

Kalihwisaks

"She Looks For News"

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Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
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Volume 305 Newspaper of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin December 31, 1998

Compact renewal news story of the year

By Kevin Moore
Kalihwisaks

In a year full of big stories, there may be little argument that the top story undoubtedly was the renewal of the gaming compact. The tribe agreed to a five-year renewal on May 8 with Gov. Tommy Thompson after two years of negotiation, with annual payments of \$4.85 million. Chairwoman Deborah Doxtator said, "We've protected our sovereignty ... we are still self-managing and self-regulating," and "we've been able to protect and maintain the services to our membership and employment base ... within the community."

Following, in no particular order, are the remainder of the top 10 stories, chosen by the Kalihwisaks staff, that have affected the Oneida Nation.

Oneida land claim suit amendment "not a whim"

Attorney Arlinda Locklear says "failed process" led to the amendment

By Kevin Moore
Kalihwisaks

The three Oneida communities of Wisconsin, New York and Canada came together and filed an amended lawsuit to the 24-year-old land claim in New York State. The Department of Justice also filed an amended suit supporting the Oneidas.

The amended suit, filed Dec. 8 in federal court in Syracuse, asks that New York state and 20,000 landowners be added as defendants in the case.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1974 against Madison and Oneida counties in New York, saying the Oneidas retain 250,000 acres of ancestral land

ARENA AND CONVENTION CENTER 'NO' VOTE

By a vote of 317-148 on Aug. 1, the General Tribal Council said they would not lend financial support to the proposed arena and expanded convention center facilities in Green Bay. The Business Committee had pledged their support by a 5-2 vote to contribute \$22.8 million to the projects through a room tax at the Radisson Inn.

GM CONTRACT NOT RENEWED

The Business Committee voted 5-1 not to renew Artley Skenandore's general manager contract. There was no cause given for the decision, but some members said that the position historically is a limited-term job.

NEW YORK LAND CLAIM

in those counties because the land was illegally purchased in 1795.

Plaintiffs' attorney Arlinda Locklear said the Oneidas are seeking full relief for trespass damages, which could include eviction or some other remedy, such as forced rental payments or imposed life estates on landowners, in which the land would revert back to the Oneida Nation after current landowners are deceased.

The court could also order the state to create a fund to pay occupants who want to sell their land, Locklear said, with Oneidas having the first option to purchase.

The measures would "give meaning to the Oneida right to possession" of their ancestral land, Locklear said.

There has been "fairly strong reaction" to the amended lawsuit, Locklear said, which "is normal in a claim area. I can't

See Back Page
Land Claim

AMENDED TO INCLUDE PROPERTY OWNERS

The three Oneida communities of Wisconsin, New York and Canada came together and filed an amended lawsuit to the 24-year-old land claim in New York State. The amended suit, filed Dec. 8 in federal court in Syracuse, asks that New York state and 20,000 landowners be added as defendants in the case.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INQUIRY IN BABBITT INVESTIGATION

The tribe complied with a Department of Justice inquiry regarding campaign contributions to the Democratic National Convention. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt is under investigation, denying that donations to the DNC by Wisconsin

and Minnesota tribes influenced the Interior Department's rejection of casino application by the Chippewas at a site in Hudson, Wis.

ONEIDA, VA SIGN HISTORIC AGREEMENT

Under a first-ever agreement between the federal government and a tribal nation, Oneida and Veterans Administration officials signed an agreement Oct. 30 whereby the Oneida Community Health Center will provide medical care to veterans who are Oneida tribal members. Veterans no longer will have to travel to a VA hospital for medical care.

FOX RIVER CLEANUP

The Environmental Protection Agency, dissatisfied with the pace of negotiations with area paper mills over the Fox River

cleanup, said the EPA and the Department of Natural Resources, not the paper companies, will develop a plan for removing pollution from the river, and proposed placing the lower end of the river on the federal Superfund list.

The Oneida Nation is part of a governmental group that is overseeing the cleanup of the lower Fox River and Green Bay. It includes the Menominee Nation, EPA, WDNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

ITF CLOSES DOORS

The Appeals Commission Appellate Court ruled Aug. 12

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Top Ten

Go Pack go!



Photo by Kevin Moore

Rod Kresel (center), president of Game Day Sports, presents two Packer paintings of Bart Starr, Brett Favre, Willie Davis and Reggie White to casino Gaming Manager Louise Cornelius-King, and Business Committee councilman Ernie Stevens Jr. The paintings are by Kenosha artist George Pollard.

Chairwoman Doxtator takes medical leave

Oneida, Wis. - Oneida Nation Chairwoman Deborah Doxtator took a six-week medical leave on Dec. 18.

No further details were available, but Vice Chairman Gary Jordan issued a press release stating he would "assume all duties of chairman for the next six weeks."

Jordan stated, "It is unfortunate when anyone is faced with a medical condition that prohibits their ability to be here day to day. We all respect her request for

some time off and offer our full support for her recovery."

The press release said the Business Committee "will continue to carry out the roles and responsibilities of the Oneida Nation," and would meet to discuss temporary work re-assignments.



Doxtator

Top Ten From Page 1

that the Investigative Task Force must shut its doors and present its findings.

The task force investigated employee complaints alleging mismanagement of the Social Services Department and Governmental Services Division. **PARISH HALL RECEIVES HISTORICAL SOCIETY AWARD**

The newly-renovated Oneida Episcopal Parish Hall received the Brown County Historical Society award of commendation.

It was re-opened after \$2.1 million in renovations.

GAS TAX EXEMPTION

Oneida One-Stop and Hilltop Shell gas stations announced that tribal members could purchase fuel tax-free under a refund agreement with the state.

Other stories that were considered and received honorable mention were Robby Knievel World Record Jump, Spirit Dance, Cost Containment Leads to Budget Resolution, Oneida Officials Win Libel Suit, Jay Johnson Defeated, and Oneida Gets Burned By Cigarette Tax.

Employee files discrimination lawsuit against Oneida Nation

By Kevin Moore

Kalihiwisaks

The manager of the Oneida Probation and Parole Department filed a federal discrimination lawsuit against the chairwomen and 22 tribal employees.

The suit, filed by Kelly Stevens, alleges he was harassed and discriminated against in the workplace, and seeks \$1 million in damages each from Oneida Police Chief James Danforth, former General Manager Artley Skenandore and Enterprise Director Debra Powless.

Stevens, a former Oneida police officer, petitioned the court for injunctions against 20 other tribal employees, including Chairwoman Deborah Doxtator, and Interim General Manager Janice Hirth.

Stevens suit claims he was not given a fair chance in the tribe's legal system after he was demoted from police officer to a security officer position and resisted a pay cut. He said part of the reason he was taken off police duties was that his report-writing

skills weren't good enough. Stevens has been diagnosed as having learning disabilities, including dyslexia and dysgraphia, which impair reading and writing abilities, respectively.

Stevens said while on the police force he suffered "discrimination, humiliating interference in the performance of duty, and harassment in a hostile work environment," and was "held up to public disparagement, libel, and slander." He claims he was demoted partly "because of political reasons."

Stevens was later transferred to the Probation and Parole Department in a reconciliation agreement, after an attempt to place him in Social Services, he said.

"Some people say I'm in this position (Probation and Parole program manager) because of who my father and brother are. (His brother, Ernie Jr., is a Business Committee member, and his father, Ernie Sr., is the former Development Director.)

"I'm making progress with the department, but I'm not getting the support of the tribe. You need the support of the administrators" and legislators, he said.

"I can't get any help from the tribe. I've cooperated, and am doing my best to be loyal," he said, and tried to negotiate his differences, "but they're not open to a win-win agreement. The deck is always stacked against me."

In the meantime, Stevens said his job has been posted after his agreement expired in September. He asked that the agreement be extended until his complaint that the agreement was not honored is resolved.

Stevens said, "I had no choice but to go outside and seek justice," in filing his case in federal court in Milwaukee.

Police Chief James Danforth said, "I prefer not to discuss it at this time, until we decide how to respond." Danforth said he "will sit down with advisors. I'm not sure where he (Stevens) is all coming from."

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"She Looks For News"
Newspaper of the
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Kalihiwisaks encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor. However, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length. Submissions of articles, poetry, short stories, artwork and photos are also encouraged. Kalihiwisaks does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material and does not guarantee publication upon submission. Please respect that the Letters Page is a public forum and should not be confused with a public bulletin. Articles and all other submissions are subject to editing. Kalihiwisaks cannot be responsible for content.

Kalihiwisaks is a member of the
Native American Journalists
Association



NOTICE

Due to the Gaming Strategy Meeting, the regular LOC meeting of January 7, 1999 has been canceled. All items will be deferred to the next LOC meeting, which will be January 14, 1999. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Shirley Hill at 869-4475.

PARENTS

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Skenandore delivers the gift of life

By Kevin Moore
Kalihiwisaks

Like the mothers of 600 babies delivered by midwife Alice Skenandore's gentle hands, so too has the Ford Foundation put its trust in Skenandore.

The Ford Foundation gave Skenandore an unsolicited grant of \$150,000 for midwifery and women's health care programs.

"I didn't really ask for it," said Skenandore, who has been midwifing for 20 years. A woman from the Ford Foundation heard Skenandore speak at a conference and asked her to visit the foundation in New York.

Skenandore started holding meeting last summer in her home. It is called the Wisconsin Women Gathering Place, and meets Mondays at her home at 4143 Merrimac Way.

The organization is one of 16 groups forming SisterSong: Women of Color Reproductive Health Project. The project has identified problems that contribute to poor reproductive health in minority communities.

A Ford Foundation report states that "Native American women have a very clear need for reproductive tract infection (RTI) education and advocacy. According to Indian health Service statistics, Native American women make up 15 percent of U.S. AIDS cases, compared to 7 percent for Caucasian women. Because they are often diagnosed later and have poorer survival rates than other women, cervical cancer affects native American women at a rate more than twice that of other American women (20 percent in native women compared to the U.S. national average of 8.6 percent; and their death rate

from cervical cancer is also higher than for other U.S. populations.

It continues, "According to the U.S. Census Bureau, these dreadful statistics may be underestimated due to a cultural attitude of mistrust that native people feel towards researcher, often resulting in their not participating in research studies."

Skenandore said the weekly gatherings are designed "for women to learn more about their bodies, and reproductive health care. All the women I talk to are so excited about this."

She offers instruction on making salves, has a growing library of videotapes on reproductive tract infections, and is developing notebooks of anecdotal experiences to use as a source of information that women can use "for the rest of their lives," she said.

Skenandore said giving birth at home gives women "more control over their experience. When you're in your own home, you are the boss. My belief is you have to feel free to release, relax, and let go of the baby, and feel at peace."

She resists using pain medication or labor-inducing drugs. "We don't put too many restraints on how long you stay pregnant," she said. "We don't usually tell women to push, and have less problems with tearing when you relax, and let the baby get born."

Skenandore will purchase a microscope next year and receive training on identifying infections and urinalysis.

The information is meant to help women "make informed choices," Skenandore said, based on knowledge rather than the

need for quick treatment. "Mothers and sister can take care of each other, and go together to the doctor's office."

Skenandore said pregnant women can have family members present while giving birth.

She wants to buy a piece of land and a building to hold her gatherings in; have herb walks, and conduct coming-of-age ceremonies. Her services will open to the public, and free, she said.

Skenandore said she has seen a change in peoples' attitude about birth, and sees a resurgence of home births from its popularity in the 60s.

"I've been feeling recently that something is happening in the world," she said. "I feel it." She said the grant she received is "a sign things are changing. The home-birth movement started in the 60s, and come to life."

Now there are four types of midwives: certified nurses trained by the medical profession (but not sanctioned in Wisconsin); licensed midwives (which don't have to be nurses, but need training; certified midwives (which have passed examinations); and direct-entry midwives (which Skenandore is. They practice under apprenticeship and experience.)

Skenandore began midwifing in Las Vegas. "I was an older mom," she said, at 30 years old, "and I lived in Las Vegas. No obstetricians would help me, so I started reading books."

She found the "Home-Oriented Maternity Experience," which she called a "do-it-yourself home-birth group, because you kind of had to do it yourself." "We joined the group, and we still have meetings today, on the second Saturday of the month. We started getting phone calls in



Photo by Kevin Moore

Midwife Alice Skenandore uses a pelvic model to demonstrate the birth process. Skenandore has attended 600 births over the last 20 years.

the middle of the night from strangers." Soon five midwives in the group were attending 5 percent of the births in Clark County, Nev., each doing 10-12 births monthly back in 1983.

One day Skenandore attended six births while she herself was due with her fourth of six children, Barry. Skenandore's water broke while attending her fifth birth that day, and she went home and gave birth to Barry after attending the sixth birth that day.

"I was taking children to births," she said, because child care was scarce in those days. "I caught lots of babies with another at my feet on the floor," she said.

"I believe when birth happens,

its an extremely spiritual event," Skenandore said. "A woman must throw back the field of protection, and be completely vulnerable. It only occurs during birth, or a dire situation. She becomes almost a primal person, clean and free of any earthly thing. She can't be evil, or angry — only innocent. There's her, and her baby, in the same position, and you can see the change. The mother and child pass a thousand messages that we don't recognize."

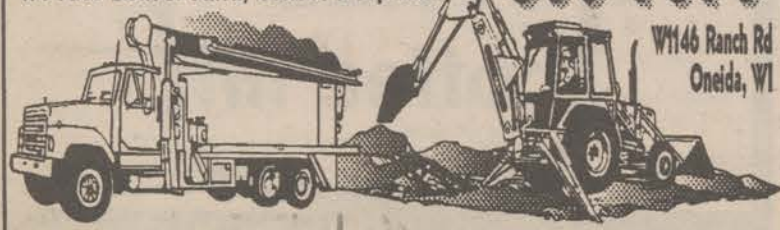
The telephone of the Wise Women Gathering Place is 499-9364. Skenandore recommended calling ahead. Her Monday gatherings are pre-empted if there is a birth on that day.

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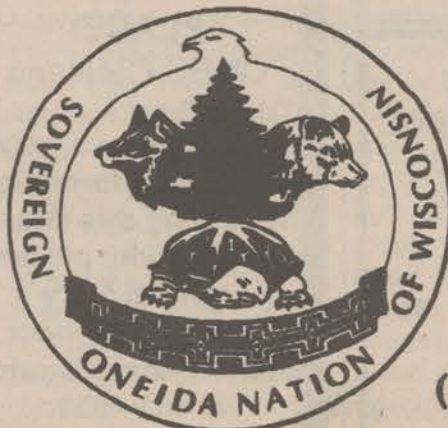
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Obituaries & Memorials

David Dean Doxtater, Jr.

