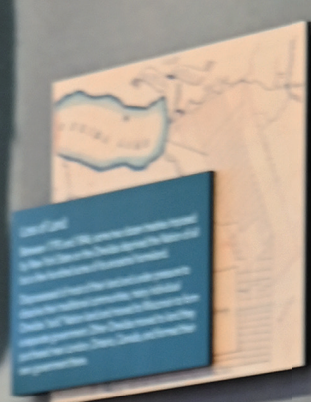


RESURGENCE

Even after their continued...
Oneida's friendship and sovereignty were...
government. Mary Cornelius Winder...
altered the future path of the Oneida People.

ONEIDA INDIAN NATION ANNUAL REPORT 2024

unto the seventh generation



...the future path of the Oneida People.

...

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE SEVENTH GENERATION

The people and leadership of the Oneida Indian Nation have identified three principle, long-range goals to guide the community, as well as the economic development activities of the Nation, its administration and leadership.

The adopted long-range goals of the Oneida Indian Nation are as follows:

Help our Members achieve their highest potential in education, physical and mental health and economic development;

Implement the legal and administrative structure for the stability and protection of Nation sovereignty, treaty rights, and government to government relationships and;

Acquire, develop, and secure resources to achieve economic and social empowerment and self-sufficiency for the Oneida Indian Nation.

These long-range goals have been adopted by the Nation as a guide toward the accomplishment of a progressive dream. Simultaneously, the Nation plans to use the economic incentives available to a sovereign nation to inject new wealth and create jobs for both the Oneida community and the surrounding communities.

ONEIDA INDIAN NATION ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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A message from the

Oneida Indian Nation Representative

Shekólih. There is a Native American proverb that says, “The one who tells the stories rules the world.” It explains why the Oneida Indian Nation has worked so tirelessly to achieve self-sufficiency, revitalize our culture, and reclaim our homelands. In doing all of these things, we have taken control of our legacy and our role in the broader history of this region and the United States. Doing so is a critical element in preserving our sovereignty and our ability to defend it in the days to come.

Nowhere have we made greater strides than with the creation of the Mary C. Winder Community Center. This facility is more than just a beautiful structure. It is a gift to future generations and a place where Oneida identity and culture cannot be erased. At the same time, it is a living gift. Every Member has an important role in its care that can be fulfilled simply by being an active part of our community.

As the community center provides a home for our culture, the Oneida Neighborhoods initiative continues to create new housing on our ancestral homelands. The return of the Oneida People to these lands is another element of our story, one we are facilitating with the infrastructure needed to support a growing community.

We continued to strengthen the partnerships that are so important part to our legacy throughout 2024 as well. This includes a donation to the Wynn Hospital for the creation of two beautiful murals. Outdoors, a large-scale public artwork illustrates the shared history between the Oneida Indian Nation, our region and the U.S. Inside, another mural memorializes Chief Shenendoah, Polly Cooper and General George Washington, three towering figures of Oneida and American history.

Our cultural preservation efforts have no higher priority than the repatriation of our ancestors’ remains and funerary belongings. Since 1994, we have coordinated with 15 cultural institutions across the country to return the remains of more than 120 ancestors along with more

than 9,500 associated funerary objects. Last year, these numbers grew with repatriations from the collections of the American Museum of Natural History, Cornell University, Colgate University and the Rochester Museum & Science Center. With every repatriation, we reclaim our ancestors’ dignity and ensure that Native American remains will no longer be insensitively displayed or forgotten in storage. These repatriations present a critical opportunity to center Indigenous voices in discourses with cultural and educational institutions so that we may create a better future together.



All of these efforts are made possible by the success of our enterprises. Through continuous investment and diversification, we will sustain our most essential government programs and services for generations to come. In 2024, we greatly advanced our long-term economic security with the Turning Stone Evolution and a more than \$50 million investment in a major expansion at Point Place Casino. Both of these enterprises, along with more growth to follow, will help provide the resources necessary to sustain our culture, bring prosperity to our Nation and continue telling our story.

We have found great success in this endeavor. Still, this work will never end. Instead, it will be handed down from generation to generation until the end of time. Because of all we have built together, we can look to the future with confidence that each of these generations will be well supported in this work by the strong cultural and economic foundation we have built today.

NΛ ki’ wa,

Ray Halbritter

Nation Representative



The Oneida Indian Nation and Colgate University came together in December at the Mary C. Winder Community Center to repatriate the remains of 21 Oneida ancestors to the Nation from the collections of the university's Longyear Museum of Anthropology.

2024 in Review: **A Year of Reclamation**

We often speak about the need to focus on the future rather than rest on past accomplishments or dwell in recollections of the past. While this is true, 2024 was a remarkable year for the Oneida Indian Nation and one that should be remembered for all that we have achieved together.

It is fitting then that the year began with an acknowledgment of our ancestors' contributions to the founding of the United States. It would be impossible to tell this country's history without the history of the Oneida People, as our ancestors were pivotal in the country's founding. That is why we felt great gratitude when the U.S. Senate passed a bipartisan resolution with unanimous support to honor Polly Cooper among other Alaska Native, American Indian and Native Hawaiian women who have

made major contributions to American history as part of March's Women's History Month.

In October, President Joe Biden issued a formal apology for government-run boarding schools that further recognized the experiences of Native people. While words cannot undo generations of harm inflicted through family separation and cultural genocide, they signal a major step forward in acknowledging and addressing this harm and working together toward a more united, equitable future.

Our greatest achievement in the past year, and perhaps for many to come, lies in the completion of the Mary C. Winder Community Center. Two years after breaking

ground to construct this facility, the Nation welcomed Members to its grand opening on June 28. Named for one of our greatest advocates, Mary C. Winder, the 90,000 sq. ft. community center offers resources to support Members' physical, social and cultural well-being.





We can also take great pride in the knowledge that the Mary C. Winder Community Center's first guest was the highest-ranking federal executive branch official to ever visit Oneida homelands, United States Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland. Secretary Haaland was amazed by all we have created here, from this beautiful facility to the revitalization of our people and all of Upstate New York.

Less than a month after the community center's grand opening, the Nation proudly welcomed international lacrosse teams to our homelands with the World Lacrosse Box Championships. The four games played at our lacrosse arena were an incredible honor, as they allowed us to celebrate the Creator's game and the medicine it offers all Haudenosaunee people. Hosting a game for the USA men's team also provided an opportunity to honor our legacy as America's First Allies during the Revolutionary War.

The bonds our ancestors forged during the Revolution endure today and inspire our commitment to partnership. In the spring, we strengthened one of these bonds by welcoming Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente to deliver his State of the County address at Turning Stone Resort Casino. This event marked the second time a County Executive has delivered this address at the resort and, to our knowledge, just the second time a gathering like this was held on sovereign tribal lands.

In November, we continued to honor these bonds of community with a celebration of our donation to the new Wynn Hospital in Downtown Utica that supported the creation of two beautiful murals that offer a visual representation of our history in the region and our incredible cultural and economic resurgence. Together, they remind us that when we join together as partners to serve our communities, we can create something enduring, beautiful, meaningful and powerful that our grandchildren's grandchildren will look to with pride.

This level of collaboration has also helped develop the Nation's role as an engine for economic development in Upstate New York. As part of the \$370 million Turning Stone Evolution continues, we proudly extended awards to 26 Upstate New York subcontractors who will contribute to the construction of The Grand Expo, The Crescent Hotel and a new parking garage. These awards, presented in November, represent just the first phase of the project and will continue to grow throughout the new year.



