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*We Remember
We Celebrate
We Believe*

"IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE"

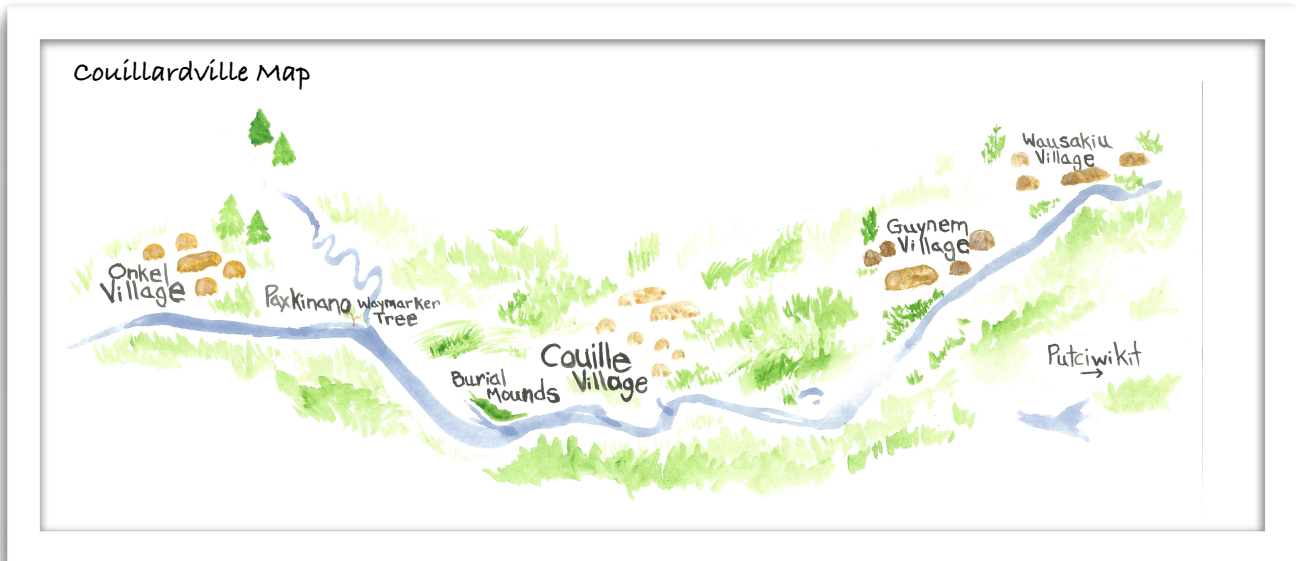
Togetherhness | Helpfulness | Friendliness

Elianya Lived in Ancient Couillardville

Long before any of us or our ancestors loved this beautiful area along the

Oconto River, Elianya and her family and friends thrived on the abundant plants, fishes and

fur-bearing animals and no doubt played in the clear water and on the winter's ice.



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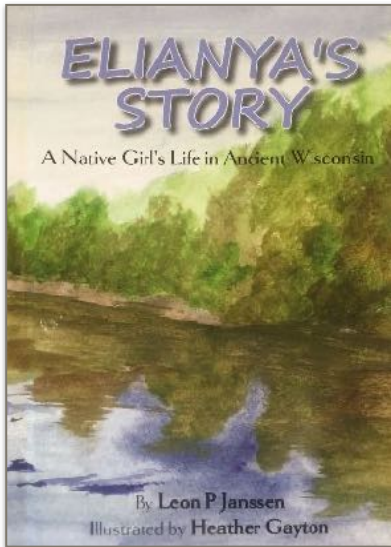
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MSR 2021
Saturday August 28th
HOLD THE DATE

While we do not yet have plans for the 2021 Machine Shed Reunion, we would like to hold Saturday, August 28th for a gathering in Couillardville. We have come to really look forward to seeing our special Couillardville friends at this

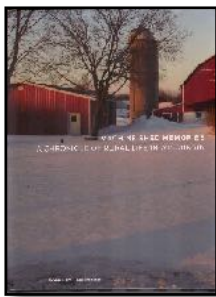
annual gathering. Please put the date on your calendar and we will keep you posted as plans develop.

If you are interested in helping please let Leon know of your interest.



Set around the year A.D. 1000, long before the arrival of non-Native settlers in the region, "Elianya's Story" paints a picture of what daily life may have been like for a young girl growing up in the traditional culture of that era. Though the episodes are fictional, they are based upon careful research into the likely social conditions of that time.

This book is being used in schools around WI to support 5th grade Wisconsin history.



Learn About the Families of Couillardville

MACHINE SHED MEMORIES - A Chronicle of Rural Life in Wisconsin

www.machineshedmemories.com

\$29.95.

Contact Leon Janssen if you have questions at leonjanssen@yahoo.com or 262.442.6447.

Meadow Brook Farm Publishing

Elianya's Story - Foreword

In the summer of 2017, a Wisconsin Historical Marker was erected in the Couillardville Park recognizing Jacob and Susan Couillard, the first European-American settlers at this beautiful location along the lower Oconto River. It also recognizes the native peoples who have continuously occupied this region from pre-history to today.