Infant son of David and Paula Doxtater, Sr. died Dec. 24, 1998 at a local Green Bay hospital.

Other survivors include four sisters, Catherine, Kristy, Vaughn, and Tena; maternal grandfather, Edward J. Ellis, Sr. and paternal grandparents, Albert and Vaughn LaBelle.

Betty Ann (Corn)(Jordan) Powers

Age 60, Oneida, died peacefully Dec. 21, 1998 at home. The daughter of the late Gus Corn and the late Margaret (Hill)(Corn) Skenandore was born Aug. 22, 1938. Betty lived in Chicago for 29 years and returned to Oneida in 1981. She was a member of the DoDo Club and was very willing to help other people. Betty was an active member of the Oneida Apostolic Church.

Survivors include a son, Peter M. Jordan, Jr., Oneida; a daughter and son-in-law, Patricia "Toni" and Rod Vandehei; three grandchildren, Marvin Vandehei and friend, Heather; Frank Vandehei and friend, Amy; Steve Vandehei; three great-grandchildren, James, Breeanna and Morgan; special friend, Gabriel "Beaver" and Val Lakota, Appleton; two brothers, Ken and Betty Hill and John and "Mac" Hill; two sisters, Christine "Babe" Doxtator and Yvonne Skenandore; many nieces and nephews; and her church family. She was also preceded in death by her half-sister, Celene Hill and brothers Emroy "Stormy" Corn and Joe Corn. Burial is in Holy Apostles Cemetery.

The family extends a special thank you to the Oneida First Responders, the 6th floor Intermediate Care staff at St. Vincent Hospital, the Royce Lin Dialysis Center, the Oneida Health Center and Unity Hospice staff for all their loving care.

In Memory of Arlene Hornada (nee Meade)

January 1, 1924 to August 2, 1998

Mom, we miss you more deeply than we can say. Our grief is new and the wounds of the loss of you remain deep. We know you are with Jesus, so Hoya and happy birthday to you both.

Charlene Sanders, Darlene Ives, Lorin Hornada, Linda Hornada, Lisa Hornada; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters, brothers-in-law and friends



If there is an obituary of an Oneida Tribal member that has not been printed please send to the Kalihwisaks at P.O. Box 365, Oneida WI 54155. It will be printed at **no cost**. There will be a charge if you want an obituary printed of a non-Tribal member.



NOTICE

Memorials will now be **charged**

\$1.00 per column inch & an additional \$6.00 with photo

Call 490-2452 to submit a

memorial or send to Mary Ann Hendricks at the Kalihwisaks

MUST BE PREPAID

ONAP Visual Arts focus on traditional designs

The Oneida Nation Arts Programs (ONAP) emphasizes traditional designs in their 1999 visual arts classes. The next four classes include beginning and advanced Iroquois silver work, beginning soap stone carving and a modern painting class.

Anyone, regardless of tribal affiliation or none, can register for the classes. Teens are especially encouraged to apply for a scholarship that allows them free registration in the classes. The class instructors have various art degrees, experience, and work with many levels of students.

Coleen Bins, instructor for both silver classes, holds a B.F.A. degree in Jewelry and Metalcrafts and a Masters degree in Art Education. She is an Oneida tribal member and an art teacher at the Oneida Nation Elementary School. Her Introduction to Traditional Iroquois Jewelry, class is where a student will learn basic techniques in silver work and make a 2 inch silver brooch. This class includes 4 sessions and begins February 3rd, 1999.

The Intermediate Silver Iroquois Jewelry, class beginning in March 9, 1999, is for stu-

dents who have already done a project in Iroquois silver. Advanced silver work students will continue making silver jewelry with Iroquois designs.

Christine Klimmek, B.S. degree in Art Education and a staff member of ONAP, will teach painting classes. She will work with people interested in water color and acrylic painting techniques in Introduction to Painting. In this class, both beginning and intermediate students will learn techniques for painting on canvas. The class begins Wednesday March 17th, 1999.

Charlotte Darling-Diehl, with a Masters degree in Art

Education and 30 years stone carving experience, will teach the soap stone carving class. Anyone can register for the, Soap Stone Carving, class. In this class, students will work with a 10 pound section of soap stone and learn basic carving techniques. This class will be held in May.

Each class meets once a week in the evening and runs for about 4 to 6 sessions. The fee is \$30.00 dollars for each class and includes the cost material.

Registration and teen scholarships applications are available at the ONAP office. For more info, call Christine Klimmek at (920) 497-5850 ext. 5016.

TITLE IX GRANT APPLICATION OPEN FORUM

DATE:

Wednesday,
January 27, 1998

TIME:

6:00 p.m.

PLACE:

ONES Cafeteria

Title IX Grant Application is due February 1, 1999.

For more information regarding this Grant Application, please contact Mary Peterson, School District Administrator at 869-4623.



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SENIOR SCENE



Activities & Information

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Instructor: Dr. Fred Cradler
Associate Professor

Days & Times: Thursdays from
Jan. 7 - April 15, from 5-8:30pm

Location: High School Library, Norbert Hill Center
Credit: 4 Undergraduate Credits

Tuition: \$525.00

Alzheimer's Club

Meetings: Every Wednesday Morning
(Starting January 27, 1999)

Itinerary:

9:00 a.m. - Greeting & visiting
9:15 a.m. - Stretching & exercising
9:30 a.m. - Refreshments
9:45 a.m. - Table activities
10:30 a.m. - Recreation
11:15 a.m. - Bring sack lunch -
Beverage provided!
11:45 a.m. - Storytime
12:15 a.m. - Time to say "Good-Bye!"
See you next week!

Please call Leigh Campshure
(Alzheimer's Respite Specialist)
for membership information at
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Cyber granny: Clarksville senior citizens go surfing on the web

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Just call her cyber-granny.

Grace Smith, 75, wanted in on the e-mail loop.

"My family is spread out all over: Georgia, New York, Texas and North Carolina. They all e-mail each other, but poor old Ma was left out. I wanted to get on the Internet and see what's going on. You're never too old," the grandmother of nine said.

Last summer Smith went to "computer school."

She wasn't alone.

Since the Clarksville-Montgomery County Ajax Turner Senior Citizens Center opened a computer lab in August, classes have been filled to capacity for every session.

"The response has been overwhelming. We've had about 80 people who have already taken the classes," said Dee Ormond, the center's assistant director and computer instructor.

"I thought we'd have a moderate response from people that we could start in a beginner's class."

Instead, the classes have become so popular the center added intermediate courses, bringing computer classes to the center Monday through Thursday of each week. Soon students will venture into spread sheets and databases.

The demand has not slowed and does not appear likely to abate any time soon.

Students have ranged in age from 55 to 85. Most don't have a computer at home, but are planning to purchase one after they complete their training at the senior citizens center, she noted.

Most of the center's computer students are women, but there are a few men in each class.

"They bring a wide range of abilities and familiarity. Some of them can't see so well and have to keep their eyes about five inches from the screen to see it, but they like the class anyway. They are so enthused about what they are learning," the instructor said.

"Dee has been wonderful. She has a sense of humor, but she keeps us on our toes. But most of all she makes us feel like we can learn it."

Ormond credits her students' desire to learn for the success of the program.

"For many of them this is a big step. They can't get away from computers. If they go to the library to look up a book

they have to use a computer. Many of them are realizing that if they are computer illiterate they are at a disadvantage," she said.

"I tell them to 'know thy enemy.' They can't get by what they don't know by ignoring it."

Smith is proud of her accomplishment. She'll soon be a computer owner.

"I can remember the first TVs I ever saw and thought they were a miracle. Now my oldest son drives an 18-wheeler and he has a computer in the truck. He can get e-mail right when he's on the road.

"I just wonder, what's next?"

Jolly time had by all



Photos by MaryAnn Hendricks

Enjoying a dinner at the Edgewood is what most elders did on Thursday, December 17th for the annual Elder Christmas Party. Elders received dinner, gifts, prizes and were entertained with live entertainment. Another very special Christmas party that took place throughout the holiday season was at the Anna John Nursing Home, with these residents receiving a new fleece robe and disposable camera, as well as other gifts. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus were also on-hand adding a special touch to the festivity.

EYE ON ENVIRONMENT

Outdoor recreation areas welcomes new addition

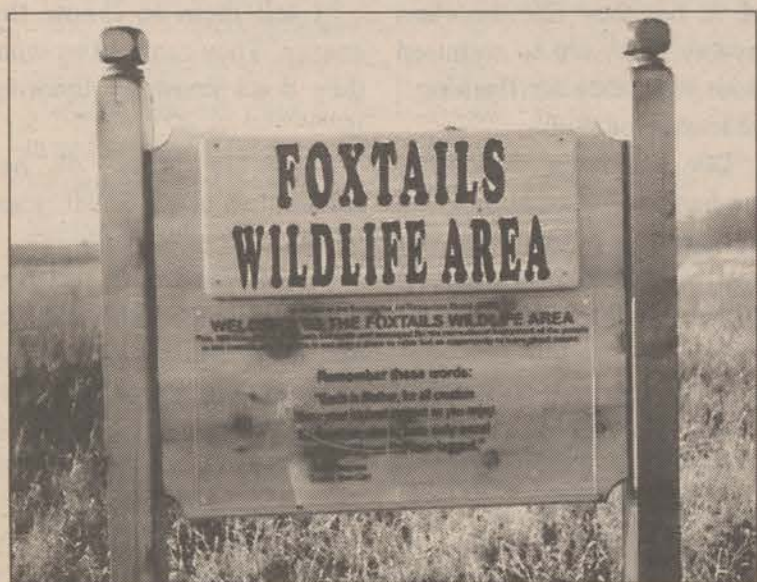


Photo courtesy of Laura Manthe

The Foxtails Wildlife Area is the newest addition to the outdoor recreational areas within Oneida. This 300-acre parcel of land features mowed trails, two wetland areas and plenty of wildlife viewing. You can access the area by Little Bear Development or by County Hwy. U. This area was created as part of an agreement and funds from the casino helped to pay for the enhancement. The community will have an opportunity to comment on how the Foxtails Wildlife Area will be managed in 1999. Until then, stop by and take a look.

Food Sanitation & Safety Class

All food vendors wishing to sell food to the public on the Oneida Reservation must complete the: (Certification good for 1 year) By completing the FREE four-hour class, you will be able to prepare or sell food to the public on the Oneida Reservation AND be qualified to obtain a food handlers license for Powwow's and other public events.

45 minute RE-CERTIFICATION classes offered!

**1999 SCHEDULE
RECERTIFICATION**

(Usually Third Tues. or Wed. of month)

12:10 to 12:55 p.m. on:

Wed., January 20, 1999

LOCATION: Ridgeview Plaza, Suite 5

SIGN UP: Call 497-5812, Oneida Environmental Health

At least one CERTIFIED person must be present at ALL times when food is being prepared and SOLD to the public. Also, all youth ages 12-15 wishing to help prepare and sell food are REQUIRED to become certified.

If you have any questions OR would like to sign up for an upcoming class, please call 497-5812. Thanks!

The year 1998 in review

Submitted by Environmental Health & Public Safety Dept.

As the calendar year draws to a close we'd like to re-visit some major contributions to a better environment in Oneida by the Environmental, Health & Safety Area (EH&S). Most of the projects took coordinated efforts between EH&S staff other Tribal Areas and community members to be completed; thanks to all of you for helping the programs' success. We will strive in this next year to improve our processes, reporting, and communication. Remember, the phone number for any of the departments or people listed is 497-5812. The highlights from each of our four departments are listed below.

Environmental & Industrial Health Department:

The Recycling & Solid Waste Program staff obtained a solid waste grant for FY99 totaling \$115,000. The disposal company the Tribe now uses is Superior rather than Waste Management. We carried out a radon testing program using a grant of \$30,700.00. The testing program went well; about 300 homes were tested, only seven showed the presence of radon.

The Tribal Sanitarian reports that Norbert Hill pond project is nearly completed. The Healthworks swimming pool is in great shape. There were 12 Food Sanitation & Safety Classes in which 106 people were certified. Also, a record 360 cats and dogs were vaccinated in the summer rabies clinic. In addition daily health inspections were completed for food vendors at all PowWows, carnivals, and other community festivals where food was served.

The indoor air quality program continued to provide technical assistance, inspections, project management and awareness education to Tribal members and employees.

Occupational Safety Department:

After three years of work, our Oneida Local Emergency Planning Committee was approved through the passing of the Emergency Service Ordinance in October of 1998. This action gives our community the capacity to develop plans in conjunction with other agencies to prepare for unforeseen community emergencies.

Inspection projects which have been established are a) Hazard Communication, b) Confined Space, c) Lock-out/Tag-out and the Building Inspection Program.

The Health and Safety team organized a work team to address injury prevention at our gaming operations. This work team will identify actions required to lessen employee's exposure to injury in the workplace. Also, this year's strategy which encouraged active participation of workers with more emphasis on self-directed safety inspections resulted in improved worker attitudes.

Working together with Occupational Health, Risk Management and others, we have lowered the workmen's compensation costs for the Tribe approximately \$100,000.

Environmental Quality Department:

The report which summarizes the damage done to the Fox River and its fishery by area paper mills (called Natural Resources Damage Assessment) was completed. Oneida retail gas stations are now in compliance with Underground storage tank (UST) requirements; this means protections against gasoline leaking into the Earth are now in place. Staff also helped prepare a corrective action plan for the Hwy 54 One-Stop UST issue and also closed out the Risk Base Corrective Action Grant for the One-Stop.

Staff completed 12 Natural Resource Inventories this year as well as 20 National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) categorical exclusions and 17 NEPA environmental assessments. We also responded to 14 separate environmental investigations this year, including three fuel spills reported by the community.

Mt. Shasta has victory

In an unprecedented action, the U.S. Forest Service has revoked a permit for the construction of a ski resort on Mt. Shasta because of the Mountain's cultural and sacred significance to northern California tribes.

Invoking the National Historic Preservation Act, Sharon Heywood, Forest Supervisor of the Shasta National Forests, determined that construction of the ski resort would have an adverse impact on Native American historic properties on Mt. Shasta, and therefore should be revoked.

Never before has a major federal government project or sponsored project been stopped because of its adverse impacts on Native American cultural properties. It is hoped that the lessons learned in this victory can be

applied to other similar Native American sacred site cases throughout the United States.

The victory is the result of the work of save Mt. Shasta, two non-profit Native and non-Native American organizations in northern California, which have fought for the protection of Mt. Shasta for over the past ten years. During that time attorney Charles M. Miller has represented these groups, and other individual Native Americans.