In September, the Oneida Indian Nation welcomed the USA men's box lacrosse team to the Mary C. Winder Community Center for an open house event with Nation Members, providing youth from the community an opportunity to meet and interact with the players and to learn skills and fundamentals of the game. The community center hosted four games of the 2024 World Lacrosse Box Championships, including women's games featuring Canada vs. Ireland and the Haudenosaunee Nationals vs. Netherlands, and men's games featuring the Haudenosaunee Nationals vs. England and USA vs. Canada.



In November, the Oneida Indian Nation gathered with Mohawk Valley Health System representatives, local elected officials and community members to unveil two new public artworks at Wynn Hospital in Downtown Utica. The 200' outdoor mural offers a visual representation of the Oneida Indian Nation's history in Upstate New York from the Oneida Creation story to the Nation's modern-day resurgence and the development of its enterprises, which have made it an engine for economic development for Nation Members and all of Upstate New York.



A message from the **Oneida Indian Nation Council**

Over the past year, the Oneida Indian Nation has continued to advance its mission of building a resilient and prosperous future for our people. Our efforts are grounded in a commitment to long-term growth, cultural preservation, and the well-being of our community. By leveraging the success of our enterprises, we are able to reinvest directly into initiatives that uplift and empower Members, fostering a future rooted in shared opportunity and strength.

Since formalizing an agreement with New York State and neighboring counties in 2013, we have solidified our role as a key economic driver in the region. This foundation has allowed us to create and expand critical programs in healthcare, housing, education, and cultural engagement. This year, we celebrated a major milestone with the opening of the Mary C. Winder Community Center, a symbol of unity and commitment to our community's sustainability for generations to come.

Our vision places a strong emphasis on enabling Members to thrive in every aspect of life. Through access to innovative educational programs, health and wellness services, and career opportunities, we strive to support

personal and professional growth. Comprehensive resources through our government programs and services further enhance these efforts, ensuring Members have the tools to succeed while staying connected to our heritage.

Looking ahead, every initiative is guided by our dedication to preserving the traditions and values that define us while also fostering progress. Together, we are laying the groundwork for a legacy of opportunity, growth, and cultural vitality that will inspire and sustain unto the Seventh Generation.

NΛ ki' wa,

Oneida Indian Nation Council





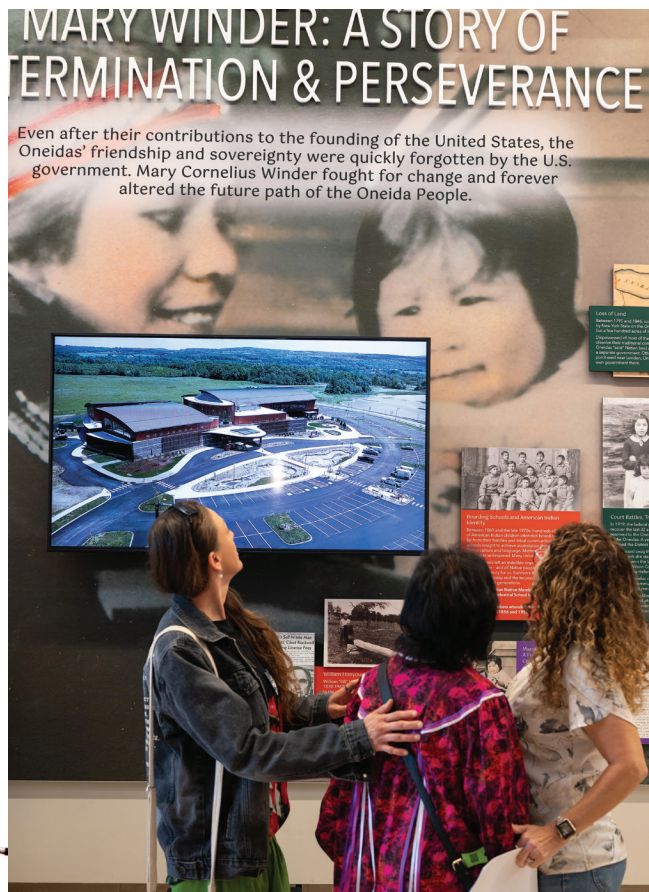
SECTION 1:

Building a Brighter Future

The success of the Oneida Indian Nation's multiple enterprises is a result of Nation leadership's business acumen, focus on diverse development and commitment to the entire region. Similarly, the Oneida People are echoing that success on a personal level. Grounded in its belief of working toward the betterment of the Seventh Generation yet to come, the Nation's programs and services have helped to improve the quality of life for Oneida Members while investing in their long-term opportunities.

From youth development, educational incentives and Elders' programming to evolving Onyota:a:ká: language initiatives, cultural preservation, health care and safe housing, the Nation is taking care of its own.

Overcoming centuries of poverty and displacement within a single generation is an immense challenge, and many obstacles remain on our path to self-sufficiency. However, we have made significant progress on this journey, and the foundations we are building today will pave the way for a stable and promising future for generations to come.



Mary C. Winder Community Center Honors the Past, Welcomes the Future

The Oneida Indian Nation welcomed Members for a first look at the Mary C. Winder Community Center a day before the facility's grand opening in June. One of the largest tribal centers of its kind in the United States, the community center offers many resources to support community building and the well-being of Nation Members and the Oneida Indian Nation community.

The 90,000-square-foot building offers a host of resources to support cultural engagement, community building, wellness activities and much more. It represents a historic investment by the Oneida Indian Nation in strengthening the Oneida People today and for generations to come.

Located on the Nation's ancestral homelands within the Oneida Neighborhood project, the Community Center's design is infused with Oneida culture inside and out, including a stately entrance that suggests the threading of a wampum belt. Inside, the Community Center is home to a beautiful field house with a box lacrosse field that honors the important role of the game in Oneida and Haudenosaunee culture.

The Community Center's other amenities include:

- Areas for Onyota'a:ká: language education and cultural programming
- Community gathering spaces
- A library
- An exhibit showcasing the rich legacy and historic resurgence of the Oneida people
- An accessible swimming pool
- A gymnasium, fitness center and running track
- A children's play area and more





“The Mary C. Winder Community Center is a profound statement to all who see it on the vibrancy of our community and proof that by restoring our homelands, we have brought to life the dreams of our ancestors,” said Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter. “It represents our incredible history in this region spanning from time immemorial until today and shows that we will always be here until the end of time. The Oneida People can take great pride in this incredible symbol of our resiliency and legacy today and for generations to come.”

During the grand opening event, the Oneida Indian Nation flag was raised outside of the Community Center by Nation Members who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, honoring the Nation’s legacy as America’s First Allies. Haudenosaunee social dance exhibitions were also held inside the new field house, during which Members were invited to come onto the lacrosse field to join the dancing. After these festivities concluded, Members were able to tour the center and sign up for their personal memberships.

“It’s fantastic that everyone has a place to go and there is always something for all age groups to do,” said Jenna Jacobs (Wolf Clan) at the opening. She was one of the many Nation Members in attendance who participated in social dancing led by Heath Hill (Wolf Clan) on the turf inside the spacious field house.



“When I first pulled-up, I was blown away thinking about how much has happened here since I was a little kid,” said Heath. “I grew up on the 32 acres when it was all dirt and puddles...It is amazing to see how far we have come.”

“I am very proud to have the center named after my great-grandmother. This is a wonderful place where everybody can come together. We’ve been waiting for something like this.”

