



## LOCAL HISTORY

### **Wampum belts returned**

**27 Years Ago:** On Oct. 21, 1989, 12 wampum belts in the possession of the New York State Museum in Albany were returned to representatives of the Onondaga Nation. The transfer took place at the Longhouse on the Onondaga Nation, south of Syracuse. In 2012, the Onondaga Historical Association repatriated a wampum belt and other sacred objects to representatives of the Onondaga Nation. This local repatriation was completely voluntary, as only federally funded museums are subject to the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act, which requires that objects of historical, traditional, or cultural importance to any Native American group must be returned.

— *Dan Connors for the Onondaga Historical Association*