For more information on this victory, or the defense of Native American sites and culture in general, contact: Charles M. Miller, Esq., Law Office of Charles M. Miller, 225 Bush Street, 16th floor, San Francisco, CA, 94104 or call (415) 439-8357, fax (415) 439-8358.



YOUR Health

We ♥ Babies!

As of January 1, 1999

there will be **NO** more WIC drafts issued at the Three Sisters location. WIC drafts will be available at the Oneida Health Center the first Monday & Tuesday of each month from 8:00-4:30, including the noon hour.

In January, the pick up dates will be January 4th & 5th at the OCHC. Thank you.

Medicare + Choice

Beneficiaries in Wisconsin will receive a Medicare +Choice brochure this fall entitled, **Medicare and You**

Medicare and You is a six page brochure providing general information regarding the Medicare +Choice Program.

A detailed version of **Medicare and You** that includes specific information about Choice programs in the beneficiary's area is being mailed to five states at a time.

Wisconsin beneficiaries will receive the detailed version of this mailing in August 1999.

Medicare + Choice, a provision of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, allows beneficiaries the opportunity to choose from a variety of health plan options or to stay with traditional fee for service Medicare.

Eligibility

All Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in both Part A and Part B are entitled to enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan available in their area of residence, except for those with end-stage renal disease who were not already enrolled in a Medicare + Choice plan at the time of diagnosis.

Enrollment

The enrollment process for Medicare + Choice plans will continue through the end of 2001. Each November there will be a coordinated open enrollment where the plans must accept new enrollees for the following year. Currently, beneficiaries may move from plan to plan each month. However, in the future, beneficiaries will only be allowed to change plans once each year and the number of months allowed to make a change will be reduced.

By Pat Schneider
RN-Oneida Health Center

Why are there more diabetics in all cultures, in America today, than in the past? Would you like to help to prevent diabetes in yourself, your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren?

Today, Americans are predisposing themselves to earlier heart attacks and to diabetes by doing little or no exercise, eating high-fat, high sugar and low fiber food, and consequently, becoming more obese than ever before.

Elders and parents can help prevent diabetes in themselves and in the next generations. Prevention lies in proper nutrition and exercise and maintaining normal weight. Here are some tips on how to promote this healthy, preventative lifestyle in your offspring.

Rather than reward children with candy and cookies, you can praise them for a job well done. You can give hugs, read a book to them, or tell them a story about days gone by. You can use stickers as a reward. When a specific number of stickers is accumulated for a specified desirable behavior (such as getting school homework completed before supper), a reward such as a family outing is given.

It's not that children should never have a cookie or candy, but limiting sweets helps them to not develop a habit of eating sweets and "junk food." We learn to like what we eat, what we are used to. Also, avoid the "clean your plate" rule. Insisting that a child finish everything on his or her plate can cause a child to overeat and lose the ability to know when he or she is full. People who don't have the "full" sensation after eating tend to overeat and eat any time they see food.

Eating low fat foods tends to decrease weight gain. Increasing fiber is a healthy dietary feature. In modern times, food has been refined and that means fiber is removed from ingredients like wheat, corn, rice, and oat products. We need to look for fiber in foods. Raw veggies are a good alternative to sweets for snacks. Desserts tend to have a lot of fat in them.

When cooking for your family, relatives and friends, prepare a healthy menu. We all need to eat the same healthy diet. Use canola or safflower oil rather than margarine or butter in cook-

ing and baking. Egg substitute can be used in recipes, and even for omelettes, rather than eggs. Skim milk can be substituted for milk with fat. We need low fat foods today because our exercise level is so decreased.

Today we are a more sedentary society. We sit in front of TV, watch videos, sit at computers, and spend time on the telephone, rather than doing chores. Physical education came into the schools some years ago because of a change to a more sedentary lifestyle. In high school I was told in the late 50's and early 60's, that in the future, machines will do our work; people will do less physical work. That has certainly been the case.

Today, farmers use heavy equipment and machinery to do the work; factory workers monitor and operate machines; at home we have washers and dryers, dishwashers, riding lawnmowers and snowblowers.

To be more active and get more exercise, our children can ride bikes; do roller blading and skating, and rope jumping; play hockey; go for walks; play at parks and engage in outdoor games. Adults can go for walks, play sports in leagues such as bowling, tennis, volleyball, and others. We can use stationary bikes and treadmills at home, and work out at Healthworks.

The American population is more overweight and obese than in our recent history. By choosing proper nutrition and exercising routinely we can decrease our weight. If you or your children have weight problems, or want information on eating a healthy diet, you can make an appointment with a Registered Dietician at the Oneida Health Center.

Heredity is one risk factor for diabetes. However, overweight, lack of exercise, and a poor diet are other risk factors that you can do something about to prevent diabetes.

If you have been checked for diabetes in the past and were

found to have a "slightly elevated" blood sugar, you need to take the above actions NOW to prevent diabetes.

If your blood sugar has been checked recently and was found to be normal, have your blood checked every year to be sure it is staying normal; also, adopt a healthy lifestyle.

If you have not been checked for diabetes in the past year, see your doctor and ask for a diabetes test, or watch for a diabetes screening booth at tribal activities. The U. S. Congress has appropriated money for screening, prevention, and diabetes care for Native Americans.

Your Oneida Health Center has received an allotment of money for that purpose and will be at various functions in the community to screen for diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance. If your blood sugar test result falls within specific number guidelines, you have impaired glucose tolerance, which means you will become diabetic if nothing changes. Again, what you can change is your nutrition, exercise and weight.

So, to prevent diabetes, have your blood sugar checked and ask your health care professionals to help you adapt to a healthy lifestyle.

NOTE: The American Diabetes Association is asking for volunteers in their study of impaired glucose tolerance in which volunteers may be asked to exercise, eat healthy food, take pills that lower blood sugar levels, and visit the study site several times a year for three to six years. During these visits, blood glucose level, weight, and blood pressure will be checked free of charge. Interested persons can call toll free at 1-888-377-5646 for more information. There are 27 medical centers across the country that are participating.

Correction

In the December 3 Kalihiwisaks edition, it inadvertently listed Pat Cornelius, when it should have listed Karen Cornelius. The Kalihiwisaks apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.



EDUCATION

Elementary, High School, College and Technical

New master's degree offered

The University of Kansas (KU) announces a new master's degree program in Indigenous Nations Studies.

This is an exciting opportunity to study the various cultures, values, aspirations and societies of indigenous peoples of the Americas. The program is being offered at KU in cooperation with Haskell Indian Nations University. There are three tracks of study in the program--

general studies, museum studies and tribal sovereignty.

Internships offer the chance to work with tribal governments and native communities are being developed. Native languages will be an important part of the program.

For more information call Donald Fixico, Director & Professor of History, (785) 864-2660.

Get a degree in the evening

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee offers over 45 undergraduate and graduate degrees that can be earned by attending evening classes.

Visit the Adult Learner Information Session on Thursday, January 14, 1999 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to learn more about evening degrees. The

session will be held at Bolton Hall Lobby-first floor, 3210 North Maryland Avenue.

On-site registration for spring classes will be available.

For more information call the Office of Adult and Returning Student Services at 414-229-6732.

Courses offered at UWGB as part of Project Management series

In conjunction with the University of Wisconsin Green Bay, the following courses will be offered as part of the Project Management Certificate Series program this spring:

Project Management II

4:30 - 7:15 Wednesdays beginning 1/20/99 ending 5/12/99 (DeCaster House).

Organizational Decision Making (Substitute for Cost Benefit Analysis)

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Saturdays 1/30; 2/6, 13, 20;

5:30pm - 9:00 pm Tuesdays 1/19, 26; 2/6 (UW Green Bay - Wood Hall 328).

Program Evaluation (Substitute for Cost Benefit Analysis)

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Fridays and Saturdays 4/10, 16, 24; 5/14;

5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Tuesdays 4/13, 20, 27; 5/4 (UW Green Bay - Wood Hall 328).

Budgeting and Finance

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Thursdays 3/25; 4/8, 15, 22, 29; 5/6;

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Saturdays 4/17; 5/1, 8, 15 (UW Green Bay - Wood Hall - Room number to be determined)

Each of these courses are worth three credits and will be taught by University of Wisconsin Green Bay instructors. They may be taken for undergraduate credit (approximately \$123.50 per credit) or graduate credit (approximately \$211.12 per credit). Registration

Open house to be held

The Higher Education Office will hold an Open House especially for high school students and their parents on December 29th and 30th from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Norbert Hill Center.

Come and meet the staff, have a snack with us, and find out how we can help with your plans for college or vocational school.

There will be a second Open House especially for college students from January 4th through January 8th. Same hours, same location. Come and discuss any concerns you may have about financial aid, your school, your course of study, etc.

Everyone is welcome to attend on the days that is convenient for you.

is open to all who are interested. Funding is available for tribal members through the Higher Education Office.

Registration will be based on a first come, first serve basis. We will be holding a registration session at the Little Bear Development Center in the conference room on Thursday, January 7, 1999, from 3:30 - 5:00

pm. From 3:30 to 4:00 pm we will hold a short meeting to answer any questions students may have. Higher Education and Dr. David Littig from UW Green Bay will be available for questions and registration. If you are unable to register at this time you may register at the UWGB Registrar's Office before January 22, 1998.

College of Menominee Nation to close registration

The registration deadline for the spring semester at College of the Menominee Nation is January 8, 1999.

The college is pleased to announce that there are several cooperative agreements in place for transfer of credits to the University of Wisconsin system.

These programs, called 2 + 2, allow students to complete a two-year program at College of Menominee, transfer the program credits to the UW system, and complete two more years of

school for a Bachelor's degree. Programs that will transfer to UW-Green Bay include Early Childhood Education, Human Services/Social Work, Business Administration and Liberal Studies. The two-year Nursing program at College of Menominee will transfer to Bellin College of Nursing in Green Bay, and the two-year Natural Resources program will transfer to UW Stevens Point.

For more information call 715-799-5649.

Oneida raises funds for Shop-With-A-Cop



Photo by Margo L. Reiter

For the past three years, the Oneida Police Department (OPD) has participated in the Shop-With-A-Cop program. This program provides underprivileged kids the chance to Christmas shop for their parents. Generally, kids have \$50-\$100 to spend on their family members. This year, Oneida started fundraising earlier in order to provide a larger donation on their behalf. Pictured John Sauer, OPD/School Liaison presents Julie Nenahlo, Green Bay Press Gazette Marketing Director with 50/50 raffle money raised by Oneida. Nenahlo stated that this was the first major donation out of all major sponsors made.

ONEIDA TRAN-

ATTENTION

Parents in Three Sisters Housing

The Oneida Public Transit System/Three Sisters Library would like to help those families who do not have transportation for their children to and from school.

Isabel Parker and Daniel Parker will be working together to see that on cold days children aren't walking to school!

For names of schools transportation

Martin Luther King

Lombardi

Southwest High School

Please get the information to Isabel Parker ASAP at 498-3340 or 869-1658

AMVETS CORNER

**Members celebrate
Christmas together**

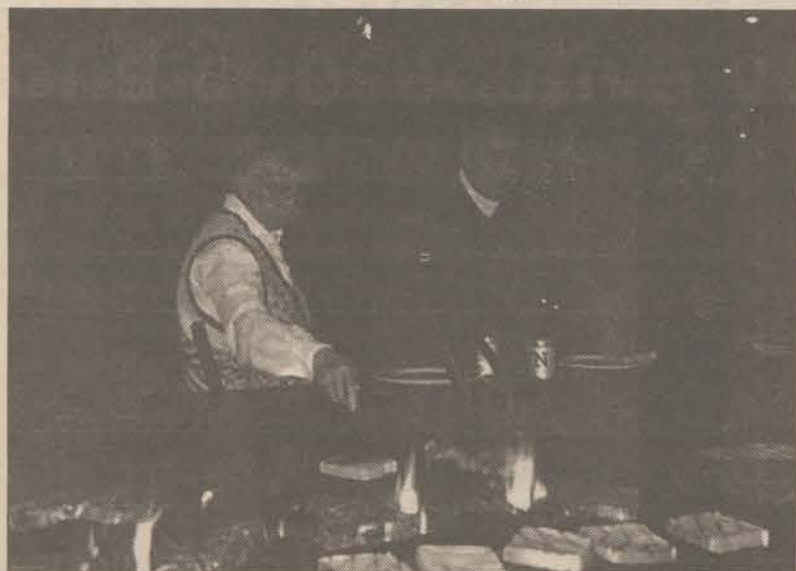


Photo by MaryAnn Hendricks

Cynthia and Erv Thompson were two of many that attended the AmVets Organization Christmas party held this year at the Prime Quarter Steakhouse in Green Bay. Keep an eye on those steaks!!

1998 Community Service Awards

Thursday, January 28th

Edgewood Supper Club, Seymour

Dear Friends:

We are pleased and honored to announce the 4th Annual Awards Banquet highlighting the Oneida Community and all the good, positive things that occur on a daily basis in Oneida. Each day, many of our people work quietly and without fanfare or hoopla to devote their time and efforts to helping our people. Each year at this time we have the very precious opportunity to say thank you to those very special members of our community. Please sign up now to reserve your table for this very special community event to celebrate all the positive good events that occur each day in our very special part of the world - our community.

Award Categories:

Elder, Youth, Medical Health Area, Educator, Social Service Area, Law Enforcement Area, Leadership Award, Friend of Veterans, Oneida Community Organization, Friend of Veterans, Southeast Oneida Volunteer and Oneida Volunteer of the Year.

If you have any questions or would like to nominate a person contact Jim Martin at (920) 497-5840 ext. 101 or call (920) 497-3634 evenings and week-ends or fill out the nomination form provided and mail/deliver.

Cut Out & Send In

Oneida Community Service Awards Nomination Form

Nominations are being accepted for the following categories: Elder of the Year, Medical Health Person of the Year Area, Social Services Person of the Year, Law Enforcement Person of the Year, Friend of Veterans Award, Oneida Volunteer of the Year, Small Business Person of the Year, Youth of the Year, Educator of the Year, Leadership Award for the Year, Oneida Community Organization, Southeast Oneida Volunteer, Caretaker of the Land, and Gaming Employee of the Year (2).

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number:

Home: _____

Work: _____

Please state why you feel this person should be honored:

Please list all volunteer or other community service and work:

Award nominated for: _____

I hereby give permission to the Oneida AmVets to use my name for public relations purposes only.

