



# From the Kali

**Shekóli Swakwe•kú.** A few years ago, a very wise person said this to me regarding his thoughts on parenthood, "Don't prepare the road for your children. Prepare your children for the road."

Inevitably, our children, as well as anyone for that matter, will encounter ups and downs, triumph and defeat, and all of the emotional, physical, and spiritual effects that result during our life endeavors.

In my opinion, aside from the guidance our parents and guardians provide, few other life experiences deliver lessons of perseverance, hard work, dedication, humility, among others, as well as playing sports does.

For many, March is the time of year when basketball is the most prevalent sport on our minds. In fact, in my younger years, basketball was my favorite sport. I learned all the

lessons above, but I think the most valuable attribute that I've been able to apply in life is teamwork. As they say, "If you want to go fast, go alone but if you want to go far, go together."

In this issue, there are a few great examples of the power of teamwork. As you probably noticed, the cover features both the girls and boys Oneida Thunderhawk varsity basketball teams. On page 12, read about a local co-op basketball team and then on page 13, learn how Mason Laster is progressing through his journey playing the Creator's game.



**Garth Webster**  
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## KALIHWISAKS

Official Publication of the Oneida Nation  
"She Looks For News"



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



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### Cover Photo: ONHS Basketball

Both the girls and boys Oneida Nation High School Varsity basketball teams were victorious in their match-up against St. Thomas Aquinas at the Oneida Nation Elementary School on Friday, February 6, 2026. The girls played at 11am, winning 50-21 while the boys played at 1pm, winning 58-44. Make sure to stay connected and support ONHS basketball as they head into March tournament season.



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**LISA LIGGINS**  
Oneida Nation Secretary



*Over the past two months, the Oneida Nation has continued advancing important initiatives that support the well being, sovereignty, and long term stability of our community. As such, I want to share a broad update with you on several areas of focus that reflect both our strategic direction and our shared responsibilities to one another.*

Contact me at 920.869.4421 or email [lliggins@oneidanation.org](mailto:lliggins@oneidanation.org).

## Intergovernmental Relations

Looking forward to work with the State of Wisconsin in 2026, I am anticipating to again participate on the state–Tribal relations study committee. It is clear with recent activity taking place with the State that the Nation must continue its persistence in ensuring collaboration in areas such as public health coordination, and policy development that intersects with Tribal jurisdiction. These discussions help ensure that the Nation’s sovereignty is respected while strengthening cooperative relationships that serve both the Oneida community and the broader region. Maintaining consistent communication with state partners helps ensure our perspectives are understood and that policies affecting Tribal Nations are shaped through genuine dialogue rather than assumption. Recent activity at the state level includes the Assembly’s bill which changed Higher Ed Race-Based Minority programs and Grants to Disadvantaged students as well as their vote on a bill relating to certifying who can teach our indigenous languages.



Secretary Liggins shown here providing testimony on matters of healthcare to the Wisconsin Assembly on Thursday, January 8, 2026.

## Onyote’a-ka-ní’ Plan

Great strides have been made relating to the Onyote’a-ka-ní’ Plan which was approved by GTC. This long-term strategic framework remains the main guide to how the Nation is approaching the critical subject of enrollment design. The community driven committee and support team are well underway with the second part of Phase II, which is having community identify what alternative approach in determining enrollment can be supported, moving the Nation away from the use of blood-quantum as a factor. It is important to keep in mind that exploring potential impacts will be largely driven by potential solutions the community raises as possibilities – this is the work currently taking place in the community input sessions – “What change to the Nation’s enrollment criteria can you support?” Please visit the Nation’s website for more details on these meetings, the details can be found under the I am Oneida Project – upcoming events.

## GTC Rules of Decorum

Lastly and most importantly, an on-going important topic continues within the community and leadership on the need to reaffirm and actively practice GTC’s rules of decorum at GTC meetings. As your representatives, the OBC relies on GTC as our governing body of the Nation to meet in larger numbers to consider legislation or policy. The safety and effectiveness of our meetings rely on the ability of every participant to contribute or listen without fear, interruption, or hostility, including safe exiting.

On-going issues raised by meeting participants continues to highlight concerns, many from elders, who have shared that crowded or tense environments make them feel unsafe or reluctant to participate. While no single individual is to blame, this serves as a reminder that maintaining respectful conduct is not only a long-standing culturally supported expectation, but also an expression of who we are as a people. Elders carry knowledge, experience, and cultural teachings essential to our governance. It is our collective responsibility to ensure they are given deference, physical space, and a sense of safety in all large gatherings, including GTC. The OBC has requested a team be developed to examine the policies which require the GTC meeting check-in and out processes and to bring back recommendations for change or improvement. Please reach out to me at any time if you have suggestions on how to make improvements. [lliggins@oneidanation.org](mailto:lliggins@oneidanation.org) or 920-869-4483

*“As we continue moving forward, our work will remain grounded in open communication, collective responsibility, and long term planning. I am deeply grateful to the community members, staff, leaders, and partners who contribute to this work each day. By strengthening our programs, honoring our elders, and upholding respectful governance, we build a stronger future together—one that reflects the values and identity of the Oneida Nation.”*

# Anna John Resident Centered Care Community Receives 5-Star Rating



A 5-star nursing home rating, awarded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, indicates "much above average" quality based on health inspections, staffing levels, and quality measures. These top-tier facilities represent the top 10% in each state. Watch for the full article to be published in the April 2026 edition.

On Thursday, February 5, 2026, eight-year old Opichee, aka "Baby Opie" and his family appeared on the Jennifer Hudson Show, providing them a national stage for him, brother, and sister to dance their style for all the world to witness. Their mother was also present stating, "All three of my children..to see them singing and dancing it's truly healing for me, I feel so incredibly proud."



Watch Baby Opie  
and his family on the  
Jennifer Hudson show



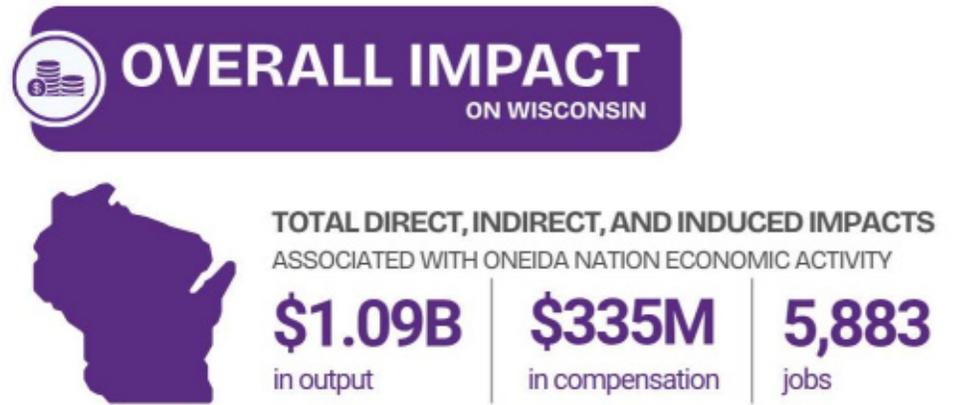
# STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

## THE ONEIDA NATION ECONOMY AT WORK

By Yewe Cornelius

The St. Norbert College's Center for Business and Economic Analysis (CEBA) was created to build and strengthen relations between the faculty and staff of St. Norbert College and the local business community. CEBA works with leaders in local businesses and nonprofits to be a source of information, networking and collaboration, as well as help with any problem-solving that might be needed. Most recently conducted an Economic Impact Study on the Oneida Nation. This study had two avenues of focus, the nation's impact on both Brown and Outagamie counties, and the nation's impact on the State of Wisconsin. On Wednesday, January 28, 2026, the Oneida Nation Business Committee (OBC) hosted the press release of CEBA's economic impact study results.

This study was conducted by a team of researchers, including Kevin Quinn, the Dean of the Schneider School of Business and Economics at St. Norbert who gave the presentation of the study at press release. The study used data from the 2023 fiscal year, (FY23) usually an economics study would look at data from multiple years. However, the years after the Covid-19 pandemic created non-typical behaviors, so to get the most recent and accurate data this team only looked at the one year. Using data from the FY23, the study was able to determine that the Oneida Nation generates \$652.3 million in economic output, \$179 million in labor compensation and 3,266 jobs in direct impact within Brown and Outagamie Counties, the total direct and indirect economic impact of the nation within the two counties creates a total of \$983.8 million



in economic output, \$305.6 million in labor compensation and 5,409 jobs. Looking at a broader scope, the nation generates \$1.09 billion in total economic output, \$334.7 million in total labor compensation and 5,883 jobs statewide.

The study was also able to determine that 30% of the nation's revenue comes from federal sources with the remaining 70% coming from the nation's economic enterprises and other tribal sources, consisting of capital projects, economic enterprises, government healthcare, housing, human services, internal services and public services. These operations span through multiple industries and include the Oneida Nation Farm and Apple Orchard, Oneida One-Stops, Thornberry Creek, and the Oneida hotel, among many others. The tribe's own profit generating operations have generated a total of \$416.2 million in economic output, \$91 million in labor compensation and 1,961 jobs. After wages, benefits, compact fees and operational costs this means that the Nation's own operations have generated a net pay of \$148.5 million in FY23.

