



# The Official Newsletter of the SENECA NATION



October 16, 2020 - **visit us @ [sninews.org](http://sninews.org)**

## A message from President Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.



**Nya:wëh sge:nö',**

In my lifetime I have experienced great and exciting moments in the history of the Seneca Nation. I have also lived through times of great difficulty and sadness. Fifty-six years ago 10,000 acres of land here at Allegany were taken to make way for the Allegany River reservoir that would be created by the construction of the Kinzua Dam. One hundred-thirty Allegany Seneca families were under orders of the federal government to be removed from their homes and lands.

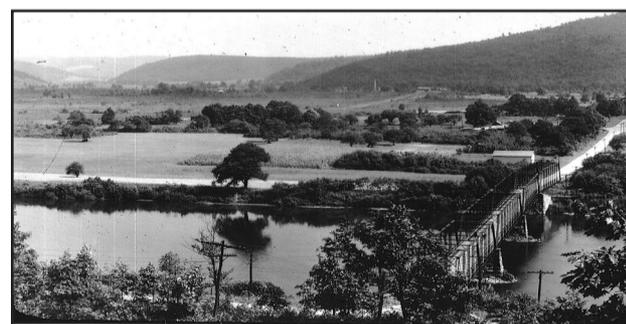
Our leaders began the fight to stop this dam

in October of 1956 when the Seneca Nation Council resolved to deny the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permission to enter our lands. The ensuing court battle took us to the U.S. Supreme Court where in 1959 that court refused to hear our case thereby letting stand the lower court decision that upheld the power of Congress to condemn our lands for this project. That day, the federal government violated both the U.S. Constitution and the Canandaigua Treaty of 1794. The U.S. Constitution upholds treaties as the supreme law of the land. The Canandaigua Treaty acknowledges these lands to be the property of the Seneca Nation and that the U.S. will never claim these lands, nor disturb the Seneca Nation in the free use and enjoyment thereof. The treaty says that these lands will remain ours until we say otherwise.

The Seneca Nation took this fight not only through the court system, but to the White House and the U.S. Congress. U.S. presidential candidate John Kennedy said he would uphold our treaty rights, but once he reached the White House he said it was not possible to halt construction of the Kinzua Dam. In 1961 President Kennedy directed federal departments and agencies to take every action within

their authority to assist the Seneca Nation, in his words, "in adjusting to the new situation." Congress' response was one of prolonged deliberation that eventually resulted in the passage of Public Law 88-533. This public law authorized payment for a permanent easement of lands within the Allegany Territory taken by the United States for the Allegheny Reservoir Kinzua Dam project and for purposes of relocation, rehabilitation, social and economic development of the Seneca Nation.

The monetary settlement brought much needed housing assistance for displaced Seneca families. An education scholarship foundation was established that provided the means for Senecas to pursue a post-secondary education. A community center was constructed on both the Allegany and Cattaraugus territories which housed Nation offices and were integral to rebuilding our devastated communities at



**SENECA NATION COVID-19 HOTLINE: 945-8153 EMAIL: [SNIINFO@SNI.ORG](mailto:SNIINFO@SNI.ORG)**  
*(24/7 for non-medical questions or information)*

### IN THIS ISSUE

President Armstrong's Message.....	1-2
Treasurer's Message.....	3
Clerk's Message.....	3-7
Department Updates.....	8-9
FEATURES.....	10-13
Sports.....	14-15

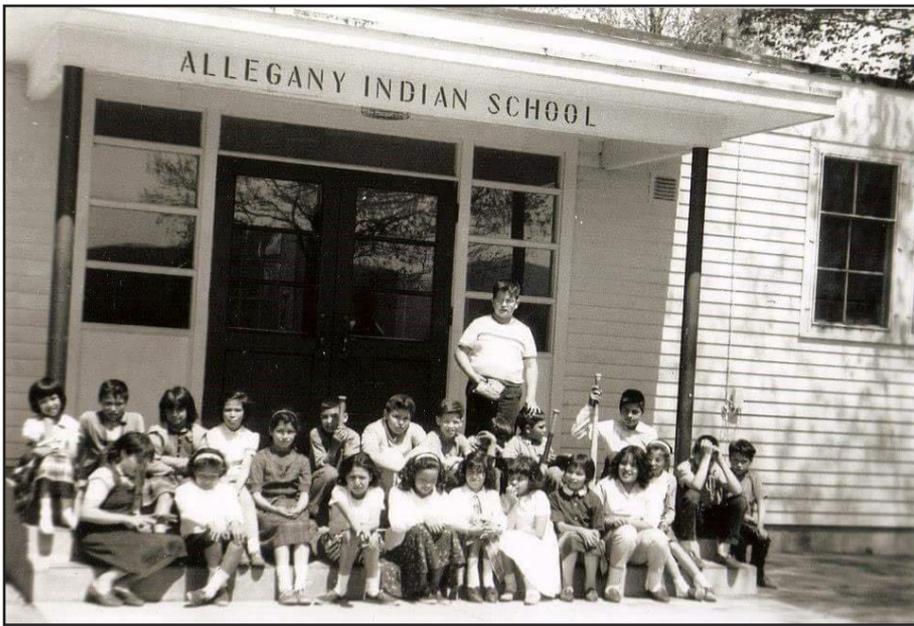


Community.....	16-20
Notices & Announcements.....	21
Health.....	22-23
Learn Seneca.....	24

### IN THIS ISSUE



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Allegany.

But much was lost. The beautiful valley downstream from Salamanca through which the Ohi:yo' flows was bulldozed and re-shaped. The animal populations shifted. The river's delicate ecosystem was damaged. Generations-old family homesteads were lost. Houses were burned to the ground – some before families had sufficient time to remove all their possessions. 3,107 graves at Allegany and Cornplanter were disturbed. An inordinate number of elders died during the final years of Kinzua. Some say they died from broken hearts. The communities of Red House, Shongo, Coldspring, Quaker Bridge, Onoville, and Cornplanter vanished. The old neighborhoods and family groupings were dispersed into two residential areas – one at Jimersontown and the other 13 miles

## Red Ribbon Week

President Armstrong stated that the Seneca Nation recognizes the need to take an active role in the fight against drugs on our Territories.

On-going development and support will include activities that address both prevention and intervention. One national campaign that is considered to be the largest drug-abuse prevention campaign in the Country is Red Ribbon Week being held from October 23rd through the 31st.

This event was started in 1988 by the National Family Partnership to recognize the loss of life of a DEA Agent by wearing red ribbons in honor of his sacrifices. Today, millions of people wear red ribbons throughout the week and participate in drug-free events in addition to pledging to live drug-free lives.

There is a multitude of information and activities for families on the website: [WWW.REDRIBBON.ORG](http://WWW.REDRIBBON.ORG) and everyone is encouraged to check out the website and to take the drug free pledge.



away at Steamburg.

The Allegany Indian School, or as it was better known, the Red House School was closed and like our homes, it was burned to the ground. For the children who attended Red House School, the shadow of Kinzua loomed large over their young lives. I know because I was one of

those children. The impact of the forced removal upon our families, the incendiary destruction of our homes, the defilement of sacred places, the altering of the landscape, the very air of sadness and uncertainty all contributed to the violation of the innocence of our childhood. Today that generation of children from the early 1960s have become the elders of our Nation and we have an obligation to remember.

Even after our removal, the battle continued. The very same Public Law 88-533 that offered us housing and education relief also called for our termination as a sovereign nation. The very last section of the law called for the Seneca Nation to submit a plan for terminating our treaty based relationship with the federal government within 3 years. Fortunately,

by 1967 the federal Indian policy of termination was falling out of favor in Washington as its ruinous effects were being witnessed among the many tribes already terminated. Unfortunately, House concurrent resolution 108, the law calling for termination of Indian nations, has never been rescinded.

In 1984 the Seneca Nation Council resolved that the last Saturday of September thereafter would be Remember the Removal Day. That year survivors gathered together in the early morning fog of a September morning. The mood was quiet and respectful. The day began with prayers. Emotions were high as they walked the six miles to Steamburg. Memories of the old homesteads, old neighborhoods, family and friends were fresh. Some survivors did not participate that day because the memories were too difficult.

In the words of the 1984 presidential proclamation, Remember the Removal Day was established in tribute to the Seneca families who were moved from their homelands, and in remembrance of a great tragedy inflicted upon the Seneca people. As President of the Seneca Nation, I call upon all Senecas to observe and remember the removal in hopes that we shall never forget and that it will never happen again.

**Respectfully,  
Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.**

## Sovereign Nations Day Recognition

President Armstrong would like to remind the Seneca community that Tuesday, October 13, 2020 is our Sovereign Nations Day. On September 15, 2018, a resolution was passed by the Seneca Nation Council unanimously proclaiming that the Seneca Nation abolishes Columbus Day and observes the second Tuesday of October of each year to be recognized as Sovereign Nations Day.

We have the inherent right to govern ourselves as our ancestors did pre-European contact and protecting our Sovereign Rights is a common denominator that we all continue to stand strong and united on. Seneca sovereignty is especially evident in our rights that we assert to develop our own laws, to govern ourselves, to devise an economy, provide for our communities, to preserve our culture and much more.

Our Seneca lands are beautiful and our way of life is sacred to us. We must remain steadfast in protecting all that we have and all that we are for ourselves and for our future generations, that is the Seneca Way.



Benny Wilson, SHS Senior 2021



**Nya:wëh Sgë:nö,**

I'm thankful each and every day for your wellness as we continue to live within a pandemic. We have seen a small uptick of Covid -19 positive cases in our surrounding communities reminding us to stay diligent with all precautionary measures, wear a face mask, wash your hands, and social distance when possible. We have had many outdoor social gatherings over the past few weeks at both Territories. I'm sure this was good for the soul to see and catch up on Nation

news, but with colder weather approaching many events will need to move indoors. This is when everyone must stay cognizant to follow safety protocols. Stay safe, the holidays are quickly approaching.

October starts our new fiscal year. Council and Executives have worked diligently with the fiscal department to create a 5 month

budget for most and the 12 month budget for some of our revenue generators. We provided graft descriptions for the community leading up to the approval in September.

We are continuing to track the Treasury funding, which was approved at the September regular Council session of \$47.6 million. This CARES Act funding is expected to be used by December 30, 2020. As part of this funding, Council approved payment to enrolled members of \$250 at the end of October, November and December. Only those who have registered for the year will receive the funding.

The Executives and Council are also working on a plan to bring back as many employees as possible over the next few months. Much of the plan will be dependent on success of our business operations and the local economy. We are hopeful all of the projections will stay on course and we can get closer to normal operations within the Government.

**Happy Fall and Go Bills!!**



**NEWS FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE**



*Bethany Johnson, Clerk ALLEGANY TERRITORY*

**CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS**

Although our doors are open, entry into our office continues to be temporarily closed. Staff can assist at the doorway of both offices, Monday through Friday; 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, as well as the second Saturday of every month from 8am-12pm on both territories.

- Allegany Territory – (716) 945-1790 ext. 3000
- Allegany Clerk's Office Staff
- Bethany Johnson, Clerk (Notary Public)
- Geraldine Huff, Executive Assistant (Notary Public)
- Sue Case, Enrollment Officer
- Alana McClune, Enrollment Assistant (Notary Public)
- Adrienne Cook – Executive Secretary
- Kathleen "Yomie" Hill, Administrative Assistant
- Ryan Mohr, Receptionist

- Cattaraugus Territory – (716) 532-4900 ext. 5000
- Cattaraugus Clerk's Office Staff
- Marta Kettle – Deputy Clerk
- Kelly Mohawk – Deeds Recorder
- Ashley Warrior – Executive Secretary
- Leslie Cooke – Administrative Assistant (Notary Public)
- Tammi Stafford – Administrative Assistant (Notary Public)
- Dana Maybee, Business Permit Officer

The Buffalo Clerk's Office is located at:  
 533 Amherst Street  
 Buffalo, NY 14207  
 (716)-845-6304 or (716)951-7555  
 Monday-Friday: 8am-4:30pm

**ANNUAL REGISTRATION**  
 PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE YOUR ANNUAL REGISTRATION! THE DECEMBER DEADLINE IS THE AROUND CORNER!