Signature of person nominating community member

Date

All Nominations must be mailed to:

Jim Martin
Oneida AMVETS
PO Box 265
Oneida, WI 54155

OR Deliver to:

Oneida Veterans Office
2615 S. Packerland Drive
Suite C
Green Bay, WI 54313

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1998**

Oneida Appeals Commission Bulletin

On^yote^ a^ka^ shakotiya^ tole' the

Initial Review

Keith Summers vs. David Danforth, 98-EP-0014. November 2, 1998. Judicial Officers Stanley R. Webster, Dorothy J. Skenandore, Pearl House. The respondent filed a motion to stay a scheduled Personnel Commission hearing pending a declaratory judgment by the Appeals Commission on two questions of interpretation. The initial review body held that the respondent failed to show how the interpretation, or lack thereof, impacted his legal rights or duties. The initial review body noted that the questions of interpretation were best presented first to the Personnel Commission and later to the Appeals Commission as part of an appeal, if one is filed. The motion for stay was denied.

Yvonne Jordan-Cornelius vs. Oneida Housing Authority, 98-CVL-0009. November 3, 1998. Judicial Officers Kirby Metoxen, Gerald L. Danforth, and Carole Liggins. The appellant filed an appeal of an eviction decision by the respondent and requested a stay of enforcement of that decision. The initial review body found that the appellant sufficiently alleged one or more of the required criteria for acceptance of an appellate case. The case was accepted for appellate review and a stay of enforcement against eviction was granted.

Owen Summers and Jan Malcolm vs. Keith Summers, 98-OHB-0017. November 16, 1998. Judicial Officers Gerald L. Danforth, Carole Liggins, Mark N. Powless. The petitioners filed a contested case against the respondent alleging interference with the disciplinary process. The case had originally been filed as a complaint with the respondent's supervisor. After a failure to respond, the matter was filed with the Personnel Commission, which remanded the case to the respondent's supervisor. The supervisor

argued that this matter was a complaint under the Blue Book and that the Personnel Commission lacked jurisdiction. The initial review body found that the complaint process as outlined in the Blue Book had not been completed. Therefore, the initial review body concluded that the matter was premature for a contested case. The motion for jurisdiction was denied. The motion for an injunction against the respondent was denied. The motion to appoint or provide legal counsel to the petitioners was denied.

Linda S. Danforth vs. Oneida Bingo & Casino, 98-EP-0010. November 19, 1998. Judicial Officers Stanley R. Webster, Gerald L. Danforth, Wanda Webster. The appellant filed a motion for reconsideration of an appellate court decision which upheld Personnel Commission decision to dismiss the appellant's employment grievance. The appellant argued that the decision was erroneous, misinterpreted Oneida employment law and was arbitrary. The initial review body found first that the appellant incorrectly filed this motion under the Rules of Appellate Procedure Rule 19, which concerns the powers of the appellate court over decisions of a trial court. Under the rule for appellate court reconsideration, the initial review body found that the appellant failed to present new evidence which existed at the time of the decision, but which was unavailable and is likely to alter the decision. The appellant simply disagreed with the original decision. The appellant's arguments regarding the interpretation of the Blue Book and other laws were available at the time of the original decision. The arguments presented under reconsideration lacked citations to existing law, analysis, or arguments. The motion was denied.

Trial Court

Paul Smith vs. Oneida

Community Development, 98-OHB-0013. November 12, 1998. Judicial Officers Stanley R. Webster, Winnifred L. Thomas, Kirby Metoxen. This is an employment grievance regarding a three day suspension. The respondent area manager is also a member of the Personnel Commission. Because of this, the case was accepted by the Appeals Commission trial court. A trial date was set for November 12, 1998 and notice was issued to the parties. On the date of the trial, the petitioner and the petitioner's advocate both failed to appear. Based upon this failure to appear, the trial court entered a default judgement in favor of the respondent and the three day suspension was upheld.

In the Matter of the Estate of Melvin James Smith, 98-OHB-0005. November 16, 1998. Judicial Officers Carole Liggins, Pearl House, Wanda L. Webster. Francis Smith, the heir to the estate of the Mr. Melvin James Smith, had two claims filed against her and the estate of the decedent. The first claim was settled and an agreement filed and incorporated by the probate court. The second claimant had submitted a draft settlement agreement but was unsigned. The second claimant and the heir were given ten days to complete settlement negotiations and enter the agreement with the probate court.

Appellate Court

Oneida Social Services vs. Jodi Rodriguez and Oneida Human Resources Department, November 13, 1998. Judicial Officers Gerald L. Danforth, Dorothy J. Skenandore, Winnifred L. Thomas, Pearl House, Mark N. Powless. The appellant filed an appeal of a Personnel Commission decision which held that the Oneida Human Resources Department could accept disciplinary grievances on behalf of the area man-

agers. The Personnel Commission decision relied on common employment practices for the basis of its conclusions. The appellant argued that the Blue Book requires all grievances to be filed directly with the respective Area Manager. The respondent Oneida Human Resources Department argued in favor of a central filing location, arguing that grievances could not be properly and effectively tracked if they were filed in many locations. The appellate court found that the Blue Book clearly and unambiguously states that grievances for suspensions of six or more days and terminations must be filed with the area manager. The appellate court therefore found that the Personnel Commission decision that the Oneida Human Resources Department could automatically accept employment grievances on behalf of area managers without filing the grievance with the area manager was erroneous. As a matter of law, all employment grievances of suspensions of six or more days and for terminations must be filed directly with the area manager, as stated in the Blue Book, Section V.D.6.b.1.

Nancy A. Dallas vs. Oneida Printing, 98-EP-0016. November 16, 1998. Judicial Officers Carole Liggins, Pearl House, Kirby Metoxen, Mark N. Powless, Dorothy J. Skenandore. The appellant filed an appeal of Personnel Commission decision which found the appellant in contempt of the Personnel Commission and issued a fifty dollar fine. The primary basis for contempt was the appellant's failure to submit briefs and documents in the ordered time line. In addition, the appellant repeatedly submitted briefs and arguments on issues that had already been decided and for which the appellant had received a warning. The appellant argued that the Personnel Commission 1) did not have the authority to issue con-

tempt, 2) did not provide sufficient notice of the contempt hearing, 3) did not allow the appellant an opportunity to comply with an order of the Personnel Commission, and 4) allowed a procedural irregularity when two Oneida Police Department Officers were present at the contempt hearing. The appellate court found that the Personnel Commission, like other original hearing bodies or courts, have the authority to look to other rules or laws if their primary laws are silent on an issue. The Personnel Commission adopted the Appeals Commission Rules of Civil Procedure Rule for Contempt. The appellate court found that this was permitted. The appellate court also found that the appellant received sufficient notice of the contempt hearing. The respondent had filed the motion for contempt against the appellant on May 6, 1998. The hearing for contempt was scheduled for May 28, 1998, with all parties present. The record indicated that the appellant clearly stated that she understood that the issue of contempt would be argued on May 28, 1998. The appellate court further found that the decision to allow a party one opportunity to comply with a decision or order is only optional, not mandatory. Finally, the appellate court found that the presence of police officers at the hearing was not a procedural irregularity. The appellant failed to show how the Personnel Commission erred or acted outside its authority or in a procedurally irregular manner. The finding of contempt was upheld and judgement rendered in favor of the respondent.

Class-action discrimination suit settled

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - Officials on both sides of class-action lawsuit accusing the Flagstaff school district of discriminating against American Indian students are hailing a settlement as opening the door to progress.

Those who sued the Flagstaff Unified School District accused it of failing to provide adequate funding for Indian education and demanded a new building for the Leupp Public School, located on the Navajo Reservation.

The lawsuit, filed in November 1994, was settled Friday in U.S. District Court.

The settlement requires the school district to explore parent concerns and recommends that a committee of parents, educators and community leaders look into the possibility of setting up a high school in or near Leupp.

"I think the agreement is a great thing for the Leupp community and for the district," said Sarah Krakoff, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys. "It shows an

attempt to work things out in a way that could get everyone on track. It addresses how to provide quality education for Leupp students."

District governing board president Julianne Hartzell said the settlement was a welcome resolution.

"For me, it opens up the lines of communication between the district and Leupp more than before," she said.

"We need to continue to look at ways to provide as much as we

can to those students at that distance. That's always been a concern."

The few students and faculty in the sparsely populated area make it difficult to support the kind of services available in Flagstaff, Hartzell said.

Leupp School, which has about 270 students, serves kindergarten through eighth graders and is the only district school not in the Flagstaff area.

About 120 Leupp students are bused to Sinagua High School every day, many of them catching the bus before 6 a.m. and riding for nearly two hours.

The settlement recommends that a committee study the possibility of building a closer high

school, something Leupp parents have requested for years.

It also requires the district seek funding to rebuild or renovate the additions made to the school in 1975. Those additions include the middle-school classrooms and the gymnasium.

The deal also requires several program changes, including the expansion of the available electives, cultural training for teachers and mentoring for Leupp students heading to high school.

"The settlement asks for the district to spend whatever it costs to undertake the measures," Krakoff said. "But damages were never part of this case."

Wadena finishes prison term, returns to reservation

CROOKSTON, Minn. (AP) - Former White Earth tribal chairman Darrell "Chip" Wadena was released from jail Tuesday and says he will return to the reservation in northwestern Minnesota.

He walked out of the Northwest Regional Corrections Center in this northwestern Minnesota city at 8 a.m. and was met by his wife.

Wadena was tribal chairman of the White Earth Band of Chippewa for two

decades before a federal jury in 1996 found him and two other officials guilty of money-laundering, embezzlement, conspiracy, theft and bribery for rigging construction bids for the tribe's Shooting Star Casino and other corruption.

Prosecutors said Wadena made nearly \$900,000 from illegal sources of income.

In September, U.S. District Judge Michael Davis reduced

Wadena's sentence after the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier ruled that his original sentence was too harsh.

Wadena has said he intends to return to the reservation and hasn't ruled out running again for tribal office, a move current tribal officials may try to block.

Wadena said he doesn't have any immediate plans other than to relax and reconnect with his family over the holidays

The Edgewood

Friday Entertainment Schedule

(9 p.m. - 1 a.m.) no cover charge

January 8 - Wolf River Band (country)

January 15 - Habanero (jazz/swing)

January 22 - Fat Mike & the Blue Cats

January 29 - DaBoys (DJ)

January 8 we will be starting fish fries every

Friday from 5-9pm

Sunday Brunch from 9am-1pm

833-2924



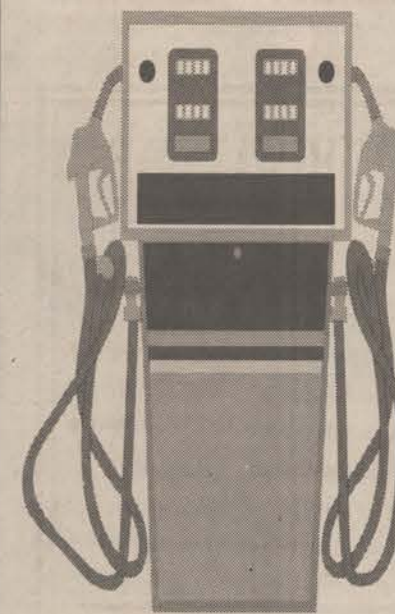
Is it your birthday?



If you are 54 & younger come in and renew your card FREE

on your birthday! "Full tax value discount"

*****If you are 55 or older your renewal must be done by Dec. 31 yearly**



GAS TAX CARD RENEWAL

On the first day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me—
An Eagle In A Pine Tree



The Two

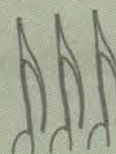


On the second day of Oneida, the Creator
gave to me—Two Turtle Rattles

On the fourth day of Oneida, the Creator
gave to me—Four Lacrosse Sticks



On the seventh



On the

On the fifth day of Oneida, the Creator
gave to me—Five Tobacco Bags



On the third day of Oneida, the Creator
gave to me—Three Sisters Planting

On the sixth day of Oneida, the Creator
gave to me—Six Nations



On the ninth



Twelve Days of Oneida



On the first day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Seven Fields of Corn



On the tenth day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Ten Corn Husk Dolls



On the eighth day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Eight Elders Singing



On the eleventh day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Eleven Deer Skins



On the ninth day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Nine Water Drums



On the twelfth day of Oneida, the Creator gave to me...

Twelve Social Dances



"The Twelve Days of Oneida" were written by Carolyn Fredlund's 5th grade class and sung to the tune "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written for the 3-5 grade Winter Gala Oneida Christmas

Tribal dispute lands in federal court

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - A complaint filed in federal court seeks a special election for a Three Affiliated Tribes council seat.

The Mandaree council position has been the center of an ongoing political dispute on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

The seven-page complaint, which was filed in U.S. District Court here Thursday, covers other matters that have been filed in tribal court but haven't been acted upon.

Paul Good Iron, Kermit Heart and Karen Simmonds are the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, which is asking the BIA to call the special election. The seat is currently held by Pete Hale, who was appointed by tribal chairman Tex Hall.

The position was first vacated by Hall when he was elected chairman in November.

The federal suit also asks that the BIA investigate whether Hale

is a qualified council member. The complaint alleges that Hale does not meet legal residency requirements.

The third claim of the suit concerns alleged violations of federal contract terms, mainly in regard to the council making decisions without a quorum. Three council members, Mark Fox, Austin Gillette and Daylon Spotted Bear, walked out of a Nov. 6 meeting and have not attended a meeting since, leaving the council with just four members, one short of a quorum.

Vance Gillette, attorney for the plaintiffs in the federal complaint, contends that actions taken by the council when it didn't have a quorum aren't legal. One of those actions was to remove Vance Gillette as chief judge.

Good Iron, a Mandaree resident, and Austin Gillette filed the tribal complaint asking for a special election to fill the Mandaree position.

Velarde says no more appeal

DULCE, N.M. (AP) - The loser of the Jicarilla Apache presidential election is giving up a fight to prevent winner Arnold Cassador from taking office.

Wainwright Velarde said Wednesday he will "appeal no more" after the Jicarilla Apache Tribal Court denied his election challenge Tuesday.

Velarde lost the May presidential election to Cassador, who is due to be inaugurated Jan. 8 after seven months of delays.

Although there are legal avenues he could take "a few notches up to the federal level," Velarde said, he will not do so.

"The tribe is kind of like a family and there's no sense in badgering the family - they're just going to get mad at me," Velarde said. "My whole outlook - my perspective - was that I was just in the way of everybody."

He said the Tribal Council did not pressure him to extend his appeals. And he said he didn't want to hurt his political future.

"My political career is not at an end yet. ... There are other days and times that I can take a shot at (political office) again," he said.

Velarde said he challenged May's presidential election

results and appealed the decision three times to show the law allowing such appeals should be changed.

