections-Voting  
Website**



## ONEIDA NATION COMMERCE DIVISION Economic Development Initiative Community Input Sessions

The Oneida Nation Commerce Department will conduct community discussions and feedback sessions regarding its economic development initiative, aimed at advancing the diversification and expansion of businesses owned by the Oneida Nation. The primary objective of this initiative is to strategically promote Oneida Nation's economic growth, generate additional dividends, and increase economic opportunities for Oneida Tribal Citizens, such as employment and entrepreneurship.

### Meeting Dates and Times

Tribal citizens are encouraged to attend one of the three following community meetings to learn more about this initiative and to provide input.

**Wednesday, April 15, 2026**  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. and  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, April 16, 2026**  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### Location

**Oneida Community Resource Center Conference Room  
(formerly known as Community Education Center)  
2632 Packerland Dr., Green Bay, WI 54313**

### Contact

**Debra Powless, Commerce Division Director**  
Email: [dpowles2@oneidanation.org](mailto:dpowles2@oneidanation.org)  
Office: 920.869.4397 • Mobile: 920.833.8399



**ONEIDA NATION PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE****THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026 • 12:15PM****Norbert Hill Center - Business Committee Conference Room  
N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI**Find Public Meeting Materials at  
[Oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/publicmeetings](http://Oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/publicmeetings)Email Public Comments to  
[LOC@OneidaNation.org](mailto:LOC@OneidaNation.org)Ask Questions Here  
[LOC@OneidaNation.org](mailto:LOC@OneidaNation.org)  
920.869.4417**EVICTON AND TERMINATION LAW AMENDMENTS**

The purpose of the Eviction and Termination law is to provide consistent procedures for terminating a contract and/or evicting an occupant which affords the occupant due process and protects all parties involved.

**The Eviction and Termination law amendments will:**

- ◇ Clarify when an owner is required to provide an occupant an opportunity to cure a violation before the early termination of a contract or eviction.
- ◇ Clarify what types of offenses qualify as a violation of law or rule or nuisance activity.
- ◇ Clarify and expand when an individual may contest a contract termination.
- ◇ Revise how an occupant's failure to vacate following the notice of eviction or a contract expiration is handled by an owner.
- ◇ And make other drafting changes to the law.

Individuals may attend the public meeting for the proposed Eviction and Termination law amendments in person at the Norbert Hill Center, or virtually through Microsoft Teams (MC). If you wish to attend the public meeting through MC, email [LOC@oneidanation.org](mailto:LOC@oneidanation.org).

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSSES THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026.**

During the public comment period, anyone may submit written comments, questions or input. Comments may be submitted to the Oneida Nation Secretary's Office or the Legislative Reference Office in person, by U.S. mail, interoffice mail, or e-mail.

For more information on the proposed Eviction and Termination law amendments, please review the public meeting packet at [www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings](http://www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings).

**ONEIDA NATION PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE • THUR., APRIL 16, 2026 • 12:15PM****Norbert Hill Center - Business Committee Conference Room  
N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI**Find Public Meeting Materials at  
[Oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/publicmeetings](http://Oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/publicmeetings)Ask Questions Here Email Public Comments to  
[LOC@OneidaNation.org](mailto:LOC@OneidaNation.org) [LOC@OneidaNation.org](mailto:LOC@OneidaNation.org)  
920.869.4417**UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE**

The purpose of the Uniform Commercial Code is to provide a clear, fair structure for commercial transaction to promote economic development, grounded in Good Mind principles and protection of sovereignty.

**The Workplace Violence law amendments will:**

- ◇ Establish a complete, unified commercial code governing security interests, collateral, and commercial transactions within the Nation, creating legal clarity and predictability for all parties.
- ◇ Ground commercial law in Good Mind principles, embedding cultural values directly into the Nation's economic governance framework.
- ◇ Define Oneida jurisdiction over commercial parties through residence, business location, tribal membership, or chartering, strengthening tribal legal authority.
- ◇ Create clear rules for creating, attaching, and enforcing security interests, essential for lenders and investors to transact with confidence.
- ◇ Provide multiple perfection methods (filing, possession, control), allowing flexible modern financing arrangements.
- ◇ Create priority rules that determine whose claim on collateral prevails in disputes, insolvency, or bankruptcy-like scenarios.
- ◇ Support interjurisdictional business activity by recognizing perfection under other jurisdictions and creating transition rules for collateral moving into Oneida jurisdiction.
- ◇ Protect against predatory contract terms, invalidating commercially harmful restrictions that block assignment or collateralization.
- ◇ Set structured, lawful processes for repossession, allowing possession only with debtor consent or judicial process, and forbidding breach of the peace.
- ◇ Provide remedies for improper conduct by lenders, including damages, statutory penalties, and court orders restraining noncompliant enforcement.

Individuals may attend the public meeting for the proposed Uniform Commercial Code in person at the Norbert Hill Center, or virtually through Microsoft Teams (MC). If you wish to attend the public meeting through MC, email [LOC@oneidanation.org](mailto:LOC@oneidanation.org).

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSSES THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026.**

During the public comment period, anyone may submit written comments, questions or input. Comments may be submitted to the Oneida Nation Secretary's Office or the Legislative Reference Office in person, by U.S. mail, interoffice mail, or e-mail.

For more information on the proposed Uniform Commercial Code, please review the public meeting packet at [www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings](http://www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings).

**ONEIDA NATION PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE • THUR., APRIL 16, 2026 • 12:15PM**  
**Norbert Hill Center - Business Committee Conference Room**  
**N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI**

Find Public Meeting Materials at  
 Oneida-nsn.gov/government/register/publicmeetings  
 Ask Questions Here Email Public Comments to  
 LOC@OneidaNation.org LOC@OneidaNation.org  
 920.869.4417

### ELDER PROTECTION LAW

The purpose of the Elder Protection law is to uphold the Nation's responsibility to honor and protect its elders. This law establishes a process to safeguard elders from harm, including abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation.

#### The Elder Protection law will:

- ◇ Establish a comprehensive framework to prevent, identify, report, investigate, and respond to elder abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and financial exploitation.
- ◇ Establish an Interdisciplinary Team composed of multiple Nation departments to coordinate case review, guide investigations, recommend actions, promote cooperation, and identify resources.
- ◇ Create a duty to report by requiring any person with knowledge or reasonable suspicion of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation of an elder to report immediately to Aging & Disability Services or the Oneida Police Department.
- ◇ Protect confidentiality and records. Departmental report forms and investigative records are confidential and may only be disclosed under limited circumstances, such as to the elder, suspect, service providers, law enforcement, auditors, and through court order.
- ◇ Create a broad class of mandated reporters, including family, caretakers, elected officials, employees, healthcare workers, mental health professionals, social workers, law enforcement, judicial staff, and fiduciaries.
- ◇ Establish civil penalties:
  - A mandated reporter who fails to report may be fined up to \$2,000.
  - Anyone who knowingly files a false report may be fined up to \$2,000.
  - Anyone who interferes with an investigation or retaliates against a reporter may be fined up to \$2,000 per occurrence.
- ◇ Provide investigation procedures requirements including that they must begin promptly and include required steps such as:
  - Visiting the elder's residence; Observing the elder; Conducting interviews; Reviewing healthcare and financial records; Interviewing guardians/ caregivers; Requesting law-enforcement assistance; and offering or arranging needed services.

Individuals may attend the public meeting for the proposed Elder Protection Law in person at the Norbert Hill Center, or virtually through Microsoft Teams (MC). If you wish to attend the public meeting through MC, email LOC@oneidanation.org.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSSES THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026.

During the public comment period, anyone may submit written comments, questions or input. Comments may be submitted to the Oneida Nation Secretary's Office or the Legislative Reference Office in person, by U.S. mail, interoffice mail, or e-mail.

For more information on the proposed Elder Protection Law, please review the public meeting packet at [www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings](http://www.oneida-nsn.gov/Register/PublicMeetings).

### PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE – 9am, Mon., April 6, 2026 • <https://bit.ly/oneidasecrule>

In accordance with the Administrative Rulemaking Law, the Digital Technology Services Department is hosting this Public Meeting to gather feedback from the community regarding THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED RULES to the Technology Resources Law

- 001–Acceptable Use
- 002–Clear Desk
- 003–Asset Management
- 004–Security Awareness
- 005 – Password Management
- 006 – Incident Response
- 007–Vendor Remote Access
- 008–Third Party Provider
- 009–Generative AI Usage

#### This is a proposal to adopt rules which would:

- Establish clear standards for responsible and secure use of digital technology.
- Promote data protection and reduce the risk of unauthorized access or data breaches.
- Ensure proper tracking and disposal of IT assets.
- Require ongoing security awareness training for employees.
- Define procedures for identifying, reporting, and responding to cybersecurity incidents.
- Regulate secure access and evaluate risk for vendors and third-party providers.
- Govern the ethical and secure use of generative AI technologies.

#### Who would be affected:

- Employees and Contractors
- Vendors and Third-Party Providers

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPEN UNTIL**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026**  
**DTS DIGITAL SECURITY**  
**909 PACKERLAND DR. • GREEN BAY, WI 54303**  
**InfoSec@OneidaNation.org • 920.869.4357**

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 Digital Technology Services Department.



**IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF Petitioner Menissa Rita Powless and Respondent Leo James Powless**

Ordered to appear Case No. 24FA272. IT IS ORDERED: Leo James Powless appear as follows:

1. Before: Family Court Commissioner Adrienne Olson Circuit Court Judge/Circuit Court Commissioner.
2. Location: ZOOM Final Divorce Hearing-Sauk County Courthouse 510 Broadway Street, Room 320, Baraboo, Wiscconsin 53913
3. Date: May 11, 2026, Time 1pm or as soon as the matter may be heard.

Failure by the party named above to appear may result in the court entering a judgment of divorce or legal separation on all issues in their absence.

It is recommended, but not required, that you have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not demand a copy of the Petition within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Petition, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Petition. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. You are further notified that if the parties to this action have minor children, violation of §948.31, Wis. Stats., (Interference with custody by parent or others) is punishable by fines and/or imprisonment: If you and the petitioner have minor children, documents setting forth the percentage standard for child support established by the department under §49.22(9), Wis. Stats., and the factors that a court may consider for modification of that standard under §767.51(1m), Wis. Stats., are available upon your request from the Clerk of Court. You are notified of the availability of information from the Circuit Court Commissioner as set forth in §767.105, Wis. Stats. §767.105 Information from Circuit Court Commissioner. (2) Upon the request of a party to an action affecting the family, including a revision of judgment or order under sec. 767.59 or 767.451: (a) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall, with or without charge, provide the party with written information on the following, as appropriate to the action commenced: 1. The procedure for obtaining a judgment or order in the action. 2. The major issues usually addressed in such an action. 3. Community resources and family court counseling services available to assist the parties. 4. The procedure for setting, modifying, and enforcing child support awards, or modifying and enforcing legal custody or physical placement judgments or orders. (b) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall provide a party, for inspection or purchase, with a copy of the statutory provisions in this chapter generally pertinent to the action. If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

**ONEIDA FAMILY COURT NOTICE OF HEARING**

RE: Case #11PA101 ONCSA and Danielle K. Vidal Rivera v. Shenandoah P. Goss

A diligent attempt was made to notify the above Petitioner of a Motion for Modification of Legal Custody and/or Physical Placement filed by Respondent. A hearing shall take place on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 1:30 pm** in the above captioned case at the Oneida Family Court office located at 2630 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303.

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

**Notice to Interested Person(s) Setting Hearing on Application for Probate and Setting Time and Notice to Creditors**

To attend meetings virtually or request a copy of the materials, contact Brooke M. Doxtator at 920.869.4303 or email [land\\_commission@oneidanation.org](mailto:land_commission@oneidanation.org).

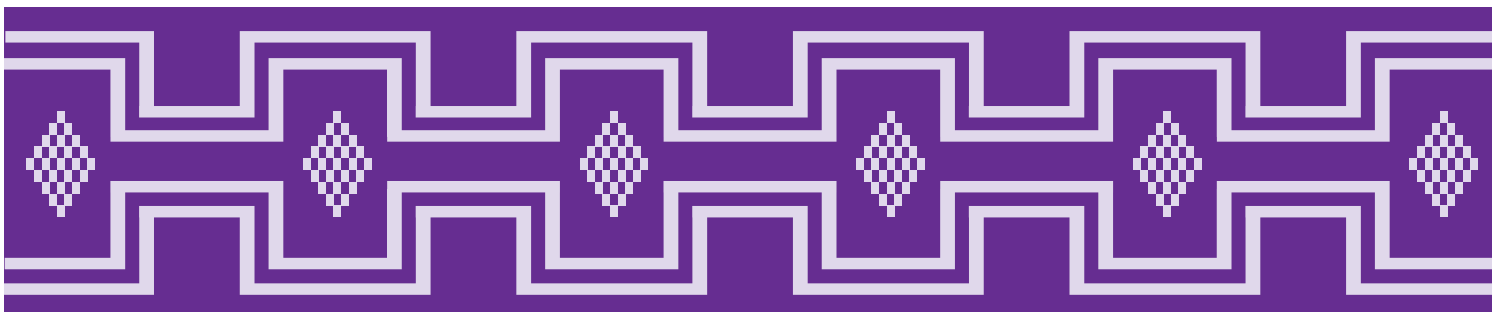
To file a claim, contact Oneida Land Commission, Attn. Government Administrative Office, PO Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155 or email [land\\_commission@oneidanation.org](mailto:land_commission@oneidanation.org). Applications for probate have been filed as follows:

**Estate of Valerie L. Yazzie • Case No. 2026-LCP-001**  
**The deadline to file a claim is May 7, 2026**

1. The decedent with a date of birth of 6/1/1957, died on 7/19/2025 was domiciled within the exterior boundaries of the Oneida Reservation, in Brown County, State of Wisconsin, at 4188 W. Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54155.
2. TO THE FOLLOWING INTERESTED PERSON(S) and any persons not listed herein who may be identified by law as potential interested persons: Joe Yazzie, Jamie Willis, Jerilynn Doud
3. A Probate hearing has been scheduled for 5/26/2026, 3:30pm, at N7332 Water Circle Place, Oneida, WI 54155.

**Estate of Gerald B. Diamond • Case No. 2026-LCP-002**  
**The deadline to file a claim is May 7, 2026**

1. The decedent with a date of birth of 1/10/1938, died on 5/27/2025 was domiciled within the exterior boundaries of the Oneida Reservation, in Outagamie County, State of Wisconsin, at N5970 Lambie Road, De Pere, WI 54115
2. TO THE FOLLOWING INTERESTED PERSON(S) and any persons not listed herein who may be identified by law as potential interested persons: Deanna Barrett, Gerald B. Diamond, Tessa K. Diamond, Anita G. Diamond, Fern K. Diamond
3. A Probate hearing has been scheduled for 5/26/2026, 4:00pm, at N7332 Water Circle Place, Oneida, WI 54155.



# Indigenous



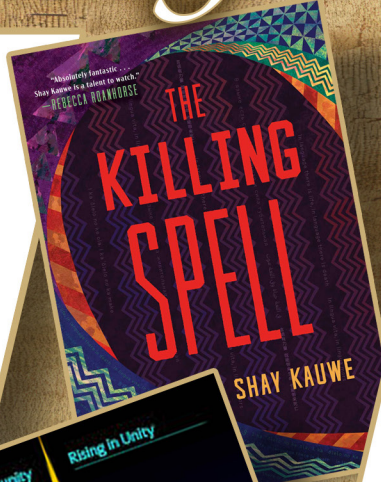
**Shekóli Swakwe\*kú.** To begin 2026, we searched the Indigenous Entertainment industry to share events happening this past January, February, and March. It's my hope that you were able to enjoy some of the events.

Now, we want to regularly schedule this page to keep your calendar of Indigenous Entertainment busy year-round. Check out these great events and watch future issues for more great events to stack your planner with all the must-sees!

Yawλ?kó.

*Yewelahlwi\*se C.*

**Yewelahlwi\*se Cornelius**  
Creative Services Trainee  
Kalihwisaks



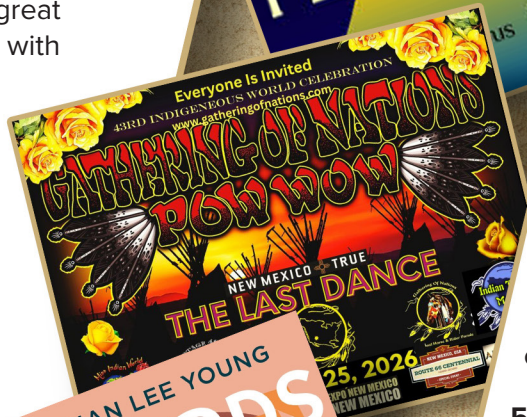
**4.14.26**  
***The Killing Spell***  
**by Shay Kauwe**

Kauwe's debut fantasy novel explores a fantastical future Los Angeles through a young Hawaiian clan leader who investigates a murder of a prominent activist while navigating cultural differences.



**4.17.26 – 4.18.26**  
***Indigenous Ways***  
**Film Festival**

Held in the performing Arts Center at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Sante Fe, New Mexico. This year, the event highlights women and student filmmakers.



**4.24.26 – 4.25.26**  
***Gathering of Nations***  
**Pow Wow**

Gathering of Nations Powwow. Held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2026 is the final year of this 43-year long tradition.



**5.5.26**  
***Shards of Silence***  
**by Brian Lee Young**

Young Navajo teen, Derrick, grapples intergenerational trauma while attending an elite boarding school. This book creates a powerful story of learning to heal generational wounds, find one's voice, and balance cultural identity.

# Entertainment



# KALIHWISAKS

She Looks for News

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# Blizzard Elsa Dumps 26.6" of Snow on Oneida Second Most Powerful Winter Storm Ever in 138 Years

By Garth Webster



Snowstorm Elsa, which eventually was upgraded to Blizzard Elsa, approached Wisconsin from the west beginning late Saturday night, March 15, 2026 and eventually passed by late Sunday afternoon. However, the winds shifted and swirled the storm north and back to the east to once again, pummel Wisconsin on Monday.

Nation Services Chief Executive Officer Mark Powless expressed his gratitude for the Nation Services employees that assisted with clean-up.

"While many Oneida Nation staff were off on Monday and Tuesday, other staff were working double and even triple shifts. Comprehensive Housing Division, Anna John Resident Centered Care Community, and Division of

Public Works, as well as other staff within Nation Services, were on duty during and immediately after the blizzard. These weather events bring unexpected challenges as well as the necessity for staff to go "above and beyond. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. On behalf of Oneida Nation Services and the Oneida community, I'm expressing the deepest gratitude for your resilience and perseverance! Thank you for demonstrating our core value of Kanolukhwasla by stepping up to care for the needs of our community during this event. Also appreciated is the continued patience by our departments and community as clean-up efforts continue this week," says Mr. Powless.