Kandice Watson (Wolf Clan)

“It’s just been amazing to be a part of the team led by [Community Center General Manager] Nichola,” Mary Homer, a new Welcome Desk Attendant, said when reflecting on her experience since the building’s opening. “Everyone has really come together and I love being here.”



First Lacrosse Exhibition at Community Center a Long Time Coming

The Oneida Indian Nation created the Mary C. Winder Community Center as a place to support Nation Members in every way. The center and its amenities continue the long-time work of Nation leadership and Oneida Indian Nation Government Programs and Services Commissioner Kim Jacobs (Wolf Clan) to deliver programming that strengthens the individual and the bonds of community. Lacrosse has played a special role in carrying out that mission at the Community Center from the very beginning.

On June 29, hundreds of Nation Members gathered to watch the Oneida Indian Nation’s developmental squad take on the Utica Yeti in the Mary C. Winder Community Center Field House, with the Nation’s team winning 14-8. Levi Confer (Turtle Clan) for the Oneida team and Al Snow (Onondaga) with the Yeti participated in the ceremonial face off before the game.

Claire Patterson (Wolf Clan) recited the Thanksgiving Address in the Onyota’a:ká: language with both teams lined up on the field –



and later provided a traditional closing. Her aunt, Robin Patterson (Wolf Clan), was the official scorekeeper and ran the scoreboard.

Claire’s father, Ron Patterson (Wolf Clan), explained why holding lacrosse games on Oneida homelands means so much to him.

“Lacrosse is our ancestral tradition that has been played for hundreds of years by our Haudenosaunee people and given to us by the Creator,” he said. “It was my great honor to lead the charge in getting this event organized, but it would’ve never happened without this new spectacular Community Center and field house.”





Ron Cogan (Turtle Clan), now the special events manager for the center, has spent much of his career around lacrosse and was happy to see the community come together.

“Being able to be a part of this game was special,” Cogan said. “Honestly, it was emotional. I’ve coached many teams, and for me, to come back to Oneida and give everything I can to this community, it meant a lot.”

Vin Halsey (Wolf Clan), the senior programs manager for the center, was beyond proud to play in the game, especially getting the win. Afterward, he was able to reflect on what the night meant to him.

“Playing lacrosse in Oneida as a kid 25 years ago played a massive role in who I have become,” he said. “It is a full circle moment being a part of the return of lacrosse to our homelands. Stepping out on the field at the Mary C. Winder Community Center and seeing all the smiles and excitement in this community was a heartwarming experience.”



Jobs at Mary C. Winder Community Center Filled by Many Nation Members

The opening of the Mary C. Winder Community Center created several new positions that needed to be filled to ensure the center operates at full capacity. For Nichola Aregano-Diaz (Turtle Clan), who moved from Virginia Beach, where she worked as Executive Director of Wellness and Community Health at the YMCA of the Virginia Peninsulas to accept the position back in Oneida as General Manager of the Community Center, the new role provided much more than career growth for her and her family.

Taking on the role was a homecoming for Nichola, whose family was among the first to move to the Village of the White Pines when it opened in 1993. At that time, the land where the Community Center sits today was a cornfield, and Nichola remembers the move as lifechanging. “We were urban inner-city kids,” she explains. “They flipped us upside down and brought us out here to the country, but it was a great experience.”

In 2001 at age 18, Nichola enlisted in the Marine Corps, continuing the legacy of the Oneida People as America’s First Allies. During her enlistment, Nichola served on the frontlines in two major military campaigns— Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi



Freedom. As a skilled Communications Specialist, she was deployed multiple times to Iraq, where she supported the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing by ensuring smooth communication during intense operations. Her leadership and expertise are highly respected, showing resilience in some of the most challenging environments.

Just as she thought her path had reached its destination, a job posting for the General Manager role at the Mary C. Winder Community Center forced her to reconsider. The posting brought to mind a conversation she had with Nation Councilmember Brian Patterson (Bear Clan) many years earlier. When she left home at 18, he assured her that leaving was not a bad thing and that she would eventually return. Several years after their initial talk, she remained uncertain about returning home. Brian still believed that she would.

“He told me leaving was not a bad thing and that the purpose of leaving was so I could bring all the new talents and skills I was developing back to my community,” she remembers.

The General Manager role offered a chance to do exactly that. Nichola’s sister Trisha urged her to apply, and she did without hesitation. Leaving the YMCA after so many wonderful years wasn’t easy, but being part of the Community Center made all the challenges of relocating her family worthwhile. The position also offered interesting new challenges and the chance to use all of the skills she had built throughout the years for the benefit of the Oneida community. Since joining the Community Center team, it’s been clear that Nichola’s path has always led here.

Ultimately, Nichola wants the Mary C. Winder Community Center to be a place where every Nation Member feels welcome and supported in reaching their



James Patterson

fullest potential as individuals and community members. “Everyone is welcome here,” she says. “We want you to come and spend time here. People are coming, but I want more people to come and utilize the space for whatever they need.”

Several Nation Members have also found roles at the center that fit them, including: Vince Halsey (Wolf Clan), Senior Programs Manager; Brooke Dowdy (Wolf Clan), Cultural and Community Engagement Coordinator; Cassie Burnam (Turtle Clan), Child Watch Attendant; Ron Cogan (Turtle Clan), Special Events Coordinator; Barbara George-Winton (Wolf Clan), Welcome Desk Coordinator; Mary Homer (Wolf Clan), Welcome Desk Attendant; and James Patterson (Bear Clan), Wellness Attendant.



Mary Homer



Vince Halsey



Cassie Burnam



New Programming Kicks Off at Community Center

The Mary C. Winder Community Center offers a diverse range of programs and activities for its members, from cooking lessons and story times to traditional corn soup classes and cultural workshops.

In the fall, the Center introduced the Oneida Indian Nation’s re-imagined After School Exploratory Program, designed for students in kindergarten through 6th grade. The program features rotating activities such as Onyota’a:ká: language learning, tutoring, swimming, and creative building projects, giving participants fresh opportunities every eight weeks. Brooke Dowdy (Wolf Clan), the center’s Culture and Community Engagement Coordinator, has played a key role in expanding youth programs, hosting craft workshops, and leading story time sessions, all while supporting the After School Exploratory Program. Brooke expresses deep gratitude for her role, describing it as a dream come true.



In addition to youth programs, the Center has launched initiatives like the Teen Leadership Group for grades 6–12, where participants develop life and teamwork skills through engaging activities like cooking classes. Seasonal events, including October’s Family Fright Night and November’s Corn Soup Class, have drawn enthusiastic participation, while the new Tuesday Community Dinner Nights are consistently sold out. Fitness and recreation opportunities abound, with open basketball and volleyball nights, lacrosse skills sessions, adult swim, and walking clubs.

“There’s no excuse for not getting stuff done,” said Cassie, while describing the Child Watch Program that is available for Community Center members. “You can get your mind and your body right, have a little bit of time to yourself and get two hours to have your kids watched while you’re in the building,” she added.

Nichola is excited about the programming she and her team are developing in partnership with Nation leadership and Government Programs and Services. There are lots of exciting things on the horizon, and she is looking forward to developing opportunities that complement existing Nation programs and creating an even greater array of resources, especially for the 18 to 36 demographics. She hopes to follow the model that has built such robust programming for youth and Elders to create new programming for the Nation’s young adults.