Tribal Court Judge Mel Stoof rejected Velarde's appeal.

"The election board's recount is final, and it is official that Arnold Cassador is the president duly elected by the Jicarilla voters," Stoof said.

Coeur d'Alenes suspend tribal lottery after court ruling

WORLEY, Idaho (AP) - The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has suspended ticket sales for its US Lottery while it decides whether to appeal a federal judge's ruling.

Nearly 30 employees who oversee lottery ticket sales over the telephone and via the Internet are being laid off in response to U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge's Dec. 17 ruling in Coeur d'Alene, tribal gaming manager Dave Matheson said Thursday.

Tribal council members will meet early next month to decide whether to appeal the ruling, Matheson said.

If an appeal is filed, tribal council members might consider resuming lottery operations until the appeal is decided, he said.

The 1,550-member tribe became the only tribe in America to offer gambling in cyberspace when it launched its US Lottery on the Internet at www.uslottery.com in March 1997.

Last January, the tribe expanded the lottery by selling tickets for a six-number weekly drawing by telephone as well.

The lottery, which is run from the tribe's casino in Worley, draws customers from around the globe.

State attorney generals in 36 states have asked the National Indian Gaming Commission to shut down the lottery.

They argue gambling takes place at the location of the player, making the lottery illegal because it doesn't conform with state gambling laws.

The tribe contends the transactions take place on the reservation and thus are allowed under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Lodge's ruling grew out of a case initiated by the tribe. The Coeur d'Alenes sought an order requiring AT&T to provide the lottery with toll-free telephone service.

AT&T has refused to provide a toll-free number because it fears being sued by states.

A Coeur d'Alene tribal court

ordered AT&T to provide toll-free service, but Lodge overturned the ruling, prompting the suspension of lottery operations, Matheson said.

Without a toll-free number, customers phoning in lottery ticket orders have had to pay for long-distance calls to the lottery phone number - 208-686-5509.

Despite that handicap, the lottery has been turning a modest profit, Matheson said.

"The lack of a toll-free number has really limited our abilities," he said. "But the lottery has been holding its own."

In recent months, lottery ticket sales have run at about \$1 million per month, he said.

Mayflower Greenhouse

presents

Winter Herb Seminar

Saturday, January 16 at 10 a.m.

****Preparing Your Own Spices from Herbs* presented by Maria Romanski, Green Galaxy Herbs, Kewaunee

****Cooking with Herbs* presented by Susan Beno of Susan's Basketree: she will be demonstrating various culinary uses of herbs

****Preparing Herbal Beauty Products* presented by Bernice Smith, Green Bay



FREE ADMISSION

Early reservations required
Call 920/869-2045

Mayflower Greenhouse
726 Airport Drive
Oneida WI 54155



Oneida Gaming Commission News

Jeff Metoxen - Chairperson * Vince DelaRosa - Vice Chairperson * Rochelle Powless - Secretary

Judy Cornelius - Commissioner * Lila Watts - Commissioner

Lois Strong - Commissioner * Charlene Cornelius - Commissioner

P.O. Box 159, Oneida WI, 54155 1-800-238-4263 or (920) 494-4500 Fax: (920)496-2009

Commission issues first work permits

The first Work Permit issuance has been completed and will be mailed certified today, Tuesday, December 22, 1998. For informational purposes, all work permits are being submitted by Backgrounds in alphabetical order and will be issued as such. There are approximately 1600 work permits that need to be issued. Ongoing issuance will be done weekly in a consistent manner.

A database has been created to keep track of all the work permit file numbers, names, effective and

expiration dates etcetera. This will be the only notification that work permits have been issued and mailed. Going forward, Backgrounds, HRD, and the Employee are the only ones that will be notified by certified mail.

This notification is being done, once again, to let all gaming employees know that Work Permits will be issued within ten (10) days of receipt from the Backgrounds Department. The Gaming Commission will send a certified letter to the gaming individual which will include the

work permit and disclaimer.

REMINDER: It is important for everyone to understand that the Work Permits are NOT contingent upon receiving a regular gaming license and may be revoked or suspended by the Oneida Gaming Commission immediately in the event that an individual who holds a work permit has violated the criminal restrictions and any other applicable criteria as identified within the Oneida Tribal Comprehensive Gaming Ordinance as amended in 1995.

In addition, "a fee will be instituted by the year 2000 for all employees hired after December

31, 1999."

By issuance of this publication, the Oneida Gaming Commission hopes to reduce any confusion regarding employment status as a "gaming employee."

If there are any questions, please contact the Oneida Gaming Commission at (920)429-3322.

**The Gaming Commission
extends their best wishes
to everyone for
Happy & Safe Holidays**

REMINDER Renew Oneida Gas Tax Cards

"No additional charge for
renewal regardless of age -
we offer full tax value discount"

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From our Hilltop to yours!

Some Of The Reasons Why You Should Consider Muehl-Boettcher Funeral Home



Kurt & Debbie Boettcher
Owners

- ☛ We've been serving families since 1873. We are a family dedicated to serving others during the most difficult time in life. Our goal is to offer caring, dignified service to all with the utmost integrity.
- ☛ With our newly expanded facilities, we offer one of the largest visitation chapels in the Fox River Valley.
- ☛ We offer complete funeral services which would be completely covered under the ONEIDA BURIAL ALLOWANCE FUND. This would include a selection of a quality metal or wood casket (with many to choose from), burial container and our services.
- ☛ Our guarantee on all services we provide. It is important to us that you are satisfied and that your wishes and concerns are carried out to the best of our ability.
- ☛ At Muehl - Boettcher we know tradition and ceremony are important. That is why we are always available to plan the type of service which is most meaningful to the families we serve. Like the important tribute and custom that the Oneida Singers sing for the visitation. We not only welcome, but look forward to listening to this wonderful tribute, and also any other special requests that family members may have . . . We are here to serve you!

If you would like additional information on pre-planning or any of the many other services we provide, just call, write or stop in . . .

Tsyotko't Swana'ktote Thika Kantho
"You Are Always Welcome"

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(414) 833-2328

JUST MINUTES FROM ONEIDA!



Development Division News

Seven Generations

Utilities department achieves perfect scores for second consecutive year on annual survey

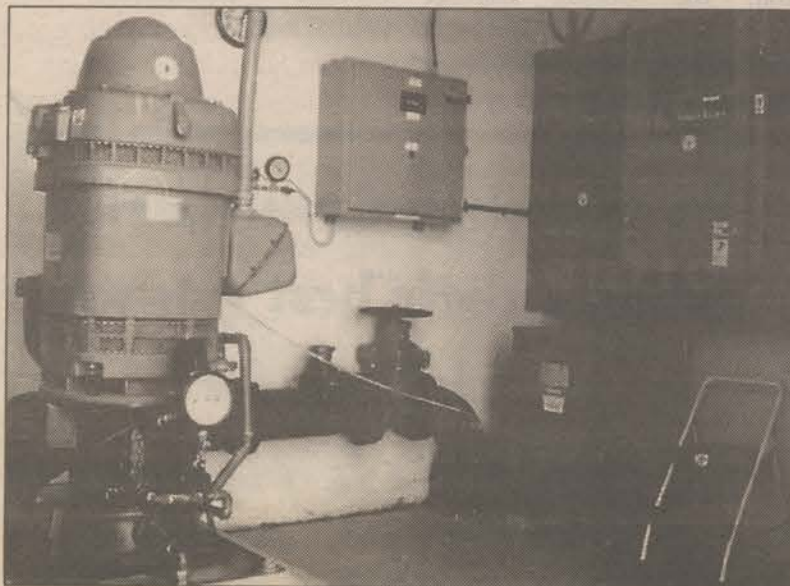


Photo by Kevin Moore

Perfect scores were achieved on the annual Sanitary Surveys through efficient maintenance of equipment such as the lift stations and water towers.

By Scott Cottrell
Utilities Manager

The Oneida Utilities Department received perfect scores for the second consecutive year on their annual Sanitary Surveys conducted by Indian Health Services.

The survey consisted of all the Oneida Nation Community Water and Wastewater facilities. Currently, the Oneida Utilities Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of ten wells, eight duplex submersible lift stations, two effluent lift stations, and also two water towers.

The purpose of the surveys is to observe the physical condition, offer constructive comments and recommendations and

assign a numerical rating between zero for the lowest and sixteen for the highest rating.

These ratings numbers are used by the Indian Health Service in a formula for distributing money appropriated by the United States Congress for correcting physical deficiencies. In recent years approximately one million dollars per year has been distributed between the Tribes in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota through the Indian Health Service

Sanitation Deficiency System. The Oneida Reservation over the last two years has received \$655,000 through this competitive process to assist in construct-

ing water and sewer facilities and in addition to the Indian Health Service funds, the Tribe also contributed \$200,000 towards the same projects.

Recently the Indian Health Service and Oneida Tribe has

Oneida community well & septic department gives update

By Gerald L. Kurowski & Katherine Powless

VandeDeWalle Phase II: 100% Complete

We have installed over 1 mile of sewer and water to 47 lots for future housing. Forty-two lots for residential housing and five lots for multi-family units. The final pay request with Indian Health Service has been submitted. Total Cost: \$454,160.90; Cora House & Aliskwet Court: Water Main

This project to serve Cora House and Aliskwet Court with community water from the Oneida village water source got under way on November 23, 1998. This project is designed to replace individual wells and the wells at Cora House that do not conform to the EPA standards for safe drinking water for radium levels. We will work on this project until it is complete or until we are forced to stop work due to winter frost conditions. The projected cost for this phase of the water main project is:

Estimated Total Cost:

\$397,519.75 (This project is 50/50 funded or \$200,000.00 from IHS grants and \$200,000 Tribal contribution); Indian Health Service: Contract No. 239-97-0019, Project No. BE-97-753

This contract is to serve individual tribal families with on-site facilities that consist of wells, water supplies and on-site septic systems. These services were for new home sites or new replacement homes. Thus far we have served to date 27 units.

Estimated Total Cost: \$238,117.40 (This project is 90% complete and 100% funded through IHS grants); Recirculating Sand Filter Systems: Sandhill Circle

The performance of this recirculating sand filter is very good. Sample data from tests completed every two weeks is as follows. 1. Total suspended Solids 9.5 Mg/L; 2. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 9.4 Mg/L (IHS funding pays for all testing on this system for 40 weeks)

Jet Batt Household Treatment Systems - These systems use high aeration for on-site septic treatment are very efficient to operate and have a very high quality discharge. A ultra violet unit is used for disinfection as a final stage of treatment. The effluent is then discharged to a shallow graveless trench. Below are the results of the effluent from the Jett Batt system.

1. Total Suspended Solids 3.5 Mg/L; 2. Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5.6 Mg/L; 3.

sure, and adequate fire protection.

Congratulations Utility Department staff on an outstanding job. Your dedication and commitment to the department is greatly appreciated.

Coliform-Fecal Membrane 3 C/100mL

Visit from State of Wisconsin Department of Commerce

Last month we were visited by four people from the Department of Commerce. They were interested in seeing the new treatment system that we installed and also the results of the quality testing. They said they were very impressed with the quality of treatment, and also the low cost of installation and maintenance of the units. They said they would be interested in doing a future innovative project with us and they would be able to provide some grant funding. The test results of this effluent system.

1. Waste Treatment plus UV Disinfection: 90% or better (compared to mound system); 2. Savings in Construction Cost Per Unit: \$2,500.00;

Other Community Well & Septic Projects In Progress

Demolition Projects, Emergency Well Drilling

Water Supply Renovation:

Emergencies only, On-Site Waste Removal, Clean Fill Projects, Emergency Septic System Renovation, Asbestos Removal Contracting, On-Site Well & Septic Design and Planning, Service and Water Planning.

Oneida Community Well & Septic Departmental Staff: Gerald L. Kurowski, Field Superintendent and Katherine Powless, Office Coordinator

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WORK

FARM

Oneida Business Committee LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

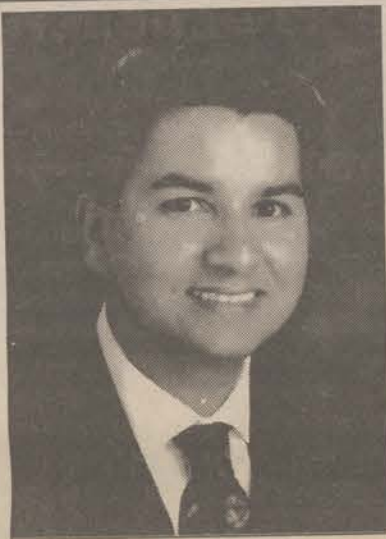
BC Corner: Gary Jordan Acting Chairman

Some time ago the Oneida Business Committee brainstormed to define a mission statement that would answer some tough questions about who we are and why we exist. We came up with a Seven Generation mission, a Seven Generation vision and 10 national priorities.

Of all those statements, one stands out as being the most inspirational to me: "Our Oneida Nation provides for the quality of life where the people come together for the common good." It's a wonderful statement to start the new year with because it's a goal that never changes yet we all share it.

This new year will be the last one for this century. It marks a time when many of our grandparents have passed on to a greater place. In their place stands the Oneida Nation. It will continue to grow in their spirit because our ancestors found a way to come together for the common good. Working for the common good will be our challenge for the new year, too.

Use the new year to look back on the achievements of our people. Remember those challenging days. Let's give thanks for the community we have today



Gary Jordan

and promise to make it a better place.

Keeping that promise gets difficult when we are constantly faced with change. Our social, political and legal environments are always changing. People will change, geography will change, and the government will change. But despite those changes, our Nation must stay focused on the goals that will help us come together for the common good.

As you may know, the Oneida Nation government is dealing with changes now, especially the unexpected absence of our Chairwoman, Deborah Duxtator. While I cannot elaborate on the

reasons for her absence, except to state that they are medical in nature, her well-being is the focus of many prayers. For all of us, it is critical that we remain focused on our mission during this time. More so than ever before, we must find ways to come together for the common good of Oneida.

During this time I will be serving as interim and acting Chairman. My responsibilities are defined in the Oneida Tribal Constitution and the job description that was approved by General Tribal Council. Each member of the Oneida Business Committee has been assigned additional responsibilities and we will do our best to carry them out.

As my new responsibilities unfold, I will be conscientious of the decisions that will bring us together for the common good. Use the new year to consider the meaning of the statement "coming together for the common good". It may hold different meanings to each of us. But to me it stands for peace, harmony, trust and openness. Those concepts will be the ones to guide my actions as we start the new year.

Legislative Opinion

"What are the major issues you feel the nation needs to address in 1999?"

Ninham:

There are many issues, but there are a few I would like to highlight.