Most of Oneida's economic impact is driven more specifically from the

nation's enterprise sector, which generates 61.3% of the total economic output, 53.8% of the labor compensation and 59.4% of jobs, with a total of 1,961 jobs. The nation's economic enterprise sector is the largest contributor to total economic output, employment and employee compensation in Brown and Outagamie Counties. The study also took time to look at where most of the nation's money gets invested back into. It was identified that the nation has 6 priority spending areas, education, government services, healthcare, housing, human services and public services. The study concludes that the Oneida Nation plays a vital role in the economy of Brown and Outagamie Counties, creating 2.4% of its total economic output, 1% of its total labor compensation and 2% of all jobs across both counties, and is one of the largest employers in the region. The study also notes that the nation's impact goes well beyond profits, as the nation invests heavily in core services that elevate the community's well-being.



## Two Indigenous Women, Immortalized on \$1 Coin

The new 2026 United States \$1 coin depicts Oneida heroine Polly Cooper on offering a basket of white corn to George Washington. The reverse side features the famous Indigenous guide to Lewis and Clarke, Sacagawea.



Stay tuned for more information in a future edition of the Kalihwisaks.

## Time to Awake

By Michelle Danforth-Anderson

Early in the morning of February 18, 2026, those awake were able to hear the return of the thunders. Their return signals the waking of Mother Earth, causing the maple sap in trees to flow again, among other things. This also signals the time to begin getting ready for Maple ceremony by tapping the maple trees and collecting the sap to boil down to maple syrup. Keep an eye out for more maple tree taping information in a future edition of the Kalihwisaks.



# Megan Minoka-Hill, Cultivating a Culture of Continuous Improvement

By Yewe Cornelius

The MacArthur Foundation is dedicated to finding creative solutions and new ways to help the world move forward in a more just and equitable way. To accomplish this, they have many programs dedicated to helping people all over the world who are looking to improve a wide variety of situations that people face.

One of their newest programs will be a Native Self-Determination program, which will be committed to the strength and well-being of Indigenous peoples. As part of this new program, the MacArthur Foundation has hired a team of Indigenous staff, including Oneida Nation's Megan Minoka Hill, who was brought on as Director this past February 2026. Hill will oversee the development and implementation of the foundation's strategic approach.

With 20 years of experience across many different focuses, philanthropy, government and community-based organizations, Hill has had the opportunity to work on

numerous projects, including the Harvard Project on Indigenous Governance and Development and the Native American Graves

Protection and Repatriation committee. Hill is also a published author, working alongside her father, Norbert Hill, in their work; *Beyond Blood Quantum: Refusal to Disappear*.

Many are looking forward to what Hill will accomplish in her new role.



Lean more about Native Self-Determination program



# Lexus King, Aspiring Pharmacist King Completes Rotation at Oneida Pharmacy

By Michelle Danforth-Anderson

One may remember Lexus King as Miss Wisconsin Rodeo riding horses at Big Apple Fest years ago. As dynamic

as her years of riding rodeo, she is now completing her Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Lexus graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences in May 2019 leading her to her role as a Veterinary Assistant. Pharmacy, as it turns out, is a natural crossover because as an assistant, you learn and research various animal medications.

Midwestern University encouraged her to transfer her veterinarian school application into Pharmacy and in turn, she was quickly accepted into the program. The accelerated three-year Doctor of Pharmacy program requires pharmacy rotations in the final year. Lexus finished one of these rotations at the Oneida Community Health Center, where she explains how much she enjoyed interacting

with her clients, "People would come to the counter and say, "Are you Denis' daughter or who are your grandparents?"

Next, she will be traveling to the Navajo Nation where she will continue her next 6-week rotation and then in May, it's onto graduation.

King is extremely thankful for the Oneida Higher Education Grant and an additional Indian Health Service (IHS) scholarship that she was awarded in her second year of school. IHS scholarship funding requires awarded students to work for 2 years for IHS or another tribal pharmacy upon completion of their program. After years in academia, King has some sound advice for anyone wanting to accomplish their academic and professional goals.

"It is really important to make sure that you know what field you would like to go into before going on to school. There will be some bumps, but at the end of the day it will all pay off, so go for it," says King.

# From the Sand to Civilian Life

## Desert Veterans of Wisconsin Nonprofit Provides Assistance to Desert War Veterans

Submitted by Wendy Dowd-Cornelius

L to R: Desert Veterans of Wisconsin (DVOW) Board Members Mike Gerrits, Phillip Cornelius, and Matt Cowell at the Give BIG Green Bay Event at Lambeau Field on Tuesday, January 13, 2026. DVOW was one of many non-profits chosen to be a beneficiary of proceeds donated during the annual fundraising event.



Desert Veterans of Wisconsin was founded in 2006 by four veterans—three who served in the Gulf War, as well as one who served in Vietnam. After recognizing that veterans in the area lacked sufficient support and resources, the group asked a simple but powerful question: “What can we do?” From that conversation, Dave “Razz” Rasmussen and Jimmer Christensen took the first steps to bring the mission to life. Their goal was clear: “Vets Helping Vets.” Mark Christensen and Phillip Cornelius soon joined as the first board members, helping establish the foundation of the organization.

In the early years, funds were raised through membership dues and small community fundraisers. What the group lacked in resources, they made up for in heart. Members offered their time, energy, and compassion—volunteering countless hours and spreading the word that the Desert Veterans of Wisconsin (DVOW,) was a place veterans could turn to without judgment, without obligation, and without the pressure of repayment. The belief was simple: everyone needs help at times, and those who have sacrificed to protect our country should never have

to face hardship alone.

The DVOW has always been more than just a resource for those facing challenges. It is a community—a gathering of brothers and sisters connected by shared experiences and a deep sense of understanding. It provides a safe space for those who may struggle to talk openly, offering comfort in knowing that others have walked similar paths.

Today, our membership stands at 75 members. In recognition of the sacrifices made not only by service members but also by those who stand beside them, we now welcome dependents and spouses of veterans as members. We know that families serve in their own way, and their dedication deserves to be honored as well.

Membership dues are no longer required. All assistance provided by DVOW is supported through annual fundraising efforts, ensuring that every dollar raised directly benefits veterans and their families in need.

The Desert Veterans Of Wisconsin remains committed to its founding mission: Vets helping Vets—yesterday, today, and always.

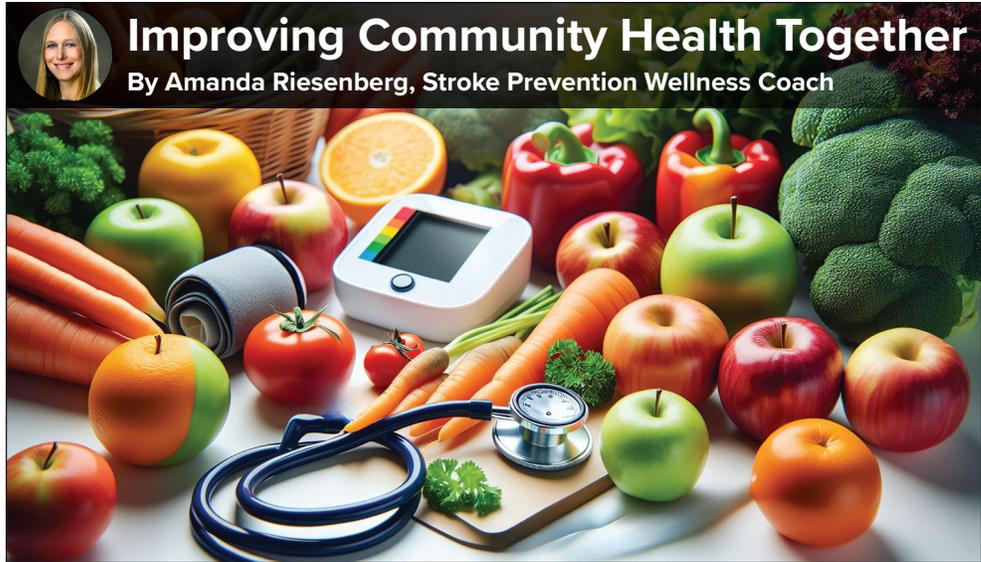


Learn more by contacting DVOW

 Facebook.com/DesertVeteransofWisconsin

 Info@DVOW.org  DVOW.org

 920.265.1528



## Improving Community Health Together

By Amanda Riesenberg, Stroke Prevention Wellness Coach

Overweight and obesity are the focus of the first article in a three-part series highlighting the most common chronic conditions within the Oneida community, based on data from the Oneida Community Health Center. Body Mass Index (BMI), an indicator of overweight and obesity, is a calculation that compares weight to height, and ideally, a person's BMI should be below 25. A BMI of 25–29.9 is considered overweight, while a BMI of 30 or higher falls within the obesity category. When BMI rises above the healthy range, the risk for several chronic health conditions also increases.

According to the Oneida Nation's Electronic Medical Records system, 86% of adults fall into the overweight or obesity categories. This is significantly higher than the 73% reported among American Indian/Alaska Native adults in Wisconsin. Within the Oneida community, the age groups with the highest average BMIs are 40–49 and 30–39, with averages of 35.5 and 35.3, respectively.

One goal of the Community Health Improvement Plan is to reduce chronic conditions within the Oneida community. Healthy weight strategies include managing stress, choosing foods rich in lean proteins and a variety of fruits and vegetables, maintaining good sleep habits, and staying physically active. Physical activity guidelines recommend 30 minutes of daily movement for adults and 60 minutes per day for youth, which can be achieved in many enjoyable ways. Walking, strength training, yoga, swimming, kayaking, or hiking on the trails throughout the Oneida Reservation are all excellent options. The key is finding an activity you enjoy, so it becomes part of your routine.