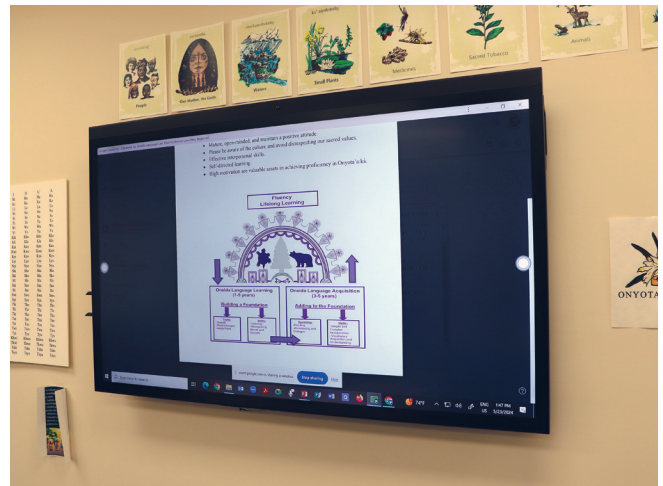
After School Program Visits Wáhta' Maple Farm

Earlier in March, kids enrolled in the Oneida Indian Nation's After School Program (now called the After School Exploratory) enjoyed a field trip to the Nation's Wáhta' Maple Farm to learn how to tap a tree with Maple Production Manager, Brendan Schuler. The unseasonably warm day meant it would be a good day to tap, which the kids got to see firsthand.

Before tapping the tree, Language Instructor Chelsea Jocko (Wolf Clan) gave thanks for the many gifts of the maple in the Onyota'a:ká: language. The maple tree – the leader among all trees because it awakens first – provides sweet sap, faithfully fulfilling its annual promise.

The participants also got a look inside the new sap house where all of the lines from the trees tapped atop Peterboro Road meet and the sap is pumped to the nearby production facility on Territory Road.

Located entirely on Oneida Indian Nation homelands, Wáhta' Maple Farm maintains the highest standards in sustainability and forest management to ensure the Nation's forests and lands stay healthy. Sustainability remains a cornerstone of Oneida tradition and is paramount in every decision made by leadership. With Wáhta' Maple Farm, the Nation's youth will now be able to see the maple tree tapping process every year.



Language Program Adds New Technology

In addition to its investment renovating the old Health Services building on Territory Road into a state-of-the-art language lab and learning center, the Oneida Indian Nation Language Program finished building a studio complete with a green screen, two cameras and a broadcast-quality video program in the same building. The studio will enable the Language Instructor and other language trainees to teach and access lessons remotely, both recorded and live. This technology will also enable the Oneida Indian Nation to broadcast live anywhere on the Nation's network, including at the Mary C. Winder Community Center.



Nurturing the Future Generations

The Oneida Indian Nation's nationally accredited Early Learning Center (ELC) provides services for Nation Members, children of enrolled Oneidas, Health Services clients and Turning Stone Enterprises team members. In 2024, The Center provided programming for 48 children, assisting 40 families.

Team members at the ELC kept up-to-date on their skills by participating in Emergency Preparedness Training with the Oneida Indian Nation Police Department, attending staff development training on Natural Play with the New York State Department of Conservation and car seat safety training with Madison County. Utilizing these teachings, the Center hosted a Car Seat Safety Check event for community members and began to update the outdoor environment to provide more open-ended play and learning options that allow the children to connect with nature.



Taking Care of Our Elders

The Oneida Indian Nation's Elders Program continues to provide several life enrichment activities and a nutritional daily lunch for all participants. In addition to classes and gatherings at the Ray Elm Children and Elders Center, the group often takes trips to local areas of interest including a monthly trip to the Regional Market in Syracuse and frequent visits to Nation enterprises such as The Cove at Sylvan Beach and Turning Stone Resort Casino. Programs at the Mary C. Winder Community Center also are open to Elders, including an adult swim and walking club, craft classes and more.

2024 Elder's Program by-the-numbers:

- Regular participants include 30 Oneida Elders plus American Indian/Health Services Clients
- An average of 52 meals were served per day / 13,000 meals total
- 55 off-site trips were taken, including two overnight outings
- Special annual events including the Oneida Indian Nation Police BBQ, the Thanksgiving Luncheon and Christmas holiday lunch and dinner drew more than 300 attendees in total





A Generational Embrace of Technology

With the Oneida Indian Nation's partnership with Tesla, the Elders Program was able to organize a visit with the electric vehicle manufacturer at Turning Stone Resort Casino to learn more about Tesla's fleet of vehicles and test drive a few models.

The one aspect of driving the Tesla that took some getting used to was the regenerative braking system. Outside of emergency stopping, all a driver needs to do is let off the gas which automatically engages the brakes. It's a technology that's similar to many new electric golf carts. But after just a few minutes, many of the Elders said it was easy to figure out.

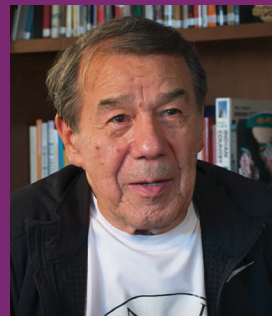
"I loved all of the technology – the screen and the controls on the steering wheel," Gloria Kopp (Turtle Clan) said. "The only thing to learn is that taking your foot off the accelerator is going to make you stop as if you're braking, but I loved it."

By increasing access to EV direct-to-consumer sales and services throughout the region, the Oneida Indian Nation is continuing its dedication to conservation and sustainability within its ancestral homelands.



Perennial Championship Powerlifter Ray Fougner Seeks to Inspire

Oneida Elder Ray Fougner (Wolf Clan) continues to rewrite the powerlifting record books. He returned to the world stage in April to showcase his exceptional talent at the 2024 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) North American Championships held just outside Las Vegas in Laughlin, Nevada. This event also marked a decade of competing in AAU championships, which Ray credits for his improved health throughout his post-retirement life.



On April 5, the day of his 81st birthday, Fougner set 13 new world records and earned four gold medals. He also earned the AAU Powerlifting Best Overall Male Lifter Award and the Best Squat Award – two awards that name the best athlete of all competitors, regardless of age.

For many years, the Oneida Indian Nation has sponsored Fougner's participation at powerlifting events across the country where he has served as an ambassador and advocate for promoting healthy living and exercise for Nation Members and all Native people.

Later in October, he returned to Oneida homelands to visit the Mary C. Winder Community Center, which included a special presentation to share his inspiring story of perseverance and healthy living. He also gave a demonstration on safe weightlifting techniques utilizing the squat, bench press and deadlift. Both Elders and youth gathered to hear his words of wisdom on maintaining a productive life at any age.

For Ray, advocating for a healthy lifestyle is vital to improving the quality and longevity of life for Native people, and he is proud to be a leading voice in this effort.



Nation Scholarship Program Enables Students to Excel without Financial Burden

The Oneida Indian Nation’s Scholarship Program has been a cornerstone of support for Nation Member students for over 30 years, alleviating the financial pressures of pursuing higher education. By covering much of the tuition and providing a stipend to qualifying students, the program enables students to focus fully on their academic and personal growth. This assistance not only reduces stress, but also empowers students to thrive in their studies, internships, and extracurricular pursuits, creating a foundation for success in their chosen fields.

This commitment to education reflects the Nation’s dedication to fostering a bright future for its community. By investing in its Members, the Nation nurtures a generation of educated individuals equipped to uphold its values and contribute meaningfully to society. In 2024, 54 students received scholarship assistance to help with the costs of higher education while there were 35 incentive awards given to high school, middle school and GPA certificate students.