Internally, we must increase communication to our membership in a consistent and timely manner. I would also suggest we find a way in the Human Resources area whereby our employees are treated with respect and dignity.

Finally, I strongly encourage community input on all the tribal policies that are being developed to strengthen this Nation. Externally, it is important that the relationships with our surrounding communities and governments continue to be developed and fostered.



Sandra Ninham
Council Member

Danforth:

Some of the issues that I hear from the community that need to be address are the Small Business Development - what are we going to do with this entity?

Construction of a new Health Center so we may continue and improve our health services to our membership.

Finally, improve the communication process.

Possible suggestion, to have the *Kalihwisaks* become a weekly paper.



Leland Danforth
Council Member

Barton:

Washington legislation opposes tribal sovereignty to include issues as means testing, gaming, land into trust, taxation and child welfare. Such issues will cripple and destroy Indian country if not opposed.

Locally, we may secure our future through national and private enterprise and by finding a balance between our need and economic resources to equally provide needed services to our Nation.



Julie Barton
Secretary

ATTENTION ONEIDA!!

If you have a question that you would like to ask the Business Committee please write to us at the *Kalihwisaks*.

The questions will start being printed the first of the year.

All questions must be provided with your signature and address, as the name will be printed along with the question. *Kalihwisaks* encourages submissions, however all questions must be signed and addressed. *Kalihwisaks* does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material and does not guarantee publication upon submission. *Kalihwisaks* does reserve the right to edit. Questions may be edited for language and length.

School chief says board member should quit

By Dave Murray

Journal Education Writer

FLINT, MI - The head of the Flint Board of Education is calling for the resignation of board member Lily Tamez Kehoe, saying Kehoe's support for a charter school shows an "utter disregard" of her duties.

Board President Randall G. Talifarro on Wednesday sent a three-page letter to board members and The Flint Journal attacking Kehoe, who said she has no intention of stepping down.

"I can't legally demand that she resign," Talifarro said of the letter. "I can't force her to leave the board. But I think her actions strongly warrant it."

Kehoe dismissed the letter, calling Talifarro's demand at best a severe overreaction and at worst part of a smear campaign orchestrated by administrators who have the most to lose if a charter school opens in the city.

"I don't know why they find what I did so threatening," she said. "Nobody is forced to attend a charter school. If they're truly confident that they are doing the very best they can for the Hispanic and American Indian children, then nobody will want to attend the charter school and they have nothing to fear."

A letter from Kehoe was included in an application filed by the Flint Advantage Academy to open a charter school directed at Hispanic and American Indian students. The application was sent to Central Michigan University and was not intended for public release. It was obtained by The Journal through the Freedom of Information Act.

In the letter, Kehoe states that the combined dropout rate for Hispanic and

American Indian students is 65 percent, the culture for such children is typically ignored in traditional public schools and a subtle racism makes students feel unwelcome.

Kehoe has said she wrote the letter in her role as executive director of the Spanish Speaking Information Center and said she has no other role with the proposed school.

Flint Advantage Academy's proposal is one of 10 applica-

tions to open charter schools in the Flint area being mulled by CMU.

Kehoe said she can't understand why board leaders - who read a seven-page statement criticizing her at last week's meeting - would spend so much time rebuking her, yet continue to ignore the other nine proposals.

Charter schools are independent public schools that operate with the approval of a university or school district. The schools can not charge tuition and receive state aid.

Talifarro estimates that Flint Advantage Academy would cost the district \$3 million a year in state aid if it opens with 540 students as the founders anticipate.

"Instead of using her position on the Board of Education to advance the interests of Latino and American Indian students within our own school

system, Ms. Kehoe has given her support to the Advantage charter school," he said in the letter. "This, in my opinion, is a breach of her duty ... and a violation of her oath of office..."

"In my opinion, a Flint Board of Education member, who by supporting local charter school efforts, potentially drains the resources of her own district should no longer serve on this board."

Talifarro is the second district leader to suggest Kehoe step down. George Wingfield, president of the city's teachers union, last week said

Kehoe probably should not remain on the board. He also said he will call for her resignation in January.

His remarks have drawn fire from School Choice YES!, a Midland-based group working to place a tuition tax credit plan on the 2000 ballot.

Gary Glenn, executive director of School Choice YES!, said Wingfield's message appears bigoted unless he demands the resignation of every district employee with a child in private schools and charter schools.

Wingfield said he did not want to respond to the group's statement.

Editor's Note: Permission to reprint by Flint Journal

Semi-Annual GTC Meeting

January 4, 1999

at 6 p.m.

Norbert Hill Center

Packer Jacket Jackpot



Come to Oneida Bingo & Casino to help us celebrate our **PACKER JACKET JACKPOT GIVEAWAY**. You'll have chances to win **PACKER JACKETS** and a trip to the **PRO BOWL IN HAWAII**. But it doesn't stop there—**MEET TITLETOWN LEGENDS DAVE ROBINSON, RON KRAMER, CARROLL DALE AND GARY KNAPFELC AT THE SUPER 33 TITLETOWN TAILGATE PARTY**. Enjoy live music from the **RIVER CITY SIX**, **FREE** snacks and a delicious buffet. We hope to see you there!

Packer Jacket Jackpot



BINGO: Thirty three (33) Packer Jackets will be given away each session. **Check the pockets!** Each day, three (3) lucky bingo jacket winners will receive **\$200** worth of Bingo Play Certificates. (Must be 18 years and older.)



BLACKJACK: Thirty three (33) Packer Jackets will be given away each day. Be in the right seat at the right table during our hourly random drawings. (Must be 21 years and older. Winners are chosen between 11am-3am.)



SLOTS: Thirty three (33) Packer Jackets will be given away each day. Play video/reel slots and use your Preferred Players Club card while playing your favorite machine and you may be chosen during a random computer selected drawing. (Must be 21 years and older. Winners are chosen between 8am-12midnight.)

Disclaimer: Must be 21 yrs. or older to play blackjack, slot/video, and/or to participate in casino promotions. Must be 18 yrs. or older to play bingo. Jacket prizes limited to sizes and styles available. No exchanges. Prizes and giveaways available while supplies last. Oneida Bingo & Casino management reserves the right to cancel/revise promotion at any time without prior notice. Complete promotion rules available at Oneida Bingo & Casino. "All Oneida Bingo & Casino guests can receive a free entry into the "Packer Jacket Jackpot Giveaway." Entry forms available at the customer service information booth in the main casino mall. Must be 18 yrs old to enter. Random drawing for 33 Packer Jacket winners will take place February 1, 1999. Entry blanks must be legible and completely filled out.



Not Pictured: Carroll Dale
(Celebrity hosts courtesy of Tom Murphy)

TITLETOWN LEGENDS
Photo Package
(200 Winners)

FREE SLOT PULL

...FREE MINI FOOTBALLS...
JANUARY 31, 1999 MAIN
CASINO MALL AREA

Get a **FREE** spin on our Big Bubba Slot Machine. Line up any combination of the goalpost, helmet & football and **INSTANTLY WIN** one of these two prizes:

SUPER BOWL 33
SOUVENIR PROGRAM
(500 Winners)

INSTANT WINNERS—Check your prizes to see if the number on it matches the numbers posted on our Winner's Board and you could win one of 200 Packer jackets or a **PRO BOWL TRIP FOR TWO!** (Winners will be posted at halftime. Must be present to win. All attendees will be eligible to enter the drawing for any unclaimed prizes to be drawn at the end of the game.)



SUPER 33 TITLETOWN TAILGATE PARTY

DOORS OPEN AT 2:30PM IN THE RADISSON IROQUOIS COMPLEX
Join Oneida Bingo & Casino at the "Super Bowl 33 Tailgate Party!" Enjoy all of these festivities:

- **LIVE MUSIC** from the **RIVER CITY SIX!** • **FREE** snacks before kickoff
 - **THREE 9'X12' SCREENS** for the game! • **FREE** buffet at halftime
- Plus, get your prizes autographed by the **TITLETOWN LEGENDS—CARROLL DALE, DAVE ROBINSON, RON KRAMER AND GARY KNAPFELC!**

(Must be 18 yrs old to participate. Prizes, giveaways and buffet items available while supplies last. This is a non-alcoholic event.)



Good News

Best Wishes to the Oneida Tribe
for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



From Oneida's "Three Sisters" born on 07/26/98 -
Shania Jordan, Shantey Jordan, Shenisse Jordan
and Mom, Cherisse Slove & family

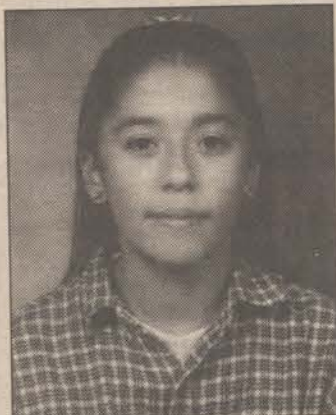
Customer Relations Perfect Attendance Award Winners



Photo courtesy of Heather Cornelius

Pictured are a small portion of the Oneida Casino's Customer Relations Perfect Attendance Award, given by Director, Patrick Metoxen. Pictured are (l-r) back row: Sandra Schultz, Misti Trepanier, Mike Borchers, Alma Brady, Mary Svoboda, Stanley Bus and Dave Padgett; Front row: Sandra Annoye, Sally Jacobs, Delores Dombrowski, Karen Rasmussen and Carol Elm. Not pictured were: Barb Briquet, Kay Jourdan, Joann Verdoot, Michelle Anderson, Elaine Rentmeester, Tyson Kreuscher, James Mommaerts, Pat Selissen, Ruth Vigue, Randy Wassenberg, Tina Bos, Phil Wisneski, Mike Chervenka, Jim Vanlaanen, John Marick and Ed Stewart. These employees were awarded for perfect attendance for three months, six months and one year in their department. Congratulations to all those employees and keep up the great work!

Happy 13th Birthday
"Melissa H. Bain"
on December 31st



Keep up the good work!
We're very proud of you!
Love Mom, Grandma's
& Grandpa's and the
rest of the family

Happy 13th Birthday
"Melinda G. Bain"
on December 31st



Keep up the good work!
We're very proud of you!
Love Mom, Grandma's
& Grandpa's and the
rest of the family

"Good News"

Reminder!!

Although the
Kalihwisaks staff
does welcome
"Good News" pic-
tures and birthday
wishes, these
MUST be
PRE-PAID
prior to publication.
*Rates begin at \$3
and go up
according to size.*

Merry Christmas
& Hoya
to four generations



Great grandparents,
Luella & the late
Howard Elm,
Grandma, Phylis
(Elm) Popivich,
Mom, Sheila Popivich
and, son
Curtiss Popivich
born on June 7, 1998



Happy Belated Birthday
to our Dispatcher /
Secretary the Honorable
"George J. Powless"
on December 29th



Your hard work & dedi-
cation to our dept. is
appreciated & you
will always be a valued
member of our team!!
Keep up the good work
& strive to be all
you can be.
The Oneida Public
Transit System Staff!!

Y.E.S. Program

DECEMBER

Students Of The Month

<p>Green Bay Tim Headrick Parents:</p> <p>Pulaski Casey Hietpas Parent: Barbara Stueber</p>	<p>Seymour Antonio Alicea Parents: Glynnis & Juan Alicea</p> <p>West DePere Nick Fuss Parents: Connie & Gordan Fuss</p>
---	---



Owi?la'se
(a new child)

Tehya Margaret John
(meaning "precious little one")

NEWBORN DAUGHTER TO

Zabrina Basina & Michael John

Born on December 15, 1998 in Milwaukee, WI.
She weighed 8 lbs., 11 ounces and measured 22 inches.
Grandparents are Marlenan & Myron Skenandore
and Darrell John. Tehya has two older brothers Michael
and Matthew at home.

By Randy Cornelius

The Midwinter ceremony is celebrated five days after our new year moon (Dec./Jan.). This is a time of renewing our responsibilities for the coming year and of giving thanks to the Creator. The Midwinter is one of the original ceremonies taught to the People at the beginning of Creation.

On the first day, there are a'hs^ohstowa?kowa, three Great Feather Dances, that are done. The first one is in honor of all of the title holders: Lotiyaneshu (the chiefs), Kutiyaneshu (the clanmothers), and Kaye Niyoliwake Lonatlihuto' (the faithkeepers). "They give their thanks that they are still upholding their responsibilities," said Bob Brown, Oneida Chief and Cultural Advisor. The second dance is in honor of K^ytohk-wakeku, all of the people who hold no title from the youngest newborn to the eldest and those just arriving.

The third dance is in honor of Shukwaya?tisu, our Creator.

During the dances, turtle shell rattles are used to represent the earth or "Turtle Island." The purpose of the dancing is to shake up the earth, waking it up for next year. A line of men and a line of women dance around the singers. The feather dance is to show good health and happiness. The dances are loud with much yelling to draw the animals close to the long house to hear the songs.

The second day is ^twak^hlaw^li, "Stirring the Ashes". The ashes from the wood stoves are used to symbolize our Mother Earth. The turning of the ashes or the stirring of the ashes symbolizes the renewal of all life forms on Earth, turning over the earth for a new year. Wooden paddles are used to turn the ashes over and replenish our

Mother Earth so that she can renew herself. Everyone takes a turn walking from one end of the long house to the other to stir the ashes on both ends.

The third day starts out with Kahyu?kw^thu, "the Tobacco Burning"

Thanksgiving Ceremony.

Oyu?kwa?uwe, the real tobacco, is collected from all of the people. Through the burning of the tobacco, an acknowledgment, a thanksgiving, and an encouragement is conveyed to all of creation of renewal and continuation of responsibilities. Then the Hatuwa', the warrior songs, are sung. This is a time when our real names are "uplifted", announced to the People

and to Creation for recognition. Faithkeepers can also be "uplifted" during this time, and the Friendship Medicine Society can also be renewed.

Finally, Hannahlu', the Water Drum Dance, is then done. One man sings with with a water drum while another is chosen to give thanks to all things on earth. The significance of the drum is that it is round, representing everything in creation and the connection of everything life and nature, including the human family. Everyone is to dance. The beating of the drum and the people dancing in a circle and constantly moving in that circle in between songs, symbolizes the ongoing cycle of life, that it will continue on. Sayes, the wild blackberry, is made into a drink and used as a medicine at this time.

The fourth day is Kay^towan^

(the Peach Stone Game). Lotisklewa'ke, "the Bear Clan," and Latiny^tha, "the Turtle Clan," play against Lotikwa'ho, "the Wolf Clan." Things that are highly looked upon to bet are wampum, traditional clothing, lacrosse sticks,

or turtle rattles. The objects are matched up and the winning clan gets to keep the objects they were matched with. Things not to bet are anything that is solid red, which represents anger, or anything solid black, which represents death, or anything that is shiny, which represents greed. However, people who lose their things will get them back in the Creator's land.