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



Community Health Improvement Plan

## 4th Annual Health & Wellness Expo Showcases the Nation's Commitment to Health



The Health Promotion Disease Prevention Department hosted its annual Health and Wellness Expo on Thursday, January 29, 2026, at the Oneida Community Health Center.

This year's expo featured 3 expert presentations as well as over 25 health and wellness booths representing programs and services from across the Oneida Nation. Over 300 attendees had the opportunity to explore a wide range of resources and connect directly with experts dedicated to supporting their wellness goals.

For those who were unable to attend in person, all presentations are available on the Oneida Comprehensive Health Division Facebook page. Planning is already underway for next year!

 OneidaNation.Health



**As the warmer months approach, it's time to prepare for a great season of trail walking. Check out the Natural Areas and Trails Guide.**

Natural Areas and Trails Guide



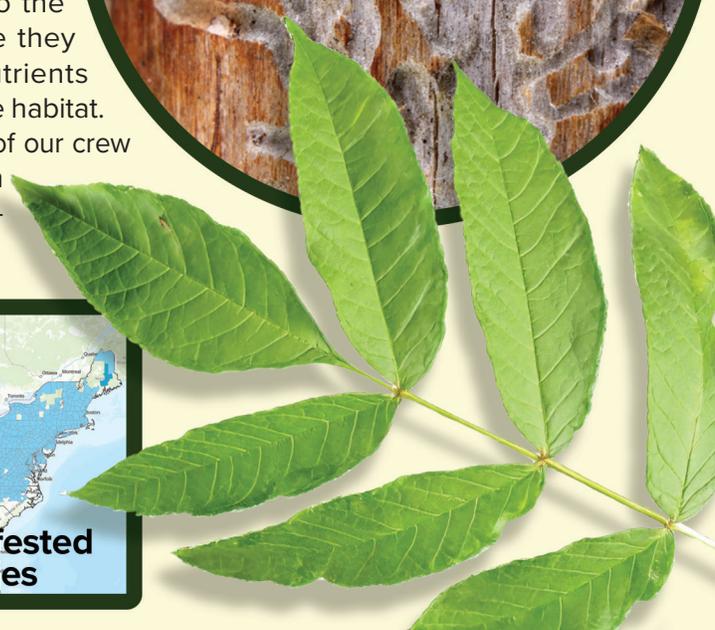
## EYES ON THE ENVIRONMENT

### Invasive Beetles in Quarry Park Dead Ash Trees

By Yewe Cornelius

Recently, the Environmental Land and Agricultural (ELA) Division has classified some of the dead ash trees in Quarry Park as hazardous. They are asking that people do not attempt to harvest the wood from these trees, and that people be careful and stand clear of the trees while they perform the necessary forest health maintenance needed. See below for ELA's official statement:

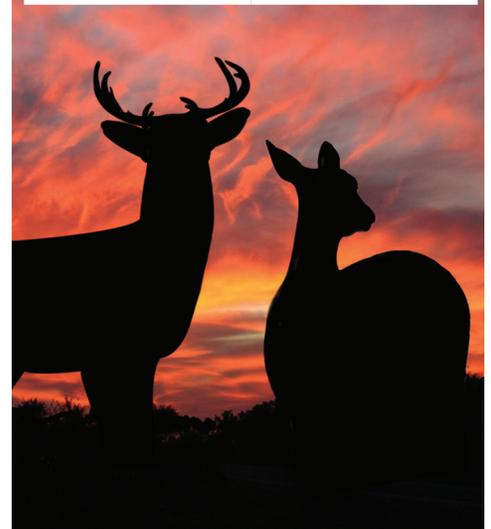
"The dead ash trees along the trails at Quarry Park have been classified as hazardous due to the presence of the emerald ash borer (EAB), an invasive beetle that tunnels beneath the bark and kills ash trees. EAB can continue to use recently dead and downed ash trees until the wood becomes well-rotted. Once the inner bark decomposes or dries out, the beetle larvae can no longer survive. Rather than being harvested, these trees will be left to return to the forest floor, where they will contribute nutrients and provide wildlife habitat. Please stand clear of our crew while they perform forest health maintenance on Fridays."



## HARVEST REPORT REMINDER

All Oneida Sportsmen's deer license holders and designated hunters **MUST** complete and submit the Harvest Report by March 3rd. Please go online to the Oneida Conservation page under Hunting & Fishing, click the "Harvest Report" tab. *\*Even if no deer were harvested, you still MUST complete and submit report.*

Bow	118
Gun	82
Muzzleloader	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>234</b>
Doe	83
Buck	151



### CORRECTIONS: February, 2026 Issue

- In the photo caption of the "No More Stolen Sisters" article on page 9, Jo Anne's name is misspelled, Jo Anne Torres, and the MMIW victim was her niece, not her daughter.
- In the article "A Trip Down Memory Lane" on page 12, Billy's last name is misspelled: Billy Doxtater.

# Driving to Strengthen Future of Girls Basketball

## Oneida Duo Forms Tournament Team in Green Bay Southwest Area

By Garth Webster

Due to a variety of reasons, primarily because of an insufficient number of young ladies to play, the Green Bay Southwest High School (GBSWHS) girls varsity basketball program was unable to field a team for the 2025-2026 season.

Although still able to form a junior varsity team, GBSWHS Athletic Director Chris Williams has begun to focus on the younger girls in their school system to prepare them for when they reach high school/varsity levels, as he mentions in an interview with the Green Bay Press Gazette's Scott Venci, "...We just have to get girls in the program and the middle school level and the youth level," says Williams. Later during the interview, Williams mentions he would also be open to forming co-op teams with other schools and communities, which is where two Oneida community members come into play.

North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame member, Kerry "Buggs" Danforth and Louis Cottrell, are taking an active approach to develop and foster players at the middle school level by coaching a tournament team comprised of 80% Indigenous girls, including Louis' twin daughters and Lombardi Middle School student/athletes, Cameron and Chloe.

"We are excited to create this 8th grade team with the support of several Oneida families and new GBSWHS head coach, Ronald Jackson, to ensure our young girls will have an opportunity to play organized basketball every season, especially when they reach the varsity level," says Cottrell.

With the girls' basketball program currently in a rebuilding phase at GBSWHS, Coach Danforth is taking it upon himself to get the girls as ready as possible for their high school journey in the game of basketball. From day one, his knowledge, leadership, and coaching skills have made a tremendous impact. He's delivered countless lessons in both basketball fundamentals and overall game understanding, helping the girls grow not only as athletes but as a team.



***"Having the opportunity to compete in varsity basketball is crucial to their mental, physical, and emotional development to succeed in life," says Coach Danforth.***

# ONHS Junior Standout Lives and Breathes Lacrosse

## Mason Laster set to Play for University at Albany

By Garth Webster

Mason Laster, the son of Lee and Rosa Laster, traveled to the University at Albany in New York this past January 2026 to seal the deal to begin his collegiate lacrosse career under the guidance of head coach Scott Marr (see photo, below right).

"What an unbelievable visit with Coach Marr and Albany today. It was definitely exciting and after getting to know Coach better, we are glad he [Mason] gets to play for and continue his education in upstate New York," says Mason's father, Lee.

Although still a junior at Oneida Nation High School, Mason will be going through a rigorous training program now until he graduates and embarks to Albany in the Fall of 2027.

"It's an honor for me to be one of the top players to come out of Oneida Nation High School. I'm super excited to represent talu?kowanhné in Albany and make my people proud. I want to thank my coaches throughout the years for the drive and lessons to get me where I'm at today. To my parents, from the fundraisers to the endless amounts of traveling, it means so much to me, and I can't thank them enough for being there every step of the way. They went through all the struggles and perseverance I went through, and their drive to keep me going is something I can't be more grateful for. I want to thank all of my club coaches/recruiting coaches especially Michael Storts And Billy Spingola for the guidance throughout the recruiting process and getting the connections for me to be able to move forward to the next level. I look forward to competing and making my dreams come true at the University at Albany," says Mason.



Left: Mason with University of Albany Head Lacrosse Coach Scott Marr in January 2026. Right: Mason holding the Tewaaraton Trophy, the preeminent annual award for the top male and female college players across all divisions. Two of the four legendary Thompson Brothers, Miles and Lyle, won the trophy in 2014 while playing Lacrosse for the University of Albany. Perhaps one day Mason will win this trophy as well. Go Mason!





Oneida Nation High School

## THUNDERHAWK TIMES

### LACROSSE ANYONE?

By Mason Laster

ONHS lacrosse players are itching for warmer weather when they can get out to run, pass the ball, and score goals. While lacrosse is played indoors in the form of Box Lacrosse, or general indoor tossing and catching, the sport is exciting and ready to be enjoyed outdoors.

History tells of games played over days in large areas. When we go back to traditional games, lacrosse goals or wooden poles could be separated 1-2 miles out, with no out of bounds or boundaries. Being able to play outside in the fresh air and nice breeze. That didn't happen indoors. I recently talked to ONHS lacrosse players waiting patiently to take their game outside.

Phoenix Webster, grade 12, says, "I'm looking forward to playing with his teammates, playing good lacrosse, and a great winning season. He also mentions that he is looking forward to being coached by a new staff. My goals for the season are to hit 100 points (goals and assists) and to get all conference awards. Phoenix wants to push his teammates to the best and make this season a happy one!"