**REMINDER:** All non-territory members are eligible to mail-in your registration this year due to the covid-19 pandemic. (Per council resolution s-06-29-20-02)

**NATION I.D. CARDS**  
 All offices (Cattaraugus, Allegany, & Buffalo) are now scheduling appointments for members who need to update their picture for their Nation ID cards.

**CLERK FORMS**  
 You can mail completed forms along with a copy of your photo identification as proof of identify if you are unable to obtain a notary to: Seneca Nation of Indians, 90 Ohi:yo' Way, Salamanca NY 14779. All forms are available online at [www.sni.org](http://www.sni.org) under Clerk's Office documents.

**RELEASE OF MINORS TRUST FUND**  
 In order to begin receiving Minor Trust Fund disbursements. A member must be at least 18 years old and submit the following documentation:

- Application for Release of Minors Trust
- High School Diploma / GED
- Financial Literacy Certificate

If you need to obtain a Financial Literacy Certificate please contact the Seneca Nation Education Department for details.

**DIRECT DEPOSIT OF ANNUITY AND/OR ELDERS PAYMENTS**  
 If you would like to sign up for Direct Deposit of your Annuity and/or Elders Check, you will have to complete the form. The form is available on the web at [www.sni.org](http://www.sni.org) under Documents/Clerk's Office / Direct Deposit forms or at the Clerk's Office.

- All direct deposit forms MUST have attached a voided check or deposit slip (start-up checks will NOT be accepted).



- Members must be at least 18 years old to sign up for Direct Deposit
- Minors are NOT eligible for Direct Deposit

If you receive direct deposit, it is your responsibility to keep your address updated with the Clerk's Office.

**BURIAL FUND**

A Burial fund has been designated to pay for funeral expenses up to \$7000 for enrolled members. For additional details, please contact the Clerk's Office during regular business hours. If after hours or on weekends, please contact Bethany Johnson, Clerk (716)-474-6361 or Marta Kettle, Deputy Clerk (716)-474-5403.

**ADDRESSES**

Please remember to keep your address current with the Clerk's Office. This includes changes with custody of minor children or legal guardians (Court orders).

Please stay healthy & safe. Nya:wëh for your patience and understanding during this time and please watch for updates as this may change unexpectedly. Any changes will be posted online.

**Seneca Nation General Election**  
*November 3, 2020*  
 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

**POLLING LOCATIONS:**

Allegany Territory – Seneca Allegany Administration Building  
 Cattaraugus Territory – William Seneca Administration Building

**Eligibility to Vote**

Every Enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians that meets the following requirements shall be competent to vote:

- Twenty-One (21) years of age, and
- Not convicted of a felony, as defined under section 1.2 of the SN General Election Law

To ensure a safe and secure election under current conditions, due to Covid-19, there will be necessary changes for this year's 2020 General Election. Temperature Screening & Masks are required to enter the Polling Area. 6 ft. Social Distancing will be adhered. A separate entrance and exit for voters. You may be required to show photo Identification

Pre-Election challenges, must be submitted in writing in the Clerk's Office by 12:00 noon on the seventh business day (Tuesday, October 23, 2020) prior to the election on a signed and notarized "challenge Affidavit Form" available in the Clerk's Office.

Post-Election challenges must be submitted in writing to the Clerk's Office by 12:00 noon no later than two (2) business days after the election (Thursday, November 5, 2020)

**GENERAL ELECTION LAW- SENECA NATION OF INDIANS**



**ARTICLE 1. GENERALLY**

**Section 1.1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this law is to implement Section I of the Constitution regarding elections of the Seneca Nation of Indians, and to define the procedures under which individuals shall be elected in the Nation's General Elections.

Pursuant to the April 27, 2017 Resolution of Tribal Council, the GENERAL ELECTION LAW, shall govern the conduct of the Seneca Nation of Indians General Election.

**Section 1.2 DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this law, the term –

- (a) "Board of Electors" shall mean a board appointed by the Nation's President, Council, and Judges of the Peacemakers Court, charged with control of the Nation's elections and voting procedures;
- (b) "Board of Inspectors" shall mean the board, known as the Board of Electors prior to a Nation's election, which then serves as the overseers of election conduct and certifiers of election results upon the election day;
- (c) "Business Days" shall mean Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday;
- (d) "Clerk" shall mean the Clerk of the Nation established under Section VI of the Constitution, or his/her designee in the event that the Clerk

- (e) is running for a position in the general election;
- (f) "Constitution" shall mean the Constitution of the Seneca Nation of Indians 1848, as amended;
- (g) "Felony" shall mean any offense that is:
  - (1) defined by the laws of the Nation as a felony; or
  - (2) set forth under 18 U.S.C. Section 1153 (the "Indian Major Crimes Act", i.e. murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, maiming, rape, sexual abuse, incest, assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in a serious bodily injury, arson, burglary, robbery and theft) and defined by the laws of the United States of America as a felony;
- (h) "Full ticket of Candidates" shall mean a group of candidates that fill every position listed on an election ballot;
- (i) "Immediate Family Member" shall mean husband/wife; father/mother; grandfather/ grandmother; sister/brother; son/daughter; and grandson/granddaughter;
- (j) "Independent Candidates" shall mean candidates who are not part of a full ticket of candidates and shall be placed on the ballot identified as independent candidates;
- (k) "Member" shall mean an individual who is an enrolled member of the Nation;
- (l) "Nation" shall mean the Seneca Nation of Indians, a sovereign

- (m) Nation;
- (n) "Party Candidates" shall mean candidates who are part of a full ticket of candidates who have filed identifying with the same political party, and shall be placed on the ballot with party identification and a party ticket voting option;
- (o) "Poll Watcher" shall mean a person assigned to observe activities at a polling place to guard against illegal voting, fraudulent counting of ballots, and other violations of election laws;
- (p) "Resident" shall mean a member who has lived within the Nation for at least one year;
- (q) "Roll Clerk" shall mean the Nation's Clerk, Deputy Clerk or designee(s) who determines eligibility and requires the member to sign the roll.
- (r) "Party Ticket Voting Option" shall mean an option to vote for a full ticket of party candidates by casting a single vote on the ballot.

**Section 1.3 SEPARABILITY**

If any provision of this law or its application to any Person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the provisions of this law or the application to the provision to other Persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

**Section 1.4 CODIFICATION**

The provisions of this law may be codified so as to facilitate accessibility.

**Section 1.5 AMENDMENT**

No provision of this law may be amended unless the Nation's Council shall have approved such amendment.

**Section 1.6 EFFECTIVE DATE**

The effective date of this law shall be the date of enactment (September 22, 2016).

**ARTICLE 2. BOARD OF ELECTORS/INSPECTORS**

**Section 2.1 PURPOSE**

Prior to the General Election, the Board of Electors shall oversee the Nation's election procedures. Thereafter, it shall serve as the Board of Inspectors to oversee the conduct of the Nation's election and certification of election results in order to ensure a fair and orderly election process.

**Section 2.2 APPOINTMENTS**

- (a) The President, Council, and Judges of the Peacemakers Court shall appoint a Board of Electors. A list shall be submitted at the Regular or Special September Council session.
- (b) The Board of Electors shall consist of six members, not candidates, three from each of the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservation; two to be selected by the President, two by the Council, and two by the Judges of the Peacemakers Court.
- (c) A Board of Elector shall meet the following requirements:
  - (1) Enrolled member of the Nation;
  - (2) 21 years or older; and
  - (3) A resident of the Nation, as defined under Section 1.2(k).

**Section 2.3 POWERS**

- (a) The Board of Electors shall:
  - (1) Appoint workers for the general election to help with the counting of ballots and to oversee the election;
  - (2) Assist the Clerk in the preparation of the ballot with the voting machine company;
  - (3) Review and make recommendations on the revision of general election rules for Council's consideration; and
  - (4) Review pre-election challenges and render public decisions.
- (b) The Board of Inspectors shall:
  - (1) Oversee the conduct of the Nation's general election, including but not limited to requiring any voter to show proper identification;
  - (2) Assist the voting machine workers;
  - (3) Remove any individual found in violation with this law from the polling area;
  - (4) Have the final say on who may and who may not be allowed in the polling areas during the election and counting of votes;
  - (5) Certify election results; and
  - (6) Review post-election challenges and render public decisions.
- (c) Assistance to the Board of Electors/Inspectors
  - (1) The Clerk shall assist the Board of Electors and the Board of Inspectors in the performance of its duties.
  - (2) The President shall direct two (2) elected Chief Marshals and three

(3) elected Deputy Marshals, or alternate (each territory) to work on election day to assist the Board of Inspectors.

**Section 2.3 LIMITATIONS**

- (a) A member of the Board of Electors/ Alternates/Election day workers may not be an immediate family member related to any candidate who has filed to be listed on the official ballot.
- (b) Election Day workers may not use telecommunication or electronic devices in the polling area, except as set forth in Section 3.8(e)(4)[b], below.

**Section 2.4 CHALLENGES**

- (a) Pre-election challenges must be submitted in writing to the Clerk's Office by 12:00 NOON on the seventh business day prior to the election on a signed and notarized "Challenge Affidavit Form", available in the Clerk's Office.
- (b) Post-election challenges must be submitted in writing to the Clerk's Office by 12:00 NOON no later than two (2) business days after the election on a signed and notarized "Challenge Affidavit Form."
- (c) The Clerk's Office shall immediately deliver any challenges it receives to the Chairperson of the Board of Electors/Inspectors.
- (d) The Board of Electors/Inspectors must review and publicly render a decision on all Pre and Post - Election challenges along with justification for its decision within two (2) business days, by 12:00 NOON, of receiving a challenge delivered from the Clerk's Office.

**ARTICLE 3. ELECTIONS**

**Section 3.1 POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED**

The following positions shall be selected in the Nation's General Elections:

- (a) President;
- (b) Treasurer;
- (c) Clerk;
- (d) Councillors;
- (e) Chief Marshal;
- (f) Marshals;
- (g) Highway Commissioners;
- (h) Assessors; and
- (i) Poormasters.

**Section 3.2 ELECTION DAY; CANVASS DAY**

- (a) In accordance with Section I of the Constitution, elections shall be held on the first Tuesday of November and thereafter on the first Tuesday of November every second year, beginning in November, 2016.
- (b) The swearing in of candidates shall occur on Canvass Day, which shall be held one week subsequent to Election Day.

**Section 3.3 VOTING**

- (a) In accordance with Section I of

the Constitution, voting shall be conducted by single ballot, containing only the names and the offices of all candidates, cast by an individual voter, out of the presence of others, and without inspection by the Board of Inspectors.

