

# The Official Newsletter of the SENECA NATION



September 11, 2020 - **visit us @ [sninews.org](https://sninews.org)**

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



### COVID-19 RESPONSE

In response to community members who have asked what has been done since the covid-19 impacted our Communities:

On November, 2018, Seneca voters elected to the Office of President for our great Seneca Nation. A lot has happened in the last two years that our Executives and Council have addressed and made decisions on as well as the progress made by our Nation departments. Most recently, the Covid-19 crisis that we all have been affected by continues to present us with challenges that we face head on and do our

best to provide solutions with the utmost health and safety guidelines. Although the Seneca Nation Territories are still under a declared State of Emergency, we have accomplished a lot.

It is my intent to respond to community members who have asked what has the Seneca Nation done since Covid-19 appeared and impacted all of our lives. My Office has done a review of activities throughout the last 6 months under this Administration which is listed below:

### Covid-19

- President Armstrong held several Covid-19 Messages on the Seneca Nation website ([sni.org](https://sni.org)) updating Seneca Members on important issues in conjunction with Seneca Media & Communications Department
- President Armstrong issued a Stay-at-Home Order on March 19, 2020, that was released on both territories on April 11, 2020 with restrictions
- A Covid-19 Incidence Response Task Force was quickly created to address related issues
- Nation applied for and received awards from the CARES Act, FEMA and other Covid-19 grant funding.

- The Seneca Nation applied and received \$47,430.00 on March 25 to offset the costs of providing meals to our Elders.
- The Seneca Nation Health Systems received \$131,711.00 to offset costs related to Covid-19 testing.
- Upon entering the Administrative and Health Buildings, temperatures are taken and questions regarding health status
- Nation essential workers remained at their worksite to serve the Seneca Members practicing safety guidelines
- Departments held drive-thru pickup of safety products
- Departments held drive-thru pickup of lunch/dinner distributions
- Departments held drive-thru pickup of produce distributions
- Initiated a 14-day self-quarantine in place for members who have travelled outside our immediate area.
- The Seneca Nation GIS Department put together a Coronavirus response website Hub including links to available resource available from local counties

### Council Meetings

- Initially made available to the Seneca Public via GoToMeetings
- Opened to the Seneca Public with

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

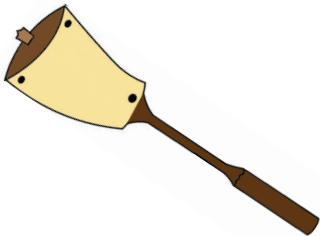
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### IN THIS ISSUE



CAR. TR.  
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limited seating and continuation of the online sessions.

Financial

- Annuities Checks continued to be distributed
- Disability Checks continued to be distributed
- Elder Checks continue to be distributed at the same amount
- A Health-Incentive Payment made to all Seneca Members
- Burial Fund continues to be in place
- The Seneca Nation Federal Credit Union Offices have reopened on both territories with customers using mandatory masks.

Community & Economic Development

- For future economic ventures, we now have the land known as Hanover field and a one-acre parcel of land adjacent to our Casino for the construction of Buffalo Creek One Stop.
- Highbanks Campground opened for the season
- After a temporary suspension, Fishing Season officially opened
- On Monday, June 1st, 2020 the application period opened for Hemp Producer Licensing
- Finalized construction of the Allegany Firehall
- Seneca Emergency Medical Services Team created on both Territories offering the highest level of prehospital care during a medical emergency
- Seneca Nation Emergency Management established a strategic voice messaging service called Regroup Messaging System intended to provide SN Employees and Members with broadcasted messages in the event of emergencies, closings, delays and health/safety messages

- Broadband Internet coming to the Cattaraugus Territory
- Seneca Nation received an EPA Grant which will be used to replace the well house at Sullivan Hollow and upgrade the water treatment system to meet all water quality standards
- SNIEDC voted to defer loan payments for the months of May and June
- An extensive rebuilding of a four-mile stretch of the NYS Thruway that runs through the Cattaraugus Territory was completed
- Nation Housing Authority announced 9 new Homeowners and 2 more still being built on each territory.
- Seneca Nation Housing Authority waived the monthly rent in all SNHA rentals and deferred Homebuyer payments temporarily
- Seneca Nation Mortgage Program differed monthly mortgage payments (except for insurance payments) temporarily
- On Territory Community Centers open with safety guidelines
- WGWE remained open

Elders

- Seneca Nation President’s Office held the annual Seneca Elder’s Summer Event as a drive-thru distribution with safety protocols on both Allegany and Cattaraugus territories.
- AOA Department remains open with essential workers and home delivered meals
- Initiated a new source of Elder funding via the Seneca Enhanced Elder Division (S.E.E.D.) to be managed by our AOA departments.
- Personal Emergency Response System available for Elders
- AOA issues Farmers Market Coupons for Elders

Education & Training

- Seneca Nation Education Department along with Employment and Training Departments are open
- Our Seneca Nation Education Departments and local School Districts are currently networking on Back to School Plans along with addressing the unique needs that College students are facing.
- Our Seneca Libraries have reopened with limited services
- Allegany Training

- Department is hosting a “Build your Portfolio” series of workshops from August through September.
- Recognition Events were held for graduates from High School, College and GED programs in coordination with the Education Departments
  - Recognitions Events were also held for Construction Training graduates

Substance Abuse Prevention

- Executives and Councilors were invited to attend a meeting with Seneca Mothers Against Drugs, a group of community members formed to address issues related to drug use on Cattaraugus Territory.
- My office, as Seneca Nation President, issued an Executive Order excluding a known drug dealer from our territories and an Exclusion Order banning another person from territory for aiding and abetting.
- Seneca Nation is working in partnership with Crime Stoppers WNY who address illegal drug activity on numerous counties and they have an anonymous tip line and offers cash for information leading to arrests (716-867-6161).

Racial Matters

- As President, actively addressed those entities that continue to show racial prejudices (Cleveland Indians, Washington Redskins, Red Raiders etc.)

Health

- Addressed Mayor Smith of Gowanda regarding a discharge of untreated sewage released into Thatcher Brook which flows into the Cattaraugus Creek and seeking resolution
- Our Clinics have remained open with safety guidelines and all patients required to wear face masks
- Behavioral Health Departments continued to offer around the clock services
- Child and Family stayed open to provide services





- Seneca Strong program continued to offer services and assistance
- Veggie Bucks are available to patients to use at Famers Markets

Travel

- Regularly scheduled service for the Seneca Transits system is now active and passenger must wear masks. (schedule: [www.senecatransit.com](http://www.senecatransit.com))
- There is a Distracted Driving Deterrent that detects mobile use and reminds drivers not to text while driving that can be seen around our territories.

Gaming

- Seneca Gaming Corporation Stakeholders Meetings held via Virtual Online GoToMeeting
- Our Class II Gaming (Seneca Gaming and Entertainment) operations reopened on June 18, 2020.
- Our Class III Gaming Operations continue to remain open for everyone over 21 with safety guidelines and practices.
- Hotels are open except for patrons from Restricted States at this time
- Seneca Casinos have postponed live shows

Culture

- Seneca Language Lessons held by Allegany Language Director via Skype
- Seneca Nation Education/Language & Culture program developed a YouTube channel pertaining to language and Culture Camp

Food and General Welfare Services

- Tribal Advocate Programs are operational
- Iroquois Post#1587 received a grant to



- assist Seneca Veterans and coordinates with the Seneca Nation Veterans Affairs Office
- The Tribal Advocate Programs have a designated computer/printer for Members to use when applying for NY Social Services (by appointment)
  - Disability Program Offices are open and can be reached
  - Gakwi:yo:h Farms continues their operations and most recently welcomed twenty-five Red Angus to a former dairy farm on Allegany Territory. They also grew 30 acres of corn and other vegetables. Also maintain their 52 bison located in Machias. They also host a mobile Farmers Market every Tuesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on both territories

Museum

- Provides virtual tours and short videos on-line

Emergency Management

- Due to high volume of calls they established a process for missed calls and set aside the number 716-531-3013 for that use.

Seneca Nation General Election

- The general election is still set to take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 between 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Territories.

I want to thank and commend all the people who have pitched in and continue to help during this time and I apologize if an activity has been left out because I know it takes everyone pulling together to keep us healthy and safe. All efforts are needed and appreciated.

I realize that stability is very important at this time and I assure you that we as Seneca Nation representatives continue to work on your behalf. Thank you to Seneca Nation Treasurer Matt Pagels, Seneca Nation Clerk Bethany Johnson, Seneca Nation Tribal Council, Nation Departments and all those in the Seneca Communities who are helping one another during this challenging time.

Please take the necessary precautions to stay healthy. Take Care of One Another and Be Safe.