"I'm looking forward to playing in my first high school season of lacrosse. My goals for the season are to get as much playing time as possible and score a couple goals on the season. I want to get an all-conference award and put Oneida Nation on the map." says Markane Ellis, grade 9.

WIAA sanctioned lacrosse starts its season in mid-March. This year, the first permitted practice is March 16, and the first permitted game is March 24. Post-season play starts with Regionals in late-May and the State Championship in mid-June.

### ONHS STUDENTS REFLECT AND GIVE INPUT

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

On Wednesday, February 4, 8 ONHS students met with Melissa and Madona Wilber, Co-Owners and Designer of M&M Digital Media Productions LLC. Also in attendance was ONHS staff member, Sarah Wunderlich, who oversees the Y.E.S. Program.

The students watched a video produced by M&M on behalf of the Great Lakes Intertribal Council, Inc. (GLITC). The film featured Native Leaders from across Wisconsin including Jonas Hill, an ONHS alumnus and member of the Oneida Business Committee.

Topics presented by the leaders in the video reflected GLITC's "Six Core Priorities" and included Mental and Behavioral Health, Emergency Preparedness, Economic Development, Substance Abuse, and other topics. Hill discussed his own heartfelt, recovery journey. Celebrities also appearing in the video included Lil Mike and Funny Bone, as well as Dallas Goldtooth.

The goal was to engage students in their communities by getting their input on the information and ideas presented in the video. Questions included "Which person in the video inspired you the most, and why?" "How does their work help our people?" and "What is the biggest problem facing your community right now?"

Students were encouraged to share additional stories and information and to schedule a follow-up conversation with a parent's or guardian's approval.

### MAPLE SYRUP TIME

By Mason Laster

Sunshine, mud, the sound of student voices in the woods near Norbert Hill Center, the smell of wood smoke wafting through the

chimney of the cook shack are just some of the sights, sounds, and smells of spring and maple syrup time.

Maple season starts when ONHS staff and students gather around a fire outdoors. The Tobacco Burning is recited to alert the trees and other forest creatures that we will be joining them and that we are grateful for the gifts they will give us and for their company.

This year, the maple season looks to be starting around Feb 11-12 when compared to other years. There's a story of when the thunder comes, Mother Earth wakes, which gets the maple trees sap running. It's the people's (Ukwehu-wé) responsibility to tap maple trees and collect sap to make syrup and sugars. The process usually depends on the day and weather.

Jamison says, "We try to collect around 200 gallons a day, boil it, and get around 5 gallons of sap back. It's best if we get cold nights and warm days because then the sap is flowing."

Watch for pictures of this year's maple syrup time in our next issue.

### SPRING SPORTS AHEAD

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

The calendar says we've just about made it through winter. That means that spring sports are about to get underway. There will be the usual with track, lacrosse, and golf.

A quick look at the WIAA sports calendar has the earliest track and field practice as March 9, with the earliest meet on March 17. State competition is June 5-6. Lacrosse season runs from March 16 through mid-June. Golf begins with practices on March 30 and state championships June 8-9. ONHS athletes are excited for the warmer weather and anticipating getting on the field or course.

See more THT  
Articles Online



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

## United by Culture, Strengthened by Community

Ron McLester, Jr. Forms Group to Engage Oneida Citizens

By Yewe Cornelius



*Bundling Arrows* is a new community engagement group dedicated to discussing shared concerns and issues within the community of the Oneida Nation. The group strives to approach these topics with traditional knowledge hoping to find a way to help the community move forward with a good mind and a strong fire. Having held its first community engagement meetings on Thursday, January 15 and Saturday, January 17, 2026, at the Robert Cornelius VFW Post 7784 and Veterans Services Building, respectively, the group has started to establish structure, goals, processes, and potentially a new name for future sessions.

The discussions and activities are led by Ron McLester, Jr. who noted that while he is the one leading the discussion, it is not his group. Rather, *Bundling Arrows* is a group run by and for the community, without any connection to the Oneida Nation entity, such as the Business Committee. McLester says the endeavor will always be changing and adapting to new perspectives, ideas, and voices, striving to help the community with solutions based in traditional teachings and thought processes. He also notes that forming this group is just the first step, as he mentions in the callout to the right.

During the meetings, a few topics were brought up as issues people would like to start focusing on, including homelessness, housing, mental health services, blood quantum, and tribal governance, among others. All of which are topics that people have debated for a while.

Although the next meeting sessions have not yet been

shared, *Bundling Arrows* remains an open and welcoming group for anyone looking to help and make a change within the community. They currently have an open Google form for anyone wishing to share input or get involved.

*“There’s a lot more to do, this whole week is really just a test. We commit to transparency, bringing back the data to you folks, and then, with enough time, enough headway, a big room, with food, ideally a good mind, and maybe a new name for the Facebook group, we’re going to bring that [information] out to the community*

*to continue to share and generate knowledge. We commit to redoing and amending, adapting, and improving our process and ideally connecting with all the people that we can,” says McLester.*



Receive information by completing the Google form

## WINTER GATHERING POW WOW

This year, the Winter Gathering Pow Wow was held February 14, 2026 and thus, was themed "Valentine's Day."

During the event, exhibitions were held for all the familiar dance categories. However, the crowd-favorite events included two-step and best-snagging call specials. Judging by the amount of participation, there was no doubt love was in the air.

Once again, the hard work and dedication

of the Oneida Pow Wow Event Team provided another outstanding event the entire community was able to enjoy, or should I say, love.

Special thanks to Michelle Danforth-Anderson, Tonya Webster, Trista Cornelius-Hendricks, Leah Stroobants, Rosa Laster, Vicki Cornelius, Emcee JT Teller, Arena Director Dillon Prescott, Security Lee Laster and Delia Smith and host drum providing the ballads, Smokey Town.





## Years of Service Recognition

1st Quarter FY26



### 45 YEARS

Deborah A Reiter-Mehojah

### 40 YEARS

Linda F Powless  
Lois J Domencich  
Renee M. Hill

### 35 YEARS

Michelle M Braaten

### 30 YEARS

Kimberly K Mehojah  
Shane Thomas  
Troy D Parr

Luz V Redhail

James M Sommerfeldt

Mindy R Rass

Marianne J Calderon

Lisa L Duff

Lisa A Parks

Daniel W Doxtator

Daniel J Moran, IV

Stephanie L Funmaker

Stephanie Eberhardy

Michael L Poole

Michael V Doxtator

Eva E Doxtator

Kevin S Rentmeester

### 25 YEARS

Robert J Pamanet

Emily M Detrie

Jason M Stenglein

Rebeca L Escalante

Constance S Danforth

Daryl J Stevens

Fay A Lemense

Cynthia L Mooren

Cory T Robers

Sheila K Baumgart

Peggy Stevens

## Southeastern Oneida Tribal Services March Events!

To sign up or for more information: 414.329.4101

### Upcoming SEOTS Events:

- Social dance classes every Saturday in March! 11am-1pm.
- Traditional gender roles cultural day March 18! 11am-4pm.

To see a full list of SEOTS March events and SEOTS cultural days see below!

Cultural Days: **March Calendar:**



## A Century of Caring

### Ryan Funeral Home Achieves Milestone

Words of Appreciation to Oneida by the Ryan Funeral Home Team



For one hundred years, Ryan Funeral Home in De Pere, Wisconsin, has stood as a steady presence in this community, offering care, dignity, and guidance during some of life's most tender moments. Reaching this milestone invites reflection on the generations of families who have placed their trust in us, and on the responsibility we have carried to serve with compassion and integrity.

Founded a century ago, our funeral home began as a small, family-run endeavor by Robert A. Ryan, rooted in the belief that every life deserves to be honored with respect. Through decades of change, growth, and challenge, that belief has never wavered. While practices and facilities have evolved, our purpose has remained the same—to provide thoughtful service, sincerely rendered. Those words are more than a slogan, they reflect the way we listen, the care we take, and the sincerity we bring to every family we serve.

We are especially grateful for the enduring relationships that have shaped our journey. Among the most meaningful is our longstanding work alongside the Oneida Nation, a relationship that goes back nearly to our earliest years. Our first Oneida service was held in

January 1928 for Mrs. Lucinda Powless, marking the beginning of a bond built on respect, understanding, and mutual trust. We are deeply thankful for the confidence the Nation has placed in our funeral home over the decades. This trust has allowed us to learn, to listen, and to be proud to weave Oneida customs and traditions into the services we provide, ensuring each farewell reflects cultural meaning, spiritual significance, and personal wishes.

This 100-year milestone belongs not only to our funeral home, but to the families, staff members, clergy, Tribal leaders, and community partners who have walked alongside us through the years. We are grateful for every story shared and every life entrusted to our care.

The Ryan Funeral Home staff, pictured above, left to right: Rebekah Degeneffe, Abby Webster, Owner-Scott Baeten, Dominic Maino, Seth Baeten, Emmalee Broomhall, and Bridget Vandelist and are celebrating this centennial year with appreciation for the past and a renewed commitment to serve with compassion, respect, and thoughtful attention for generations to come. A heartfelt thank you to all who have made these 100 years possible.

**FAITH MARIE HAJENGA****August 29, 1965 - January 5, 2026**

Faith Marie Hajenga, age 60, passed away on January 5, 2026, at her home. She was born on August 29, 1965, the daughter of Sulo and Eleanor

Hautamaki. She grew up in Green Bay and upon graduating from high school, ventured across town to NWTC to pursue nursing. While she never worked directly in the nursing field, she never lost her joy in helping people.