During the mid-20th Century, a considerable quantity of artifacts from these early occupations was discovered, ranging from arrowheads and spear points to knives and tools, to pieces of broken pottery, all giving a glimpse into life along the Oconto River over the centuries. Upon examining one of these pottery shards, the President of the Oconto County Historical Society suggested that due to its unique size, it might have come from a small pottery vessel perhaps made by a young girl learning pottery skills some time in the 800AD to 1600AD period. Her grandmother may even have been her teacher, a possibility that is the basis for this story.



Oconto River from the Couillardville Bridge looking west

Our objective is to portray what life may have been like for a native girl growing up in this area around that time. As we follow her life from infancy to teenage years we will share in the joys and challenges that ultimately help mold her into the resourceful and respected young woman she was destined to become.

How Chetjopa met Amitola



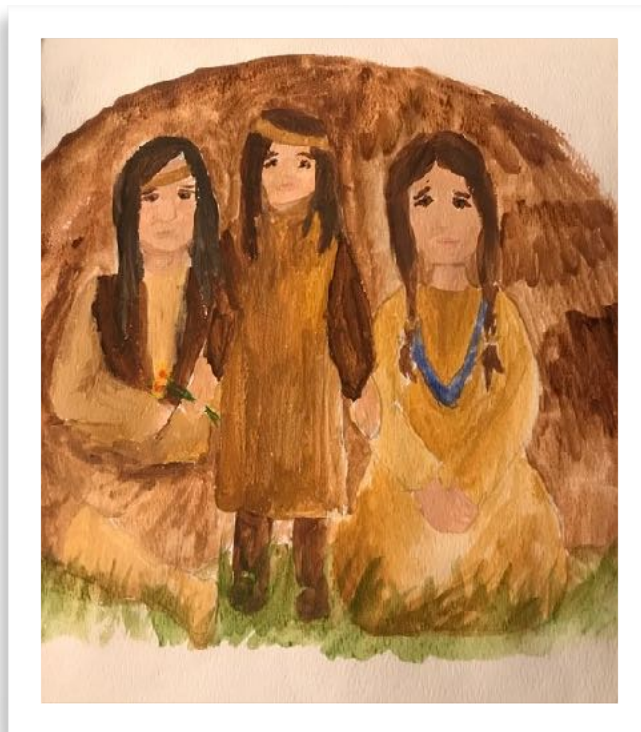
Around the year 1000AD, a handsome young native lad named Chetjopa lived with his family in Onkel Village along the Oconto River about nine miles west of the large sea called Putciwikit. Though a youth, he was very strong and wise and destined to become a very successful hunter, fisherman, and leader in the village. One day, as he traveled farther east along the river, he soon came upon the next settlement, which was called Couille Village. It lay beside the stream just past the point where the Little River empties into the Oconto River. There he saw a beautiful young woman named Amitola, which means “like a rainbow.” During the coming

months, he returned often to visit with her and soon became quite close.

The young couple eventually decided to marry in accord with the wishes of the Great Spirits, the omnipresent spirit throughout the universe. As they washed their hands symbolizing the cleansing of past evil spirits and memories of past loves, they were joined together in eternal matrimony.



Wedding Ritual



The new couple's parents help build their children their own wigwam, the traditional native dwelling of the region. It was dry in the rain and warm in the winter - a perfect place for the newly-weds to start a life of their own.

Chetjopa and Amitola chose to live in Onkel Village, a community of loving, kind, and hard-working people who were very pleased the new

couple was making their new lives together with them.

(Continued page 4, Column 1

(Elianya’s Story continued)

Hardly a year into their marriage, Chetjopa and Amitola were proud to welcome a beautiful baby girl to their family. Named Elianya, the infant was truly a gift from the Great Spirits to her parents and to all the people of Onkel Village. Elianya was a very happy baby with a calm demeanor and a dazzling smile. Everyone immediately fell in love with her. Under the watchful eyes of her family and neighbors, she eventually grew from a toddler into a very strong and beautiful young girl who was known to all for how fast she could run.

Read and Share the Rest of the Story

ELIANYA’S STORY - *A Native Girl’s Life in Ancient Wisconsin.*

Available at:

www.elianyasstory.com

Or at
 Oconto County
 Historical Society,
 Oconto, WI



Couillardville Mourns the Loss of Historic Dairy Farmer

David Matravers, 85, of Oconto, passed away on April 11, 2021 at home surrounded by his family. David was born on December 16, 1935 in Oconto to the late Arthur and Jewel (Delano) Matravers. He married Sandra Hock on July 21, 1978. David was the 3rd of 4 generations to own and operate the Riverview Dairy. He loved going out for Friday fish fry and enjoyed Old Fashioneds. He also loved listening to Polkas. David was a member of First Presbyterian, Oconto. David is survived by his wife, Sandy; three daughters, Debbie (Terry) Moody, Carol (Tim) Enderby, Holly (Brian) Karcz; two sons, Richard (Beth) Matravers, Scott (special friend Laura VanLanen) Hollon; two brothers;

John (Rose) Matravers, Dean Matravers; nine grandchildren; and four great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister-in-law, Barbara Matravers.

The family received relatives and friends at the Gallagher Funeral Home, Oconto, from 10 AM to 12 Noon on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Memorial services were conducted 12 Noon Saturday at the funeral home with the Rev. Craig Alwin officiating.

Flowers were sent from the Families of Couillardville.