Seneca Nation of Indians

President - Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.  
Clerk - Bethany Johnson

90 OHI-YO' WAY  
ALLEGANY TERRITORY  
SENECA NATION  
SALAMANCA, NY 14779

Tel. (716) 945-1790  
FAX (716) 945-1565



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Treasurer - Matthew B. Pagels

12837 ROUTE 438  
CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY  
SENECA NATION  
IRVING, NY 14081

Tel. (716) 532-4900  
FAX (716) 532-6272

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
Exclusion-Cedric Cobb

WHEREAS; The Seneca Nation has the inherent right to exclude individuals from the territory of the Seneca Nation who cause harm or pose a threat to the health and safety of the Seneca Nation and Nation members; and

WHEREAS; The Seneca Nation Council has adopted laws prohibiting the sale, possession, manufacture, and use of illegal narcotics within the territory of the Seneca Nation; and,

WHEREAS; Certain Individuals who are non-members of the Seneca Nation have been identified by both Nation members and Seneca Nation Law Enforcement as involved in the sale, manufacture or distribution of illegal narcotics within Seneca Nation Territory; and

WHEREAS; The President of the Seneca Nation has the authority, pursuant to the Constitution of the Seneca Nation, to enforce the laws of the Seneca Nation; and

WHEREAS; It has been determined that Cedric Cobb, DOB 01-19-86 is a non-member of the Seneca Nation; has been convicted of several felony counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance; is suspected of being currently involved in the sale of illegal narcotics; and

WHEREAS; Cedric Cobb has no right to be present within the Seneca Nation Territory, and his continued unauthorized presence poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of the Nation and its members;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED THAT; Cedric Cobb is hereby excluded from all Nation Territories, effective immediately, and be it

FURTHER ORDERED that any member of the Seneca Nation who is determined to have knowingly harbored or assisted Cedric Cobb to remain on or return to the Seneca Nation Territory in violation of this Order shall be charged in the Nation's Peacemakers Court with aiding and abetting in the violation of this Order. Penalties may include withholding of Nation Annuity payments; and be it

FURTHER ORDERED that in the event that Cedric Cobb refuses to leave the Seneca Nation Territory once directed to do so, Seneca Nation Law Enforcement is authorized, and directed to remove him from Seneca Nation Territory and to continue to remove him, should he return to the Territory.

Dated: July 30, 2020



*Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.*  
Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr., President



# EXCLUSION ORDER

## ARIEL EYOTO

### BANNED FROM ALL NATION TERRITORIES



**ARIEL EYOTO, A NON-MEMBER OF THE SENECA NATION, WAS RECENTLY ARRESTED ON THE ALLEGANY TERRITORY FOR CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AFTER INVESTIGATION BY THE SOUTHERN TIER DRUG TASK FORCE AND IS A SUSPECTED DRUG DEALER.**

Be advised any member of the Seneca Nation who is determined to have knowingly harbored or assisted **Ariel Eyoto** to remain on or return to the Seneca Nation Territory shall be charged in Peacemakers Court with aiding and abetting in violation of this Order. Penalties may include withholding of Annuity.

IF YOU SEE HIM ON TERRITORY  
CONTACT SENECA NATION MARSHALS AT  
532-3040 OR 945-2779

REPORT ALL SUSPECTED DRUG ACTIVITY TO THE SENECA NATION MARSHALS AND PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER



Nya:wëh sgë:nö’,

I’m just as excited and nervous as all are regarding schools opening. Covid-19 is a sad reminder of diseases past and together we must now grow stronger and continue to adapt. Physical distancing and hand washings is the new way to protect our history, ancestors’ traditions and our future...

I’d like to update you all on some financial information. A meeting was held with the Executives and Council to review a draft budget for the Treasury- CARES Act funding. Once finalized, a draft resolution is planned for the September 12th Regular Council session along with graphs for the community to view and discuss. We will follow the process in the Treasury Cost Allocation Policy for recording the costs of essential services to the Treasury funding. In addition, we have been directly charging certain eligible costs as they are incurred, e.g. Door Screeners, PPE, and other costs approved by Council.

We are following up on the resolution passed by Council to order two new vans for SNHS for patient transportation. We’ve contacted Verizon and identified an Education program that offers Chromebooks and data in the individual units. The request from the Education Directors (combined) was for 160 Chromebooks. We have ordered 91 so far and once the balance is approved at Council, as it will bring the total cost to over

\$50,000, we will order the remaining 69 Chromebooks. The stockpiling of personal protective equipment has been processed and made August 21st.

The FY 2021 budget presentation was made to the Executives and Council with the five-month budget estimates for the general and other funds with the exception of Land Revenue, which we have a twelve month budget drafted. In addition, we assisted SG&E with the review and analysis of their draft five-month budget from October 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. This draft budget was presented to the Enterprise Board and the final budget will be presented for approval on September 15th. One-Stop and Highbanks budgets were also presented to the Board on August 26th and to B&F on August 27th. We still have much to do to finalize the governmental budgets in preparation for the September 24th Special Council

Again as always; stay safe, stay strong and stay connected.

-Matt Pagels





Bethany Johnson, Clerk  
ALLEGANY TERRITORY



Marta Kettle, Deputy Clerk  
CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY

Ashley Warrior – Executive Secretary  
Leslie Cooke – Administrative Assistant (Notary Public)  
Tammi Stafford – Administrative Assistant (Notary Public)

Business Permit Office

Dana Maybee: Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm

NATION I.D. CARDS

Both offices 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

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. We are providing limited services, please call our office for more information.

**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)  
Kathleen “Yomie” Hill, Administrative Assistant

**Cattaraugus Territory – (716) 532-4900 ext. 5000**  
**Cattaraugus Clerk’s Office Staff:**

Marta Kettle – Deputy Clerk  
Kelly Mohawk – Deeds Recorder

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:weh for your patience and understanding during this time and please watch for updates as this may change unexpectedly. Any changes will be posted online.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION IV OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SENECA NATION, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BIENNIAL GENERALELECTION OF THE SENECA NATION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020.

Voting shall take place on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Territories. Polls shall be open from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm on this date.

Pursuant to Section X of the Constitution of the Seneca Nation, every member of the age of twenty-one (21) years and upwards, who shall not have been convicted of a felony, shall be competent to vote at all elections and shall be eligible for any office.

Pursuant to Section I of the Constitution of the Seneca Nation, *on or before the 15th day preceding the biennial election, all candidates shall file with the Clerk of the Nation their name and office, and no further candidate shall be allowed to file for office after the 15th day preceding the biennial election.* Therefore, all candidates must file with the Clerk at the Seneca Allegany Administration Building, Allegany Territory, no later than 12:00 midnight on Monday, October 19, 2020.

**Bethany Johnson, Clerk August 2020**  
Seneca Nation of Indians



# Natural Gas upgrades on territory

By Anthony Giacobbe



The Seneca Nation’s natural gas cleanup initiative has provided immense environmental benefits to the Seneca Nation over the past decade. The Nation has plugged and abandoned 31 natural gas wells since 2011. The Nation has worked with National Fuel to repair or replace the majority of the gas system on both territories with new lines being constructed in Newtown, Irving, Route 438, Milestrip Road, Jimerson Town and throughout Salamanca. Work was coordinated for the full replacement of the RM-32 transmission line that crosses the Cattaraugus Territory.

This new line is safer and more environmentally friendly than its predecessor. The Nation is also working with National Fuel to plan additional projects on both Territories, which will include repair, replacement and expansion of the natural gas system where appropriate.

The Seneca Utilities Department has recently identified a leak on Van Vleck Road, which we are in the process of scheduling a short-term fix with a full line replacement being scheduled in the future. In August 2020, Seneca Nation’s Natural Gas Dept. will supervise a National Fuel contractor as they conduct a hydrotest (water test) on transmission Line K located in Allegany. This water test will ensure the safety and integrity of the line and allow the Seneca Nation to feel confident in this important transmission line that supplies Salamanca and the Seneca Allegany Casino.

Expansion of the system will provide additional Cattaraugus residents with

access to safer, more reliable and cost-effective natural gas. Converting from propane to natural gas can save customers ~\$1,500 a yr. Contact the Seneca Nation Utilities Dept., Natural Gas Dept. with any questions or concerns regarding the natural gas initiatives of the Seneca Nation.



Left photo: before photo of a site cleaned.



Bottom photo: after photo

## Disability is taking new applications

We are now accepting new applications. Feel free to call us to set up an appointment 716-532-4900 Ext. 5152 to speak with Ashley Kettle

The Allegany office is now open back to normal hours of FRIDAYS 10am-2pm

Both Offices are still doing all social distancing protocols. Please call us to set up any appointments 716-532-4900 Ext 5152 or Allegany Office 716-945-8163

We will come to your vehicle for you to submit any paperwork. Disability Committee will also resume regular scheduled meetings. (Every Third Wednesday of the month)

Nya:wëh

SENECAS STAY SAFE!!

CRIMESTOPPERSWNY.ORG

CRIME STOPPERS

867-6161

STOP THE SUPPLY

STOP THE DEMAND

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GET THE "BUFFALO TIPS" APP OR CALL 867-6161

EARN UP TO \$7500

FOR TIPS ON HOMICIDES SHOOTINGS & ILLEGALLY POSSESSED GUNS

TURN IN A DEALER.

EARN UP TO \$2500 CASH REWARD

CRIME STOPPERS

"BUFFALO TIPS" APP

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store





# The SNI Probate Code Frequently Asked Questions...

## Estates Handled By A Ten Day Feast

- Question:** What if I want my estate handled through a Ten Day Feast?
- Answer:** The Probate Code respects the Ten Day Feast. You need to fill out the “Ten Day Feast” form available from the Surrogate’s Court.
- Question:** How are disputes resolved if my estate is handled through a Ten Day Feast?
- Answer:** The Longhouse will be responsible for resolving disputes arising from estates handled through a Ten Day Feast within eight (8) months of the death. If the dispute cannot be resolved by then, the Surrogate’s Court must resolve the dispute within one (1) year of the death so that the Speaker can redistribute the estate, if necessary at the One Year Feast.

# Back to School 2020-2021

By Sharon Patterson

With the new parameters and challenges we face in schooling our children; the Training and Employment Resource Center (TERC), Cattaraugus office is offering help to students age 14 and older who may need internet or a structured setting to guide your child through this school year. Transition students enrolled in our program will be given priority. If you have a special request, please feel free to contact us.

- T.E.R.C. has six (6) desk room spaces with computer and Internet. If your student is interested in using our facility we ask that you;
- **Call 532-1033 to reserve your spot.**
  - **Six time slots for 4pm-5:30pm**
  - **Six timeslots for 5:30pm-7pm**
  - **A total of 12 students per day.**

We are not tutors, but we will do our best to help you succeed. If we find there is not a need for this service we will suspend this service. You must wear a mask, take a temperature reading before entering, answer health screening questions, wash your hands and respect the space you are in. Any disruption to other students trying to study will not be tolerated, you will be asked to leave and privileges will be revoked. Please do not come if you are sick or a family member is sick. We must protect each other from spreading the virus.

### Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare’s Open Enrollment is **October 15 – December 7, 2020**. Medicare allows health and drug plans to make changes regarding their cost and coverage and allows for those plans to update their networks of providers and pharmacies.

During Open Enrollment, Medicare beneficiaries can change their Medicare health plans and prescription drug coverage for the following year to better meet their needs. Any applicable changes will have an effective date of January 1, 2021.

#### What You Can Do

- Change from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan
- Change from a Medicare Advantage Plan back to Original Medicare
- Switch from one Medicare Advantage Plan to another Medicare Advantage Plan
- Switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan that doesn’t offer drug coverage to a Medicare Advantage Plan that offers drug coverage
- Switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan that offers drug coverage to a Medicare Advantage Plan that doesn’t offer drug coverage
- Join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan
- Switch from one Medicare Prescription Drug Plan to another Medicare Prescription Drug Plan
- Drop your Medicare prescription drug coverage completely

Individuals enrolled in a health or prescription drug plan should review materials their plan sends such as the ‘Evidence of Coverage’ (EOC) and ‘Annual Notice of Change’ (ANOC). If the individual believes their current plan will still be offered and will meet their needs for the upcoming year they don’t need to change their health or prescription plan.

For further information and assistance regarding your Medicare coverage, please contact Gail Kennedy, Seneca Nation AOA HIICAP Counselor at 716-945-8991.

Career Readiness Workshops

Unemployed?

Cattaraugus TERC

WE CAN HELP!

Need a job?

Job Search  
Job Applications  
References

Tues. Oct 6 @ 10-11 am  
Wed. Oct 7 @ 5-6pm  
Thurs. Oct 8 @ 1-2pm

How to  
Build a  
Resume

Tues. Oct 13 @ 10-11am  
Wed. Oct 14 @ 5-6pm  
Thurs. Oct 15 @ 1-2pm

Interview Skills  
& What to Wear

Tues. Oct 20 @ 10-11am  
Wed. Oct 21 @ 5-6pm  
Thurs. Oct 22 @ 1-2pm

Budgeting

Tues. Oct 27 @ 10-11am  
Wed. Oct 28 @ 5-6pm  
Thurs. Oct 29 @ 1-2pm

Please call 716-532-1033 to reserve a space!

In an effort to maintain health and safety, masks will be required, temperature scans will be performed when entering the building, a limit of 5 students per time slot to maintain social distancing

Sponsored by :

Seneca Nation Training & Employment Resource Center

Made with PosterMyWall.com





## Community Service Announcement

Do you have Covid-19 questions or need information?  
**SENECA NATION COVID HOTLINE (716) 945-8153 EMAIL: SNINFO@SNI.ORG**

### Video chat Seneca Language Lessons via Skype (Allegany)

*Submitted by Ja:no's Bowen*

*Novice Low/Very Beginner Conversational Seneca class via Google Classroom:*

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MzA1OTExMzA3NjFa?cjc=bxtd7n6>

This is an intro level course, and you can complete the work at your own pace.  
In order to attend, click on the Google Classroom link listed above.

Ja:no's Bowen, the instructor will post video lessons and assignments weekly.  
The class just began in this format, so videos will be posted weekly starting on Monday, August 24, 2020.

You will need a computer, smart phone, or tablet with an activated microphone, and Internet service.

You will need the following materials to assist you with your work:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DvvskyOuEDd1TTCJNQzL4xsQelX-uoUVINj9f7L7A8Cw/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any questions, please contact: [janos.bowen@sni.org](mailto:janos.bowen@sni.org)

*Novice Mid – High Level Conversational Seneca class*

Wednesdays at 10 AM via Skype.  
Study is mandatory!

This class requires completion of the course materials covered in the Novice Low/Very Beginner Conversational Seneca Class on Mondays (or the equivalent).  
You must take a small speaking assessment to participate in this class.

For more information, contact Ja:no's Bowen @ [janosjaninebowen](mailto:janosjaninebowen) via Skype.

### Calling All Seneca Artists and Students of Art

Want to start a business to sell your art?  
Want to take your current art business to the next level?

***Join renowned Seneca artist and instructor Carson Waterman for a FREE workshop series!***

- Learn how to:
- Promote your work to a larger audience
  - Secure funding for art projects
  - Search for and complete Requests for Proposals
  - Take advantage of tax exemptions for Native artists

Workshops are open to all Seneca artists, artisans or students or art: painters, illustrators, sculptors, potters, carvers, basket makers ~ whatever your field is, you're welcome to attend!



Whether you're an established artist or just getting started, this workshop series is for you!

Sessions will be online, so you can participate from the comfort and safety of your home

**Workshops will start the week of September 28th**  
**For more information or to sign up, call 716-951-7555**

### TERC Professional Closet

*By Sharon Patterson*

If you are in need of clothes for your new job or an interview, please stop by and visit our Professional Closet.

***We have ladies suit sizes from Small to 18W. We have many dress shirts and flannels for men. Dress slacks for men sizes 32 waist to 50 waist. Whether you work on a construction site or in an office, we have something for you.***

***Call before you stop in: 532-1033***



### NEXT DEADLINE REMINDER:

**September 15th to be dated for September 25th**

**Moving?**  
**Don't forget to let us know @ [sninews.org](http://sninews.org), [sninews@sni.org](mailto:sninews@sni.org), or call us at 945-1790.**



# T.E.R.C. holds HSED graduation

By Sarah Pangborn



On August 19th, 2020, the Training and Employment Resource Center (TERC) held their annual HSED (High School Equivalency) graduation at the CCC gymnasium for the graduates of 2020.

This year we had 13 graduates on both territories. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our graduation was not one of our typical graduation celebrations but our department did the best we could considering the circumstances for our graduates and their families.

At 5:30pm the graduation ceremony began with the graduates walking down the aisle to the ceremonial “Pomp and Circumstance” also known as the Graduation March which is placed as the processional tune at virtually all high school ceremonies. The ganö:nyök was recited by Marcus Waterman. Thank you Marcus and to all the speakers who gave motivational messages to our graduates. Tim Waterman, Allegany Councilor spoke to the graduates on behalf of President Armstrong. Eliot Jimerson, Deputy Chief of Staff spoke on behalf of Treasurer Pagels and Presley Redeye, Cattaraugus Councilor, on behalf of the Councilors.

The graduates received a certificate of completion from our HSED program as they received their actual diploma in the mail

from the New York State Education Department. The graduates received gift bags from the Executive offices and Training & Employment Resource Center. A to-go dinner from Chiavetta’s was provided to the graduates and their families.



A big thank you to Brad John, CCC Director and his employees for assisting us with this event. Congratulations to all our graduates who worked so hard to achieve their goal. Cattaraugus Territory- Cole Capolla, Taylor Isaac, Joseph LaForme, Nathaniel LaForme, Maxin Lindgren, Andrew Maybee D’Marcus Tallchief, Michelle Thompson, Sarah Weaver, Gabriel White , Jeremiah Whitepigeon. Allegany Territory- Logan Dowdy, Victoria St. Germaine.



# THE SENECA NATION

*has partnered with*

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**MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW SOON!**

SENECA CLUBHOUSE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Getting to know Each other Introductions Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY No Hangout Today!	8	9 Effective Communication Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	10	11 Guest Speaker Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	12
13	14 Guided Meditation Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	15 Virtual Bingo Night 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	16 American Indian Life skills Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	17	18 Oqwe'oweh Day No Speaker	19
20	21 What is an STI? Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	22	23 American Indian Life Skills Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	24	25 Guest Speaker Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	26
27	28 Yoga Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	29 Movie Night Arrive at 7:00 p.m. Movie at dusk	30 American Indian Life Skills Virtual Hangout 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Native Connections and Clubhouse events are for youth ages 12-17 and some are open to their families as well. If you have an idea for a virtual event, have a question, or would like to register, please contact Jennifer Stebbins.		
Jennifer Stebbins 716.532.5583 ext. 5433 JStebbins@senecahealth.org *Virtual events are hosted on LifeSize. You will receive login info when you register!			NATIVE connections		SENECA NATION HEALTH SYSTEM	





# Faithkeepers uses grant award to fund upgrades

By Sandy Dowdy, CEO

The Robert Woods Johnson Foundation is a Health, Culture, Community grant agency that provides funding through grants to organizations that have a vested interest in their communities. The Seneca Nation applied for this grant and received it. A video was produced to show the communities involvement in building and sustaining a healthy community environment. The Faithkeeper Montessori Language Nest was honored to have the school included in the message of caring for the earth and importance. Once the Nation was awarded, programs were asked to submit a proposal on how they would use the funding prize (grant money). Faithkeeper



community and their continued support. The school is in its 20th year of providing education, Seneca language and culture so it will be carried to the future.

The Faithkeeper Montessori Language Nest is in the process of adding another classroom age group of 6-9 year olds to be housed in the FKS Annex. Follow the website ([https://](https://faithkeepermontessori.com/)

[faithkeepermontessori.com/](https://www.facebook.com/Faithkeeper-Language-Nest-380140058736003)) and facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Faithkeeper-Language-Nest-380140058736003>) for updates.

Fundraising will continue to in an effort to expand classrooms.



Every Sunday, the school hosts a breakfast in the annex building with social distancing practices in place, please wear a mask and maintain six feet apart. Cost is donation of

your choice.

Nearly New Boutique, a second hand store in Salamanca, is another fundraising avenue for the school. Gently used are items accepted to resell at a low cost. All funds benefit the students directly. Please consider donating your used items. Nearly New is open on Friday's and Saturday's with corn soup for sale as well.

The many partnerships within the communities and avid supporters who are always ready, willing and able to help is much appreciated.



Funding has been used for various improvements on campus, it allowed for the upgrade of a hoop house for the chicken egg project (eggs are used for the FKS Fundraising Breakfast served every Sunday). Improvements and upgrades to the greenhouse have been for the anticipation of winter crops. There is a cooling system and an irrigation system using natural water from the rain. Many improvements were made for the benefit of the

farm animals on property, they play a vital role in the education of the students.

The most recent update was the construction of a large pole barn to house a school bus, a tractor, and outdoor play equipment. Construction Manager, Dakota John, had volunteers and workers whom are alumni as well as community members, parents, and grandparents of students at the school. We are thankful for the





# ECLC flag raising ceremony

Seneca Media

The Early Childhood Learning Center (Cattaraugus) staff raised the Seneca Nation Flag on their newly installed flag pole. August 26th, 2020.



# Cattaraugus Advocate Program drive-thru produce distribution

The Cattaraugus Advocate Program held their final drive-thru produce distribution on August 27th outside of their office. Approximately 300 households received a box with 22 pounds of fresh produce including a school lunch bag for children. Free hot dogs were also given to all who came. It was a successful conclusion to a program that made sure community members have access to healthy foods. Nya:wëh!





HONORING OUR PAST



PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

## Remember The Removal 2020

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

Please share your day with us and use [#RTR2020](#) when posting so we may all share this day together but safely. The committee encourages all to reflect on what this day means to you, your family, and the next seven generations. You may share memories and old photos of the pre-Kinzua era and past RTR events to this page throughout the month leading up to the day of remembrance.

On September 26, 2020, the RTR Committee will host a drive-thru giveaway with t-shirts and a backpack of promo items starting at 9am while supplies last at the Steamburg Community Center and the Onöhsagwë:de' Cultural Center.

If you like to volunteer to hand out giveaways, please call Barbara Lynn Hill (716-945-1790 ext. 3921) or Gina Larvie (716-945-1790 ext. 3170) to sign up.

**Date: Saturday September 26th, 2020 9am while supplies last**

**Where: Steamburg Community Center and Seneca Iroquois National Museum**



## ADVISORY

### Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB)

Blue-green algae (BGA) sampling conducted on 9/1/2020 yielded BGA cell counts greater than 20,000 cells/mL at Friend's Boat Launch (99,772 cells/mL), Moe Banks (36,650 cells/mL), & Onoville Marina (72,920 cells/mL)! Dominant bluegreen algae species were *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae*, *Anabaena circinalis*, & *Anabaena planctonica*.  
**A Harmful Algal Bloom is present!**

Keep kids and pets away from areas with discolored water, films, or scum. HABs can be hazardous to one's health, BGA can release toxins and other harmful compounds that affect people through skin exposure or ingestion. If contact occurs, rinse thoroughly with clean water.



When BGA cell counts are over 20,000 cells/mL but less than 100,000 cells/mL, this is a HAB **ADVISORY** level. Risk is generally limited to dermal reactions typically impacting sensitive populations. If symptoms occur, contact a medical provider.



HABs can look like streaks, spilled paint, pea soup, floating clumps or dots.



For any questions, feel free to contact the Seneca Nation: [Environmental Protection Department](#) at (716)945-1790  
[Fish & Wildlife](#) at (716)945-2779  
[Environmental Health Unit](#) at (716)945-5894



# Strength of The Wolf: How Zed Williams Brought Joy To His Family

By Nelson Rice | Tuesday, September 1, 2020 | Pro | Reprinted from uslaxmagazine.com



*“This one’s for my dad,” Zed Williams said, still holding his stick in a postgame interview.*

*This article appears in the upcoming September/October edition of **US Lacrosse Magazine**.*

Tucked behind the stage inside the University of Virginia’s 520-seat Culbreth Theatre, Zed Williams worked his magic. Tasked with “running the fly” — the rigging system that moves scenery, curtains, lights and stage effects — for a 2016 fall production of Shakespeare’s “The Comedy of Errors,” Williams made none.

He displayed the traits that fans at Klockner Stadium became accustomed to during the previous three springs when they watched the prized recruit out of Silver Creek High School (N.Y.) operate on the lacrosse field. Williams was calm and collected. He had a keen eye for details and quick reflexes.

“We’re always really careful to get a student we trust. If we can’t get a student we trust, we hire a crew person to do the fly operation,” said Caitlin McLeod, associate professor of stage management and production in UVA’s drama department. “There’s just no room for error.”

“Zed has the perfect personality to be in charge of a huge piece of equipment that could hurt people. He did a really wonderful job backstage in a way that I don’t think he even

expected.”

On Aug. 9, the drama major who preferred a behind-the-scenes role took center stage during the Premier Lacrosse League Championship Series’ final act. With the Whipsnakes trailing the Chaos 6-3 entering the fourth quarter, Williams delivered the most memorable performance of the two-week fully quarantined and fanless tournament. The righty attackman with a powerful shot and inside roll dodge, who led the league in goals, scored five of his PLL single-game record six goals in the final frame. He poured in four in less than two minutes. He scored so fast that Twitter almost couldn’t keep up. He started trending. The Whipsnakes won 12-6 and

25, tried to make an assist. He turned to his right and attempted to pass the glass trophy to Whipsnakes goalie Kyle Bernlohr, who stopped 73 percent of the shots he saw with 16 saves in the final and who Williams believed deserved the hardware.

“No, Zed,” midfielder Jake Bernhardt chimed in. “You earned this.”

“For me, man, lacrosse is a team sport,” Williams said a couple days after the championship. “Individual awards I don’t think highlight the importance of what championships are about.”

Yet it was the five words Williams said on the postgame NBC broadcast that carried the

**“IN THAT MOMENT, HE TOOK US TO A BETTER PLACE. HE BROUGHT JOY TO OUR MOTHER. HE BROUGHT JOY TO THE FAMILY. IT UPLIFTED OUR SPIRITS AND, IN THAT MOMENT, IT FELT LIKE HE BROUGHT OUR DAD BACK.”**  
**— JONATHAN WILLIAMS**

capped off an undefeated series with their second consecutive title.

But on the dais after receiving the PLL MVP award, Williams,

most weight. Asked about his mindset entering the fourth quarter, he mentioned how Bernlohr stood on his head to give the Whips enough time to unleash a 10-goal barrage after

they fell behind 6-2, how he knew the defense would keep giving them possessions and how Chaos goalie Blaze Riorden stuffed him early on. Williams said he knew he had to make something happen.

He paused.

“This one’s for my dad,” he said, still holding his stick. He started to cry.

Back in Williamsville, New York, the Williams family had gathered at Zed’s house with his wife, Amanda, and their 2-year-old daughter, Dani, to watch the championship. The speech moved all of them to tears. “In that moment, he took us to a better place,” said Jonathan Williams, Zed’s oldest brother. “He brought joy to our mother. He brought joy to the family. It uplifted our spirits and, in that moment, it felt like he brought our dad back.”

When Williams emerged midway through the first quarter of Virginia’s game against North Carolina on April 9, 2017, the cheers were the loudest that senior attackman Joe French had ever heard at Klockner Stadium. A week earlier, French had traveled by private plane to the Cattaraugus Reservation outside of Buffalo with teammate Jeff Kratky, current Cavaliers coach Lars Tiffany and former coach Dom Starsia to check on Williams and attend the wake for his father, Daniel, who died from complications with diabetes.

French can still remember Daniel Williams’ smile after the Cavaliers’ win at Klockner over Loyola during Zed’s freshman year. He never missed a game. There was an understanding among UVA players that if you didn’t need the two or three tickets allotted by the university, you set them aside for the Williamses. Zed is the second youngest of five brothers (Jon,



JoJo, Zach, “Cornbread” and Sherman). He also has two older sisters, Samantha and Mary.

“He basically did whatever he had to do Monday through Friday, so he could see his family on Saturday,” French said. “He was playing for them.”

Williams, a citizen of the Seneca Nation, returned at the last minute for the game against UNC. Within a couple minutes of taking the field, he wowed the crowd and a national ESPNU audience with a surprise bounce-pass assist to Mike D’Amario. The Cavaliers still lost 15-12.

“It didn’t really matter,” French said of the outcome. “Zed was playing for his dad. It was about so much more than lacrosse. That’s the thing nobody understands.”

After the PLL championship game, stories popped up on Twitter of Williams’ genuine and kind demeanor almost as quickly as his shots found the back of the net. “Zed is great at lacrosse,” Whipsnakes midfielder Tyler Warner tweeted after the game. “He’s also the best human being you’ll ever meet (no exaggeration).”

That’s the Zed, who isn’t on social media, his family has always known. He’s an anomaly. The high school national record holder for career points (729) who’d rather not talk about himself. The softest spoken guy in the room who people can’t stop talking about.

“Zeddy is probably the most humble, caring, supportive, loving guy you will ever meet in your whole life,” Jonathan Williams said.

“He showed what we all are as a family,” Samantha Williams said. “He wants that platform for all of us, and that’s who he is.”

On nights before games at Virginia, Williams would play trashcan hockey with his little cousins until almost midnight. When Chase Scanlan was in the

seventh grade at Silver Creek, he wanted nothing more than to play with his cousin “Zeddy” on the varsity team. The Black Knights didn’t have a goalie, so Scanlan stepped in between the pipes and tried to stop the “lasers” Williams hurled his way.

Even more than those shots or Williams’s inside roll dodge that Scanlan calls “unstoppable,” he remembers the encouragement his cousin provided back then and still does today now that Scanlan is a two-time All-American attackman at Syracuse. He recalls how Williams used to pick up other people’s trash after games and how for a senior art project at UVA he painted a portrait of Batman overlooking Gotham that calls to mind Van Gogh’s “Starry Night.” The picture was in honor of Gage Martin Seneca, one of Scanlan’s younger cousins, who loved the Caped Crusader and died of child abuse from his mother’s boyfriend at the age of 3. Last fall, Williams gave the painting to Scanlan. It now hangs on his dorm room wall at Syracuse next to his Iroquois Nationals jersey.

“Zed would do anything for his family,” Scanlan said.

Whenever Starsia calls, Williams always first asks about Maggie and Emma, Starsia’s

35-year-old identical twin daughters who have special needs. Williams invited Starsia, his wife, Laurie, and Maggie and Emma to his wedding a couple months after his father’s death. Starsia tended the bar. Former Virginia teammates came from as far away as Australia to celebrate the occasion — held inside a refurbished barn at Amanda’s uncle’s house. The Williams brothers built the altar. The night before, French convinced Williams to let him throw him a bachelor party. Williams got to pick the location — Dave & Buster’s. Williams was so good at the racing games, French remembered, he won about 30,000 tickets.

The next March, Dani was born. Amanda worked full time at the United States District Court in Buffalo, so Williams quit his security job at a Buffalo casino to become a stay-at-home dad. “I wanted to provide this little girl with everything I could,” he said.

If Williams was going to be a professional lacrosse player, he was going to do it to the best of his ability. He became obsessed with the weight room and vowed to take care of all the details. The attention he used to dedicate to his studies at UVA he now focused on being a father and grokking the moves of Lyle Thompson, Rob Pannell

and Matt Rambo. Williams noticed defenders were getting bigger and stronger, so he put on 20 pounds of muscle. “You have to constantly evolve and keep getting better, or eventually people catch up to you or your talent catches up with you,” he said.

Even when Catalyst Fitness in Buffalo closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, Williams made due with an old bench he got from his mom, Wendy, and a couple weights he set up in his backyard. Scanlan now compares his cousin’s physique to an NFL safety.

“It’s amazing what he’s turned his body into now.” Jonathan Williams said. “Zedzilla. But if you look at the weights in his backyard you wonder, ‘How the heck did you do that?’”

“Anything he played, he always had the passion to win,” Wendy Williams said. “After his father passed, I think it just became a little stronger.”

The PLL lists Williams at 6-foot-2, 230 pounds. When Williams does his leg workouts, he thinks about his father’s struggles and how he had both legs amputated because of his condition. He adds more weight or does one rep. (Continued on page 14)

BREAKING NEWS! SEPTEMBER 7TH:

THE IROQUOIS NATIONALS  
HAVE OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED AN  
INVITATION FROM THE  
WORLD GAMES TO  
COMPETE IN THE 2022  
COMPETITION!





Williams adopts the same mentality when he plays. Lacrosse is more than a game. It’s a way to honor those who are not here anymore, like his father and former Six Nations Rebels Junior B teammate Carney Johnson, who committed suicide in 2012.

Williams, who now works as a liaison and mentor for Native American students at Silver Creek, has tattoos on his forearms and wears wristbands with their initials. “He wears his heart on his sleeve quite literally,” French said. “You’ll never be in doubt what matters most to Zed.”

Williams kisses the bands and his stick before every game.

“I know they are watching and my family is watching,” Williams said. “Their happiness is my happiness. That’s what drives me — to bring out their smiles. That’s what the game of lacrosse does.

“That's why I play.”

After Whipsnakes head coach Jim Stagnitta got doused in orange Gatorade by faceoff specialist Joe Nardella and backup goalie Jacob Stover, he received another surprise. On the jumbotron at Zions Bank Stadium in Herriman, Utah, his daughter, Ali, son, Matt, and wife, Laurie, congratulated him from back home in Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. Stagnitta reunited with them the next evening for the first time in three weeks, but before that he was looking forward to spending a little more time with his “guys.”

“This is like family,” he said of the Whipsnakes.

That word gets thrown around almost as much as “culture” these days when we talk about successful organizations. But the Whipsnakes place a premium on it. When captains John Haus, Michael Ehrhardt and Jake Bernhardt discussed personnel decisions with the coaching staff this offseason, their criteria always came back

to the same question: “Who is going to fit in best with the group?”

“The Maryland kids are like a pack of wolves,” John Tillman said. “Where you see one, you see a lot of them. And they’re always with the pack.”

After the various quarantines were complete, it wasn’t unusual to find 15 Whipsnakes congregating in a couple rooms on the second floor of the SpringHill Suites by Marriott Salt Lake City. Many kept their doors open. The experience felt like college without classes. Several spent their downtime playing “Catan,” others opted for card games, and some just talked. Rambo and Williams, both high school running backs, dueled in “Madden” into the early-morning hours.

“He was just a pleasure to hang out with,” Williams said of the 2019 MVP.

Selected fifth in the PLL entry draft a year after tallying 48 points at midfield for the MLL’s Boston Cannons, Williams’ acceptance into the group of 13 Maryland alums on the Whipsnakes’ 22-man roster almost seemed preordained. A member of the Wolf Clan through his mother’s lineage, Williams and his brothers earned the nickname “Wolf Pack” because they always traveled together.

On Zed’s right forearm, those words are written in black ink. “He is a phenomenal person,” said Haus, a PLL Midfielder of the Year finalist. “That is what made him fit in the most. He is just a down-to-earth, good person. That’s what we look for in our teammates.”

Still, Williams never changed who he was to fit in. On Friday nights when the Virginia lacrosse team used to gather at the sports bar Boylan Heights in Charlottesville, Williams always ordered the same milkshake and burger. “You think of how people use drinking as a social lubricant,” French said. “This guy has such a natural energy

that draws people in, he didn’t need that.”

On the field in Utah, Williams’ dodging ability and scoring range took some of the pressure off Rambo, who led the league in points despite taking only one shot in the championship game (he scored). To some extent, Williams’ performance was a relief to the Whipsnakes defense that led the league in goals against average. He made countless plays in training camp that strained the imagination. “Do we all stink now or is Zed just this good?” wondered Matt Dunn, the PLL Defensive Player of the Year. Though Dunn knew how good Williams was from playing with him on the Georgia Swarm in the NLL, he felt he reached a different level during the Championship Series.

While Williams averaged more than a hat trick per game, that never came at the expense of the offense’s flow. “He wasn’t trying to do too much,” Whipsnakes assistant coach Brian Grady said. “He quietly goes about his business. I don't know that I’ve come across someone who can have such an impact on the game, yet be so humble and want to be a part of the group’s success without standing out.”

Before each game, Williams took a stand by taking a knee during the national anthem. It was the first time he had ever done so, a reflection of the social justice movement that has swept the nation and absorbed professional sports. “I don't have social media or anything like that, but I am going to stand up for what I believe and I am going to do my part in this,” Williams said. “Kneeling is what I felt is right.”

“He is incredibly soft spoken, but strongly opinionated,” said McLeod, the stage management professor. During a senior independent study course, she even asked Williams to present an opinion each day as a means to help express himself. If the opinions were written on a page, McLeod remembered, you could almost hear someone shouting them from a pulpit.

In recent months, the conversation and attention of the lacrosse world has turned to the exclusion of the Iroquois Nationals from The World Games, an event set to be held in Birmingham, Ala., in 2022.

Although the Haudenosaunee Confederacy did not initially meet the eligibility criteria set forth by the Olympic charter and adopted by the International World Games Association, the IWGA approved World Lacrosse’s request to allow the originators of the sport to participate on the global stage — a victory for the international lacrosse community in light of an online petition that had more than 50,000 signatures. “This will require further agreement from other organizations involved in international sport,” a joint statement said.

“Everyone knows where the lacrosse game originated from,” said Williams, who scored five goals for the Iroquois Nationals in the World Indoor Lacrosse Championship final last fall against Canada. “There’s a lot of history there between America and Canada with the indigenous people, but to say the Haudenosaunee, the Iroquois people, are not their own nation is just not right. To deny them the right to play in The World Games is simply not right.”

On the second weekend of play in Utah, the PLL dedicated the remaining games to the Indigenous peoples of North America. Many players wore LaxStraps with the Iroquois flag, unmistakable for its vibrant purple color and its representation of the Hiawatha wampum belt. A moment of silence was held before the Redwoods-Atlas group play game. Atlas midfielder Jeremy Thompson, a citizen of the Onondaga Nation, led a Land Acknowledgement during halftime.

In light of these events, Williams’ former coach said he isn’t trying to be too dramatic when he describes the significance of Williams’



ZED WILLIAMS

MVP performance during the Championship Series.

“At this moment in history, with the Iroquois currently being excluded from The World Games and the way people rose up in opposition to that, it almost feels like the Creator has reached down and touched Zed,” Starsia said. “It’s the best thing that could have happened to our game.”

After the Whipsnakes cut down the nets and sang “We Are the Champions” in a spare locker room draped in plastic wrap, the players went around in a circle and talked about what the past three weeks meant to them. Williams expressed thanks for the Whipsnakes accepting him into the “room,” helping him win his first field lacrosse championship and told them he was a product of his environment.

Williams later excused himself from the celebration as Drake’s “Back To Back” blared from the speakers. He found a quiet space in a hallway and Facetimed Amanda.

After greeting everyone and commenting on Dani’s hair, he then told his entire family what his tears stopped him from saying on the field.

**“We finally did it.”**

Source: [https://www.uslax-magazine.com/pro/pll/strength-of-the-wolf-how-zed-williams-brought-joy-to-his-family?fbclid=IwAR2ZJEkW8cgEhY-BoSXOBKSB1be\\_l2LGqVqYqYyow-op46hImlOowovgwbDzM](https://www.uslax-magazine.com/pro/pll/strength-of-the-wolf-how-zed-williams-brought-joy-to-his-family?fbclid=IwAR2ZJEkW8cgEhY-BoSXOBKSB1be_l2LGqVqYqYyow-op46hImlOowovgwbDzM)

Daemen lands another All-WNY talent in Justin Hemphill

By Miguel Rodriguez | August 27, 2020 | Reprinted from buffalonews.com

Another All-Western New York boys’ basketball selection is taking his talents to Main Street, and Daemen College coach Mike MacDonald couldn’t be happier.

That’s because in signing 2019 All-WNY first-team pick and former Cardinal O’Hara star Justin Hemphill, the Wildcats get an athletic and versatile 6-foot-5 forward who can handle the rock, guard all positions and is strong enough to battle in the post for points and rebounds.

“We recruited him hard,” MacDonald said of Thursday night. “I really loved the way he passes the ball. He has great skills for a guy his size. He has a nose for the ball. ... He’s unselfish. He’s a winner. He helped bring Cardinal O’Hara back on top.”

Hemphill graduated from O’Hara as the

program’s career leader in points (1,676) and rebounds (1,138). During his senior year, Hemphill averaged 15.6 points, 10.4 rebounds and 5.4 assists per game in helping the Hawks set a program record for wins in a season (26).

Moreover, the four-year starter helped O’Hara capture its first Manhattan Cup Class B championship and their first state Catholic title since 1994. A loaded Hawks crew lost a heartbreaker to Glens Falls in the Federation Tournament of Champions Class B final before a mostly pro Glens Falls crowd in Cool Insuring Arena in the host-school’s city. Hemphill posted 26 points and 18 rebounds in that 88-79 defeat – a game in which O’Hara fell behind 18-3 but rallied to pull within 77-74 with 2 minutes left before running out of steam.

the game very well as people have begun to see in the last couple years. I just liked how this program has been going up in the right direction lately I didn’t want to miss the opportunity of being a part of something great and I hope that I can come in and contribute right away to that.”

Daemen finished last season ranked No. 8 in the country and has spent 29 weeks the past two seasons ranked in at least one of the two Division II polls.

“It’s a good spot for him,” O’Hara coach Tony Pulvirenti said. “They’re one of the top Division II programs in the country.”

The addition of Hemphill means Daemen has signed three All-WNY talents as part of its incoming recruiting class. Earlier this month, 2018 first team All-WNY selection Juston Johnson (West Seneca West) signed with the Wildcats. State Class C Player of the Year and second-team All-WNY pick Tyler Hind of Randolph, the section’s all-time leader in three-point field goals, also signed with the college.

They join a program that features returning All-American center Andrew Sischo along with past All-WNY selections Ryan Bradley (Canisius) and Trevor Book (North Tonawanda).

“They can be all good,” MacDonald said of Hemphill, Johnson and Hind. “Playing at the college level is competitive. All these guys have helped raise the profiles of their high schools. Now they’re going to help us raise our profile.”



Justin Hemphill, a 6-foot-5 forward for Cardinal O'Hara, will play for Daemen College.  
Photo By Derek Gee/Buffalo News

Hemphill played a prep season last year at St. Thomas More. He had multiple Division II offers but had very good reasons for choosing Daemen. The biggest: Daemen was one of the first to express interest and never relented.

“I liked how coach MacDonald and Daemen stuck with me throughout the whole recruiting process,” said Hemphill, whose older sister Summer plays at nearby University at Buffalo. “I chose Daemen because I feel like we can do great things down the road. I have a lot of faith in coach MacDonald. He knows



Ja:goh Daryn Smith!

Reprinted from San Diego Whalers Box Lacrosse Facebook Page

Daryn Smith, #26 San Diego Whalers Box Lacrosse team is a California Champions! A great comeback from a 14-3 deficit. Daryn (Seneca) is standing 2nd row, far to the right end of the photo. Ja:goh Daryn!



Remember When?

Snowsnake Championships, 1970's

Submitted by Charlie Redeye

Pictured: Indian Hill 1970s Champs! L to R: GrandDad Stafford, Edmund White, Emery Williams, Red Bone White, Wes Jackson.

*"Let us show yah how to throw!"*



COMMUNITY NEWS

K Art Gallery Bringing Contemporary Native American Art From Across The Country To Buffalo, New York

By Chadd Scott | Reprinted from forbes.com

**Editors note: “Who thinks 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic which has devastated the cultural sector, would be a good time to open a new art gallery?”**

**Who thinks focusing the efforts of that gallery solely on one of the most marginalized communities in American society and the art marketplace, contemporary Native American, would be a good idea?**

**Who thinks doing all of this in Buffalo, New York makes sense?**

**Dave Kimelberg does.**

**Kimelberg, a Seneca Nation of Indians (Bear Clan) member, is the owner and founder of K Art, one of**

**the only Native-owned art galleries in the United States and one among a small number exclusively showcasing the work of Native contemporary artists.”**

**Be sure to check out the full article below. Ja:goh Dave!**

“There are a number of fantastic contemporary Native artists and their work just isn't being seen for a variety of reasons, so that's what behind this,” Kimelberg told Forbes.com. “I think now it's actually an optimal time (to open) and I think there's a real focus on diversity, inclusion, marginalized groups that haven't really been heard, or had real voices, to date.”

But what about the pandemic?

“It certainly doesn't help,” Kimelberg admits. “We were

already full stride when Coronavirus hit so I didn't want to put the brakes on (opening the gallery) because this was important to me and it's a real passion.”

Kimelberg doesn’t have an arts background. He was

the founding chief executive officer of Seneca Holdings, the economic development arm of the Seneca Nation, which he led from a concept to a multi-national corporate and investment enterprise. He is also the founding partner of the only Native-owned law firm



Peter Jemison, 'Crystalline,' 2004. Mixed media on handmade paper. 21 1/2" X 31 1/2." Jemison will be featured in K Art's debut exhibit. Photographer: Kevin Vickers





*Peter Jemison, 'Turtle Island,' 2008, acrylic and handmade papers with mixed media, mounted on canvas. 24” H X 31” W.  
Jemison will be featured in K Art's debut exhibition  
Photographer: David Mitchell*

focused on venture capital and high-technology start-ups. Handling curation of the artists and their work will be Brooke Leboeuf who previously managed two privately-held collections and worked as a project coordinator at Buffalo’s prestigious Albright-Knox Gallery.

K Art will be bucking tradition in almost every aspect of its operation.

“When people think of native art, they think of ‘traditional’ native art—turquoise, silver—and not that there's anything wrong with that, but there's so much more,” Kimelberg says of the work which will be displayed beginning with the gallery’s debut exhibit December 4.

That show will feature a lineup of artists including Lewis

deSoto, Duane Slick, Luzene Hill, Peter Jemison and Meryl McMaster. Their creations are as cutting edge as anything you’d find in Chelsea or Los Angeles.

In addition to the gallery’s contemporary focus, its inclusion of Native artists from around the nation contrasts what’s typically featured in this niche of the market.

“A lot of people when they think of Native groups, Native communities, Native art, they think of the Western tribes, the big headdress, a lot of the stuff at Santa Fe, which is great, it's all great, but there's such a diversity,” Kimelberg said. “You look at the eastern tribes and it's very different.”

Native art and Western art have often been conjoined

by museums, collectors and auctions. When thinking about Native art, makers from the western nations—Navajo, Crow, Zuni, etc.—too often exclusively come to mind. Hopi Kachinas. Maria Martinez (San Ildefonso Pueblo) pottery. Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes) paintings.

“When you think of Native art, whether more traditional or contemporary to some extent, that's sort of what people associate with, so people gravitate towards that and people promote that,” Kimelberg said. “There are a ton of fantastic nationally, internationally known contemporary Native artists from the eastern, midwestern tribes, but those tribes and that work doesn't fit that model, so we're looking to try and change that.”

This has been a remarkable year of change for Native people. Washington’s NFL team no longer uses a derogatory slur as its nickname. A landmark United States Supreme Court ruling reaffirmed tribal sovereignty in Oklahoma that the state had been fighting for a century.

Despite these victories, Native people continue to largely be on the outside looking in at American society.

“Native communities have always been extremely marginalized, it's a function of history—you have reservations, there was always the move to assimilation and stamp out the

culture,” Kimelberg said. “This has been an extraordinary year, do I think because of this Native people, Native groups, have a real voice? No.”

Which makes Kimelberg and K Art’s mission and the mission of everyone promoting Native artwork and artists all the more important. The goal is not simply to promote art, it is to promote the entire culture, the people, their continued existence, to remind people the story of America’s Indigenous people is not closed, it continues to be written across the nation.

“People don't understand how there are a large number of Native people still, upwards of 565 recognized tribes/native nations and territories and when you tell people like that, it's a big surprise,” Kimelberg said. “There's still a lot of work to do to get the message, get the story, get those voices out.”

K Art will be located in Kimelberg’s K Haus development, a design, art and tech-centric space in Buffalo’s Allentown historic district, remarkable for its lively community of artists, lifestyle venues, parks and proximity to art galleries and inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/chaddscott/2020/08/27/k-art-gallery-bringing-contemporary-native-american-art-from-across-the-country-to-buffalo-new-york/?fbclid=IwAR3QLQN1phK9Y-i4dkQJxNKtAzKoHhHao7v95wBtx-s78gkLPIWDpyEXrBo9Q#-3228ca866e16>

# From the family of Charla Bach

Submitted by Melissa Bach



We would like to thank everyone for your thoughts, prayers and acts of kindness during the loss of our mom. Charla, our mom, was full of spirit. Her legacy will be carried on by many whom learned from her. It is truly remarkable to see her work throughout the community, especially her feathers that adorn so many vehicles. Nya:wëh to all of the those whom kept her busy with beading and sewing over the years. She was proud to complete every piece that she did. Our mom was special, as they all are, but the next time you see a feather hanging, or look at your piece of work she did, remember Charla and know that “Chuck” is okay! She is most likely way too busy with all of her other friends now to do anymore beadwork!

Nya:wëh,  
The family of Charla Bach





# News From The Four Corners United Methodist Church

Rte. 438 and Versailles Plank Road, Cattaraugus Territory | Pastor – Rev. David Rood | 941-5703, dgrood62@yahoo.com

Submitted by Marilyn Anderson

We experienced one of the hottest summers in recent history and now we are getting ready for fall! Harvests are plenty and we begin to get ready for the upcoming winter. Kids are going back to school and experiencing on-line learning and physical distancing. Our world has definitely changed and we will tell our grandchildren about the 2020 pandemic that we endured. Our ancestors told our parents about the epidemics that they experienced as well. We are here and we are strong! Even though the virus has somewhat subsided we must not let our guard down – wear masks, physical distance, and wash hands frequently.

Our world is in political, social, environmental, and spiritual chaos. In the

Bible Romans 12: 1-19 has words of wisdom to help guide us through this time. “Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment...Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good...Honor one another above yourselves... Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. ... Do not be conceited... Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody...live in peace with everyone...do not take revenge... If your enemy is hungry feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Bible study is going to resume on Wednesday, September 16 and end on October 21. We will meet at 7 p.m. in the Four Corners fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend as we will be studying about “what we believe”.

The Four Corners Church holds Sunday services at 9 a.m. – wearing masks and without coffee time! It is reassuring to hear the good news that our faith has for us. If you have not already reached out to your source of spiritual strength, do it now. Your life will be enriched. Feel free to contact Pastor Rood by phone or e-mail if you have any questions about the church or if you need spiritual guidance. Peace be with you.

## Living and learning on sacred lands

By Joe Stahlman | August 31, 2020 | Reprint from Special to Olean Times Herald

**Editor’s Note: This commentary, the result of a collaboration between the Olean Times Herald and interviewer Marcia Kelly, gives voice to area people with the hope of creating better understanding.**

Nya:wëh Sge:no!



I’m the director of the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum and the Onöhsagwë:de’

Culture Center on the Seneca Nation in Salamanca. In 2018 I moved to Cattaraugus County from Bloomington, Indiana. I consider it my forever home.

I have had countless pleasant encounters since we arrived. It is a great place to live. I am mixed race, meaning I am half Tuscarora Indian and Pennsylvanian Dutch, i.e. long-established, German-descendant Americans. My German ancestors arrived here in 1764. Though, “mixed-race,” I identify with being a Native

person but I do not ignore the influence of my Euro-American family. I was born in Niagara Falls but I grew up in Texas and out West. I have lived around the country and in various places around the world. At the suggestion of friends, I attended university, and now I hold four degrees in anthropology — my fourth being a PhD.

My specialty areas in anthropology are Native Americans, theory, concepts of race, human-nature interactions and the histories of anthropology and archaeology in their connection with Native American communities. A first thing taught in anthropology is that race is a social construction, an idea created by someone or a group and made real by behavioral expression of its definitions and application in society. Because of that, everything I observe I see as a socially-engineered moment by the dominant culture. Ideas of how everyone is different based on certain surface characteristics, such as hair type, eye color, lip size, skin color and so on. We attach some

cultural aspects to those traits and come up with races.

Because races are socially constructed, there are no hard rules pertaining to race. The most general rule that we rely on for race is skin color. When one encounters someone with darker skin the first thing that people generally do is think that person is “not white,” or whatever judging criteria they use, and then based on the other characteristics that one can glean from that person they would use that information to lump the individual into a category created in their minds, based on their life experience, family connections, community and mainstream culture.

Music, TV, movies, social media or books also add to individual constructions of race. So when we meet new people — based on those criteria — we lump them into a category that fits our mental model.

One of the things that I find funny as an anthropologist is that we define races individually in our minds and we all think

that we have a shared model of what the races are — when there are as many definitions of race as there are people thinking about race.

Races are social constructions and so I see a lot of hypocrisy in those definitions, even in the unofficial ones. For example, in the United States we have two opposing rules for the criteria of the racial or ethnic makeup of certain peoples who live here. The first group are what we call “Native Americans.” The U.S. had an ongoing policy in which they were trying to eliminate all Native Americans through a selective breeding out program based on a pedigree of racial purity called blood quantum. The U.S. had this process of eliminating the Native American through paperwork by minimizing the amount of Indian blood that each person possessed.

Blood quantum were constructed very early because the U.S. had a concept of Manifest Destiny and the tribes and Nations across the continent stood in their way. As



the U.S. accumulated territory, sometimes illegitimately, they needed to make sure that Native people could never claim these acquired lands. So I have some relatives who are a deep, dark brown and their ID cards will tell them that they have less Indian blood than myself, who is fairly light-skinned.

I see blood quantum as a breeding out program and a final step in a long line of acts against the aboriginal people of North America. This was policy up until the 1970s, after which tribes and nations were able to define their own terms and conditions for membership. And now, amongst the 574 federally-recognized communities in the U.S., each one has their own policy of membership criteria. For example, a Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) community will try to base membership on descendancy from the mother, whereas the Cherokee of Oklahoma base their membership on a current Cherokee’s primary ancestor who was listed on an allowed land roll in the 19th century.

My second example we will call “African Americans.” For a long time the U.S. had a policy of legal slavery. In slaveholding states everyone had a criteria based on what made up an African descendent so they could be counted as a slave. This definition was set up in a way to keep people in servitude. There was a policy of a “one drop rule,” so if you had one provable drop of black blood in your body, you could lose your rights as a citizen and become a slave.

Nowadays, because we hold onto those ideas — and we might not even know where those ideas originated — people are defined in ways that they might not identify themselves. For example, in our region we might see a person with a medium-dark complexion and curly hair, and we might define the person as “Black” or “African American,” based on our criteria, while that person might identify more closely with family and friends and not some ambiguous category that

encapsulates individuals based on certain physical traits rather than cultural or ideological affinity.

The most pressing issue in the country right now is that people see race as being a gap that prevents us from seeing the similarities between; we instead focus on base surface differences. We need to address inequities, why they exist, in ways that heal those ongoing problems. Outside of our constructions I don’t see race with much of a purpose, especially in 2020. As a Native person, I don’t see much of a difference between an “African American” and a “Euro-American.” I see Americans.

Actually, I don’t like concepts like “Native American,” “Mexican American,” “Asian American” because aren’t we all Americans? Why then do you keep relegating us as not full Americans like “white” Americans?

Most people do not go around saying “Euro-American,” “white American” or even “European American” when they see a light-skinned American; however, we do with every other shade of American. We are less than, because of those definitions. Focusing on the ideas of race keeps imaginary divides between us and creates very real problems that we can’t easily solve, maintaining rifts in our lives. Vicious circles. We need to join together as a

community more than ever. There are 574 federally recognized Tribes and Nations in the U.S. There are about 270 unrecognized communities in the U.S. In pure numbers there are about 3.5 million Americans who identify or are identified as First Peoples. We are less than 1% of the total population and about 3% of the Cattaraugus County population. Yet, we are number one in most things detrimental to human health and wellness, but no one knows because our numbers aren’t typically included in the pie charts and graphs showing off the disparities. The U.S. sees everything in Black & White and forgets that there are others who reside here as well.

Yes, Native people have lots of social, cultural and health concerns, but most of these “problems” have been coupled with the dispossession of what is now the U.S. And, it has been one issue after another — war, disease, dispossession, removal, squatting, alcohol, economic development and so on — nonstop for 400 years. Yet, we are still here. Drive 20 minutes west of Olean and you have the Seneca Nation, a sovereign Nation of 8,000 citizens within the U.S. Despite the shortlist of Native concerns, a community like the Seneca Nation is a great example of a community holding onto timeless ideas of identity and culture, enveloped by a modern-day concept like Nationhood. They have

persisted when many Native communities didn’t. Seneca Nation has emerged as leaders in the Southern Tier. They are the fifth-largest employer and they are continuously expanding without losing their ancient culture.

This is why I enjoy working for Seneca Nation. Aside from being my dream job where I get to work with great people, use my education of history and anthropology, be a steward of beautiful material objects and honor the people who made them, I’ve learned that a museum can be a form of social justice. Our museum has an opportunity everyday to change people’s minds on how they think about the past and present Native people. We do it simply by honoring Seneca and Haudenosaunee peoples, history and cultural expressions. Everyday we come together and work diligently to showcase beautiful and timeless expressions of Turtle Island’s First Peoples (Turtle Island is our view of the area of North America; Haudenosaunee stories link contemporary peoples to the First Peoples of Turtle Island) and our contributions to the one race, the human race. I believe everyone in the Southern Tier should visit the museum. The Seneca Nation are our neighbors whose current and former lands we currently live on. Their continuous and ever-changing course through life has left an indelible mark on the region. People don’t realize the influence the Seneca and the Haudenosaunee have had on American history, the U.S. and Canadian governments, anthropology, archaeology, women’s suffrage, current regional and global events — or even the amount of time they have occupied the region.