The Peach Stone game consists of six peach stones in which one side is burned darker than the other and 101 beans. One person from each clan plays by tossing the peach stones in a bowl. If the peach stones come up five of one color and one of the other, the player wins one bean and another turn. If the peach stones come up all of one color, the player automatically wins five beans, dismissing his/her opponent and winning another turn.

The games goes on until one clan wins all the beans. A game can last a few hours or several days.

The peach stone game is

to entertain us and the Creator after the three days of serious ceremonies.

After the game is done, Ohstowa?ko'wa, the Great Feather Dance, is done. Then Kunukwehne', the Old Woman's Dance is done as a thanksgiving for the women. The men are honoring them for all the hard work they do.

And then, Osaheta Aotil^na', the Bean Dance is done which gives thanks for the beans and for the men and women who work together to raise food. Lastly, hatuwi, the False Face Medicine Society, and Satsitsisha, the Cornhusk Masks Medicine Society, come in to remind the people of their day of renewing themselves.

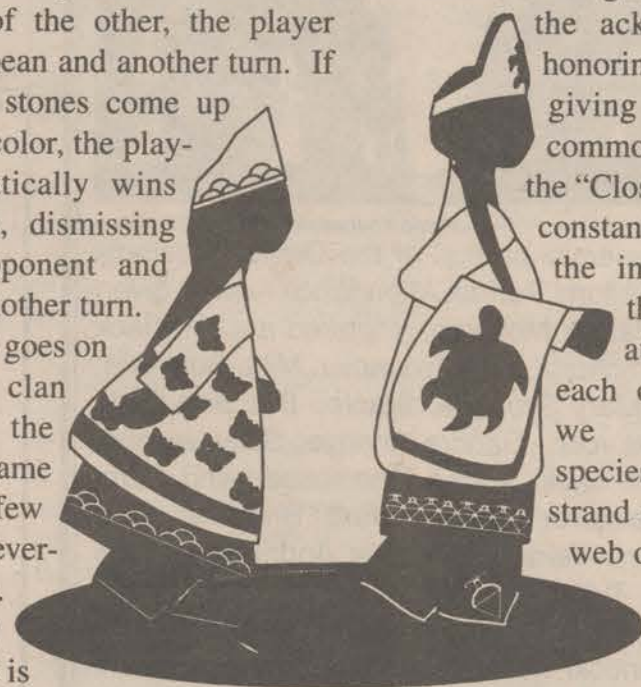
The fifth day is set aside as a renewal for these and other medicine societies.

With all of the ceremony's that we have, as well as all social or political gatherings, the first thing that is always done, before all else, is the acknowledgment, honoring and thanksgiving of creation. This is commonly called the "Opening". At the end of the day for what ever the reason of the gathering, there is

the acknowledgment, honoring and thanksgiving done again, commonly known as the "Closing". This is a constant reminder of the interrelationship that all of creation has with each other and that we the human species are just one strand in the delicate web of life.

Mid-Winter

Ceremonies



This page brought to you by:

The Kalihwisaks Newspaper & the Oneida Cultural & Heritage Department
in an effort to continue to educate the next seven generations

Letters

Y2K

I would like to congratulate Kevin Moore on his excellent article in the Aug. 27 issue of the *Kalihwisaks* "Potential computer glitch in the year 2000." It answered many questions I had about the Tribe's level of preparedness for the coming millennium. It seems that Mr. Wildenberg, the manager of the Tribe's central processor, has a solid plan to deal with the computer problem as long as the vendors can deliver. Now I'm concerned about the level of understanding that the membership has on this issue and the potential impact it could have on their daily lives outside of work. For those of you who missed Kevin's article it explained the potential computer shutdown due to many thousands of operating computers currently representing the year by two digits: 1998 is 98 and 2000 is 00. When Jan. 1, 2000 rolls around, these computers will assume 00 means 1900, not 2000, unless their software is fixed. *Byte* magazine, wrote recently, "One commonly cited problem is associated with gadgets that monitor periodic maintenance. When the clock strikes 12 on New Year's Eve 2000 these devices might think it's been 99 years since their last maintenance, realize that's too long for safe operation and shut down." Many of the publications I receive in the office and at home have addressed this issue. All of them express concern about services being delayed for a few days to a few months because of computer shutdowns. Some predict it will take years to recover from this disaster because computers have become a part of our daily lives whether we like it or not. They control the financial transactions for every tribal employee (direct deposit of paychecks), the gas pumps, the alarm systems, the hospital equipment, the cash registers, the list goes on and on. One of the most important things to remember is that this potential disaster is manmade, it has a definite date of arrival and it can be avoided completely. There are an estimated 25 billion embedded systems in the U.S., according to the Gartner Group, which advertises

itself as the world's foremost authority on information technology. Each one of the systems has to be tested for compliance.

These embedded systems tend to be embedded in the nation's core infrastructure -- in the water, sewage and electrical utilities, in railroads and other transportation systems, in hospitals, in police and fire services, in the defense infrastructure and in petrochemical and other manufacturing plants. Ask yourself, if the lights went out, the heat stopped, the water didn't come out of the tap, your new car wouldn't start on New Year's Day -- will you be able to survive for a few days? A few weeks? A few months? Most Oneidas live in urban areas where industry uses chemicals in their production process. What written plans do they have for assessing these problems and how large a budget have they committed to solve the problem? What kind of progress can they demonstrate? The possibility of explosions does exist. Portions of the nation's basic infrastructure (utilities, transportation, defense, manufacturing) and part of the world's core commercial institutions, such as banking and insurance, seem likely to be disrupted by the Y2K problem. What will you do to prepare for this? I'm not trying to scare anyone. It is very hard to cause a panic on something that will occur over a year from now. The experts could be totally wrong, New Year 2000 could come and go like any other. However, it is more sensible to hope for the best and prepare for the worst. Our elders are the key to this problem because they have lived without the modern conveniences we all enjoy today. Most of them know what it is like to heat a home with a wood stove, cook over a fire and haul water. This is an excellent opportunity to let them tell their stories and learn from them. Native people have lived through worse times than this. Approached properly, Y2K could become a catalyst for positive community growth and development in the best sense of those words.

Laura Manthe
Oneida WI

Thank you

A thank you was recently submitted with regard to the Kalihwiiyo ceremony. I would like to add the following people to be thanked:

Mary Dodge, Shirley and Mark Powless, Marge Funmaker, Darlene Neconish, Gary Metoxen, Jim Martin, Sandi Schelk, Beatrice Skenandore, Gloria Todt, Vicky Santiago, Leah Dodge, Lisa Oudenhoven, Vickie Cornelius (donated Seminole jacket and buffalo blanket), *Kalihwisaks*, Oneida Pow-Wow Committee, Tsyunekwa and the Oneida Trust Department.

Yaw^ko once again for your assistance.

Sandi Skenandore

Land claims settlement or land rights sellout?

What you see isn't always what you get or pay attention, ask questions, understand the answers. During various times of the history of the Oneida Nation we have had to deal with discovery, deception, half truths, half lies, hidden agendas, professional arrogance, professional ignorance, egos, racism, cultural ethnocentrism, power plays and straight up political process manipulation and self-serving interests. There was a time when many of these elements were from outside forces yet now we must face them from the internal context of the tribal deal. We are in the midst of a civil war and the stakes are just as significant as the hot and cold war dynamics. As you all recall in the Wizard of Oz there was a search for courage, a heart and a brain... as you may also recall the answers were within each of the searchers all the time. What they had to realize was they had the ability to discover the answers within their own knowledge. Perhaps it is time to return to "OZ (Oneida Zone) and the Oneida Rules." The NY property acquisition by the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin per GTC directive 9-16-96A has become the "Oneida version of Dances with Wolves" and the outpost is being set up to be abandoned and sold out to "the real Oneidas." This was a land claims agenda decision and the GTC has yet to have a report behind the facade of the apparent misrepresentation to the people about the reasons behind the recommendations. For exam-

Miss Oneida Greeting



There are countless ways to become involved in our community. Volunteer at Tsyunhekwa and learn about natural medicine; visit with elders at the Commission on Aging, participate in the Recreation Department activities,

apprentice with the Arts Council, and if representing your people sounds fun to you, run for Lil', Junior or Miss Oneida.

Believe in yourself. Believe in your people, in your language, culture, elders and traditions. Believe that you can achieve anything you set your mind to and discover your vision for your future and make it a reality.

Happy Holidays, Happy 1st snowfall and Hoyan. Wishing you all good health and happiness in the upcoming year. Tane.

Sayo:kla Kindness
Miss Oneida 1998-1999

ple paying taxes in NY by the Wisconsin certainly needs to be explained to the GTC since the presentation included a position of equal footing with the tax exempt status of the NY Oneidas. I would like to submit that the land claims personnel and certain BC and technical advisers are in violation of GTC resolution 9-16-96A and are jeopardizing the positive settlement of the land rights issues of Oneidas in the New York claims. I emphasize the complicated concepts of POSITIVE SETTLEMENTS and CLAIMS. The issue of a good and bad settlement brings up "the value of a non-settlement." The distinction of the sellout of the land claims to the leadership of NY Oneidas and the leadership alienation from the Oneida communities reflects the civil war which exists in the New York and Wisconsin communities. The serious challenges between the respective communities and leadership must be addressed for the survival of Oneida peoples and the avoidance of "any settlement in place of a good settlement for the Oneida people and the homelands." Greed and egos may influence the approach of getting the illusion of something rather the illusion of nothing. Perhaps the time of a good settlement must be left for the future leadership of honesty, principles, vision and under-

standing and thus "the value of a non-settlement" becomes as valid an option as a bad settlement. The past special GTCs on the subject of land claims has become "the Oneida version of the old carnival barkers bait and switch." The violation of the directive of GTC resolution 6-10-95A not only jeopardizes a good settlement for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin but also sets several bad precedence for the other Indian Nations in NY and perhaps all across Indian Country. Communication and communication seem to be artfully managed by the hidden agenda of some of the BC, technical advisers and land claims personnel. You can run but you cannot hide from the truth and claims people. I as a GTC member #6395 and as employee #6360 would like to put all GTC membership on notice that any attack that is generated at my program due to my comments as a GTC member would be subject to review by the body of the GTC for determination of civil and tribal rights violations. May the force be with you.

Chaz Wheelock

Guest articles and editorials that appear in the *Kalihwisaks* newspaper are not necessarily the views or opinions of the *Kalihwisaks* staff, editorial board or the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin.

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LEGALS

ONEIDA UTILITIES COMMISSION

One (1) vacancy
Deadline for filing is February 1, 1999

Qualifications: Any tribal member who appears on the official roll of the Oneida Tribe of Indians is eligible to vote and serve on this body. Five (5) members will be appointed by the Oneida Business Committee and shall reside or own property within the reservation. A Commission member shall NOT be: Consultant; Contractor.
Mission: The mission of the Oneida Utilities Commission is to administer an operation that provides efficient water and sewer services to the people of our Community who live and work within the Oneida Utilities Commission service area. The Commission is charged by the Oneida Tribe with the responsibility of ensuring that water and sanitation utilities are operated in a manner that provides safe drinking water, and sanitation facilities that are environmentally safe, and fiscally responsible. Also, services that are designed to promote understanding and cooperation in meeting our mission to serve the Oneida Community's needs for the present and through the next Seven Generations.

ONEIDA FINANCE COMMITTEE

One (1) vacancy
Deadline for filing is February 1, 1999

Qualifications: Membership. Any tribal member who appears on the official roll of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and is eligible to vote can serve on this body. *Note: Vacancy is for 1 community elder. (An enrolled tribal member age 55 or older.)

Applications can be obtained from Shane Antone, NHC, N7210 Seminary Rd., Oneida WI 54155 or call 920/869-4032.

ONEIDA TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT

Employee Insurance Clerk

POSITION NUMBER: 01538 (Part-time 20 hours a week)
DEPARTMENT: Employee Insurance
LOCATION: 2630 West Mason, Green Bay
DIVISION: Internal Services
RESPONSIBLE TO: Employee Insurance Director
SALARY: Grade 05 \$9.71/Hr (NEGOTIABLE DEPENDENT UPON EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE)
CLOSING DATE: January 7, 1999
Proposed Start Date: March 15, 1999
POSITION SUMMARY: This position's primary responsibilities will include but are not limited to: maintaining all employee insurance files, data entry and providing clerical backup for the Employee Insurance Specialists. Incumbent must be able to work with minimal supervision. This is a part-time position which will work twenty(20) hours per week unless otherwise needed/requested. This is a non-exempt position and reports to the Employee Insurance Director. Continuation of position is contingent upon funding allocations.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability status in employment or the provision of services. However, individuals of Indian ancestry and Veterans will be given preference by law in initial employment or re-employment. APPLICATIONS/RESUMES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO: HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT, 2630 WEST MASON STREET OR MAIL TO: PO BOX 365, ONEIDA WI 54155-0365.