- (b) Absentee voting and write-in votes are NOT allowed.
- (c) Disabled Voters
  - (1) Eligible voters who are blind, handicapped, or otherwise disabled may be accompanied in to the voting booth by a designated relative or friend who is:
    - [a] Not a candidate;
    - [b] An enrolled member of the Seneca Nation;
    - [c] Age 21 or older; and
    - [d] Provides proof of identification to the Roll Clerk.
  - (2) There shall be a designated handicapped drop-off/pick up area at the polling site and a Marshal shall assist any disabled individual entering and exiting the polling site.
- (d) Ballots
  - (1) Upon receiving a ballot, each voter shall:
    - [a] Immediately proceed to the designated voting area and fill out the ballot;
    - [b] Place the ballot in the designated ballot box/ electronic machine;
    - [c] Exit the polling place upon completing the voting process.
  - (2) Spoiled Ballots
    - [a] A voter who inadvertently spoils a ballot may return it to the Board of Inspectors, and a Board member shall write or stamp the word "SPOILED" upon it, deposit it in a separate spoiled ballot box, and provide the voter with another ballot.
    - [b] A voter who spoils a ballot three times shall not be allowed to obtain another ballot.
  - (3) Any person at the time of voting who decides not to vote must return the ballots to the Board of Inspectors and exit the building immediately.
  - (4) No person is permitted to leave the polling place with any ballots in their possession. Board of Inspectors or Marshals shall, upon discovery, seize ballots in possession of anyone leaving the polling place. Seized ballots will be marked "SEIZED" and "VOID".
  - (5) Any person who attempts to deposit anything other than the ballots in the ballot box will be asked to leave the polling place immediately.
  - (6) Ballots rejected by automated machines shall be handled by the company representative(s) and/or the Board of Inspectors.

**Section 3.4 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE**

- (a) Every enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians that meets the following requirements shall be competent to vote at elections:
- (1) Twenty-one (21) years of age; and
  - (2) Not convicted of a felony, as defined under Section 1.2(f).
- (b) Photo Identification
- (1) Voters may be requested to show photo identification, which must include name, address, physical description, date of birth, and signature, upon entering a polling place.
  - (2) Photo identification must also be presented upon the request of ANY:
    - [a] Roll Clerk;
    - [b] Poll Watcher challenging the identity of a voter; or
    - [c] Member of the Board of Inspectors.
- (c) Double Voting is prohibited. To eliminate the possibility of double voting, the Board of Inspectors shall cross check registered voters on each Territory at the top of every hour and/or as necessary in accordance with Section 3.8(e)(4)[b].
- (d) Any person not eligible to vote shall not be permitted within a one thousand (1,000) foot radius of the designated driveway entrance to any building where each polling place is located, with the exception of essential employees who are required to work at the polling site buildings.
- (e) In the event of a challenge to a voter's eligibility, the contested voter shall vote by a paper ballot, then immediately sealed and signed. Such sealed ballot shall be opened by the Board of Inspectors and recorded in the event that the voter is later determined eligible to vote.
- (f) The Clerk's Office shall provide a list of final voter eligibility to the Board of Electors by close of business on the last day prior to the election. Individual voters are responsible for making sure their name is on this list.

**Section 3.5 ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE**

- (a) Consistent with Section I of the Constitution, an individual shall be eligible to run for office if they:
- (1) Are an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation;
  - (2) Are twenty-one (21) years of age or older [unless running for President, then the minimum age required is thirty (30) years or older]; and
  - (3) Have lived on the territory he/she seeks to represent for at least one (1) year.
- (b) The candidate must also not have been convicted of a felony, as defined under Section 1.2(f).
- (c) No candidate shall run in the General Election for more than one position on the ballot.
- (d) If a current elective official who has not finished their current term wishes to be a candidate for

a different elective position, that official will be required to relinquish the remaining term of their current office, as follows:

- (1) The Official will be required to provide written notice of their intent to resign their office to Council upon filing the petition to run in the election (no later than 15 days prior to the election).
- (2) Council shall confirm the resignation and inform the President that there exists a vacancy, who shall fill the vacancy by appointment in accordance with Section I of the Constitution.
- (3) The term of the vacant position shall be the number of years remaining on the resigned official's term.
- (4) The only elective officials exempt from this provision shall be those who are finishing out their current term, which will expire on election day.

**Section 3.6 FILING; WITHDRAWAL**

- (a) In accordance with Section I of the Constitution, any member seeking to be a candidate in a general election shall file a "Petition to File as Candidate" form with the Clerk of the Nation, signed and notarized containing their name, office, statement of the individual's desire to be a candidate, and statement setting forth the candidate's satisfaction of all eligibility requirements, on or before the 15th day preceding the biennial election.
- (b) No further candidate shall be allowed to file for office after the 15th day preceding the election, except where a death has occurred, in which case substitution will be permitted on party tickets so filed.
- (c) Any candidate seeking to remove their name from the ballot must submit to the Clerk of the Nation a request for removal and sworn affidavit, provided that no candidate shall be allowed to remove his/her name from the official ballot after the Thursday immediately preceding the date of the election.

**Section 3.7 PREPARATION OF BALLOT**

- (a) In accordance with Section I of the Constitution, a single ballot shall contain the names of all party candidates and independent candidates. The Clerk shall be responsible for preparing the ballot and printing it at the expense of the Nation.
- (b) The placement of Candidates/ Party names shall be placed on the ballot consistent with tradition and practice (e.g. the incumbent Party will be listed first on the ballot, followed by additional parties in the order filed with the Clerk.) The placement of Independent Candidate names on the ballot shall appear in the order of the date/time as filed by that individual with the Clerk.
- (c) Upon finalizing the ballot, the Clerk shall provide the ballot to the Board of Electors no later than 24 hours prior to the election.

**Section 3.8 POLLING AREA**

- (a) Polling sites shall be located at the Seneca Allegany Administration Building (SAAB) on the Allegany Territory and at the William Seneca Administration Building on the Cattaraugus Territory.
- (b) In accordance with Section I of the Constitution, doors to the polling sites shall be open for voting on Election Day at 9:00am and closed and secured promptly at 7:00pm. Those waiting in line at 7:00pm will be allowed to vote. However, any delays caused by mechanical failure or otherwise delaying the start of voting, as determined by the Board of Inspectors, shall result in the adjustment of time to ensure that there has been ample time allotted for voting.
- (c) Only the candidates running for Executive Office (President, Treasurer and Clerk) will be allowed in the building to inspect the voting machines prior to the commencement of voting along with the Board of Inspectors and relevant voting machine staff.
- (d) Poll Watchers
  - (1) Each political party or independent Presidential candidate will be allowed one (1) Poll Watcher per Territory at the Party's/ Independent Presidential candidate's expense who shall be allowed to observe election proceedings only.
  - (2) Poll Watchers shall not:
    - [a] participate in any way with the ordinance, voting, or counting procedures;
    - [b] engage in any behavior that could be construed as harassment, intimidation, or disruption to the general voting public; or
    - [c] interact with any voters.
  - (3) In order to designate a Poll Watcher, names must be submitted to the Clerk's Office by 4:30 p.m., close of business, ten (10) business days prior to Election Day.
  - (4) Each Poll Watcher is required to remain in the designated location within the polling area during the entire polling time.
- (e) Prohibitions
  - (1) Any and all political activity (i.e. solicitation of votes, distribution of material, demonstrations and signage) is strictly prohibited within one thousand (1,000) feet of the designated driveway entrance to any building where each polling place is located.
  - (2) No loitering, profanity or consumption or possession of mind-altering substances is permitted in the building or parking lot areas where the polling place is located.
  - (3) Any person who is visibly intoxicated will NOT be

allowed to enter the polling area, as determined by the Chair or Co-Chair of the Board of Inspectors.

required to work at the polling site buildings.

into office, the ballots from the voting machines and any reports of proceedings of the election shall be deposited at the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office in Little Valley, NY by the Chair and Co-Chair or their designee of the Board of Inspectors and SNI Marshals immediately following the tallying of ballots. Election results and reports shall be kept through Canvass Day.

(4) Telecommunication and other electronic devices.

**Section 3.9 TALLYING OF BALLOTS**

- (a) The Board of Electors shall identify a private room within the polling site building (SAAB & Wm Seneca) for votes to be tallied.
- (b) Only the Board of Inspectors, Clerk (or designee), Chief Marshal (or designee), Executive Office candidates and relevant voting machine staff shall be present during the tallying of ballots.
- (c) The Board of Inspectors shall then count the ballots and make a signed, written statement of the number of votes.
- (d) The Board of Inspectors shall publicly announce the winners of all elective positions and release a signed statement showing the number of votes that were cast at the time of the election and amount of votes for each candidate.

**Section 3.11 TIES**

In the event of a tie vote between any candidates, the Board of Inspectors may call for a recount of the ballots for the position in question. After the confirmation of a tie, a separate run-off election to break the tie must be held by machine vote two (2) days after election day.

***Enacted by Council Resolution, September 22, 2016  
Amended by Council Resolution, April 27, 2017  
Amended by Council Resolution, September 26, 2018  
Amended by Council Resolution, September 24, 2020***

[a] Telecommunication, cell phones, cameras, and all other electronic devices, portable or otherwise, shall be prohibited in the polling area.  
[b] Use of a telephone or fax machine at the polling location shall be used only for confirmation of voters and emergencies. Only a Board of Inspector or designated employee shall be authorized to make calls. To eliminate the possibility of double voting, the Board of Inspectors shall cross check registered voters on each Territory at the top of every hour and/or as necessary.

(5) Any person not eligible to vote shall not be permitted within a one thousand (1,000) foot radius of the designated driveway entrance to any building where each polling place is located, with the exception of essential employees who are

**Section 3.10 SEQUESTERING OF BALLOTS**

Until the Board of Inspectors has certified the results of the election and the successful candidates have been sworn

*\*\*The Challenge Affidavit Form and the Candidate Form are both available in the Clerk's Office\*\**

**Annuity Check Distribution Schedule FY 2020-2021**

	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUN.	JUL.	AUG.	SEP.
<b>Adult</b> Check Amount	\$500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Minor</b> Check Amount	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Minor <b>Trust</b> Amount	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Deadline for Voluntary Assignments, Court Orders & Other Annuity Assign	10/1/20	11/2/20	11/30/20	12/31/20	2/1/21	3/1/21	3/31/21	4/30/21	5/31/21	6/30/21	7/30/21	8/31/21
Enrollment Deadline	09/30/20	10/30/20	11/30/20	12/30/20	01/29/21	03/01/21	03/31/21	04/30/21	05/31/21	06/30/21	07/30/21	08/31/21
Council Date:	10/10/20	11/14/20	12/12/20	01/09/21	02/13/21	03/13/21	04/10/21	05/08/21	06/12/21	07/10/21	08/14/21	09/18/21
Annuity Checks Mailed	10/26/20	11/16/20	12/14/20	01/25/21	02/22/21	03/22/21	04/26/21	05/17/21	06/21/21	07/26/21	08/16/21	09/20/21
Annuity Check Date	<b>10/28/20</b>	<b>11/18/20</b>	<b>12/16/20</b>	<b>01/27/21</b>	<b>02/24/21</b>	<b>03/24/21</b>	<b>04/28/21</b>	<b>05/19/21</b>	<b>06/23/21</b>	<b>07/28/21</b>	<b>08/18/21</b>	<b>09/22/21</b>

Enrollment Deadlines are 12:00 noon *Approved Special Council 09.24.2020*

**Public Notice: SN Utilities**

**TO: The Residents of the Allegany Territory**  
**FROM: Seneca Nation Utilities**  
**RE: National Grid Right of Way**

Culturally sensitive plants will be avoided and no-treat buffer zones around water sources will be adhered to. All work will be performed by mechanical means, there will be no herbicide application.

Please be advised that pursuant to the Right of Way Agreement between the Seneca Nation and Niagara Mohawk, dba as National Grid, National Grid will be performing required brush clearing and tree cutting on lines 153, 154 and 804 on the Allegany Territory. Tree cutting will target only tall species that pose a threat to the power line.