Kathryn Halbritter-Cloete (Wolf Clan) exemplifies the program’s impact, having recently graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and begun her residency in family medicine.

Kathryn’s journey to becoming a physician was shaped by hard work, resilience, and the support of the Nation’s Scholarship Program. After earning her undergraduate degree magna cum laude from Andrews University in 2017, she gained valuable medical experience as a scribe for Dr. Newton at Oneida Indian Nation Health Services.

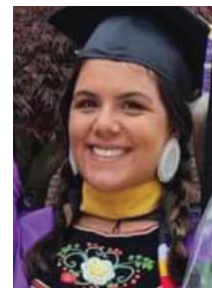
Her acceptance into Loma Linda University School of Medicine marked a significant milestone, providing her with both rigorous academic training and mentorship from faculty like Dr. Daniel Reichert, who inspired her during her clinical rotations.

Throughout her education, Kathryn credited her mother, Karen, for instilling the value of perseverance and ambition. The Scholarship Program was instrumental in her success, enabling her to pursue her dream of becoming a physician without the financial burden of exorbitant tuition or living expenses. Kathryn’s gratitude for this support is profound, as it allowed her to focus fully on her goal of serving others through medicine.

Now, as a medical resident, Kathryn hopes to inspire other young Nation Members and Native youth to chase their dreams. Her story is a testament to what can be achieved with determination and the encouragement of a strong community. She envisions herself as a role model, proving that with dedication and support, aspirations can become reality.

2024 Scholarship Program by-the-numbers

- 8 Degrees were awarded:
 - **Cameron Schenandoah** – Associate Degree from Bryant & Stratton
 - **Ronald Cogan** – BS from Syracuse University
 - **Daniel Benson** – BFA from Syracuse University
 - **Thekla Meli** – BS from DeVry University
 - **Monica Lyons** – BA from Syracuse University
 - **Ashley Little** – BA from LeMoyne College
 - **Taylor Welch** – MSW from Keuka College
 - **Kathryn Halbritter** – Doctor of Medicine from Loma Linda University
- 3 High School Diplomas were awarded:
 - **Kaylene Cook** – Oneida High School
 - **Mya Richter** – Cambridge High School
 - **Stone Shenandoah** – Lafayette Jr/Sr High School



Youth Programming Continues to Develop the Next Generation

With the opening of the Mary C. Winder Community Center, some of the Nation's youth programming and special events have transitioned to the new facility, such as the After School Exploratory Program, Teen Leadership Program and the annual Halloween Party. The Nation gym, fitness room and recreation center remained very much a part of the community activities, with more 1,300 total visits in 2024.

2024 Youth Programs by-the-numbers

- 16 Summer Jam Program participants
- 20 After School Program participants
- 5 Youth Ambassadors Program participants
- 12 Jr. Youth Ambassadors Program participants

Opening 30 years after the original Nation gym and recreation center, the Community Center presents an opportunity for a new generation of Oneida Members to grow and develop through programming designed to help strengthen study skills, promote physical activity and healthy life choices, develop socially and build their own sense of community.

In 2024, kids enrolled in the Oneida Indian Nation's Youth Work/Learn Crew visited the site of Fort Bull within the historic Oneida Carry location near Rome, NY to learn more about its history as well as attempt to discover artifacts from Oneida ancestors that lived near the area centuries ago. The group visited with the Public Archaeology Facility staff from SUNY Binghamton to learn how they go about the process of digging and sorting through potential artifacts.



For over three decades, the Oneida Indian Nation's Youth Work/Learn Program has helped prepare the next generation of youth leaders by providing real-world work experience at Turning Stone Enterprises and Government Programs and Services locations. Youth aged 14 and older have the opportunity to work in various departments within the Nation's enterprises. While the golf department remains a popular choice for those who enjoy working outdoors, others opt for roles at the Nation's SāvOn or Maple Leaf Market convenience stores. The program is designed to foster positive work habits such as punctuality, consistent attendance, and teamwork.

Javlyn Aregano (Turtle Clan), Larry Torres (Wolf Clan), and Braydon Homer spent their summer gaining valuable work experience through the program. Javlyn, a two-year program veteran and senior at Oneida High School, enjoyed her role at the Plaza Mart SāvOn in Oneida and plans to return next summer before pursuing veterinary medicine. Larry, a first-year participant and sophomore at Oneida High School, worked at Maple Leaf Market in Sherrill where he mainly stocked shelves and supported the back of house. Braydon, also in his first year, joined the program with the encouragement of his grandmother and enjoyed his placement at the SāvOn on Territory Road near the Shako:wi Cultural Center. All three participants found the program rewarding and plan to return next year.



SECTION 2:

A Heritage of Support

The Oneida People have imparted a collaborative culture for generations, drawing from the principles of their ancestors in pursuit of creating a better quality of life for both the Oneida Indian Nation community and their regional neighbors of today, and the generations yet to come.

The Oneida legacy of strong partnerships began when the Oneida Indian Nation became the First Allies of the United States during the American Revolution and continues today as the Nation joins forces with a variety of community stakeholders to build a strong Central New York. The Nation has worked to develop constructive relationships with their neighbors, understanding that the success of the region relies on a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect.



Annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony Honors Legacy of Shared Service

In November, the Oneida Indian Nation welcomed nearly 400 local veterans during its annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony and Breakfast at Turning Stone Resort Casino, honoring them for their military service and sacrifice. Among those recognized were several Oneida Indian Nation Members and Turning Stone Enterprises team members.

Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter and Deputy Commanding Officer – Support 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) Colonel Eric Johnson of Fort Drum shared remarks during the event that expressed gratitude for the efforts of the region’s veterans and recognized the Oneida People’s role as America’s First Allies, a bond that began when Oneida warriors and American colonists fought together during some of the Revolutionary War’s bloodiest battles.

“Native Americans have served in the United States Armed Forces for over 200 years and have participated in every major U.S. conflict, from the Revolutionary War to the present day. Native Americans have served at five times the national average, and since September 11, 2001, nearly 19 percent have served, far greater than any other group in the United States. These men and women have earned our undying gratitude, and we will never forget their sacrifices.”

Deputy Commanding Officer – Support 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) Colonel Eric Johnson

Oneida Indian Nation Member James Victor Bigtree (Turtle Clan) was honored during the event for paying the ultimate sacrifice during his service in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. James enlisted in January 1961, was discharged in 1965, and reenlisted in September of the same year. In Vietnam, Corporal Bigtree was assigned to and served with Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, Third Marine Amphibious Force. He was killed in action on January 11, 1966 while on patrol. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His name is located on panel 4E Line 63 on the Vietnam Memorial.



In 2021, the Oneida Indian Nation, together with officials from Oneida County and the City of Rome, unveiled a new bronze sculpture and public artwork that commemorates the historic Oneida Carrying Place, a vital mode of transportation, trade and commerce before and during the Revolutionary War.



The Nation also presented a donation to Feed Our Vets – Utica Pantry, a local organization that maintains a fully stocked food pantry and offers other resources for the area’s veterans and their families.

The Nation takes great pride in its legacy as America’s First Allies and is committed to supporting those who served through a number of initiatives throughout the year. These include offering job opportunities for veterans through Turning Stone Enterprises and Oneida Innovations Group (the Nation’s government contracting enterprise), supporting local charities serving military veterans, and partnerships with programs like PGA Hope and Project Healing Waters to promote the social and emotional well-being of veterans through outdoor recreation.



