

# THE ONEIDA



## ONYOTA AKA

❖ ONEIDA INDIAN NATION NEWS ❖

THE ONEIDA ❖ ISSUE 5, VOLUME 20 ❖ DECEMBER, 2018



Oneida Indian Nation Wolf Clan Councilmember Keller George presented the speakers at the 18th annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony with a copy of 'Forgotten Allies,' a book detailing the Nation's role in the American Revolution.

## Oneida Indian Nation Honors All Veterans During Annual Event

*Fort Drum Garrison Commander, Syracuse-area Assemblymember Speak at 18th Annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony*

The Oneida Indian Nation hosted its 18th annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony and breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 3. The yearly tradition honors the area's veterans and active duty military members for their selfless sacrifice in service to the country.

Nearly 400 local veterans were in attendance to hear the event's keynote address by Colonel Kenneth Dean Harrison, United States Army Fort Drum

Garrison Commander. Colonel Harrison enlisted in the Army as an Intelligence Analyst in 1991 and was commissioned through Officer Candidate School as a Military Intelligence Officer in 1994.

Event emcee and Nation employee Randy Phillips introduced the speakers, as well as Nation Member Mary Blau (Turtle Clan), who recited the traditional Oneida Thanksgiving Address.

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Sundance Program Director N. Bird Runningwater, filmmaker Shaandin Tome and Nation Representative Ray Halbritter.

## Oneida Indian Nation and Sundance Institute Host Film Screening

The Oneida Indian Nation recently announced a multi-faceted collaboration with Sundance Institute to provide dynamic support at every step of the creative journey for individuals with distinct voices in film, theatre, film composing, episodic storytelling and emerging platforms. The joint initiative is designed to expand the reach of Native storytellers in Upstate New York through local film screenings and workshops, as well as a year-long Fellowship for one local aspiring Native filmmaker, who will be announced in early 2019.

To kick off the initiative, a Native shorts film series was screened at

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## MEMBER BENEFIT NEWS



### GAS CARD

A recent mailing went out to notify Members of a new program. Members are asked to come to the Member Benefits office to get a new TS Rewards card that will allow each Member, over the age of 18, .05 cents off per gallon of gas at any SavOn or Maple Leaf Market store.

### REMINDER

Members who need to have proof of school or work, please note the following:

- Paystubs need to be dated for the month prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of each quarter
- Paystubs must show 30 hours worked per week
- If using the Scholarship program, please contact that department for requirements at (315) 829-8150
- If not using the Scholarship program, please provide an enrollment verification from your school
- ALL documents need to be in by the 15<sup>th</sup> prior to the 1st of each quarter (Ex: Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>)

**Member Benefits is located at  
577 Main Street, Oneida NY 13421**

## Sundance Film Screening

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Turning Stone Resort Casino on Oct. 13 featuring award winning Native filmmakers from around the country.

Additional Sundance Institute and Oneida Indian Nation sponsored events for 2019 will be announced soon.

The Oneida Indian Nation also partnered with the Syracuse International Film Festival, a five-day multimedia event bringing together the area's higher education institutions and local arts scene, which ran from Oct. 10 to Oct. 14 this year. As part of its Native American Showcase on the final day, the festival screened *The People of the Standing Stone*, a special 25-minute documentary directed by Ric Burns and narrated by Academy Award winner Kevin Costner. The film explores the Oneidas role as the country's first ally during the darkest days of the Revolutionary War, which formed a sacred bond between the two nations that continues to this day.

The film first screened at the opening at the Museum of the American Revolution in April of last year. It was another step toward ensuring visitors get the entire story of the country's founding, and the role the Oneidas played in it.



Filmmaker Shaandin Tome and N. Bird Runningwater discuss the Native shorts with attendees of the event.

With these ongoing partnerships with the Sundance Institute and Syracuse International Film Festival, the Oneida Nation hopes to inspire local Native filmmakers to tell their stories. The Nation is proud to continue its community outreach efforts to engage, educate, inform and inspire artists throughout the Central New York region.

Community building is an essential part of the success of any organization. The Oneida Nation values these new friendships and welcomes opportunities to advocate on behalf of Native voices across the country. ❖

### ONYOTA'A:KÁ:

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Pete John, Bear Clan  
Clint Hill, Turtle Clan  
Dale Road, Turtle Clan

### TOLL-FREE MEMBER PHONE LINE

**1.800.685.6115**

Nation Council Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m., Nation Council House, Oneida Territory via Route 46 South, Oneida, NY  
For further information contact: The Oneida Indian Nation, P.O. Box 1, Vernon, NY 13476, or visit us on the web: [www.OneidaIndianNation.com](http://www.OneidaIndianNation.com)

### DOING BUSINESS ON NATION LAND

The Oneida Nation has developed a website for use by any business who does business on Nation lands and collects Oneida Indian Nation Sales Tax to remit the taxes to the Nation online. If you have a business on Nation land or are thinking about starting one up, contact the Nation's Department of Taxation at 315-366-9393 for assistance. They can help answer any questions and provide training on the website's use.