If anyone has any questions or concerns or would like to review maps connected with this project please contact: Anthony Memmo,

**Project Manager**  
**Seneca Nation Utilities**  
**716 535-9221 or a.memmo@sni.org**

**Community Service Announcement**

Do you have Covid-19 questions or need information?

**SENECA NATION COVID HOTLINE (716) 945-8153 EMAIL: SNINFO@SNI.ORG**

# SGC Stakeholders Meeting

October 24, 2020 @ 10:00 AM

Virtual Online GoToMeeting OR In-Person Attendance

Enrolled Seneca Nation members are invited to join the SGC Board of Directors and members of the Corporation’s management team to discuss updates of the gaming facilities and the ongoing financial health and well-being of the Corporation.

The SGC Quarterly Stakeholders Meeting will be available to enrolled members by either:

- 1) Utilizing the Seneca Gaming Corporation’s virtual online GoToMeeting platform for the SGC Quarterly Stakeholders Meeting for enrolled members to have safe access
- OR
- 2) In-person attendance at Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino Spring/Summer/Fall conference rooms, which will provide limited socially-distant seating

### Virtual Online GoToMeeting Attendance

To participate in the GoToMeeting, interested enrolled members will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, as well as have a valid email address, to sign up. Enrolled members must send an email to request access by Thursday, October 22, 2020 @ 10:00 AM to: [SENECASTAKEHOLDERS@SENECACASINOS.COM](mailto:SENECASTAKEHOLDERS@SENECACASINOS.COM), as follows:

I would like to register to participate in the October 2020 SGC Quarterly Stakeholders’ Virtual Online GoToMeeting.  
My Information is:  
Name  
Enrollment #  
Telephone #  
In-Person Attendance

- An email will be sent to you for registration purposes upon verification.
- Please follow the instructions and fill in all requested information when registering online.
- The registration link will also include a system requirement check to ensure that your device is compatible with GoToMeeting.
- Once registered, another email will be sent with a link to the online Quarterly Stakeholders’ Meeting, which will go live at the scheduled time.
- A download may be required to install the GoToWebinar app for a more interactive experience.

### In-Person Attendance

To participate in-person, interested enrolled members will need to request access by Thursday, October 22, 2020 @ 10:00 AM to: [SENECASTAKEHOLDERS@SENECACASINOS.COM](mailto:SENECASTAKEHOLDERS@SENECACASINOS.COM), as follows:

I would like to register to participate in the October 2020 SGC Quarterly Stakeholders’ Virtual Online GoToMeeting.  
My Information is:  
Name  
Enrollment #  
Telephone #  
In-Person Attendance

- An email will be sent to you to verify approval for in-person attendance.
- In the event of reaching maximum capacity prior to receipt of your request, an email will be sent to inform you that seating is no longer available and directing you to the instructions for Virtual Online GoToMeeting Attendance.

# Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO)

## Public Service Announcement

It is the objective of the Tribal Employment Rights Office to create and maintain a database of skilled and semi-skilled Seneca and other Native American tradespeople, whether you are presently a skilled trade person or currently enrolled in an apprenticeship program, it’s our goal to ensure your employment within the exterior boundaries of the Seneca Nation.

It is important for all skilled and semi-skilled Seneca and other Native American tradespeople to participate in the TERO program. Your participation guarantees that employers hire Seneca and other Native Americans, in accordance with TERO guidelines, which ensures all Natives are given preference and offered an equal opportunity to employment on Seneca and other tribal lands.

If you are a tradesperson, or currently enrolled in an apprenticeship program and wish to be considered for employment on future Seneca Nation construction projects, please fill out the TERO skill bank form and return it to the SNI TERO office. The TERO office maintains your application on file for one (1) year from the date it is submitted, therefore if you have not submitted an application in over a year, it is important for you to resubmit an application now.

Any questions regarding this announcement please direct all inquiries to the SNI TERO office. Please send all inquiries to [snitero@sni.org](mailto:snitero@sni.org)

Nya:weh, **Elijah M. Vogle, TERO Director,**  
**Allegany office 716-945-1790**

Annual Meeting!



**Annual SNIFCU Member Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

**4:00pm**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

Register by sending an email to [info@snifcu.org](mailto:info@snifcu.org) with your name or sign-up in our offices.

**All Credit Union members are invited to attend!**

Each year we host an annual meeting to give all our members the opportunity to come and learn about what is happening at the credit union. This year, in light of the COVID pandemic we will be hosting this event entirely online.

There will be a review of the past year’s financial information, and an election of directors. In order to attend the virtual meeting, send an email with your name to [info@snifcu.org](mailto:info@snifcu.org), or sign-up in either of our offices to register for the virtual meeting.

This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration

**Irving Office**

12837 Route 438  
Irving, NY 14081  
(716) 532-8179

**Hours**

Mon - Thurs 9am - 4pm  
Friday 9am - 5pm  
Tribal Council Saturdays 9am - 1pm

(Only the SNIFCU office located where the Tribal Council Session is held will be open)

**Salamanca Branch**

90 Ohi:yo Way  
Salamanca, NY 14779  
(716) 945-8510

# Celebrating 30 years of the American with Disabilities Act



The Seneca Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program and Disability Department are proud to serve our community members with disabilities. We help with applying for needed services and those who want to enter the workforce.

**For more VR call: 532-1033 or 945-8120 and for Disability: 532-5151**

## School supplies and dinner give-a-way

On September 21st the Cattaraugus Education Department hosted a School Supplies and Weidner's Chicken Dinner Giveaway at the ECLC Parking Lot.

A basket raffle was held to benefit the 2021 Native Success Scholarship.

A great time was had by all. Nya:wëh to everyone who came and participated!



## Want to know what it takes to be a paramedic?

*Submitted by Toonie Pierce*

Did you ever wonder how our local fire department's emergency medical service and ambulance service get their training? Think it's something you might like to do?



One of our own, Melissa Schindler, will be presenting on what it takes to become a paramedic.

**Tuesday, October 27, 2020  
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

**Seneca Nation Training & Employment Resource Center  
23 Thomas Indian School Drive  
Irving, NY 14081  
(716) 532-1033**

Due to COVID, space will be limited to 6 participants. Face masks, temperature checks and social distancing will be required. To save your spot, please call our Cattaraugus office at the phone number above.

**JOIN US FOR A SPOOKY HALLOWEEN DRIVE THRU**

**23 OCT 6:30PM**

**NEW PROCESS THIS YEAR!**

OUR COSTUME CONTEST WILL BE DONE THRU PHOTOS!

PHOTO SUBMISSION IS NO LATER THAN OCT. 19TH 6:00PM

PHOTOS CAN BE SENT TO HEIDI.JOHN@SNI.ORG

INFO TO BE SENT WITH PHOTO:  
-NAME  
-AGE  
-CONTACT NUMBER  
WHICH CATEGORY ENTERED (MAY ENTER MULTIPLE CATEGORIES)

COSTUME CATEGORIES:  
FUNNIEST, CUTEST, BEST HOMEMADE 0-4YRS  
FUNNIEST, SCARIEST, BEST HOMEMADE 5-7YRS 8-11YRS 12-14YRS 15-17YRS 18+

COSTUME WINNERS WILL RECIEVE PRIZES ON THE 23RD AT DRIVE THRU

ALL ARE INVITED TO RECIEVE: CIDER DONUTS TREAT BAGS

STAY IN CARS, DRIVE THRU HAUNTED TUNNEL. FREE ADMISSION. ENTRANCE OPIONAL

HAUNTED TUNNEL WILL OPEN AT 6:30PM IN THE BACK PARKING LOT.

**12767 RTE 438, IRVING NY 14081**



# Ralph Elliot Bowen is inducted into the NYS Senate's Veteran's Hall of Fame



Jimersontown resident and Seneca Nation member Ralph Elliot Bowen, a sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II, was inducted into the New York State Senate's Veterans' Hall of Fame by Senator George M. Borrello Friday during a ceremony at the Seneca-Allegany Event Center on the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory.

Mr. Bowen, who turned 98 on August 8, is the last surviving World War II veteran from the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory. Mr. Bowen's family and friends attended

the ceremony Friday as did dignitaries including Seneca Nation President Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.

Mr. Bowen fought in the European Campaign as an aerial gunner aboard a B-24 Liberator heavy bomber, serving from 1941 through 1945 to liberate France and Europe from Nazi occupation. He was a member of

the 15th Air Force's 450th Bombardment Group, 723rd Bombardment Squadron. The unit flew missions over France, Austria, Germany, the Balkans and Greece.

"I am honored to be able to recognize Ralph Bowen for his service during World War II," Senator Borrello said. "He enlisted in the U.S. Army within weeks of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. When he walked into that U.S. Army recruiting office in Buffalo, he didn't know what dangers he'd face or if he would ever return home. All he knew was that America needed his help and he was

willing to risk his life for the sake of liberty and freedom."

Trained as an aerial gunner, Mr. Bowen manned a .50-caliber machine gun on the side of his B-24 Liberator heavy bomber, fending off attacking German fighter planes. He protected his plane and his fellow airmen so they could complete their mission. The crew was tasked with bombing factories, refineries, oil fields and other high-value targets to break the Nazi's will to fight.

President Armstrong said Mr. Bowen's entire life has been one of service to his community whether as a five-term member of the Seneca Nation Tribal Council, a Seneca Nation Marshal, as a judge on the Nation's Peacemakers Court and Surrogate Court or pastor of Red House Baptist Church.

"As the Seneca Nation president and a fellow armed-forces veteran and Seneca, I am honored to recognize the service and accomplishments of Ralph Bowen," President Armstrong said.



# 2020 Veterans' Hall of Fame Ceremony Honoring Ralph Bowen

Speech by Rebecca Bowen. October 2, 2020. Seneca Allegany Casino.

Nya:wëh sgë:nö'swagwe:go'.  
Rebecca Bowen ni'gya:hsöh.  
Onödohwa'ga:'ni'ah Gogwe'ö:hweh  
Agkgehjöhni'-ga:h koh.  
Annabell Clark Bowen yehya:hsöh  
neh agk-kno'ëh. Ralph Bowen  
haya:hsöh neh ha'nih.

Let me begin by saying our family is very grateful for this day. It will be a family memory for his grandchildren to share with their grandchildren. It will be a community memory for all veterans and their families. People have asked our Father about what he thinks and feels about being acknowledged and honored. It has made him quiet and reflective for two reasons.

First, he carries the heavy weight of knowing he was only one of the over 16 million Americans who served during World War II. He in no way wants to do anything that would dishonor their service. Secondly, he describes himself as feeling "very small" in light of the immense service of millions and the ultimate sacrifice of over 400,000 airmen, soldiers, and sailors. Our Father did not begin to tell of his World War II experiences until he was in his early 90s, over 68 years after coming home from Manduria Air Base in southern Italy. Just this week he said everything is happening so fast and it is all a great surprise to him – just one of the over 16 million who served and sacrificed.



Dad was born and raised in Jonegano:h, the Coldspring community.

He, his older brother Leslie, younger brothers Elwood and Acel endured the

hardships of loss with the deaths of both parents, Francis and Bertha, and a baby sister Lucille. They lived for a time with their grandmother Esther Killbuck and their great grandfather Samuel "Oak" Fatty. Dad and Elwood eventually went to the Thomas Indian School on the Cattaraugus Territory.

From TIS he went to the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and was stationed at the camp in Kanona, NY. The camp is long gone now but my brother Dennis regularly takes Dad for a ride out that way just to see the old site where the camp once stood.