Oriskany Commemoration Brings Community Together in Remembrance

On the evening of August 6, Members of the Oneida Indian Nation, together with local dignitaries, historical organizations and the community, gathered to commemorate the 247th anniversary of a crucial engagement of the Revolutionary War at the Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site.

The solemn commemoration held annually honors those who fought and sacrificed their lives in one of the bloodiest battles of the American Revolution. Oneida warriors fought beside the colonists on that day in 1777 and the Oneida Indian Nation would become known as America’s First Allies.

Many Oneida Members were in attendance, including U.S. Air Force Veteran David Ernenwein (Turtle Clan), who delivered a message of peace and unity on behalf of Nation Representative Ray Halbritter.

In 1777, the Oneidas played a key role in the battles of Oriskany, Fort Stanwix and Saratoga. These battles were crucial to winning the Revolutionary War and cemented the Nation’s legacy as America’s First Allies. Oneida Indian Nation Members have fought in every American conflict since, and continue to serve in the United States military.





Nation Continues Partnership with Fort Stanwix, Rome Historical Society

The Oneida Indian Nation once again partnered with Fort Stanwix National Monument and Rome Historical Society to present the First Allies Craft Fair in September at Fort Stanwix National Monument in Rome, NY.



Hundreds of visitors perused the dozens of Oneida and American Indian crafters and took in the beauty and elegance of Haudenosaunee social dance exhibitions held throughout the day on the Fort grounds near its welcome center.

This was the third year the event has been hosted at Fort Stanwix National Monument. The First Allies name is a nod to the Oneida Indian Nation's rich history as America's First Allies, which included defending Fort Stanwix from a British siege during the Revolutionary War.

Earlier in 2024, the Fort installed new signage as part of a project sponsored by the City of Rome Mohawk River Trail Wayside that highlights the Oneida People's ties to their historic homelands and partnership with the new Americans. The new wayside signage is in addition to the Oneida Indian Nation seal that is now included in the park's welcome signage at the main entrance. It remains a symbol of the enduring friendship between the Oneidas and the community.

Craft Fairs and Festivals Welcome Community

The Oneida Indian Nation's Shako:wi Cultural Center hosted a Spring Festival in May, welcoming visitors from across the region with dozens of crafters showcasing original hand-made Haudenosaunee arts and crafts, including jewelry, beadwork, carvings, ceramics, and more.

Similar to previous craft fairs held at Shako:wi, the event featured a Haudenosaunee Smoke Dance competition, bringing together talented dancers of all ages for the entertaining social dance. New to the event in 2024 were traditional storytelling sessions, lacrosse stick demonstrations and a hands-on craft activity.



The Nation also hosted craft fairs at Turning Stone Resort Casino in June and December, featuring more than 50 crafters and artisans along with the ever-popular Haudenosaunee social dance demonstrations with Chris Thomas and His Smoke Dancers. These events draw hundreds of visitors each year and share the rich and colorful culture of the Oneida People that has remained resilient for generations.





Culture Shared with Local Students

The Oneida Indian Nation was invited to participate in Vernon Verona Sherrill's (VVS) first-ever "7-12 VVS Expo" for Middle School and High School students in April of 2024. The VVS Expo provided students with an interactive day of exploration, focusing on the areas of community culture, diversity, social and emotional learning and overall health and wellness.

Ron Patterson (Wolf Clan), Shako:wi Cultural Center Manager, and Doris Wilkins-Wilt (Wolf Clan), Cultural Center Assistant, visited with students at VVS to discuss the rich and diverse culture of the Oneida and other Haudenosaunee nations.

VVS students and faculty also had the unique opportunity to experience a social dance exhibition led by Chris Thomas (Onondaga), who explained the different styles of dance and their significance and even invited students on stage to participate in several dances.

In addition to the Nation, more than two dozen local organizations also participated in the event at VVS.

Charity Golf Tournament Recognizes Local Law Enforcement Agencies

In September, the Oneida Indian Nation hosted a charity golf tournament to thank local law enforcement agencies for their collaboration with the Oneida Indian Nation Police Department and their efforts to ensure the highest level of public safety throughout Central New York. Held at the Nation's award-winning Kaluhyat golf course at Turning Stone Resort Casino, the event was attended by members of the Oneida and Madison County Sheriff's Offices, the New York State Police, and federal agencies. More than \$7,000 was raised during the tournament to benefit the National



Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, which seeks to honor the fallen, tell the story of American law enforcement, and improve safety for all who serve.

The partnership between the Oneida Indian Nation Police Department and the region's law enforcement agencies has been hailed as a national model for tribal and local public safety coordination. This high level of collaboration is exemplified by the deputization agreement between the Oneida Indian Nation Police Department and the Madison and Oneida County Sheriff's Offices, which has increased on-duty officer availability to enhance public safety in local communities.

Several Oneida Members took home ribbons from the 2024 Six Nations Agricultural Society Indian Village competitions held during the annual New York State Fair. Each year, Nation Members have the opportunity showcase their craftsmanship, cultivation and dancing skills at the Village, which offers exhibits and events to educate visitors about the history and culture of the Haudenosaunee.





Donations Help Local Charities

The Oneida Indian Nation and its Maple Leaf Markets and SāvOn Convenience Stores continued their longstanding partnerships with local charities in 2024, assisting organizations such as the YWCA of Mohawk Valley, Liberty Resources, the Muscular Dystrophy Association and Make-A-Wish Central New York.

Throughout the month of October, which is national Domestic Violence Awareness Month, guests at the Nation’s convenience stores were able to purchase a paper ribbon for a suggested donation of \$1 to support the YWCA/Liberty Resources Purple Ribbon Campaign. The stores collected a total of \$6,591.01 for the campaign.

“The Purple Ribbon Campaign has a big impact on the community and the clients that we serve, we appreciate everything the Oneida Indian Nation has done to help support that work.”

*Rachel Davies, Supervisor, Liberty Resources
Help Restore Hope Center*

All of the funds raised benefit the local domestic violence programs offered by both agencies. These services help those in the local communities and are critical to ending the cycle of domestic violence.

Over the past 22 years, the Nation and its Maple Leaf and SāvOn stores have raised more than \$290,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, including \$9,616 during last summer’s campaign.

With money raised during the MDA’s summer camp mobiles initiative, the Oneida Indian Nation helped the MDA improve the lives of children and families living with muscular dystrophy.

Historic Relationship Continues with Hamilton College

In August, Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter was invited to speak at Hamilton College’s 231st Convocation. Halbritter offered a welcome to the Nation’s ancestral homelands following the reading of the College’s Land Acknowledgment, which was collaboratively written with the Oneida Indian Nation and finalized last spring.

Evoking the friendship between Oneida Chief Shenendoah and Rev. Samuel Kirkland, which began when Kirkland was a missionary to the Oneida, and is also part of the reason that the Oneida sided with colonists during the Revolutionary War, Halbritter shared a Native American proverb: “‘We are known forever by the tracks that we leave.’ Over the next four years you will understand the truth of this,” he said. “Everything you’ve done to make the community better, the work you do and the relationships you forge, will form a legacy that will not be forgotten.”



Halbritter then presented Hamilton College President Steven Tepper with a Nation flag to be displayed during future graduation and convocation ceremonies, saying the flag “will represent our proud history and shared friendship at ceremonies like this for years to come.”