# Oneida Heritage Center and Warrior Archery Welcome Olympian Mackenzie Brown

*Archery program continues to grow at the 12-lane indoor range located in Sherrill*

23-year-old Olympic archer Mackenzie Brown, ranked 15th in the world, visited the Oneida Heritage Center's Warrior Archery on Saturday, Oct. 26 to teach and inspire kids from the YMCA of the Greater Tri-Valley about the sport of archery. Her visit preceded the beginning of the Y's youth archery program at Oneida Heritage, which is running Nov. 24 – Dec. 29 each Saturday morning starting at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m., and Nov. 28 – Jan. 9 each Wednesday night from 5-6 p.m.

Mackenzie was introduced to archery through the National Archery in the Schools program while growing up in Texas. She began excelling quickly, further developing her skills in a Junior Olympic Archery Development club. She was selected to compete on USA Archery's Junior Dream Team and competed for a spot on the 2012 Olympic team when she was just 16 years old.

"Archery has given me a platform to be who I am," Mackenzie said when she spoke to the kids. "My parents instilled in me so many good characteristics like

personal responsibility and faith."

The YMCA's program focuses on developing several life skills such as empathy, personal development, relationship building, emotion management and responsibility. By incorporating character building activities at their weekly archery lessons, kids develop confidence and build on a foundation of strong personal values in addition to proper shooting technique.

Anyone can be a successful archer through hard work and plenty of practice. There are no boundaries or limits on who can participate, making it a fun and rewarding activity that combines sport with character. Mackenzie explained that there's a purpose to everything she does when she trains and competes. The sport enables you to set tangible goals that you can work toward at your own pace.

"Whether it's a mental goal or physical goal, you can always find something to work on," she said. "I never



Olympic archer Mackenzie Brown works with youth at the Oneida Indian Nation's Oneida Heritage Center/Warrior Archery.

envisioned not being an Olympian. You have to know your goals, and the failures that happen along the way are what make you work harder and help you to win."

Turtle Clan Council Member and Director of Oneida Heritage Dale Rood is excited to see the Y's program take off and grow. "The look on the kids' faces, and even the parents, when we get these archers to work with them is just amazing," he said. "That's what makes it fun and special. I'm glad to be a part of it."

Dale presented Mackenzie with a friendship feather at the end of her presentation and looks forward to her visiting again.

For more information on Warrior Archery and its programs you can visit <https://www.warriorsarchery.com/> or call 315-829-8836. ❖



Right: Olympic archer MacKenzie Brown gave instructional tips to kids from the Tri-Valley YMCA during a visit to Oneida Heritage/Warrior Archery.

Left: MacKenzie Brown was presented with a friendship feather during her visit to Oneida. Left to right: MacKenzie Brown, Dale Rood and Hank Leo, CEO of the Tri-Valley YMCA.





## Nation Honors Veterans

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The special words of thanks convey the Oneidas' belief that all parts of creation are a blessing from the Creator and a representation of the original words of Thanksgiving. Colonel Harrison acknowledged and thanked Mary for her words of thanks, which he stated was among the most beautiful things he's ever heard.

The Colonel's speech centered on Fort Drum's continued efforts to boost community interaction and involvement. As a returning attendee to the event, Colonel Harrison stressed the importance of continued collaboration with the Oneida Nation, which he credits with jumpstarting the Fort's outreach efforts.

"We're working hard to open the gates of Ft. Drum to the community," he said. "This friendship and cooperation with the Nation is a treasure."

Col. Harrison also said a healthy and consistent community presence is essential for Fort Drum's success. The Oneida Nation is proud to be a partner in that initiative, now and in the future.

Preceding Col. Harrison's keynote address, Assemblymember Pamela Hunter, a U.S. Army veteran and chair of the New York State Assembly Subcommittee on Women Veterans, served as



Mary Blau (Turtle Clan) recited the Thanksgiving Address in Oneida.



Assemblymember Pamela Hunter and Fort Drum Garrison Commander Kenneth Dean Harrison spoke at the event and visited with fellow Veterans.



Colonel Harrison



Oneida Indian Nation Wolf Clan Councilmember Keller George presented the speakers with friendship feathers.

guest speaker. An upstate New York native, Assemblymember Hunter serves the 128th Assembly District, which includes parts of the city of Syracuse, as well as the Onondaga Nation.