In 1997, Faith's world was made complete when daughter Dakota arrived on the scene. She shared her life with Dakota and also her long-time partner Richard Stumpf. They shared the joys and aches of growing up together, and Faith was truly the inspiration for all things for Dakota. She was a great keeper of secrets and an encourager.

Later in her life, Faith dug into her history after learning that she was of the Oneida tribe. She was in the process of learning more about her heritage and what that meant for her. She loved attending pow-wows and learning more about the cultural aspects.

Faith is survived by her daughter Dakota, her long-time partner Richard, sister Renee (Kevin) Tackett and other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A funeral service to celebrate Faith will take place on Friday January 30, 2026, at 2:30pm at Wichmann Funeral Home, 537 N Superior Street, Appleton. Following the service there will be a celebration gathering in honor of Faith from 3:30pm until 5:30pm.

To share a memory, please see Faith's page at [wichmannfuneralhomes.com](http://wichmannfuneralhomes.com).

**ALAN DUANE FABIAN****February 25, 1933 - January 8, 2026**

Alan Duane Fabian, age 92, passed over January 8, 2026.

A proud member of the Oneida Nation, born February 25, 1933, to Emma Vivian

(nee Ninham) and Floyd Henry Adam Fabian in Wauwatosa, WI.

Alan graduated 1951 from Juneau HS in Wauwatosa, married Patricia (nee Merfeld) August 9, 1952 and the same year bought his first home. He trained as a Journeyman Machinist with Kearney & Trecker, helped create "the Milwaukee-matic," the first computer machine-drilling tool. He also worked at Ford Tool in Wauwatosa, Northwestern Tool in New Berlin before creating Rex-Currier Industrial Distribution, Inc., Royal Fasteners in New Berlin, and owning a business in Waupaca, WI making manufactured homes. He later worked for Stephanik Realty until he retired.

His Oneida heritage and family led him to work diligently with the Oneida Business Committee to establish a home office in Milwaukee which became SEOTS. He served as President of the SEOTS Advisory Board and as a member of the Governors Committee for Small Business in Wisconsin.

He loved photography, drawing, painting, and woodworking. He created 100's of paintings and ornaments. He was constantly sketching new ideas. Alan always brought smiles and laughs wherever he showed up and will be remembered fondly.

Alan is survived by his wife Pat; his son Thomas (Sharon) Fabian; daughters Nancy (Andy) Fabian-Schliewe; Debra Fabian; Grandchildren: Philip (Samantha LaChance) Sack, Tom (Erin) Fabian, Josh (Ashley) Fabian, Jessie (Jake) Kuhl, Alexandria (Dillon) Gordon, Emily (Kody) Konzal; Great grandchildren: Hunter, Cole, Calvin, Reilly, Reagan, Nora, Petra and Delaine, his brother Dennis (Cathy) Fabian, sister-in-law Marjorie Fabian, many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Gordon Fabian, his

grandparents: Sarah Matilda (nee Doxtator) and Anderson Ninham, Rose (Steele) and William Fabian as well as his in-laws: Gladys(Higgins) and Earl Ray Merfeld and sister-in-law: Sandra Merfeld.

**STEVEN HUBERS****March 13, 1985 - January 18, 2026**

Steven "Ogre" Hubers, 40, began his journey to the spirit world, peacefully at Aurora St. Lukes Medical Center on January 18, 2026, with his family by

his side. He was born in Green Bay, WI, on March 13, 1985, to Wade R. Hubers and Jennifer Bawyn.

While growing up, Ogre loved to go up north with family. He enjoyed spending time at Shawano Lake and the cabin on Stockbridge Reservation. He loved being around friends and being mischievous. At an early he discovered his love for food. He enjoyed his time on the road working and after working at Motel 6.

Ogre was a loyal, loving family man. He loved to give out nicknames to anyone around him. He was the guy to call if you were having vehicle issues. It didn't matter how far you were or how deep the ditch it was, he would answer and be there. He loved to find and fix up vehicles with his dad and friends'. He was also an avid player of video games. He enjoyed talking with friends and family about the spirit world.

Ogre is survived by his son Leeland Hubers, his father Wade Hubers, Stepfather Kenny Bawyn, his 3 sisters - Amanda "Commander" Detke, Mikayla Hubers (Justice Eherer-Ross) Mackenzie Hubers. Special cousin Angie Denny, his best friends' Vernon Highdale and Andrew "Timmy" Williams, his aunt Josephine Steeno, his uncles Robert Skenadore (Anna), Lee Hill, John Hill (Ellie).

He was preceded in death by his mother Jennifer Bawyn, grandparents- Zelda Metoxen, Nova and Genevieve Hill, Aunt Crystal Watchal, Aunt Sandy (Rollie) Johnson, his uncle John "Hulk" Lefebvre, and cousin Damien Hill.

Family and friends may call at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N. 10th Street De

Pere, WI 54115, on Wednesday January 28, 2026. Visitation will start at 9:00am and go until the time of service at 11:00am with Bob Brown speaking. The Oneida Hymn Singers will begin their song service at 10:30am. Ogre will be laid to rest at The Oneida Sacred Burial Grounds following the service.

### STACEY BETH MOORE

March 28, 1965 - January 19, 2026



Stacey Beth Moore, 60, passed away at home in Green Bay on January 19, 2026. She was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin on March 28, 1965, to

David and Bernice (Skenadore) Moore Sr. Stacey attended Seymour High School. She then attended NWTC and the College of Menominee Nation.

She often made artwork such as dreamcatchers. Stacey loved watching her grandchildren and spending time with family and friends. She also enjoyed trips to the casino and watching the Packers. She cared deeply for her family and friends and always helped others whenever she was able to. Stacey was greatly loved by many and will forever be missed by her family.

Stacey is survived by significant other Francis Cree; her children Ronald (Sacheen) Lawrence, Beth Doxtater, Amber (Johnathan) Smith, Jade Doxtater, and Kyle Cree. She is also survived by her grandchildren Brolly Freeman, Jonathan Smith Jr, Ethan Smith, Silas Freeman, Niles Smith, Apollo Beson, Videll Beson, Sonya Rae Skenandore, Aleena Smith, Elvira Fox, Morgan Rayne Skenandore, Jadelynn Smith and Raymond Juju Denny Jr. She is further survived by her siblings Dave (Elaine) Moore, Vaughn (Mary Ann) Moore, Darryl (Bonnie) Moore, Cheryl Smith, Greg (Terry Lee Black Owl) Moore, Neil (Gary) Diny, Diane Moore, Kelly (Robin) Moore, and Blaine Moore. As well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends survive her. She was preceded in death by her parents, David and Bernice Moore; her brothers Loren Moore, Rory "Zorr" Moore, Keith "Tink" Moore; her sister Terry Skenandore; her nephews Dwaynn Moore, Alex Moore and Latakeh Smith; her niece Yotsitsya-k'ele Smith and great niece Mariah

Danforth-Moore.

Family and friends may call at Ryan Funeral Home 305 N. Tenth Street, De Pere from 9:00AM Monday, January 26, 2026. The Oneida Hymn Singers will sing at 10:30AM, with a service to follow at 11:00AM. Burial will take place at Holy Apostles Episcopal Cemetery.

### JAMES W. SCOFIELD

August 30, 1937 - January 25, 2026



James (Jim) W. Scofield passed away January 25, 2026, in North Fort Myers, Florida at the age of 88. He was born August 30, 1937, to Harold and Inez Grace

Scofield (Wheelock).

Following the death of his mother in 1938, Jim spent portions of his childhood living with extended family members, including his paternal grandparents Victor and Caroline Scofield and maternal grandmother Lena Ellen Wheelock (Webster).

Jim is survived by his children; Jeanine (Tony) Anderle, Jeff Scofield, Jesslyn Geidel, Jamie (Sherri) Scofield, and Jonelle (Tom) Ruppel. He is also survived by ten grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Jolene, parents Harold and Inez, grandparents Victor and Caroline, and maternal grandmother Lena Wheelock (Webster) and James Wheelock, brothers Kenneth Powlas & Victor Scofield, and sister Lois Arms (Scofield).

### KEITH F. WEBSTER

August 13, 1960 - February 8, 2026



Keith F. Webster, age 65, of Appleton passed away Sunday, February 8, 2026, at St. Elizabeths Hospital. Keith was born August 13, 1960, in Shawano

to the late James and Honorable, Christine (Pierce) Webster, Sr. While in high school he found a true love for boxing. Keith became an amateur boxer, winning the

National Golden Gloves twice and even competing against boxer, Tommy Hearn. In his later years, he enjoyed camping and spending time with family and friends. Keith was an avid Packer and Brewers fan; he always found time to cheer on his team. He was united in marriage to Angie Klitz; she preceded him in death.

Keith is survived by children, Keith (Natalie Pecore) Klitz, Sr., Richard Delabruce, Tara (special friend, Jason) Sturdevant, Craig Sturdevant and Minoka (special friend, Chad) Skenadore; grandchildren, Keith, Jr., Markaylah, Mistie, Jeffery, Jr., Zoey, Ava, Kekoa, Tobins and Corey; great-granddaughter, Marliegh; and siblings, Stanley (Donnie) Webster, Sherman (Christine) Webster, Schuyler (Ruth) Webster, Sheldon (Romona) Webster and Diane "Moo" Perea. He is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Keith is preceded in death by his wife, Angie Klitz; siblings, James Webster, Jr., Nancy Webster, Georgiana Ignace, Mary Lou Webster, Chauncey J. Webster, Sr., and Darrel Webster; and parents, James and Honorable, Christine Webster, Sr.