Transit Driver I

(Part-Time 20 to 29 hrs per week)
POSITION NUMBER: 01609
DEPARTMENT: Public Transit
LOCATION: W1146 Ranch Road
DIVISION: Governmental
RESPONSIBLE TO: Transit Director
SALARY: Grade 04 \$9.07/Hr CLOSING DATE: January 7, 1999
Proposed Start Date: March 1, 1999
POSITION SUMMARY: This position is responsible for transporting fare paying passengers on regular routes. Applicant must perform a safety inspection of vehicle and other duties for the normal operation of the Transit vehicle. This position is expected to use the highest degree of care when operating and maintaining the vehicle and is expected to know and comply with all applicable state and federal rules, regulations and traffic laws. Must be able to work flexible hours to include evenings and weekends. This position will require incumbent to participate in a random drug testing/screening according to the Oneida Tribe's Drug Free Workplace Policy. This is a non-exempt position and reports to the Transit Director. Continuation of this position is contingent upon funding allocations.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

January 6, 1999
5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Oneida Housing Authority

Norbert Hill Cafeteria
Nahasda Annual Report
and
Final Report on the
Comprehensive Grant
and

This will also be for all
tenants and home buyers
Please bring a dish to pass,
meat will be provided by Oneida
Housing Authority

NOTICE OF INCORRECT INFORMATION

You may have recently received a booklet, "The Community Education Course Catalog 1998-1999." The booklet contains information which is incorrect pertaining to our Elder Services on Pages 26-28 under these headings:

Elder Christmas Party
Bingo for Prizes
Community Activities
Halloween Party
Thanksgiving Dinner

If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact Elderly Services for the correct information and details:

920/869-2448

We are very sorry for the
inconvenience

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Fax 920/490-2453 or
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894 Riverdale Drive,
Oneida WI 54155

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- Cocktail Servers
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- Happy Hour Buffet Runner
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- Sous Chef
- Dishwasher
- Salad Prep
- Housekeepers
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2040 Airport Drive, Green Bay WI 54313
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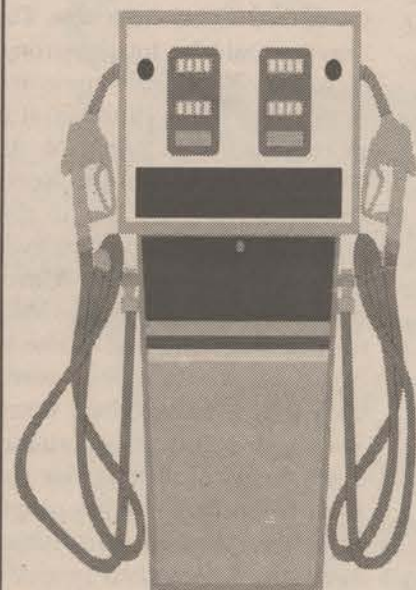
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done by Dec. 31 yearly



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In Their View

Lawsuit filed - Settle the Oneida land claim

Nothing will change the grievous harm that was done to the Indian nations in this region more than 200 years ago. Nothing. They have lived without their land, without the privileges promised to them in treaties they signed in good faith. And they have suffered greatly for it - all while those living on land that was stolen have prospered.

The Oneida Indian Nation filed a lawsuit Tuesday against the landowners in their 250,000 acre claim area. Lawyers representing Oneidas living in New York, in Wisconsin and in Canada agreed the suit was the best way to move their land claim forward. Of course the lawsuit is upsetting to property owners, but burning court papers on the front lawn of Turning Stone casino will not help. And it will not change anything.

Property owners and state officials must remember that the U.S. Supreme Court has said the Indian nations with legitimate claims are due reparations. It decided the Oneida claim was a legitimate one both in 1974 and in 1985. Anger and racism will not change that. Land claims are a fact of life. The people living in the land-claim areas who are upset should blame the state of New York for not finding some way to make reparations within 14 years. They should not blame ordinary Oneida people who are trying to get their due. Those Oneidas were not consulted about this decision anyway.

It's true there has been some stalling on the Oneida side. We've heard Oneida representative Ray Halbritter would rather not settle the claim if it gives a land base to the 10,000 Oneidas from Wisconsin or the 3,100 from Canada. He issued threats against realtors who sold property to representatives of the other Oneida Nation groups. He has pursued casinos outside his nation's claim area in exchange for a settlement.

And that has been one of the problems. The state, rather than negotiating the settlement on its merits, has instead looked for

other ways out. The expansion of casino gambling is not the way to settle these suits for all kinds of reasons. Many native people oppose gambling or profiting from it. Besides, the state should not expand the availability of casino gambling because of its human and economic costs. But former Gov. Mario Cuomo and Gov. George Pataki have pursued this misbegotten policy to the point that the federal government now stands with the Oneidas against the state of New York.

State officials continue to try and persuade the Mohawks and the Senecas at Cattaraugus - who also have strong land claims - to give those suits up for gambling. They know better than to ask the Onondagas, who plan to file a land claim next year but who have stood firm against gambling.

The Oneida claim has languished for all these years, while governors and other state officials have dragged their feet, hoping the payout wouldn't have to come on their watch. The 14 years would have been far better spent working on gaining funds and, perhaps, federal land to use to settle this claim. Claims successfully completed in other states have used a combination of federal and state money.

The worst thing that can happen now that the suit has been filed is for property owners to let their fears take over. The Oneidas and the Onondagas have been firm on one point. They know what it feels like to lose your land, your home. They do not want to visit that upon anyone else. The best thing the people of Central New York - Indian and non-Indian can do - is push state officials to sit down and come up with a settlement.

Editor's Note: This editorial appeared in the Dec. 9 Herald-Journal. The Herald Co., Syracuse, NY © 1998 Herald-Journal. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.

Chronology of the Oneida Land Claim

April 20, 1995 - The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin urged the newly elected Governor of New York State, George E. Pataki to resume settlement negotiations.

August 30, 1995 - The state of New York's Governor appointed Jan Farr, a Syracuse-based attorney to be its lead land claims negotiator.

October, 1995 - The U.S. Department of the Interior began a series of meetings with each of the land claim parties to explore whether it could help produce a negotiated outcome. The meetings were part of the Department's evaluation of whether to intervene on behalf of the Oneidas who had earlier requested that the land claim case go back to the court for litigation.

November, 1995 - New York state's newly-appointed negotiator met for the first time with each of the land claim parties.

December, 1995 - Based on its evaluation of settlement negotiations the Department of the Interior proposed a framework of settlement options to the parties. The Department decided to hold off its decision regarding litigation in order to explore settlement negotiations with each of the parties.

April 19, 1996 - As a result of meetings held with each of the parties by the Department of the Interior, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and Oneida Indian Nation of New York agreed to work together to find a solution to their disagreement over which of the three modern-day Oneida communities can own and control any New York state lands returned to the Oneidas as part of any settlement.

July 1, 1996 - The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin reported that all of its options to reach a compromise regarding the ownership of any lands returned to the Oneidas as part of a settlement was rejected.

July 8, 1996 - In a meeting with New York state and the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, the Department of the Interior proposed a new settlement option, generally referred to as the "footprint concept," that would allow a parcel of land in New York state to be owned and eventually governed by the Oneidas of Wisconsin. At that meeting, the state failed to respond about the proposal and asked to meet again with the Oneidas of Wisconsin at a later date.

July 16, 1996 - The state was still unprepared to discuss the Department's settlement proposal when it met in Albany with the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and representatives for the Thames Band of Oneidas, a third Oneida community in Ontario. The state rescheduled the meeting.

July 23, 1996 - Three days before it was to meet with the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, New York state negotiators canceled the meeting because they were still unprepared to discuss a proposal for settlement offered by the Department of the Interior in early July. The meeting was rescheduled to August 16.

August 16, 1996 - Negotiators for New York state and the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin met but the state was still unprepared to discuss the settlement proposal that was offered by the Department of the Interior in early July. The state promised to reschedule the meeting for early September.

August 19, 1996 - Several delays by the state prohibited the parties from determining if any agreement could exist over the settlement proposal by the Department of the Interior. As a result, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin officials prepared to seek authorization from its general membership to purchase a parcel of land within the land claim area. The Oneida Wisconsin meeting was postponed when New York state officials promised to send a letter before the end of the week to confirm a date when it would be prepared to discuss the settlement

proposals.

August 27, 1996 - Despite its promise, the state failed to send the letter to the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin to confirm a time when it would be ready to discuss the "footprint concept." State negotiators asked for a delay until mid-September.

August 30, 1996 - In a letter to the state, officials of Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin announced plans to seek approval from its general membership on September 16 to purchase land in the claim area. The tribe also offered the state another chance to respond to the "footprint concept" before the meeting on September 16.

September 16, 1996 - When the state still failed to provide any response to settlement proposals that it received two months before September 16, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin general membership, formally called the General Tribal Council or GTC, voted in favor of purchasing land within the land claim area.

September 19, 1996 - New York state asked the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin to delay purchasing land in the claim area but still made no offers to negotiate.

September 27, 1996 - The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin purchased a two-acre parcel of land within the land claim area in the town of Lenox, NY.

October 8, 1996 - the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin invited all of the parties to a summit meeting to help restart stalled talks.

November 21, 1996 - New York state negotiators confirmed rumors that it had been holding secret land claim talks with the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, one of the three Oneida communities. The state's negotiator admitted that the "secret" talks were aimed at producing a settlement giving all land and the control of that land to the New York Oneida and cash only to the other Oneida communities located outside of the state.

November 25, 1996 - New York state rejected the summit meeting proposal made by the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. The state said it would conduct separate and individual negotiations with each of the Oneida communities, starting first with the New York Oneida.

December 9, 1996 - As part of its final effort to revive negotiations, the Department of the Interior asked to meet with all of the parties to determine whether negotiations could continue. If this latest round of talks failed, the Department would instruct the Department of Justice to resume litigation.

December 11 & 19, 1996 - Two of the three Oneida communities, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and the Oneida of the Thames in Ontario, agreed to meet with the Department of the Interior.

December 20, 1996 - New York state rejected the Department of the Interior plan to revive settlement talks. The state insisted that it controlled land claim negotiations.

January 10, 1997 - In a letter to New York state, the Department of the Interior warned that as trustee for the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, as well as others, it could not actively participate in settlement negotiations which excluded any one of the tribes from the negotiation process without their consent.

February 12, 1997 - After many months of delays by New York state that prevented any of the parties from holding substantive talks on land claim issues, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin concluded that negotiations have failed and requested that litigation be renewed.

April 25, 1997 - The Department of the Interior referred the Oneida land claim case to the Department of Justice for legal action against the state of New York.

Land Claim From Page 1

blame them. There is a long history leading up to this, but it is not a whim. This comes after a 10-year failed process for the claim, and we can't get off square one. For the last three years the Wisconsin Oneidas can't get a discussion with New York."

Gov. George Pataki said in a Dec. 9 press release, "the state will stand firmly with the people of Oneida and Madison counties while working to resolve the long-pending land claims issue with the Oneida Nation. We are going to make sure no one loses their home, no one loses their property. We are going to do everything we can in court or in negotiations to protect the people of central New York."

The governor said the state "has had an offer on the table to settle the land claim dispute with the Oneida Nation," which "on several occasions since that offer has declined to accept the state's invitation to conduct settlement talks."

Locklear said the governor is

referring to a written proposal offered only to the New York Oneidas. "I didn't know about it," she said, adding that the New York Oneidas rejected the offer.

Locklear said the Department of Interior wrote the state several times, as recently as 1996, urging that it "commit to serious negotiations" with all three Oneida communities.

Pataki said any settlement must not take land by eminent domain (a government's right to take private land for public use, usually with compensation to the owner); take property from unwilling sellers; or include ejectment (dispossession of land). Locklear said the Oneidas had been willing to discuss those issues, and that they would not have precluded a settlement.

"The governor said things the state, or the locals want, not what Oneidas want. Without settling that, you can hardly say he has made a proposal," Locklear said.

Locklear said the case should be settled by the parties involved, rather than a judge. "By its nature, a judgement is harder to accept when it's imposed by a

third party. In a case this large, you want terms the parties can live with. With a judge, you don't know if the terms will be what everyone can live with.

A source close to the defendants agreed with Locklear's assessment, saying the case isn't designed for the courts to resolve. The source said the counties are pawns: the real players the Oneida Nation, and state and federal governments.

The source said that once the players create a settlement outline, the concern is putting in a framework and process enabling each culture to respect each other, and wanting each party to succeed, which would benefit both parties.

The Oneidas asked federal Judge Neal P. McCurn to appoint a settlement master to mediate their claim, and Pataki said he is amenable to the request. Local legislators have requested more information about third-party mediation.

McCurn set a Feb. 28 deadline for responses by the parties, after which he will rule whether the court will accept the suit.

Who are the key players in the Oneida land claim

Over the years the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin has been to the table with the New York Oneidas and the Oneida of the Thames to negotiate a settlement with the land claim. Many individuals have sat at the table with other tribal leaders and attorneys to work out an agreement. New tribal chairs have been elected as have other tribal government officials. Here in Wisconsin, the Oneida Lands Claim Commission has have board members come and go. So who now is in the forefront as the land claim suit is amended to include the 20,000 property owners in the State of New York.

There is now a cooperation agreement among the three Oneida leaderships through their attorneys concerning the land claims. Here are the key players who now have the task on working on a land claim settlement:

Oneida Nation of Wisconsin: Plaintiff's lawyers, Francis Skenandore and Arlinda Locklear

Oneida Indian Nation of New York: Lead Counsel, Cravath, Swaine & Moore, Lead lawyer from Cravath firm is Thomas D. Barr, assisted by Richard W. Clary & Catherine T. Struve; General Counsel, Zuckerman, Spaeder, Goldstein, Taylor & Kolker, L.L.P., Lead counsel from this firm is William Taylor, III, assisted by Thomas

B. Mason & Dana J. Hyde.

Oneida of the Thames Band: Counsel, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, Lead counsel from this firm is Carey Ramos, assisted by Robert S. Smith.

Counsel for plaintiff-intervenor United States: Charles E. O'Connell, Jr., Environmental & Natural Resources Division, Indian Resources Section, Washington, D.C.; Charles is the staff attorney who will represent the United States in court. However, the decision in the case will be by Attorney Jim Simon, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environmental & Natural Resources Division.

Counsel for defendants Madison and Oneida Counties: Nixon, Hargrave, Devans & Doyle, L.L.P., Lead counsel is G. Robert Witmer, Jr.

Representatives of Governor Pataki's office: Judith Hard, Deputy Counsel to the Governor. Hard usually handles negotiations for the State of New York.

There will be additional attorneys appearing in the lawsuit once the judge grants the Oneidas' motion for leave to amend by adding defendants. There will be a hearing on that motion on March 29, 1999, and a ruling very soon thereafter.

ONEIDA LAND CLAIMS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK



Map courtesy of Oneida Land Office

Letter to the membership

On behalf of the Oneida Business Committee, I am writing to inform you of recent advancements in the Oneida Land Claim lawsuit. On Dec. 8, 1998, the three Oneida governments together filed an amended complaint to the existing Oneida land claim. The amended complaint names the state of New York as the original wrongdoer and all persons who occupy or claim any interest in the Oneida Reservation land as defendants. In addition, the complaint seeks all relief against all defendants, including possession of the reservation.

The complaint has been filed jointly and all three tribes have made a commitment to work together in the best interest of all Oneida people. The Oneida complaint has also received backing from the United States government as the Department of Justice also filed an amended complaint similar to the Oneida complaint.

Since negotiations with the state of New York have been on stay for the last 13 years, we believe our course of action is, in fact, our only means to a settlement. We have repeatedly attempted to settle the claim out of court. Unfortunately, the state of New York has refused to negotiate a fair and honorable settlement with the Oneidas.

We are hopeful that this action will bring the state of New York back to the negotiating table. However, as instructed by the court, we will move speedily to press litigation forward.

If you have any questions about the status of the land claim, please call me at 869.4403. Additional updates on the land claim will be included in upcoming issues of the Kalihwisaks.

Gary L. Jordan, Interim and Acting Chairman
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin