

# The Bingo Queens Of Oneida How Two Moms Started

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Captivity of Father Peter Millet, S.J.  
Among the Oneida Indians  
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The National Live-stock Journal  
The Gospel in All Lands  
Exploring 200 Years of Oneida County History  
National Live Stock Journal  
Laws of the State of New York  
The Auk  
Zell's Popular Encyclopedia  
Mike Hoeft  
Herbert S. Lewis  
Daniel Koch  
Pierre Millet  
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United States. Congress. House. Committee on Natural Resources. Subcommittee on Native American Affairs  
Helen P. Kane  
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New York (State)  
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*Mike Hoeft Herbert S. Lewis Daniel Koch Pierre Millet Hubert Howe Bancroft Hubert Howe Bancroft Hubert Howe Bancroft Hubert Howe Bancroft United States. Congress. House. Committee on Natural Resources. Subcommittee on Native American Affairs Helen P. Kane Donald F. White New York (State) Leo de Colange*

before indian casinos sprouted up around the country a few enterprising tribes got their start in gambling by opening bingo parlors a group of women on the oneida indian reservation just outside green bay wisconsin introduced bingo in 1976 simply to pay a few bills bingo not only paid the light bill at the struggling civic center but was soon financing vital health and housing services for tribal elderly and poor while militant indian activists often dominated national headlines in the 1970s these church going oneida women were the unsung catalysts behind bingo s rising prominence as a sovereignty issue in the oneida nation the bingo moms were just trying to take care of the kids in the community the bingo queens of oneida how two moms started tribal gaming tells the story

through the eyes of sandra ninham and alma webster the oneida women who had the idea for a bingo operation run by the tribe to benefit the entire tribe bingo became the tribe s first moneymaker on a reservation where about half the population was living in poverty author mike hoeft traces the historical struggles of the oneida one of six nations of the iroquois or haudenosaunee confederacy from their alliance with america during the revolutionary war to their journey to wisconsin he also details the lives of inspirational tribal members who worked alongside ninham and webster and also those who were positively affected by their efforts the women run bingo hall helped revitalize an indigenous culture on the brink of being lost the bingo queens of oneida is the story of not only how one game helped revive the oneida economy but also how one game strengthened the oneida community

in this intimate volume the long lost voices of wisconsin oneida men and women speak of all aspects of life growing up work and economic struggles family relations belief and religious practice boarding school life love sex sports and politics these voices are drawn from a collection of handwritten accounts recently rediscovered after more than fifty years the result of aowpa federal writers project undertaking called the oneida ethnological study 1940 42 in which a dozen oneida men and women were hired to interview their families and friends and record their own experiences and observations ø selected from more than five hundred biographical narratives these sixty five chronicles told by fifty eight women and men present a picture of oneida indian life from the 1880s before the dawes allotment act through world war i and the great depression to the beginning of world war ii despite the narrators struggles against harsh economic conditions the theft of their land and neglect their firsthand histories are rendered with frankness and wit and present a remarkable picture of an era and a people

the central part of new york state the homeland of the oneida haudenosaunee people helped shape american history this book tells the story of the land and the people who made their homes there from its earliest habitation to the present day it examines this region s impact on the making of america from its strategic importance in the revolution and early republic to its symbolic significance now to a nation grappling with challenges rooted deep in its history the book shows that in central new york perhaps more than in any other region in the united states the past has never remained neatly in the past land of the oneidas is the first book in eighty years that tells the history of this region as it changed from century to century and into our own time

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