A funeral mass for Keith will be held at 11am on Friday February 13, 2026, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Neopit with Fr. Hanz Christian officiating. Visitation will be held at the Neopit Community Center starting on Thursday February 12, 2026, from 2pm until the time of service on Friday. Burial will be held at St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery in the spring.

### JEFFREY JAMES METHENY

May 17, 1993 - February 8, 2026



Jeffrey James Metheny, 32, passed away at home in Green Bay, Wisconsin on February 8, 2026. He was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May

17, 1993, to the late Rosetta Thomas and Michael Metheny.

Jeff moved to Wisconsin as a child and during his teenage years, lived in Florida. It was there he made lots of friends and also

Continued on PG 22

Jeffrey James Metheny

**Continuing from PG 21**

Jeffrey James Metheny

met his wife. Together they had a daughter before coming back to Wisconsin where he later had 3 more children.

Jeff liked to work on cars and loved his motorcycle. He had opened a business called M&M Customs Unlimited. Jeff liked gaming, cooking and was a Baltimore Ravens fan. He was also big on family, like his mother, and especially enjoyed spending time with his kids, nieces and nephews. Being community oriented, he was an advocate for young, troubled kids. He was always helping people when he could.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Angel Buck; his children Aniya, Gary, Betty, Angelo, and Devin. He is further survived by his father Michael Metheny; his sister Elizabeth (Micheal); his nieces & nephews Azaliah, Emahni, Michael Jr, Marcus, Marshaun, Journee, Tay and Serenity; his brother Micheal (Melissa); his nieces and nephews Hailey, Mikey, Chevy and Nova; his brother Tyron; his nephew Tyron Jr; his sister Janeisha; his brother Mikelle (Marsheria) and his special friends Angelo, Jay and Will.

Jeff is preceded in death by his mother, Rosetta Thomas; grandfather Gary Thomas; grandmother Betty Metheny; uncles Tracy Thomas, Jeff Thomas, Charlie Metheny; and his cousin Paul Metheny.

Family and friends may call at Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N Tenth Street, De Pere, WI from 5pm on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, until the time of service at 7pm.

Special Thank You to our firekeepers: David, Bobby, Albert, Junior, Elliot, Mikey, Devin, Ronnie, Dylan and Brad.

**DR. CLIFFORD ABBOTT****May 31, 1947 - January 20, 2026**

Univ. of Wisconsin -Green Bay Professor Emeritus and linguistics scholar Clifford Frazer Abbott passed away at his Green Bay home on January 20,

2026, at the age of 78.

He had struggled stoically with cancer for many years. This last time, the illness

had finally become too virulent to resist. His family takes comfort in the exquisite medical care he received; and in the gift of dying in his own bed, peacefully, and fully present in the moment, knowing he was with someone with whom he had shared a lifetime of love.

A celebration of Cliff's life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in his memory to: University of Wisconsin Foundation UW Patient Assistance Fund, University of Wisconsin - Green Bay Foundation, The Green Bay Botanical Garden, Wisconsin Public Radio, Wisconsin Public Television.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to the family by visiting [www.lyndahl.com](http://www.lyndahl.com)

The Lyndahl Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Clifford "Cliff" F. Abbott, please visit our floral store.

**KEVIN F. JORDAN****October 11, 1966 - February 10, 2026**

Kevin F. Jordan, age 59, of Oneida, WI, passed away, Tuesday, February 10, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family, after a courageous battle with cancer

and other ailments. He was born October 11, 1966, in Green Bay, the son of Kermit and Victoria (Thomas) Jordan.

Kevin graduated from West De Pere High School, Class of 1984. He continued his education at Concordia University and graduated with his bachelor's degree in business from Mount Senario College. Kevin worked for many years as a gym teacher aide at the Oneida Nation Turtle School. He later moved to Arizona, where he enjoyed his years in the dry, desert heat. Kevin returned to Wisconsin and worked for various area businesses until his health declined, most recently for Menards.

Kevin was an avid sports fanatic. He had a deep love for every sport and could talk about every sport as if it held a life lesson. Whether cheering from the couch or following his favorite teams closely, sports were one of the many ways he connected with the people around him. Over the years he played hockey, baseball, softball,

golf, volleyball, lacrosse, football, bowling, carrying that competitive spirit and team pride long after he stepped off the field and rink. He was very proud to have been a referee for hockey and lacrosse coach.

In addition to his love for sports, he also had a passion for good food. Nicknamed "Jughead" or "Jugger" in college, his joy of eating food was apparent at an early age. Some of his favorites included Mexican food, specifically salsa, fried chicken breasts and Kettle Corn from the farmer's market.

Kevin's heart was bursting with love for his family. He was a devoted son, brother, uncle, nephew and friend-but to his nieces and nephews, he was something even more special. They knew without question that he would do anything for them. When he was mobile, he was always ready to take them anywhere they needed to go-to games, practices, outings or just to grab something to eat. Time with him meant laughter, commentary, memories and feeling completely cared for. He was also known for his unique sense of humor and crude, sarcastic wit. Kevin never sugar-coated anything and his quick remarks often caught you off guard-if you know, you know!

Kevin is survived by his mother, Victoria "Vickie" Jordan; siblings, Kurt (Melissa) Jordan and Emilie Jordan; nieces and nephew: Gabrielle (Bruce), Brady and Morgan and great-nephews and great-niece: Kingston, Kalia and Koa, who will forever carry his stories, his humor and the strength he modeled. He is further survived by aunts, Carla (Curt) Danforth and Inez (Ed) Thomas; uncle, Michael Thomas; many cousins, other relatives and many friends, including special friend, Randy Krohn and special cousin (more like a brother), Scott Thomas.

He was preceded in death by his father, Kermit Jordan, his maternal and paternal grandparents and numerous aunts and uncles.

Visitation will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, Monday, February 16, 2026, from 9-11am. A funeral service will follow at 11am with Pastor Chris Burg presiding.

Though our hearts are broken, we are grateful for the years, the memories and



the love he gave so freely. His impact on our family will never fade.

### CHARISE MARY WEBSTER

July 6, 1981-February 10, 2026



Charise Mary Webster, 44, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends at her side on February 10, 2026. She was

born in Huntington Park, CA on July 6, 1981, to Darrold "Bossy" Webster (Veronica) and Joyce Yealey (Hill).

Charise obtained her GED and worked various times in the Accounting Operations Department at the Oneida Casino. In her time, she worked at the casino, she was promoted to a lead position and as a trainer for new hires in the department due to her knowledge and her outgoing personality. She also spent lots of time as a bartender at The Slammer. She enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her cherished grandchildren who she visited often and helped take care of them when she could. She enjoyed going to casinos, hanging out, and socializing with her crew of friends. Charise was compassionate and had a big heart. She was known to take care of her family and friends when they were injured or ill and needing any help.

Charise is survived by her mother Joyce Yealey (Hill); her father Darrold "Bossy" Webster (Veronica); sister Rebecca "Bobcat" Gardner; her children Adrian Webster and Andreah Newberry; grandchildren Adrian Jr. & Za'riah (Bitty Bitty BomBom) with their mother Victoria Moon; and Amari & Amiri with their mother Hayley Degrave and her daughter Andreah's newest son Amias. She is survived & loved by many aunts; uncles; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Charise is preceded in death by her grandparents Clarence Hill Sr.; Freida Wilber; Louis and Mary Webster; and many aunts and uncles on both sides of her family. We would like to give a special thank you to her "Latches" Nikki and Jody Nueman for being the bestest friends ever!

Family and friends may call to Ryan Funeral Home, 305 N. Tenth St., De Pere,

WI 54115, from 9am – 11am on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. A Memorial Service will begin at 11:00am, lunch at 12pm @ Ryan Funeral Home, and burial at 2pm at Zion Lutheran Cemetery, 453 Rose-Hill dr., Hobart, WI, with Brian Stevens officiating. Ryan Funeral Home, De Pere, is assisting. We would like to say thank you to St. Vincent Hospital for all the help and care they gave to Charise We would also like to extend our appreciation to all the people that were here for the family during this hard time and a special thank you to all the Fire Keepers that assisted with keeping her fire.

### JUDITH ANN MATTHEWS

February 1, 1942-February 11, 2026



Judith Ann "Judy" Matthews, age 84, of Green Bay, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

Born on February 1, 1942, in Green Bay, Judy was the daughter of the late Earl and Elizabeth (Archiquette) Smith. She was a proud graduate of Green Bay East High School, Class of 1963.

Judy was known for her quick wit, wonderful sense of humor, and her fearless ability to speak her mind. She lived her life with honesty, strength, and a deep love for her family. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and great-grandmother who cherished every moment spent with those she loved.

Judy was married to the late George "Glen" Matthews, with whom she built a loving family. Together they raised four children: Elizabeth, Bobby Jo, Gary, and Charlotte. Her greatest joy was her family, and she was blessed with 22 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren, each of whom brought immense pride and happiness to her life.

In her younger years, Judy enjoyed bowling and was proud to have started the women's pool league in Green Bay. She loved playing bingo, card games, and Yahtzee with her brothers and sisters, creating countless memories filled with laughter and friendly

competition. She also delighted in decorating her home for every season, always making it warm and welcoming for family gatherings.