Ms. Hunter addressed her continued efforts in the New York State Assembly to fight for additional resources for the state's veterans. As the only female veteran in the state Legislature, she says it's incumbent on us all to honor the men and women in the military. As part of her tireless effort to ensure veterans have every opportunity to succeed, Ms. Hunter highlighted a recent bill that makes it easier for individuals to get into civil service.

Toward the end of Saturday's event, U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force veteran and Oneida Nation Wolf Clan Councilmember Keller George presented a \$1,000 check to Feed Our Vets, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing fully-stocked food pantries for veterans in need. Keller also presented Colonel Harrison and Assemblymember Hunter with a friendship feather and a copy of the book, *Forgotten Allies*, which details the Oneida Nation's history as the country's First Allies.

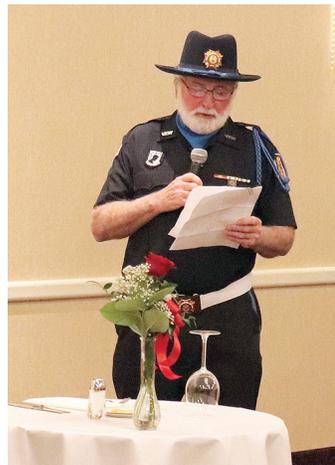
As America's First Allies, the Oneida Indian Nation is proud to continue its legacy of support for the United States by honoring the nation's distinguished veterans and active service men and women of the military. ❖



Posters commemorating Oneida Members who have served and are still serving in the U.S. Military were on display as well as the Fallen Stars Memorial Tribute.



VFW Post 2246, of Rome, N.Y., provided the color guard, a POW/MIA remembrance and renditions of 'Taps' and 'Amazing Grace.'



## Did You Know?

Unlike the Treaty of Canandaigua, the Veterans Treaty, executed just a few weeks after the celebrated Treaty of Canandaigua, on December 2, 1794, in Oneida Castle, was specific to the Oneida. Created by the U.S. to document its special relationship with the Oneida Indian Nation, the Veterans Treaty recognizes the wartime sacrifices made by the Oneida on behalf of the American people.

Timothy Pickering, special U.S. emissary to the Haudenosaunee, negotiated the Treaty of Canandaigua, and, as soon as he was finished, he rode to Oneida Castle to conduct a second treaty, an agreement to compensate Oneidas and some Tuscaroras for losses and services in the Revolutionary War. This pact is unique in American history. It is the only one in which the United States commemorates victory jointly achieved with an Indian ally. Indeed, it may be the only treaty in which the U.S. says "thank you" to an Indian nation.

In the Veterans Treaty, the U.S. acknowledged a special bond with the Oneida Nation forged in war and joint victory – a bond that the Oneidas have honored for more than 10 generations. ❖



## Health Services Medical Call Center

With Medical Call Center, medical and dental patients can call Health Services anytime the office is closed to talk to a registered nurse, who will “triage” the call and suggest options for care. When a call is triaged it means a registered nurse will talk to the patient and assess their symptoms or health concerns and offer advice for follow up.

Examples of the types of calls that the nurse is authorized to triage:

1. Recommending the patient go to the emergency room or urgent care.
2. Advising the patient to follow up with Health Services on the next business day to make an appointment.
3. Suggest over-the-counter medications until the patient can be seen at Health Services or if the situation requires, an emergency room or urgent care visit.

The Medical Call Center is not to be used for medical emergencies, prescription refills, or to make or cancel appointments. For more information, contact Lisa Winn, Admissions Supervisor, at (315) 829-8715 or 1-800-663-4324. ❖



## Annual Winter Blood Drive Planned

Oneida Nation Enterprises and American Red Cross Blood Services are sponsoring a blood drive on Wednesday, Dec. 19 at the Chautauqua/Canandaigua/Saranac rooms of Turning Stone Resort Casino from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. The drive is open to the public.

Blood donation is a simple four-step process: registration, medical history and

mini-physical, donation and refreshments. A healthy donor may donate red blood cells every 56 days, or double red cells every 112 days.

Donor appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will also be accepted. To schedule an appointment to donate, contact Pat Catalano at (315) 829-8215 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). ❖

## Health Services Policy Reminders

*Health Services would like to remind their patients/clients about the following policies.*

### Paperwork and Forms

Paperwork that is needed for school, such as exam forms, medication release or immunization records, requires 7-10 business days to be processed.

When asking Health Services to fax paperwork or forms to a school, the correct fax number must be provided.

Any records needed for personal use, such as immunization records or lab results, will require a Release of Information to be completed by the patient/client prior to release of records.