Hamilton College’s precursor was the Hamilton-Oneida Academy, which began as a school for the Oneida and was founded by the Rev. Samuel Kirkland, who signed the charter in 1812.

SECTION 3:

An Evolutionary Regional Impact

2024 was defined by growth and diversification across the Oneida Indian Nation's enterprises. With strategic investment across all of these business operations, the Nation was able to continue its role as an economic engine for Upstate New York and, most importantly, support the essential government programs and services that support the success, well-being and prosperity of the Oneida people. By remaining focused on what can be accomplished in the future rather than what has been done in the past, Nation leadership will continue to build on and accelerate this growth for generations to come.

26 Upstate New York Contractors Receive Awards for the Turning Stone Evolution

As nearly 80 tons of steel arrived at Turning Stone Resort Casino for the Turning Stone Evolution, the Oneida Indian Nation announced awards to 26 Upstate New York subcontractors that will support the resort's largest expansion in two decades.

The regional businesses selected will contribute to the first phase of the Turning Stone Evolution, building The Grand Expo, The Crescent Hotel and a new parking garage. All of these new amenities will help make Turning Stone the largest conference and event center in Upstate New York and one of just three venues of similar size and caliber in the state.

The Nation is proud to continue growing partnerships like these with local businesses, which have always been essential to its growth and success and will help create new opportunities across the region.

These subcontractor awards are part of the Oneida Indian Nation's \$370 million capital investment in the Turning Stone Evolution, which will create a one-time economic impact exceeding \$600 million, create more than 3,500 construction and related jobs along with hundreds of permanent jobs for area residents and produce more than \$22 million in state and local tax revenues.

TURNING STONE EVOLUTION ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$370M

Capital Investment
Expenditures

\$600M

Total One-Time
Economic Impact

3,500

One-Time Construction
Jobs Generated

\$22M

One-Time State and
Local Tax Revenues





Wáhta' Maple Farm Ramps Up Production in Second Season

As its second sugaring season concluded last spring, Wáhta' Maple Farm reported considerable strides in production over the previous year. The Oneida Indian Nation's maple syrup enterprise collected more than 50,800 gallons of sap in 2024, a nearly 20,000-gallon increase over the 32,650 gallons collected the previous year. From this sap, the Wáhta' team produced 675 gallons of syrup, expanding production by 35 percent over 2023.

This increase was achieved by tapping more than 3,200 maple trees on Oneida Indian Nation lands, all ranging between 40 and 150 years old. Some of these trees are the same that would have been tapped by Oneida ancestors using traditional methods many years ago.

Leaf Market, SāvOn Convenience Stores and other locations.

Along with this growth, Wáhta' Maple Farm syrup was also certified organic by NOFA-NY Certified Organic, LLC during 2024. As production continues to grow, the maple farm relies on a sustainable approach to sugaring that minimizes environmental impact, avoids the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides and utilizes environmentally friendly processes from tapping trees to bottling syrup.

The Oneida Indian Nation plans to continue expanding maple syrup production at Wáhta' Maple Farm in the year to come and, weather permitting, will tap approximately 7,000 trees to create as much as 3,000 gallons of premium maple syrup.

Maple sap is known as a gift from the Creator by the Haudenosaunee, one that provides a sweet reward after a hard winter and much hard work. Wáhta' Maple Farm honors the important role of maple sap and syrup within Haudenosaunee culture and allows the Oneida people to share this gift throughout Upstate New York.

Wáhta' Maple Farm also introduced a line a maple candy in 2024, including cotton candy. The products are available at the Turning Stone Resort Casino General Store, Sylvan Beach Supply Co., Maple





Major Expansion of Point Place Casino Announced

As Turning Stone continues to evolve, big changes are coming to Point Place Casino as well with a more than \$50 million expansion. Local officials, community leaders, partners in the building trades and Point Place Casino team members gathered with Oneida Indian Nation leadership in August to break ground on this expansion and celebrate its positive impact in Madison County.

The Point Place Casino expansion will double the casino's existing gaming floor and add a new multi-story hotel. This massive investment will also:

- Create a new restaurant
- Add a new Perfect Pour Cafe satellite location in the hotel lobby
- Introduce an event space for meetings, gatherings and more
- Update the Fireside Lounge to double its current size and add a 360° view of the fireplace with comfortable seating
- And more...

The expansion is expected to support more than 200 construction jobs and create a host of new opportunities for current and future Turning Stone Enterprises team members as well.

Since Point Place Casino opened in 2018, the Oneida Indian Nation has made continuous investments in its growth and the economic development of the Bridgeport community. These include two previous gaming floor expansions, the creation of the Perfect Pour Cafe and the introduction of the casino's sports book. As Point Place Casino continues to expand, it will play an important role in the support of the Nation's government programs and services and provide new opportunities for team members, local businesses and residents throughout Madison County.



AN ARTIST'S RENDERING OF THE HOTEL AT POINT PLACE CASINO



POINT PLACE CASINO EXPANSION ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$50M
Capital Investment
Expenditures

200
One-Time
Construction Jobs

A Year of Growth for Verona Collective

2024 began with the launch of Verona Collective's first dispensary, located directly across from Turning Stone Resort Casino. The dispensary first opened with a soft launch and a limited selection of products, later expanding to include a full selection of cannabis flower, pre-rolls, vapes and edibles along with apparel, accessories and more.

After the successful launch of its first dispensary at the beginning of the year, Verona Collective continued to grow with the grand opening of its flagship location in 2024.

Located in the Verona Crossroads retail plaza, the new 3,000 sq. ft. dispensary welcomes guests with 2,000 sq. ft. of inviting retail space. A diverse inventory of more than 160 products is available for guests to enjoy, including offerings from the brands Trim & Proper, CNY Provisions, Humble & Kind and Fair Shake.

As a seed-to-sale cannabis operation, all aspects of production, from cultivation, harvesting and processing to packaging and retail sales, are overseen by the Oneida Indian Nation. This includes Verona Collective's 50,000 sq. ft. cultivation and production facility, which has continuously exceeded expectations for quality and production volume.

With more states entering the cannabis business each year, Verona Collective ensures that the Oneida people will not be left out of all the economic opportunity offered by this thriving industry. Like all of the Nation's enterprises, proceeds generated by Verona Collective help support essential programs and services for Nation Members, including healthcare, education and cultural preservation.



Along with Verona Collective's flagship dispensary, the Verona Crossroads retail plaza is also the site of the Nation's fourth and largest Maple Leaf Market convenience store and other business operations. The plaza represents the Oneida Indian Nation's continued investment in the revitalization of the Route 365 corridor, which includes its partnership with Upstate Medical University to create the Upstate Cancer Center at Verona, the first advanced medical center ever built on sovereign tribal lands through collaboration between the State of New York and a tribal nation.

As Nation leadership looks ahead in 2025, Verona Collective continues to grow with 2 additional locations and plans for two more new dispensaries by the end of the year.





Brickhouse Kitchen Opens at YBR Casino & Sports Book

With upscale interpretations of classic comfort foods and a unique lively-yet-laid-back atmosphere, Brickhouse Kitchen introduced a unique dining experience at YBR Casino & Sports Book last summer.

The restaurant provides guests with a new way to enjoy dining at YBR Casino & Sports Book, offering table service, a selection of signature cocktails and a menu filled with creative takes on comfort food and timeless classics created by the award-winning Turning Stone Enterprises culinary team.