Judy is survived by Siblings, Karen Skenandore, Muriel Process, Stanley (Linda) Smith, Gary (Cheryl) Smith, Darryl Smith, Elizabeth (Rick) Kramer, Susan (Matthew) Loch, Larry (Donna) Smith, and Chrystal Smith. She is survived by Sister in laws, Sarah Smith, Joni Smith, and Heidi Smith.

Preceded in death by Brothers, Rev Earl Smith, Llewelyn Smith and Bradley Smith, and daughter Charlotte Matthews.

A visitation will be held in her honor on February 24, 2026, at Newcomer Funeral Home.

She will be deeply missed and forever loved.

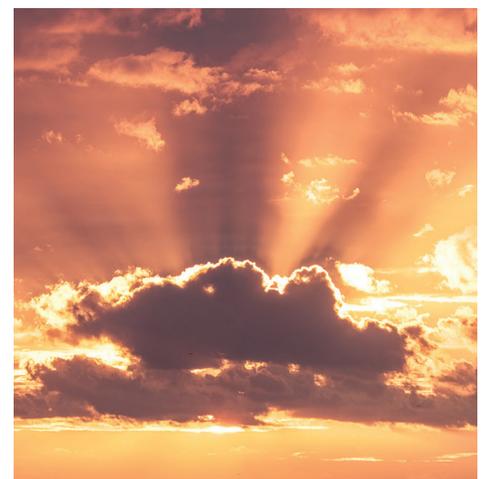
## On Their Journey

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

Pending room, obituaries longer  
than 300 words will be printed.  
If not, the Kalihwisaks requests  
that submitters provide both a  
shortened and full length version.

The full length version will  
be linked to via a QR code.

The Kalihwisaks reserves  
the right to make exceptions  
to this guideline.



PUBLIC NOTICE

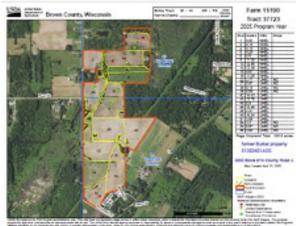
## AGRICULTURAL LAND LEASE FOR BID

Applications are available on our website at  
[Oneida-nsn.gov/divisions/environmental/commercial-agricultural-leasing/](http://Oneida-nsn.gov/divisions/environmental/commercial-agricultural-leasing/)

**Lease Term – 5 years**

**Minimum Bid – \$225.00 per acre (Non-Tribal Members), \$175.00 per acre (Tribal Members)**





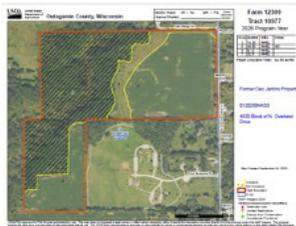
Reference Number: 01202601AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 84.64  
 Location: 3600 Block of N. County Road U,  
 Oneida, WI 54155



Reference Number: 01202602AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 35.93  
 Location: W1023 Van Road,  
 Kaukauna, WI 54130



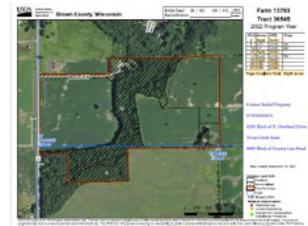
Reference Number: 01202603AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 40.6  
 Location: 600 Block of Trout Creek,  
 Oneida, WI 54155



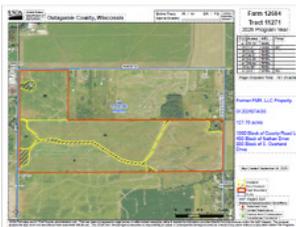
Reference Number: 01202604AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 45.5  
 Location: 4500 Block of N. Overland  
 Drive, Oneida, WI 54155



Reference Number: 01202605AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 73.3  
 Location: 700 Block of Nathan Drive,  
 De Pere, WI 54115



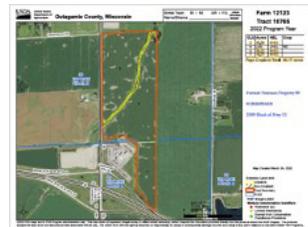
Reference Number: 01202606AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 127.83  
 Location: 34300 Block of County Road U,  
 Oneida, WI 54155



Reference Number: 01202607AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 127.78  
 Location: 1000 Block of County Road U,  
 Oneida, WI 54155



Reference Number: 01202608AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 66.94  
 Location: W400 Block of Fish Creek  
 Road, De Pere, WI 54115



Reference Number: 01202609AGS  
 Approximate Acreage: 93.94  
 Location: 2500 Block of Hwy 32,  
 Pulaski, WI 54162

All applications must be turned in no later than 4pm, Tuesday, March 17, 2026.  
 Applications will not be accepted after this date and time.  
**ALL BIDS MUST BE SEALED AND CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE REFERENCE NUMBER STATED ABOVE.**  
 Bid opening will be at 10am, Friday, March 20, 2026.

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Paper copies of the application can be picked up and dropped off at our office:  
 Land Management • 470 Airport Drive • Oneida, WI 54115  
 Applications can mailed to: ELA Division • PO Box 365 • Oneida, WI 54155 • Attn: Sheila Huntington

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**Method of determining who will be awarded the lease:**  
 Date and time application is received • Tribal department or Tribal member will be given priority in the case of a tie  
 Following the Agricultural Rule #2 – Agricultural Leasing

**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, Wisconsin 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.

## Tribal Contribution Savings Report - Quarterly Highlight Report Period: Sep.-Dec. 2025 • CIP #21-113 Oneida Nation Farm Office and Shop

### Project Description:

New Workshop and Office Strengthen Farm Operations After Devastating Storm Damage.

After a fire and tornado caused significant destruction to several farm structures, the completion of a new workshop and office marks an important step forward in rebuilding and strengthening operations. The addition comes at a crucial time, as the farm continues to expand its animal herds and increase crop production to support the community's growing food sovereignty needs. A more efficient and functional workspace has become essential to sustaining this progress.

The total project cost is \$1,846,000, pending final closeout documents. This investment reflects both the scale of the damage sustained and the long-term value of creating modern, resilient facilities that can support the farm's growing responsibilities.

The new building includes an expanded onsite workshop designed to improve daily operations and equipment maintenance. It also features a walk-in freezer dedicated to beef and bison storage, ensuring safe and reliable handling of locally produced protein. In addition, the storefront Beef and Bison retail market now offers customers the opportunity to purchase high-quality cuts of meat directly from the farm.

Seven full-time staff members keep the farm running year-round, working diligently to provide healthy protein sources and generate revenue for the Nation. The upgraded workspaces reflect their commitment to the farm's continued success.

### Schedule

Approvals—2023 • Design—2023 • Bidding—2024  
Construction—Sep. 2024 • Substantial Completion—Summer 2025  
Farm Staff have moved from existing building to new building.

Contractors are working final details.

Closeout documents pending.

### Project Partners

Engineering, Agriculture, DPW, CWS, NRCS



To view more TC Savings reports  
Scan QR Code to access Oneida Mem-  
bers Only Page: Once logged in, click  
on ARPA - TC Savings





**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

**Reelect**  
**JENNIFER**  
**WEBSTER**



**Respectfully asking for your vote**  
**once again, I promise to bring the same**  
**commitment to our Oneida Community**  
**as I always have.**

**Together, let’s put in the work to**  
**bring prosperity to our Nation.**  
**Experience on Tribal, State**  
**and Federal levels.**

**Feel free to contact me at 920-639-9190.**



**MARCH 11, 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.**

April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8,  
Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14  
Nov.(Canceled Veteran’s Day), Dec. 9

**This month’s activity is a spring wreaths.**



BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS



APPLY NOW

The Oneida Nation is looking for qualified applicants to fill currently open positions for various Boards Committees and Commissions positions. The purpose of these positions is to operate and support programs and activities across the Oneida Nation, and to solicit charitable donations to fund such programs and activities.

**VIEW VACANCIES!**



**APPLICATION!**



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

**920.869.4303**

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## ATTENTION ONEIDA CITIZENS

Effective  
Wed., April 1, 2026



**Oneida Trust Enrollments will be going CASHLESS, no exceptions.**

**What is acceptable:**  
Debit/Credit Cards • Checks  
Oneida Retail Gift Cards  
Money Orders/Cashier Checks

920.869.6200 • TrustEnrollments@OneidaNation.org  
Mail to: P.O. Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155

## Dance Stomp Shake

### INTUITIVE MOVEMENT CLASS

**Increase your intuition and reconnect with yourself & others.**

Come join us as we learn to unwind, release physical restrictions and feel the energy within our bodies move. In this 6-week program we'll help you create your own personal movement practice. No previous dance experience required.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**  
MARCH 4 - APRIL 8 | 6-8:30PM

FACILITATOR: **Jen Allard, OTR, Myofascial Release & CranioSacral Therapist**

ALL CLASSES HELD AT **Inward Bound**

6-Week Course \$200  
PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS

RESERVE YOUR SPOT | CALL, TEXT OR DM (920) 639-5366

1641 Commanche Ave. Suite D | Green Bay | Inward Bound

## JUST MOVE IT ONEIDA

# MARCHING TOWARD HEALTH

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH - 4-6PM**

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

**Free JMIO Mini Lunch Cooler to the first 100 participants.**

**FREE SOUP & SNACKS**

**★ 2026 PUNCH CARD**

Attend 8 of the 11 JMIO events in 2026 to be entered in the grand prize drawings at the end of the year.

- Walk 1-3 miles inside or outside the school.
- Kid games in the gym.