Three weeks after the bombing of Pearl Harbor Dad enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was honorably discharged in 1945.



Approximately 313 young Senecas, including several women, from Allegany, Cattaraugus and Cornplanter served in the armed forces during those years. Among them were his brothers Tech Corporal Leslie Bowen, Private 1st Class Elwood Bowen, and PFC Acel Bowen. Uncle Elwood survived D-Day on Utah Beach and not long after that in some small French village Uncle Elwood heard someone call his name and it was Uncle Leslie riding atop an army vehicle. As Elwood ran along they shared a few words as Leslie's engineer group rolled on through the village. Leslie's son Winfield is here today.

An uncle, Staff Sgt. Johnson Jimerson, served in the Army and fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW in a German prisoner of war camp. His son Norman is here today.

But not everyone came home from the war. Three of Dad's boyhood friends from Coldspring did not return and we remember them today – Linas Snow and brothers Victor and Kenneth Fatty.

Young Seneca men have gone off to war since time immemorial. They have fought in every war beginning with the American Revolution – although we weren't on the same side in that war. They have given of themselves to keep our aboriginal homelands free. Seneca men and women still do that today.

My Dad accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior in 1951 and a few years later with young family in tow we moved to the Mt. Echo Indian Bible Institute located in the hills of Humphrey – just a few miles from here. Mom and Dad graduated several years later and we resettled in the community of Joë'hesta', Red House, where we lived until 1965.

1965 was the nadir in contemporary Seneca Nation history. The construction of the Kinzua Dam just north of Warren, PA created a reservoir that would inundate 10,000 acres of our precious homelands. I read in an old Seneca Nation minute book that Ralph Bowen spoke strongly against the dam. Those must have been strong words because they don't record the words of ever in the Council me

after fighting for America my Dad witnessed the violation of the 1794 Canandaigua treaty which promises we will never be disturbed in our homelands, he felt the pain of his home being burned down, and removal from the family homestead.

Those were the years that Dad taught us words like "treaty" and "sovereignty". We were just children mind you, but he thought it important that we know those words and what they mean.

For many years he served as pastor first at the Baptist Church in Red House and then the Red House Memorial Church in Jimersontown. Those years also took him into Seneca Nation politics. Over the course of 40 years he has served 5 terms as a Seneca Nation Councillor, he's been a Peacemaker and a Court of Appeals judge, Chief Marshal and Assessor.

On the heels of Kinzua came termination - a federal policy to end the special trust relationship between Indian nations and the U.S. federal government. My Dad sat on Council during those years as our Nation faced this very real threat. He always held up our treaties, kept the faith, and spoke strongly.

As a young man he played our ancient game of dewa'ëö, lacrosse. Back in those days the game was played behind the old longhouse at Coldspring. After the war he played for teams from Olean and Rochester. In time interest in the game waned here at Allegany although it remained alive and well at Cattaraugus. But in the late 1960s my Dad set out to bring the game back to Allegany. He organized a team, raised funds for equipment, and served as the first coach of the Allegany Arrows.

Dad graduated from the Police Academy at Jamestown Community College and if I recall correctly at that time he was the oldest to ever graduate from the academy. He is a retired iron worker, Iron Workers Local 348.

In closing, from the Bible's book of wisdom Proverbs 17:6 says, "Grandchildren are like a crown to the elderly, and the glory of children are their parents." Dad, you are indeed the glory of your children and now the world knows too. Congratulations on your induction into the New York State Veterans Hall of Fame. We love you. To all the veterans here today, nya:wëh, thank you.

We acknowledge with great appreciation, respect, and family love all who made this special day of honor possible, especially Senator George Borrello.

**Nya:wëh**

# Remember the Removal 2020- Honoring our Past, Protecting our Future

By Tami Watt, Editor



Due to COVID-19, the Remember the Removal (RTR) Committee hosted a Virtual Day of Remembrance this year within the Seneca Media Facebook page. The purpose of the this event was to encourage community members to walk on their own or in family groups at the location or lost community (i.e; Old Road, Old 280, Steamburg, Cornplanter) of their choice.

Many community members shared their day with us on Facebook and other social media platforms by using #RTR2020. Using #RTR2020 allowed any Facebook member to view photos and stories posted online which let the community share this day together and safely. Many families visited their pre-Kinzua homesteads and shared photos and stories from the past.

Caleb Abrams and family visited the childhood home of his father Bruce Abrams in Coldspring, NY:

“Before Kinzua, my dad would often accompany his father, Myron Abrams, on his nightly treks to the river to check his traps for muskrats or beavers. My grandfather would process the animals at home and sell the pelts to help supplement their family’s income. I’ve heard my dad talk about their trips to the river many times; he always describes those memories of him and his father fondly. After the relocation my grandfather stopped trapping.

During our recent trip to Ohi:yo’ my family visited where my father’s childhood home in Coldspring used to be. We spent

the morning walking through the same woods from my dad’s stories. This was the first time in over 50 years that my dad had been back to visit his old homestead and the land he once called home - nearly one year after his own father passed away and with his grandchildren in tow. It was a very special day. The land still knows my father and remembers his stories.”



Siblings Debbi Hoag, Michael Jimerson, and Penny Minner, formerly of Coldspring, NY, traveled to the cemetery along the old Cornplanter

Grant to honor past family members whom were directly affected by the dam.

As Ms. Hoag states, “Our #RTR2020 morning was spent visiting the cemetery of our grandparents Walter & Dorothy Jimerson, Uncle Ken & Aunt Tessie Snow, cousin Jeffery Snow, my dad Lester & mom Hazel Jimerson & family. My grandson had a short lesson in cemeteries on the Allegany Reservation. We also went down Rt. 280 to Cornplanter’s cemetery at Corydon. Visited Lana Redeye’s



plot. He had an adventure finishing off at tasty freeze. And Highland playground.”

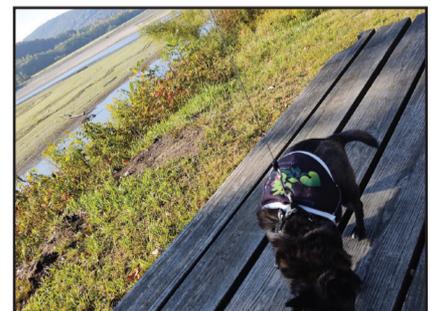
Jessica Colburn and daughter Shelby visited Old Town, the river was so low that remnants of the road were visible, allowing them to walk along the old path.



Kimberly Pierce and family visited the former John Family Farm and picked oneoga:n (white corn) from the Gakwi:yo:h Farms field and ended the day with beautiful braids.



Karen Bucktooth and her dog Sammy enjoyed a nice view of Ohi:yo’ along Old Route 280.



Hattie and Heron Watt visited their Great-Grandmother Gloria Heron's childhood homestead in Red House. The original dirt driveway is still intact.



The site gave away all t-shirts on site in one hour!

A brief wreath ceremony was held at Indian

Park after the drive-thru event. Pauline "Snap" John, Kinzua survivor, tossed the corn husk wreath made by Penny Minner into Ohi:yo' in an effort to pay homage to those whom are no longer with us and to reflect on the past.

Remember the Removal (RTR) Committee hosted a drive-thru at the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum and the Steamburg Community Center where t-shirts, masks, and a bag of promotional items were handed out using social distance protocols. The RTR Committee and volunteers gave out over 600 t-shirts, a new record! The Seneca-Iroquois National Museum



The five remaining Head of Households; Rovena Abrams, Ralph Bowen, Opal Frank, Caroline Pierce, and Bennett Wheeler were gifted a corn husk wreath from the RTR Committee.



As a committee, we strive to gain as much community involvement as possible. Nya:wëh to the original Heads of House Holds for showing true strength during adversity, our volunteers for their tremendous support, and our community members whom continue to take part every year. Although we could not walk together as a community, it was nice to see what this day means to you all. Hopefully next year, we can gather together safely.



# Ron John Selected 18th in NLL Draft; Patterson Picked 71st

*Congrats and Ja:goh Ron John!*

*Reprinted from <https://ualbanysports.com/> | Men's Lacrosse | 9/17/2020*



PHILADELPHIA – University at Albany midfielder Ron John has been selected 18th overall, second pick in the second round, in the 2020 National Lacrosse League Draft by the Colorado Mammoth. Great Dane attack Jakob Patterson was picked 71st to San Diego. John is the 21st Great Dane in history selected in the NLL Draft. Most recently, Connor Fields was selected by the San Diego Seals in 2018.

In the shortened 2020 season, John appeared in four games for UAlbany, scoring five goals with four assists. John scored the go-ahead goal with 11 seconds left to defeat Drexel, giving the Great Danes their first victory of the season.

For his career, John has made 38 total appearances, including three starts, scoring 15 goals with 18 assists. He is expected to exercise his additional year of

eligibility granted by the NCAA due to the cancellation of spring sports due to COVID-19. Later in the draft, John's UAlbany teammate Jakob Patterson was selected 71st overall, pick four of round five, by the Seals, and will join Fields on San Diego's roster. Patterson became UAlbany's 22nd NLL Draft pick.

Patterson, who was named 2019 America East Offensive Player of the Year, appeared in all five games for UAlbany in 2020, making three starts and scoring six goals with 14 assists. Against Harvard, Patterson recorded a season-high seven points, scoring three times with four assists. In his UAlbany career, Patterson has made 54 appearances with 48 starts, and has scored 96 goals with 56 assists.

Like the NCAA, the NLL

saw its 2019-20 season cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, shutting down on March 12 after each team in the league had completed about a dozen games. At the time of cancellation, Colorado was second in the West Division at 7-6 overall, just ahead of the third-place, 6-6 Seals. The Mammoth have won one NLL championship in program history, in 2006. The Seals were founded in 2017 and played their inaugural season in 2019.

The NLL will return in for its 35th season 2021.

Source: <https://ualbanysports.com/news/2020/9/17/mens-lacrosse-ron-john-selected-18th-in-nll-draft.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1rXPCi-AFIfNQcoDGwZWvbraRF-b66ubDGAnmUbqacgV8IaE-JyCThN2Kp1Q>

## Column: A selfless lacrosse gesture allows the Iroquois to take on the world

*Chase Scanlan is interviewed in this piece by the Buffalo News about the recent news regarding Team Ireland bowing out of the 2022 World Games so that the Iroquois Nationals could have their slot*

*By Sean Kirst | Sep 21, 2020, Updated Sep 22, 2020 | Reprinted from [buffalonews.com](http://buffalonews.com)*

Chase Scanlan plays for the Iroquois Nationals lacrosse team, while Dylan McNally is a member of Ireland's national men's team. They are both 20, raised with a love for lacrosse in communities separated by hundreds of miles, but they are linked by a selfless choice based upon one powerfully shared appreciation.

"It's their game," McNally said of lacrosse and the Haudenosaunee, or Six Nations. "They gave it to us."

Scanlan, who grew up at the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus territory, is an All-American attackman at Syracuse University. He also plays for



*Chase Scanlan, who grew up on the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus territory, now wears the legendary No. 22 for Syracuse University - and expects to play in the 2022 World Games with the Iroquois Nationals.*

the Iroquois Nationals, an international team representing the Six Nations, emissaries of a game they play as a gift from the Creator.

McNally, who attended high school in Medfield, Mass., is both a midfielder for Canisius College and a member of Ireland's national lacrosse team. He qualifies because his father was born in Ireland and his grandparents are still there. Making that team, he said, "is crazy, a surreal experience."

Yet he said he supports last week's decision by Ireland team administrators to surrender their slot at the 2022 World Games to the Iroquois. Sure,

McNally said, he wishes Ireland could be there, but he felt the shock wave that rolled through the lacrosse world this summer when the Iroquois Nationals were not invited in the first place. That was based on how the World Games recognized eligible nations, standards renegotiated since that time.

As for the Irish, there is a history of a long, mutually supportive bond with native people – including, as the Washington Post reported, almost \$6 million in donations this year to help Navajo and Hopi communities wounded by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ireland's choice to step back for the Iroquois "was really cool, to be honest with you," McNally said.

The Nationals responded with warm and ongoing thanks. "It's something you don't see much in this day and age," said Rex Lyons, a member of the team's board of directors, who joins many in the lacrosse community in viewing the magnitude of the World Games as a step toward an ultimate milestone. During Scanlan's childhood at Cattaraugus, for instance, he gradually became aware of how lacrosse was missing from the Olympics, the quadrennial gathering of the world's finest athletes.

To say he daydreamed about the Olympics would be a little much. Still, Scanlan was certainly conscious of what that kind of global stage could say about a game he describes as a means of joyous gratitude toward the Creator.

"It'd be an unreal showcase to the world about who we are as a people and a confederacy," Scanlan said.

As an explosive junior attackman at Syracuse, he wears No. 22, a legendary number in the college game. That kind of skill also provides him with what he passionately describes as the honor of playing for the Nationals, founded almost 40 years ago with deep roots in

native territories in Upstate New York and Canada.

The squad found itself swept up by unexpected international tumult this summer, after it initially was left out of eight possible berths made available for the first-ever World Games appearance by men's lacrosse in 2022 in Birmingham, Ala.

The exclusion touched off an uproar within international lacrosse, where the Iroquois are not only deeply respected as competitors – the men's team is ranked third in the world – but embraced as ambassadors of the culture that brought the world the game.

That loyalty was strong enough to lead Ireland to make what Darryl Seibel, chief communications officer for World Lacrosse, called a statement of lasting resonance.

Ireland "has a real reverence for the game," said Leo Nolan, executive director of the Nationals, expressing full appreciation for what McNally and his teammates are giving up. An Iroquois 20-and-under team will be in Ireland in 2021, Nolan said, and Iroquois officials are already thinking about ways of saying thanks to the host nation for the magnitude of such a choice.

Scanlan, too, expressed his gratitude. He said he never lost faith the Nationals would be at the World Games, but worried a decision "would happen so late we wouldn't have time to prepare."

That competition is seen as a high-level athletic destination, which means simply getting there is a mark of accomplishment for lacrosse. But it also opens the door a little wider to a goal of particular intensity for many who have spent lifetimes dedicated to the game.

Two years ago, the International Olympic Committee granted provisional federation recognition to World Lacrosse. The 2028 Olympiad will be held

in Los Angeles, and there is a strong chance, based on precedent, that the organizing committee will be allowed to propose and then include a few new sports.

While everyone I spoke with emphasized the possibility remains many formidable hurdles away – and the immediate priority within the game is appreciating the chance to play in Birmingham – no one made any secret of what is seen as the mountaintop.

"Without the World Games," Rex Lyons said, "there was slim to no chance of us making it to the Olympics."

As Lyons and Nolan explained, it is rare to find a sport so deeply linked to the spiritual and communal essence of a people. The flag of the Haudenosaunee, for instance – based on the Hiawatha wampum and now a familiar presence on many native territories – was originally created as a flag for the Nationals.

To carry that flag in the opening ceremonies in Los Angeles, if lacrosse is finally approved, would eventually require formal Olympic committee recognition of the sovereign nature of the Six Nations – which Nolan and Lyons speak of as a potentially monumental statement for all indigenous people.

"Damn right," Nolan vowed. "We're going to the Olympics."

Lyle Thompson, an Onondaga and one of great players in the world, lives with his family at the Six Nations territory near Brantford, Ont. He spoke of how he is always intensely aware of the meaning of the eagle logo on his chest when the Iroquois Nationals take the field, how it is now recognized as a familiar



*Dylan McNally, who also plays for Ireland's national team, in fierce pursuit for the Golden Griffins. Canisius College athletics*

symbol of everything the team represents.

For that reason, he looks at it this way: The Nationals seek to honor the essence of a game so deeply ingrained in their culture wherever and whenever they play, and "if lacrosse is at the Olympics," Thompson said, "then we have to be there."

He was raised with the ceremonies of the longhouse, where he said lacrosse since the beginning has held the living meaning of a "medicine game." Thompson is renowned for the electric, joyous nature of the way he plays, a style flowing from a game carrying its own distinct spirit.

"If you have fun and play with a clear mind, what we call 'the good mind,' then it's medicine and you'll have true spiritual growth," Thompson said. "I want people to understand and see that, and it doesn't have to be the World Games or the Olympics: That's how we're playing the game in our own communities, even if you just take your stick out of the back of the truck and start to play."

What all of it proves, Thompson said, is that the players and coaches on Team Ireland – through their selfless gesture – offered a true understanding of lacrosse without picking up a stick.

"Ireland checked off respect, optimism and passion," Thompson said, "and that's the medicine in it."

# Defend Ohi:yo' Weekend Retreat

*All of us at Defend Ohi:yo' send a heartfelt thanks for the wholesome, natural, healthy vegetables provided for our lunch!*

*Submitted by Diane Beaver*

The Defend Ohi:yo' group recently held a weekend retreat at Willow Bay Campground in Bradford, PA in the Allegheny National forest from September 25th-27th, 2020. The event was a success. They held discussions on the Northern Access Pipeline, visited Chief Cornplanter's grave, enjoyed two films - *Denying Access: NoDAPL to NoNAPL* and *Invisible*



*Hand*, and participated in many other environmental activities while surrounded by the colorful beauty this time of year offers.

Defend Ohi:yo' members, participants and allies would like to thank **Gakwi:yo:h Farms** for their wholesome, natural foods that made the weekend retreat so successful. The potatoes and squash added to the substantial luncheon; the cherry tomatoes made a healthy snack choice; the maple syrup was a breakfast treat. **We:so' nya:wëh!**



# Niagara Falls Glows Orange

*Reposted from Seneca Media Facebook Page*



Niagara Falls turned orange tonight for 15 minutes to honor and remember the 150,000 Native children forced into residential schools in Canada. Singers gathered on that side and then went silent as the colors on the falls changed. Each minute represented 10,000 children. Several Natives gathered on this side of the river including a crew from Cattaraugus.

The family of Charles Tallchief would like to extend their gratitude to the community for the kindness and condolences bestowed upon them during their time of bereavement.

~With Appreciation~

# Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary

We love you dearly.

From Jarrett, Degawëno:da's and family



# Army Reserve physician from Irving, New York supports federal COVID response

By Col. Meritt Phillips | 10.01.2020 | Army Reserve Medical Command | Reprinted from [www.dvidshub.net](http://www.dvidshub.net)

A family medicine physician from Irving, New York, Maj. Vivien Redeye is preparing to return home as she completes her mission as a member of an Army Reserve Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force.

She is one of more than 1,000 skilled Army Reserve medical Soldiers that have mobilized since March to provide Department of Defense support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s whole-of-America response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Redeye serves with Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force – 7458, a team of 85 doctors, nurses, combat medics, respiratory therapists, and ancillary personnel that expand the capacity of care that civilian medical facilities can offer their community.

Assigned to Harlingen Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas, Redeye provided care for COVID-19 patients.

“Our mission was to assist the hospital by supplying physical support. The hospital was overwhelmed, both staff and space were in short supply,” shared Redeye.

Employed by Family Health Medical Service as a hospitalist at Brooks Memorial Hospital in Dunkirk, New York in her civilian career, she had experience in treating COVID-19 prior to the mission.

“Having experience working in a COVID environment prior to this deployment helped greatly as a clinician,” shared Redeye. “It also helped reduce the fear for others (on the team) new to the COVID environment.”

Redeye explained that Army Reserve Soldiers are well suited for this response effort.



*Courtesy Photo | Maj. Vivian Redeye with her daughters Noelle (left) and Alison. An Army Reserve physician from Irving, New York, Redeye mobilized with Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force -7458 to provide support to Harlingen Medical Center in South Texas as part of the Department of Defense assistance to the Federal Emergency Management Agency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

“We understand the infrastructure in community hospitals as well as how to navigate the military side.”

In total, U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, assigned approximately 590 military medical and support personnel from the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Texas.

A graduate of the State University of New York, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in Buffalo, Redeye is from the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation in Irving, New York.

“I am proud to be from the Seneca Nation of Indians. While Native Americans have the smallest percentage of the population, we have one of the highest representation percentage per capita in the military.”

A self-proclaimed “Army brat”, Redeye’s mother is a retired Army nurse.

“I remember thinking at the age

of 10, while driving around Ft. Lewis, that I never wanted to be a civilian,” said Redeye. She joined the Reserve when her youngest daughter reached the age of four.

“The Reserve works better for my family and allows me to be flexible with my employment choices,” shared Redeye, originally a member of the 7207th Medical Support Unit in Webster, New York.

“My military contract will be complete next year but I plan to stay for a while longer. There is more that I would like to do in the Army and goals I would like to achieve,” said Redeye. “Plus having to be accountable with physical fitness keeps me active.”

A mother of two, Redeye stays in touch with her family regularly during her mobilization.

“My children are very proud of my service, as are my parents and extended family, but they miss me when I deploy,” she commented.

As she prepares to return to her family and civilian employment, Redeye offered her thoughts on the historic mission she supported.

“These are difficult and unprecedented times, but it has made the medical community band together, and I know we will look out for each other better than before.”

Source: [https://www.dvidshub.net/news/379982/army-reserve-physician-irving-new-york-supports-federal-covid-response?fbclid=IwAR2i2cgRKSpvaTMK8URoJt\\_I4PbmHoh4NK3jwp6UDJDxiSE-HS5Rtrft1S3A](https://www.dvidshub.net/news/379982/army-reserve-physician-irving-new-york-supports-federal-covid-response?fbclid=IwAR2i2cgRKSpvaTMK8URoJt_I4PbmHoh4NK3jwp6UDJDxiSE-HS5Rtrft1S3A)



**The Seneca Nation Enterprises is now accepting inquiries for snowplowing for the 2020-21 season.**

**For the following locations:**

- **Seneca One Stop- Irving**  
11150 Routes 5 and 20 in Irving, NY includes  
Seneca Nation Enterprises Office  
11482 Southwestern Blvd. in Irving, NY
- **Seneca One Stop- Salamanca**  
745 Broad St. in Salamanca, NY
- **Seneca One Stop- Cuba Lake**  
5376 West Shore Rd. in Cuba, NY

Please contact Rick or James at the Seneca Nation Enterprises (716)934-2900 or email inquiries to: [snowplow2020@snesos.com](mailto:snowplow2020@snesos.com), for a proposal package. The deadline for all proposals is October 23rd, 2020, at the close of the business day.

*Seneca Nation of Indians - Keeper of the Western Door*

# Nya:wëh Sgë:nö' To All Seneca Community Members

*Submitted by Lafayette Williams*

We at New York Connects would like to let you know that we are still operating during this pandemic of the COVID-19. We can help you with your long-term services and supports and needs for people of all ages, any disability, and caregivers. New York Connects can help you apply for Medicaid, find care and support, get answers about Medicare, learn about supports in caregiving, and much more.



There are two ways to contact us:

**By phone.** Call 1-800-342-9871. Interpretation and translation services are free. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can use the Relay System 7-1-1. Western New York Independent Living Inc. 1-888-564-5171

**Online.** Please visit our website: [www.nyconnects.ny.gov](http://www.nyconnects.ny.gov) Please be safe and healthy, Nya:wëh.

## NATIVE ARTS & CULTURES FOUNDATION

# Call to Participate in Community Art Project with NACF Fellows

*Reprinted from [nativeartsandcultures.org](http://nativeartsandcultures.org)*



Native Arts and Culture Foundation (NACF) visited Marie Watt (Seneca) and Cannupa Hanska Luger (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, Lakota) in August during their c3:initiative core residency in Colton, Oregon. The artists worked on preliminary plans for a community-engaged sculpture to be displayed in the upcoming exhibition *Each/Other*: Marie Watt and Cannupa Hanska Luger at the Denver Art Museum, May 23-August 22, 2021. We joined the artists as part of a partnership to support their collaboration, at Camp Colton—an 85-acre property

nestled in a tree canopy of the lush Pacific Northwest forests—where we filmed a short video for a call to participate in their project.

*Each/Other*: Marie Watt and Cannupa Hanska Luger is the first exhibition to jointly present the work of NACF National Artist Fellows Watt and Luger. *Each/Other* will feature 24 mixed-media sculptures, wall hangings, and large-scale installation works by Watt and Luger, along with the artist-guided community sculpture. While each artist's practice is rooted

in collaboration, this is their first opportunity to work and exhibit alongside one another. This unique collaboration will allow audiences to see both the similarities and contrasts in their work.

Stay tuned for more information about this project in the coming months!

In an age of social distancing, we are all looking for new ways to strengthen our physical and emotional resilience. Making connections is more important than ever. What would the world look like if, as humans, we thought of ourselves as companion species? Can acts of creative collaboration help heal broken bonds with the environment and with each other? The artists invite the public to consider such questions while contributing to the physical manifestation of a large-scale sculptural installation. Through national and international participation, the artwork will become a temporary monument to

collective relationship and collaborative handwork, bringing audiences into a tactile encounter with critically relevant issues of protection, shelter, reciprocity, sustenance, exchange, power, action, stewardship, wildness, kinship, vulnerability, and ferocity.

### Embroidered bandanas needed by October 31, 2020

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Acquire a bandana or a piece of repurposed fabric roughly the size of a bandana
2. Fold bandana/fabric corner to corner to create a triangle
3. Embroider/stitch text, imagery or any other visual sentiment onto a corner portion of the fabric
4. Ship to the artists at this address:

Camp Colton  
% Each/Other  
30088 S Camp Colton Dr  
Colton, OR 97017



# IN THE SPIRIT Contemporary Native Arts Exhibition

## Artist Highlight: Linley B. Logan

Reprinted from Washington State Historical Society Facebook

Today we're introducing Linley B. Logan of the Onondowaga (also known as Seneca Nation) Tribe. The work Wolf with Lipstick Rattle was selected for the 15th annual IN THE SPIRIT exhibition. Wolf with Lipstick Rattle was created in 2019 with recycled materials. It measures at 4 x 3 x 22 inches.

You can learn a little about Linley from the artist statement: "I have a history of being creatively conscientious in incorporating recycled materials like plastic containers in my work. The original Wolf with Lipstick Rattle was made when I attended Puhoro, the 9th International Indigenous Visual Arts gathering hosted at the Turangwaewae Marae outside of Hamilton, New Zealand in November of 2019. I gifted the original rattle to

the Turangwaewae Marae community. The rattle sits on a large carved public art piece that was gifted to the Marae community.

"The rattle is made from a New Zealand plastic milk container.

"This is the first rattle I have made using recycled plastic containers.

"As indigenous people, we have always creatively utilized the resources available to us which in pre-contact were natural resources only. We have access to man made resources today, and as an indigenous artist I recognize the value of using all the resources available to me which includes recycling man made waste materials into art."

See all of the incredible works



of art in the virtual exhibition, visit our website [www.InTheSpiritArts.org](http://www.InTheSpiritArts.org). See more of Linley's work on his website <https://my.getjealous.com/linleyblogan>

And don't miss the IN THE

SPIRIT Virtual Arts Market and Northwest Native Festival beginning online on September 10 where you can shop an online vendor market for handmade goods and art, hear directly from artists and get a virtual peek into their studios!

## Artifacts from upstate Indigenous towns digitized, repatriated

By Jose Beduya | September 23, 2020 | Reprinted from [news.cornell.edu](http://news.cornell.edu)

Unearthed, digitized and soon to be repatriated, artifacts from two Native American towns are beginning to share their rich stories online thanks to a collaborative project by anthropologists, librarians and Indigenous community members.

The recently launched digital

collection – Onöndowa'ga:' (Seneca) Haudenosaunee Archaeological Materials, circa 1688-1754 – features two historical locations – White Springs and Townley-Read, both near Geneva, New York – which were inhabited consecutively by members of the Onöndowa'ga:' (Seneca) Haudenosaunee (Six Nations Iroquois) after they fled

the French military destruction of the town of Ganondagan in 1687.

Various cultural artifacts and the changing layout of the towns show how the communities adapted and thrived in their new environments, according to Kurt Jordan, anthropology professor in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Jordan led archaeological work at the two locations.

"There's a misconception common among scholars until recently that, as soon as Europeans arrived, Native people went on a long, slow slide into disappearing and irrelevance," he said. "But you can really see that there is a ton of Native technology and



**CORNELL  
IMPACTS  
NEW YORK STATE**

local plant and animal species that were being used alongside European imports."

In 2017, Jordan partnered with graduate student Dusti Bridges to highlight these discoveries by starting an online collection, supported by the Grants Program for Digital Collections in Arts and Sciences at Cornell University Library and with earlier seed funding from the Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Cultures (GRASAC).

The collection, which focused on domestic spaces and does not include sacred objects, is a vehicle for descendant communities to virtually connect with their cultural heritage, according to Bridges, who is completing a Ph.D. in anthropology.

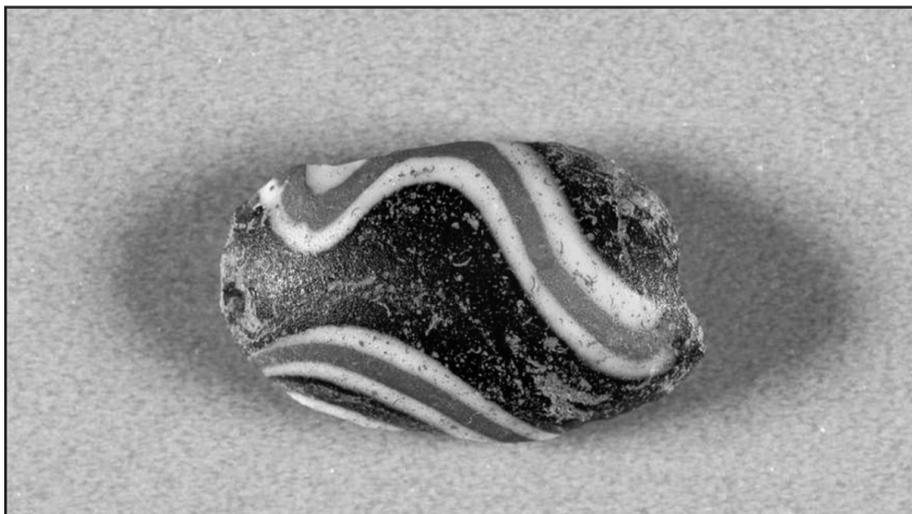


Photo: Cornell University Library/Provided  
A glass bead found among other artifacts at two historical locations near Geneva, New York.

The project will also physically reunite descendant communities with their heritage objects when the original physical artifacts are transferred from Cornell's Department of Anthropology to the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum in Salamanca, New York. The transfer of materials is scheduled to start next summer.

"Bringing the materials back empowers the Seneca community," said Joe Stahlman, director of the museum and a consultant on the project. "This becomes an opportunity for the Seneca to contribute to the research but also to show themselves as knowledge holders."

Community involvement has always been essential to the project. Jordan and Bridges gathered initial feedback from Seneca partners during a meeting at Ganondagan and through consultations with Indigenous colleagues from GRASAC. Questions about language emerged as a major consideration.

"We took out the specialist archaeological language, which could be alienating," said Bridges. "So instead of using 'structure' we used 'house.' We used 'town' instead of 'site.'"

Bridges and Jordan are now inviting Indigenous community members to share Onöndowa'ga' language terms, and other information about the artifacts, via the feedback forms in the online collection.

To present and collect this abundance of information on

the website, the project has depended on the expertise of library staff like Jasmine Burns, visual resources metadata librarian and a proponent of a movement known as critical cataloging practice.

"Institutions are becoming more reflective about the way that they're describing their collections," she said, "particularly collections that represent marginalized communities and a diverse audience."

Burns customized the standard metadata template used for image collections in order to replace colonially tinged terms (such as "discovery site" which was substituted with the neutral term "former site") while also adjusting the metadata vocabulary so that Indigenous-language terms can be further added, linked and easily searched.

The digitization and the transfer of the physical artifacts are steps toward healing a deep divide, according to Michael Galban, curator for the Seneca Art and Culture Center at Ganondagan State Historic Site and an expert on Native American material culture who also served as a project consultant.

"The unethical practices that took place in the earliest days of archaeological science – including the desecration of burials and the removal of ancestors' remains – have so damaged the trust between Native peoples and archaeologists in universities and museums," Galban said. "Kurt and Dusti have been very diligent in repairing that relationship. Every time that a successful project like this is responsibly brought into fruition, it not only helps Native people but also the science of archaeology."

Source: [https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2020/09/artifacts-upstate-indigenous-towns-digitized-repat-riated?fbclid=IwAR2fnpQPJBvpuzVpD6Lxh\\_KYoBQKNN1kfgf6oFhg-WkQlUgxePrT5CWA5yU](https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2020/09/artifacts-upstate-indigenous-towns-digitized-repat-riated?fbclid=IwAR2fnpQPJBvpuzVpD6Lxh_KYoBQKNN1kfgf6oFhg-WkQlUgxePrT5CWA5yU)

*Allegany Territory*

Join Us For The




## Disability Awareness Day

**ALLEGANY TERRITORY**  
**Thursday, Oct. 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2020**  
**5:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

Line Up in  
Front of DPW

➔

Exiting Out  
ACC Drive Way

### Drive-Thru 4 Station Activities

-  **Canopy 1**  
REGISTRATION/  
SIGN IN
-  **Canopy 2**  
GAME TENT

 **Canopy 3**  
CONTEST TENT
-  **Canopy 4**  
Kettle Corn, Pumpkin Distribution



### Contest Fun

Call the TERC Office for details upon submission(s)



**Cake  
Decorating  
Contest**



**Pumpkin  
Painting  
Contest**

**Costume Contest**  
Judging Day of Event



Please call the TERC Office at (716) 532-1033 to RSVP, # of family members attending.

*Cattaraugus Territory*

Join Us For The




## Disability Awareness Day

**CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY**  
**Friday, October 23<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**



Line Up  
AOA / TERC

➔

Exiting Out  
Iroquois Drive



### Drive-Thru 4 Station Activity

-  **Canopy 1**  
REGISTRATION/  
DOOR PRIZE
-  **Canopy 3**  
MEAL  
DISTRIBUTION

 **Canopy 2**  
COSTUME  
CONTEST
-  **Canopy 4**  
PRIZE TENT

Please proceed to Trunk or Treat Event



### Contest Fun

**Costume Contest**  
Judging Day of Event  
Come in costume, photo will be taken & winners will be notified!

**Categories**  
Scariest, Funniest & Most Original

**Trunk or Treat Contest**  
We invite anyone who wishes to participate in a trunk or treat to set up.

**Contest Categories**  
Scariest, Funniest, Best Halloween Theme & Best ADA 30<sup>th</sup> Theme.

We hope to see you there! Happy Halloween!

**Next Newsletter  
DEADLINE:**

**Tuesday,  
October 20, 2020**

Next issue to be dated  
October 30, 2020



**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**ESTATE OF SHARYN K. TAYLOR**

Administrators: Carli Buffalo & Dylan Taylor-Wolford,  
8019 Old Route 17, Salamanca, NY 14779  
~ Allegany Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF RICHARD C. JEMISON**

Administrator: Courtney John-Jemison,  
13223 Route 438, Gowanda, NY 14070  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF ROY PAGELS**

Administrator: Nadine Maracle,  
12523 Longhouse Rd., Lawtons, NY 14091  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF JOHN WILLIAMS**

Administrator: Ramona Williams,  
12728 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF FRANCIS INABINET**

Executor: Lisa Powless,  
320 Center St., Salamanca, NY 14779  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF DIANE L. KENNEDY**

Executor: Marc Papaj,  
27 Graystone Ln., Orchard Park, NY 14127  
~ Allegany Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF NORMA KENNEDY**

Executor: Ralph Kennedy,  
P.O. Box 206, Steamburg, NY 14783  
~ Allegany Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF VERNON C. PIERCE**

Administrator: Pamela Pierce,  
P.O. Box 187, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF IRENE HALFTOWN**

Administrator: Brenda Halftown,  
P.O. Box 139, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF OXAVIER CARMONA**

Administrator: Linda Jimerson,  
P.O. Box 318, Versailles, NY 14168  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF BRENDA JIMERSON**

Administrator: Christa Jimerson,  
12452 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF RICK HENHAWK**

Administrator: Shane Henhawk,  
P.O. Box 103, Gowanda, NY 14070  
OR 2008 Stafford Ln., Perrysburg, NY 14129  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**Seneca Nation of Indians SURROGATE'S COURT, Cattaraugus & Allegany Territory**

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and contingent creditors of the above-named decedents, that all persons having claims against the decedents are required to file them with the appropriate Surrogate's Court, at the Allegany/Cattaraugus Territory. You are also required to mail or deliver a copy to the Administrator/Executor. This notice shall serve to notify creditors that they have ninety (90) calendar days from the date of the first publication of the notice to present their claims to the Administrator/Executor or the Clerk, and the estate may pay only those claims presented. For your protection, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.

**Reminder:** Daylight Saving Time ENDS Sunday, November 1st!  
(Fall Back - don't forget to set your clocks back an hour)

SENECA NATION BUFFALO OFFICE PRESENTS



**TRUNK or TREAT**

**& COSTUME CONTEST!**  
**OCTOBER 30TH, 6PM**

Please wear masks. Maintain distancing. Stay in designated areas  
if you wanted to distribute candy etc. please drop off Mon. 26th & Tues. 27th (Due to COVID-19 we will bag and distribute the candy for you)

Seneca Nation Buffalo Office  
533 Amherst Street, Buffalo NY 14207  
716-951-7555/716-845-6304  
Call or Stop in to Register  
Register Deadline October 23, 2020

**BRINGING HIGH SPEED INTERNET TO CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY**

**CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN IN LATE 2020/EARLY 2021**

Are you a Cattaraugus resident interested in purchasing high-speed Internet or digital phone service?

**SIGN UP HERE:**  
[sni.dftcommunications.com](http://sni.dftcommunications.com)  
or call  
**716-532-3131**  
Toll Free  
**833-989-2876**

The entire Cattaraugus Territory will be provided with high-speed internet and digital phone access.

Packages starting at \$49.95 a month



Contact: Seneca Energy @  
email: [senecabroadband@sni.org](mailto:senecabroadband@sni.org)

# Protecting Yourself Against Breast Cancer Starts with Knowing the Risks

Submitted by Robin Crouse, Health Educator, LRJHC

A “Risk-Factor” is usually a behavior or exposure to something that increases your chances of getting cancer.

For Breast Cancer, the following risks can include:

- Being a woman (the greatest risk)
- Having had an early “Moon Time” (onset of period (under age 12) or late menopause (over age 55))
- Having a family history of breast cancer
- Not having children or having your first over age 30
- Breastfeeding your child for less than 1 ½ years
- Growing older
- Living a sedentary life style – not

enough exercise

- Being over your recommended body weight by 15-20 pounds

To help protect yourself:

- Practice healthy Habits like being physically active
- Eat more home-cooked meals rather than fast food
- Have regular health check-ups
- Have regular recommended cancer screenings

Historically the occurrences of cancer in Native Americans was rare. However, the last 2 decades have seen a substantial increase in breast cancer in our women. Lack of utilization of screening services is the major cause of this increase.

Greater awareness, utilization of screening mammograms, clinical breast exams and breast self-exams could significantly reduce the mortality rates of breast cancer among Native Americans.

Women **ages** 40 to 44 should have the choice to start annual breast cancer screening with mammograms (x-rays of the breast) if they wish to do so. Women **age** 45 to 54 should get mammograms every year. Women 55 and older should switch to mammograms every 2 years, or can continue yearly screening.

If you haven’t had one yet, now is the time! Call to schedule yours!! LRJHC – 945-5894 or CIRHC – 532-5582.

\*Source: Native American Cancer Research Corporation and American Cancer Society

**TAKE 3 ACTIONS TO FIGHT FLU**

Influenza (flu) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Every year, millions of people get sick, hundreds of thousands are hospitalized, and thousands to tens of thousands of people die from flu. CDC urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from flu.

**GET YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY VACCINATED!**

A yearly flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses.

Everyone 6 months or older should get an annual flu vaccine. Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family. Get Vaccinated. #FightFlu

**STOP THE SPREAD**

Take everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of flu viruses!

Avoid close contact with sick people, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often (with soap and water).

**ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT FLU ANTIVIRALS**

Take antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them!

Antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu illness and can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick.

WWW.CDC.GOV/FLU #FIGHT FLU CDC

## TELE-MEDICINE

If you have an appointment to speak to an outside provider by phone or video-chat, you still need a referral. Tele-medicine is a billable visit. As with any outside provider, you will get a bill if you don't have a referral in place.



If you have any questions, please contact the CIRHC Referral Department at 532-5582 or the LRJHC Referral Department at 945-5894.

You can reach us here:

Lionel R. John Health Center  
716-945-5894

Community Health and Wellness Center  
716-532-8223

Cattaraugus Indian Reservation Health Center  
716-532-5582

# SNHS Provider Spotlight

**Jody LaMarca** is a public health nutritionist/certified diabetes educator for the diabetes unit located at the Lionel R. John Health Center. She has been in this position for 9 years.



recognitions: 1) Was chosen as one of Business First’s Health Care 50 that honor extraordinary professionals involved in the medical field. 2) Award recipient for the Erie Niagara County Nutrition Committee Nutrition Recognition. 3) Nominated for New York State Dietetic Association Emerging Dietitian award.”

We asked what she likes best about her job and she said “I enjoy making a difference in people’s lives. I like to help people achieve their health goals whether it’s controlling blood sugars, losing weight or eating healthy. It’s fun to cook healthy meals for our support groups and offer education on a variety of topics.”

She grew up in Niagara Falls, NY and moved to Ellicottville in 2007 and currently lives in Salamanca. She attended Buffalo State College and Niagara County Community College. She obtained a bachelor of science in nutrition and dietetics and associate in applied science in business administration.

We asked what she likes to do in her spare time. She said “working out, downhill skiing, target practice, volunteering, golfing and dancing.”

We asked her to tell us something interesting or extraordinary about herself that she’d like people to know. She says “I have the following professional

We asked if there was any additional information she’d like to add. Jody said “First of all I am adopted and was adopted as a newborn. Recently I found my biological mother (passed away 2015) and siblings. What’s interesting is my biological mother was married to a Tuscarora Chief and resided with him on the Tuscarora Indian Reservation. It’s ironic how I live in Salamanca and work at the Seneca Nation of Indians at LRJHC.”

Thank you Jody for sharing some of your background with us and for being a part of the health system team!

# REMINDER

As of September 2020:

Both the Allegany and Cattaraugus Optical units are pleased to announce that we have acquired the latest technology to sanitize each eyeglass frame after it has been tried on in the ongoing efforts to keep our patients safe and healthy. This ultraviolet-wave cleaning technology ensures that when you arrive for your appointment and try on the various styles of eyeglasses in each of our offices, you can be assured that the frame has been properly and completely disinfected and ready for you.

We will be glad to show you this new cleansing device and provide a short demonstration of how it works, for your own curiosity and peace of mind. If it has been some time since you've had a routine eye health examination, be sure to contact our office to arrange for a convenient appointment to be seen by Drs. Flaitz or Schmitt.

Our phone numbers:  
Allegany (716) 945-5894  
Irving (716) 532-8223



### FLU CLINIC INFORMATION

#### LRJHC

Wednesdays

Patients can call Cindy, ext. 3280, Teri, ext. 3317 or Theresa, ext. 3327 to schedule an appointment. If you need to schedule on a different day, we can accommodate.

#### CIRHC

Wednesdays

Patients can call Marlene, ext. 5219 or Sharon, ext. 5221 to schedule an appointment. If you need to schedule on a different day, we can accommodate.

Nya:weh

Unifying Seneca Nation communities, systems and resources so our youth and families are protected against suicide and substance misuse.

# NATIVE connections

Honor your journey.

Check us out online for more information about our prevention team, events, programs, and the Youth Clubhouse!

**Cattaraugus CHWC**  
36 Thomas Indian School Drive  
716•532•5583

**Allegany LRJHC**  
987 R.C. Hoag Drive  
716•945•9001

senecanativeconnections.org

SENECA NATION HEALTH SYSTEM



Sö:ga:' yeda:je's dosgëh neh oji:sda'!	Somebody she, someone is standing near the fire.
Sö:h nä:h hi:gë:h?	Who is that?
Da'agënöhdö! Agahjö'ni:h!	I don't know! I am scared!

Onödowa'ga:' Gawë:nö' Pronunciation Key					
a..... <u>f</u> ather	ä..... <u>c</u> at	e..... <u>t</u> hey	ë..... <u>m</u> en	i..... <u>p</u> olice	o..... <u>n</u> ote
ö..... <u>o</u> wn	u..... <u>t</u> une	w..... <u>w</u> ash	n..... <u>n</u> ot	y..... <u>y</u> es	d..... <u>d</u> og
t..... <u>t</u> ail	g..... <u>g</u> irl	k..... <u>k</u> ite	s..... <u>s</u> it	j..... <u>j</u> ob	h..... <u>h</u> at
š..... <u>s</u> how	tš..... <u>ch</u> alk	dz..... <u>ad</u> ze	: .....long vowel	' .....glottal stop	



*The purpose of the Allegany Language Department, Ögwaiwanösde' Ögwawenö', is to promote conversational Seneca language use at the Seneca Nation.*

a - father, e - they, i - ski, o - open, u - tune, ä - hat, ë - men, ö - on, i - hiss ' - sound stops, :- long vowel

# Gai:wanöhge'

Gai:wanöhge' V12I10 Gahsa'kneh Wis 2020

## Daswöndio:go'

Onödowa'ga:' Gawë:nö'  
Nadö:diyeö:je' koh  
Department  
12857 Route 438  
Irving, NY 14081

### Check out the October Language Newsletter

The October issue features a traditional story, recipe & upcoming events.

Visit: <https://sni.org/media/969418/langnewsletterv12i10.pdf>