Brickhouse Kitchen is the Oneida Indian Nation's latest investment in YBR Casino & Sportsbook, which has undergone a multi-million-dollar transformation since opening in 2015. These investments include a full reimagining of the casino in 2019 with an expanded gaming floor, refreshed decor and new fast-casual dining

options. A year later, the Nation made another massive investment into the property with The East End, a more than 19,000 sq. ft. entertainment space offering bowling, Topgolf Swing Suite bays, pool, shuffleboard, sports betting, a new bar and more.

Turning Stone Hosts Another Record-Breaking World Series of Poker Event

With more players, bigger winnings and even more excitement, the return of the World Series of Poker (WSOP) at Turning Stone Resort Casino exceeded even the record-breaking 2023 event. The tournament more than doubled its minimum guarantee with a total of \$6.2 million in winnings paid out to players from 38 states and four Canadian provinces.

Thousands of players descended on the Oneida Indian Nation's homelands for the 12-day circuit event, during which 18 players were awarded the top prize in poker: a WSOP Gold Ring. These players also earned their ticket to the \$1 million WSOP Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas with an all-expense paid trip.

Turning Stone is home to the only WSOP Circuit event in New York State, making the resort part of an elite group of fewer than 15 casinos across the world to host WSOP Circuit events. With prize money growing year after year and the Nation's continuous investment in the resort's poker room, it has become a premier WSOP event destination, as well as Upstate New York's favorite place to play poker and one of the top poker destinations in the country.



The Region's Most Award-Winning Destination, Year After Year

Since time immemorial, warm hospitality has been a core Oneida tradition. This continues today across the Oneida Indian Nation's enterprises, where it is reflected in the exceptional service, experiences and amenities at every Turning Stone Enterprises location.

Best-in-class hospitality earned Turning Stone Resort Casino, The Cove at Sylvan Beach and other venues top honors from leading industry authorities throughout 2024. With accolades from Forbes Travel Guide, AAA, Casino Player Magazine and others, the resort remains Upstate New York's most award-winning destination for leisure and business travel, dining, spas and more.



Top Industry Accolades

Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star Awards

Forbes Travel Guide, the world's leading authority in hospitality and luxury travel, awarded Turning Stone with multiple Four-Star Awards in 2024 for The Lodge, Skanānā: Spa, TS Steakhouse and Wildflowers.

AAA Four Diamond Awards

The Lodge, The Tower and Wildflowers all once again earned the prestigious AAA Four Diamond Award, continuing their long-standing tradition of excellence.

Spas of America Top 100 Spas

Skanānā: Spa was ranked the #1 spa in New York State and one of the top five spas in America by Spas of America, one of the most trusted authorities on spas and wellness destinations.

Condé Nast Johansens Awards for Excellence

A top authority in luxury travel, Condé Nast Johansens named Skanānā: Spa at The Lodge at Turning Stone its Best Hotel Spa (USA, Mexico, Canada & The Caribbean) for 2024.

Casino Player Magazine #1 Best Overall Gaming Resort in New York

In addition to being named the state's top gaming resort for nine consecutive years, Turning Stone also earned 17 first-place awards and 31 total Best of Gaming Awards.

Casino Player Magazine Best of Dining Awards

Turning Stone received Casino Player Magazine's Best Overall Dining in New York, Best Overall Entertainment and Best New Restaurant (NY Rec & Social Club) along with 11 first-place awards.



Good Housekeeping's Family Travel Awards

The Cove at Sylvan Beach earned a prestigious Good Housekeeping Family Travel Award for the second consecutive year. These highly selective awards are based on attributes including value, quality, safety, innovation, inclusion and convenience.

An Engine for Economic Development in Upstate New York

The Oneida Indian Nation’s enterprises have served as an engine for economic development and job creation in Upstate New York since their founding. Last year, with the Turning Stone Evolution underway, a major expansion announced at Point Place Casino and extensive growth and diversification across its business operations, the Nation continued to contribute to a more successful future for all who call this region home with investments in its team members, capital projects and supply chain exceeding \$700 million.

This included over \$129 million in capital project spending during 2024, a nearly 30 percent increase over the previous year. Investments with local vendors grew as well, totaling more than \$161 million in the tri-county area of Oneida, Madison and Onondaga Counties alone and over \$263 million spent with New York State businesses.

Partnerships with local vendors also grew to include 813 total vendors in Oneida County, 137 vendors in Madison County and 387 vendors in Onondaga County. As the Turning Stone Evolution, Point Place Casino expansion and other development continues, so too will opportunities for the Nation to expand its investments and support for regional businesses. Investments in capital projects, vendor spending and its workforce will continue at historic rates in 2025, building on the Nation’s more than \$1 billion annual economic impact and contributing to the economic foundation for everyone who lives and works in the region.

BY THE NUMBERS: 2024 ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$418,962,058

Total Vendor Spending with 2,870 Vendors

\$129,562,600

Total Capital Project Spending

\$263,909,435

Total New York State Vendor Spending with 1,346 Vendors

\$161,088,227

Total 3-County Vendor Spending

\$27,594,731

Total Vendor Spending in Oneida County

\$4,244,141

Total Vendor Spending in Madison County

\$129,249,355

Total Vendor Spending in Onondaga County

\$306,737,647

Total Payroll, Healthcare Benefits and 401(k) Investment Plan Contributions for Team Members

\$33,271,644

Federal Income Taxes Paid by Team Members

\$10,700,071

New York State Income Taxes Paid by Team Members





The construction of the 90,000-square-foot Mary C. Winder Community Center created hundreds of local jobs for skilled trade workers. In addition to the construction of the new community center, the next phase of the Oneida Neighborhoods Project will include additional housing for Nation Members, including Elders. Expanded housing will also be accompanied by new road infrastructure to accommodate this increase in residency, strengthening the Nation community unto the seventh generation.

(PHOTOS: THE HAYNER HOYT CORPORATION)





U.S. to Oneidas - 1777

“We [the United States] have experienced
your [Oneida] love, strong as an oak,
and your fidelity, unchangeable as truth.

You have kept fast hold of the ancient covenant-chain,
and preserved it free from rust and decay,
and bright as silver.

Like brave men, for glory you despised danger;
you stood forth, in the cause of your friends,
and ventured your lives in our battles.

While the sun and moon contrive to give light to the world,
we shall love and respect you.

As our trusty friends, we shall protect you;
and shall at all times consider your welfare
as our own.”

Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789 (Dec. 1777)
W.C. Ford et al., eds Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress (34 vols.).

The Guswenta

Two Row Wampum Belt: Symbol of Sovereignty

This belt symbolizes the agreement and conditions under which the Haudenosaunee welcomed the newcomers to this land.

“You say that you are our father and I am your son.”

We say, ‘We will not be like Father and Son, but like Brothers’.

This wampum belt confirms our words. These two rows will symbolize two paths or two vessels, traveling down the same river together.

One, a birch bark canoe, will be for the Indian People, their laws, their customs and their ways. We shall each travel the river together, side by side, but in our own boat. Neither of us will make compulsory laws or interfere in the internal affairs of the other.

Neither of us will try to steer the other’s vessel.

From a 1614 agreement between the Haudenosaunee and representatives of the Dutch government, declaring peaceful coexistence
The agreement has been kept by the Haudenosaunee to this date.



Replica two-row wampum belt



**ONEIDA INDIAN NATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

An official publication of the Oneida Indian Nation.

www.OneidaIndianNation.com

ONEIDA