### Children's Physicals

Annual physicals for children ages 2-18 are scheduled 1 year and one day (366 days) apart. Only the child's parent is authorized to bring them to the physical appointment. The only exception is if someone other than the parent is the child's legal guardian (grandparent, foster parent, or court-appointed guardian with proper paperwork).

For more information about the policies, contact Lisa Winn, admissions supervisor, at (315) 829-8700 or 1-800-663-4324. ❖

## Recreation Department Programs



For more information about Recreation Dept. Programs, call (315) 829-8484 or 1-800-685-6115. All grounds and buildings of the Recreation facility are alcohol, smoke and drug free, as are all on-site and off-site events for participants of all ages. All program participants must sign a waiver; minors must also have their parent/guardian sign the waiver.

### After School Program

The After School Program (ASP) is held Monday through Friday from 3-5 p.m. for children in grades 3-12. Registration is required and is limited to 30 participants. The ASP is open to Oneida Nation Members, Children of Enrolled Oneidas and Oneida Nation Health Services clients and is held only when school is in session. Separate activities are offered during school breaks.

The ASP offers quiet homework time and assistance from NYS Common Core Curriculum trained staff, computer lab access, recreation games, sports skills

development, culturally relevant games and activities, outdoor activities and a healthy snack.

### Youth Ambassadors and Jr. Youth Ambassadors Programs

The Youth Ambassadors Program (YAP) is an interest-driven young leaders program open to grades 7-12, and the Jr. YAP promotes young leadership and team building skills for grades 3-6. Each group is involved in monthly educational, cultural or community workshops, with attendance-based incentives.

Enrollment in both programs is based on space availability. For more information, contact Donna Howe, youth programs coordinator, or J'nese Avenia, youth assistant.

### Sunday Football

Every Sunday until the big game in February, the Rec. Center big screen TV will be tuned to the weekly football games from 1-6 p.m. During half-time flag football will be played outside or in the gym, depending on the weather. Open

to all ages; children ages 12 and younger must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Participants are welcome to bring a dish to pass.

### Walking for Wellness

The Walking For Wellness Program offers participants the opportunity to earn up to a \$50 SavOn card. Until Jan. 31, 2019, walkers can track their steps by signing out a pedometer at the Rec. Center and walking in the gym, on a treadmill in the Fitness Room or outside. Personal activity trackers or smart phone app may also be used. Walking a minimum of 100,000 steps earns a \$5 gift card, up to a \$50 card for walking 1,000,000 steps.

### Cardio Circuit Class

With a mix of cardio and strength training exercises, the cardio circuit class is designed to help people of all fitness levels achieve their goals. Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays through Feb. 28 and are also open to employees and their guest. Employee's guest is charged \$1 per class and must provide photo ID. Participants can join the class at any time between 5:30-6:30 p.m.

### Recreation Dept. Program Eligibility:

Oneida Indian Nation Members, Children of Enrolled Oneidas, Oneida Indian Nation Health Services clients and where noted, employees or the general public. All grounds and buildings of the Recreation facility are alcohol, smoke and drug free, as are all on-site and off-site events for participants of all ages. All program participants must sign a waiver; minors must also have their parent/guardian sign the waiver. Proper athletic clothing and footwear must be worn in the gym and Fitness Room.

Welcome to the new format of *The Oneida*. This redesigned newsletter will still bring you the same great information about Oneida Nation news and information, and coverage of Government Programs and Services events and happenings.

Also, be sure to check out [www.OneidaIndianNation.com](http://www.OneidaIndianNation.com) for the latests news, information and more about the Oneida Nation.

## SAVE THE DATES ...

**Thursday, Dec. 13 - Elders Christmas Party, 5 p.m. at Turning Stone Resort Casino**

**Friday, Dec. 28 - Senior Swing New Year's Eve at Turning Stone Resort Casino (Bus leaves the C & E at 11 a.m.)**

For information about these and other Elders program events call (315) 829-8133 or 1-800-685-6115.

**Dec. 24, 26, 27 & 28 - Winter Recess Program at the Recreation Center, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

For children in grades 3 - 8, registration is limited. For information call 315-829-8484 or 1-800-685-6115.



Elders practice various painting techniques at a recent craft class.

## Elders Classes Offer Variety of Arts

Participants in the Oneida Indian Nation's Elders Program tried their hand at some new craft projects last month. Activities Leader Tammy Patterson (Wolf Clan) instructed Elders on how to use alcohol ink, a fun paint style that can be used on glassware or for stamping and card making. All you have to do is add a drop of paint with rubbing alcohol and use compressed air to move the paint around your "canvas." After practicing on photo paper, the Elders painted mugs and glasses to create unique works of art. The project was part of Tammy's Elders craft class.

For more information about Elders Program activities call (315) 829-8133 or 1-800-685-6115. ❖