**ONEIDA** Comprehensive Health Division  
For more information or questions contact Hanna:  
920-490-3927 hleisgan@oneidanation.org | Justmoveit Oneida



**ONEIDA AGING & DISABILITY GIFT SHOP**  
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 ONEIDA WI  
 920-869-2448






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 SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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920.869.4432  
[Oneida.NSN.gov/OLCC](http://Oneida.NSN.gov/OLCC)

**Oneida Land Claims Commission Book Club**

**Tuesdays: February 10 and March 10 • 5pm**  
 Norbert Hill Center Cafeteria • N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI 54155

Discuss history, rights, treaties, and Oneida Land Claims.  
 Food & light refreshments • Books provided (pick up at NHC Office)





**Dress to Impress with Oneida Nation Gear**

In response to community requests, the Oneida Nation has formed a partnership with a clothing provider to offer a variety of branded apparel for purchase.



Scan the QR code or go to [OneidaNation.MyBrightSites.com](http://OneidaNation.MyBrightSites.com)

## 2026 Healthy Living with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) Education Series

*A free quarterly support and education series about brain health and living well with MCI*

### Unpacking Ultra-Processed Foods

**Friday, March 6**

**9:30–11:30 a.m.**



Join us to learn what ultra-processed foods are and explore why people who eat less of these packaged foods tend to have better health outcomes. Participants will gain confidence in making food choices that support their brain health and overall well-being. The program will end with a Q&A session. Free and open to all.

**Register to attend the program in person at one of ten locations across Wisconsin. Or join us live online via Zoom from anywhere.**

**Guest Presenter:** Beth Olson, PhD

**Register to attend in person in the Onieda Nation by contacting Shendola Flores at 920-869-4995.**

#### Held at:

Oneida Community Health Center  
525 Airport Drive  
Oneida, WI 54155



#### About the Series:

Healthy Living with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) offers attendees guidance and science-backed strategies for living and coping with memory and thinking changes.

Join **Nathaniel Chin, MD**, and **Jennifer McAlister, BA**, from the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, and guest speakers, to learn more about MCI. Each program will end with a Q&A session.

#### Questions?

Contact the Wisconsin ADRC at 608-265-0407 or [adrc@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:adrc@medicine.wisc.edu)

#### Presented by:



**Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

#### Community Partners:



**ONEIDA**

*The ADRCs of Brown, Dane, Dodge, Door, Eagle Country, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, and La Crosse counties, and the Onieda Nation are committed to unbiased service and cannot endorse nor recommend any organization, product, or service.*

# Traditional Knowledge, Modern Entertainment

## Oneida Community Integrated Food Systems Develops App

By Yewe Cornelius

The Oneida Community Integrated Food Systems (OCIFS) program is designed to support food sovereignty within the Oneida Nation. There are many avenues in which they go about doing so, from the Oneida Farmers Market to educational resources for youth, they work hard to help the Nation be self-sustainable, especially when it comes to our food relatives the Oneida community consumes and has access to.

OCIFS has many goals aimed at creating healthier Oneida Youth including:

- Increasing the amount of locally grown and harvested food for the community.
- Increasing food safety awareness and knowledge.
- Increasing excitement and interest in the importance of food sovereignty.

To accomplish this, OCIFS developed an app geared toward teaching Oneida youth about our traditional foods through a interactive game designed to run on phones and other mobile devices.

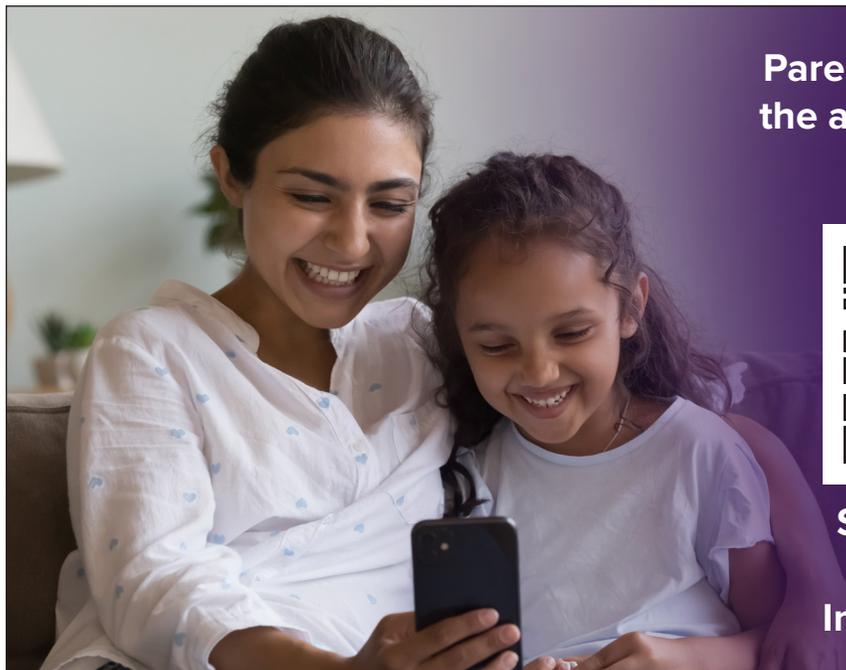
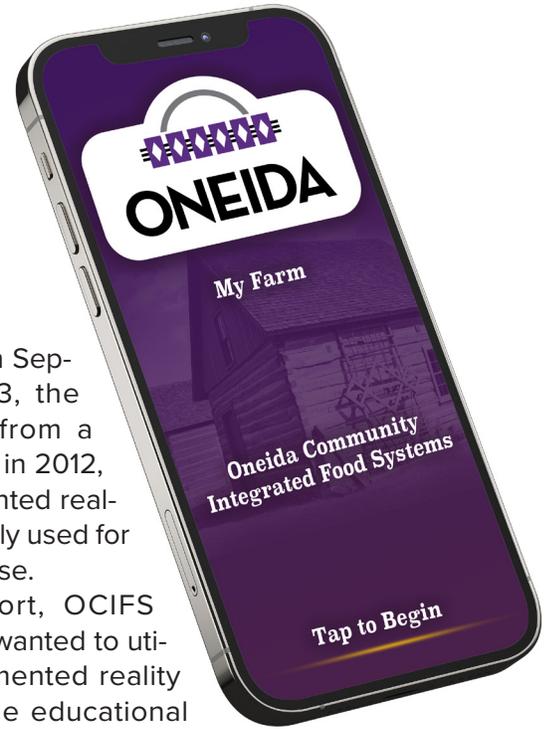
The Oneida My Farm app uses augmented reality to walk kids through the preparation of traditional foods and dishes while also teaching them important food safety skills. While the development and implementation of this

app started in September 2023, the idea stems from a thought back in 2012, when augmented reality was still only used for commercial use.

Bill Vervoort, OCIFS Coordinator, wanted to utilize the augmented reality method in the educational sphere. The result is a combination of education and entertainment representing OCIFS' newest venture in engaging youth with Oneida food systems.

Previously they have hosted Youth Day on the Farm for Oneida Nation elementary students and have done workshops with the Oneida Nation Farm and Oneida Nation Apple Orchard.

“Educating our youth about food and health is vital and requires a complex approach. With the help from Balance Studios, we were able to create an electronic platform that combines education and entertainment,” says Vervoort.



Parents are encouraged to download the app for their kids by following the step-by-step guide.



Step-by-Step  
Guide to  
Install the App



Download  
and Install  
the App

# Preparing for Change

## A Look Into the Demolition of Morgan's Store

Submitted by Oneida Environmental, Land & Agriculture Division



When the old Morgan's Store building at W135 N. Service Road was constructed over five decades ago, the Oneida Community also built many memories derived from their patronage of the historic general store.

After Morgan's closed, there was discussion of turning the property into a pastry shop. Unfortunately, this idea was quickly scrapped when building inspectors discovered the 53-year-old structure's risk factors, including the presence of asbestos and an unstable foundation. For these reasons, the building was marked for demolition.

Demolishing a building requires complying with an array of ordinances, including adherence to environmental regulations that safeguard the health and safety of the community. This process also needs the attention of numerous employees across departments working together.

One of the first steps is removing the asbestos. This began in November 2025. Just over a month later, it was completed in early December 2025. Currently the structure is undergoing zoning procedures, another crucial step

whereby power and gas connections are capped back to the main line near the road. The building has also received cultural clearance and has been green-lighted for removal by guidelines set in the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The next zoning step will require a land use agreement. In addition to the regulatory steps involved, there is also another factor to ensure public safety.

Performing a demolition is often safer during the winter months because one, people are less likely to be out and walking past the building, and two, surfaces around the demo area are not as likely to be damaged from heavy machinery.

Lastly, final in-house steps are underway to harvest and recycle as much copper wire and metal they can. Oneida's Division of Public works also receives proceeds from the recycled metals to purchase diesel fuel. The bottom line is that all employees and contractors involved are doing their best to ensure the safety of the community while doing so in an environmentally conscious way.

### Other Properties Slated for Demolition:

W1871 on Cty EE (Comprehensive Housing Rental Unit) • 126 Riverdale (Old Schoolhouse)  
4184 W. Mason (Small blue house and garage) • 3100 County U (Old House)



# KALIHWISAKS

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# ONEIDA

## Pow Wow

*Save the Date*

**June 26-28, 2026**

**Over \$108,000  
in Prize Money**

**Public is Welcome  
Dancing, Singing  
& Craft/Food Vendors**

 Oneida Pow Wow  Oneida Tourism  
Norbert Hill Center Pow Wow Grounds • N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida, WI