Source: [https://www.oleantimesherald.com/commentary/living-and-learning-on-sacred-lands/article\\_92e59dea-eb9f-11ea-814c-93acc52ef438.html?fbclid=IwAR3ejZVHs43MRz9gir5Vqs-lUjC4SzWCooLBqz6pEUmfeC1iYZ6SicmyOeo](https://www.oleantimesherald.com/commentary/living-and-learning-on-sacred-lands/article_92e59dea-eb9f-11ea-814c-93acc52ef438.html?fbclid=IwAR3ejZVHs43MRz9gir5Vqs-lUjC4SzWCooLBqz6pEUmfeC1iYZ6SicmyOeo)

Reminder: FKS Sunday  
Breakfasts are BACK!!  
8am-NOON, EVERY SUNDAY. Please  
follow all our safety measures...



1. Social distancing - all dining will follow six feet apart guidelines.

2. You MUST wear a mask to enter, and while away from your table.

We are keeping it delicious,  
you help keep it safe.

Please share to spread the word!



# Congratulations to Justin Schapp who will be working to ensure that all Salamanca City School District students have the resources and support they need to be successful

Reprinted from Salamanca City Central School District Facebook page



The Salamanca City Central School District family would like to welcome one of our newest staff additions!

**Mr. Justin Schapp - Chief Equity and Diversity Officer.**

Chief Equity & Diversity Officer Justin Schapp is a citizen of the Seneca Nation and is well suited to continue the District’s diversity, equity & inclusion initiatives for all students. He will facilitate best

equity practices focusing on four key areas of support: access, capacity, opportunities, and outcomes of educational services for students, regardless of socio-economic, cultural, gender, ability, language, sexual orientation, and racial background.

Mr. Schapp is experienced navigating Indigenous issues, public policy, public administration, law, and diversity. A former graduate of Salamanca, he began his career working in the private sector before transitioning to governmental administration and obtaining his Masters of Law from Oklahoma University’s College of Law.

WELCOME Justin! #WarriorNation

## PERSONALS

### Happy 5th Birthday, Jane!

I love you to Walmart and back, baby girl! Her birthday was Sunday, September 6th.

**LOVE, UNCLE SCOTT.**  
*Submitted by Scott LeRoy*



### Happy 7th Birthday Clinton aka “BoogMan”

It is always a good time with you! You give the best hugs, and are the light of your baby brothers eyes. You’ve made us all laugh a million laughs. May your 7th Birthday be full of FUN-just like you! Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and loved more than you know.

**We love you so very much, Dad, Mom, Jr. Charli, & Cypress**

*Proudly submitted by Chad R. Hill Sr. & Barbara Lynn Hill, Clinton’s proud parents.*



### "If LOVE could have saved you, you would still be here"

Sidney "Casper" LeRoy  
9-25-64 - 2-5-15  
**Happy Birthday, We Miss You**

Scott, Brenda and Families  
*Submitted by Scott LeRoy*



### Next Newsletter DEADLINE:

Tuesday, September 15, 2020


Next issue to be dated  
September 25, 2020





ALLEGANY TERRITORY

Seneca Allegany Administration Bldg.  
90 Ohioyo' Way  
P.O. Box 231  
Salamanca, New York 14779  
Tel. 716-945-1790  
Fax 716-945-8168



SENECA NATION OF INDIANS  
Keeper of the Western Door

CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY

Cattaraugus Courthouse  
2 Thomas Indian School Drive  
Irving, New York 14081  
Tel. 716-532-0024  
Fax 716-532-8319

SURROGATE'S COURT

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
THE ESTATE OF BRENDA JIMERSON

NOTICE OF HEARING  
FILE # I-0805-20C

TO:

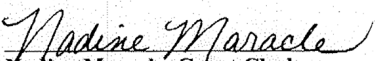
Christa Jimerson: 12452 Rt. 438 Irving, NY 14081  
Angela Rea: PO Box 326 Salamanca, NY 14779  
Jeremy Jimerson: 13032 Rte 438 Gowanda, NY 14070

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Christa Jimerson petitioned this court for Letters of Administration for the Estate of Brenda Jimerson. A hearing is scheduled for Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020 at 10:00 am at the Seneca Nation of Indians Judicial Court Building, 2 Thomas Indian School Drive, Irving, New York 14081, located on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) floor. Please bring with you any and all documentation that you have in regards to this estate.

**\*YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WAIVER TO YOUR RIGHTS IN THIS CASE. THE DATE OF THE HEARING IS NOT SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNLESS YOU CONTACT THE COURT IN WRITING WITHIN (5) DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE.**

**\*Petitioner – You are further notified that you must post this notice in three (3) public places within the Nation. The notice shall be posted no less than ten (10) calendar days before the time of the hearing. On or before the time set for the hearing, the petitioner or the Clerk, as the case may be, shall file his or her affidavit and certified mail receipts with the Court verifying compliance with the notice requirement.**


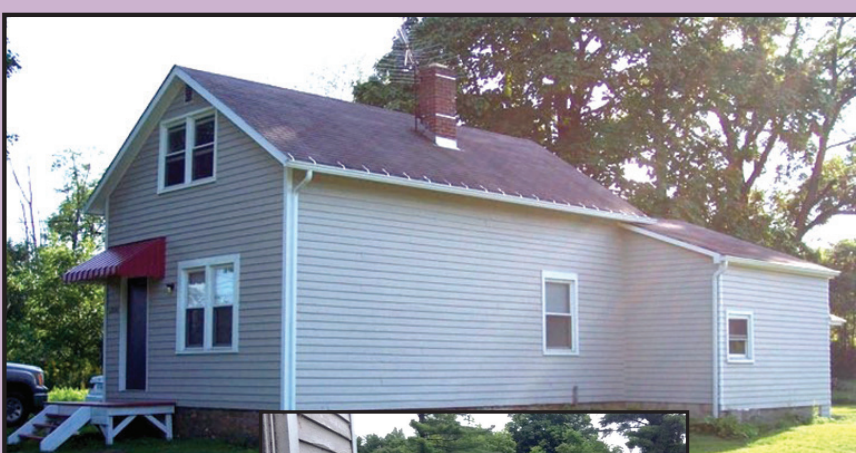
8/6/2020  
Date

  
Nadine Maracle, Court Clerk  
Cattaraugus Territory

For Sale

Cattaraugus Territory

Land in prime location on Brant-Reservation Road. SNI Maps and Boundaries estimates acreage to be about 11 acres. Fenced pasture. Bounded by small creeks on two sides. Wooded section. New metal outbuilding. Two sheds. Historic one-hundred-year-old house included as-is. \$99,900.00. Contact Martin Seneca. (716) 560-2931.



Moving?

Don't forget to notify the SNI Official Newsletter office with your change of address!

Call us at 716-945-1790, or email [sninews@sni.org](mailto:sninews@sni.org).

PINEWOODS  
Community  
FAMILY  
FUN Day  
SEPT. 26, 2020  
10:00 am

\*Face Mask  
Required!





Activities

\*Social  
Distancing

Corn Hole Tournament  
Horse Shoe Tournament  
Volleyball Tournament  
Closest to the Pin Contest  
Kickball  
Home Run Derby

Kids Games  
Potato Sack Race  
Water Balloon Toss  
Water Bucket Contest  
Hoolah Hoop Game  
(Rock ,Paper, Scissor, Shoot)  
& MORE!

Concessions will be available, however, bringing your own food is welcomed as well. All Donations Welcomed.



Please contact the following people for more info. & to sign teams up.

Corn Hole – Veronica Cook (716) 392-5283    Volleyball – Hunter White (716) 697-9168

Employment Opportunity on the  
Cattaraugus Territory

Looking for a reliable in-home care person to assist with the care of my elderly parents. Wages based on experience and qualifications. Part or full-time employment available. Must have reliable transportation and references.

For more information, contact  
Michael A. John at (716) 549-1610

job opportunity

Allegany Clerk's Office has  
RE-OPENED

Please be advised that the Clerk's Office on the Allegany Territory has been RE-OPENED effective Tuesday, September 1st. If you should have any questions, please contact Clerk Bethany Johnson or Marta Kettle, Deputy Clerk.

Notice of Regular Session of  
Council

When: Saturday, September 12, 2020  
Time: 9:30 A.M.

Where: Allegany Community Center/Allegany Territory

visit us on-line  
[@sninews.org](mailto:@sninews.org)

21



# How to Keep Kids Safe at School if Attending in Person

Submitted by Robin Crouse, HOPE Unit, LRJHC

For starters, the usual back-to-school supplies will include new additions. Experts are advising facemasks, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes go into backpacks along with pencils, pens and paper.

## BEFORE SCHOOL

The CDC and other professionals advise that before school starts for the year and every day after it starts –

- Talk with your kids about the virus, hygiene (washing hands), and wearing masks. Listen to their concerns.
- Practice mask wearing with little ones, praising their behavior.
- Check for temperatures and other signs of illness each morning.
- Load backpacks with their safety supplies as well as water bottles so kids do not need to use water fountains.

- Consider how they are getting to school. Some districts are limiting bus capacity to one per seat, halving the number of students who attend each day, and requiring masks on buses.

## AFTER SCHOOL

At the end of each day, consider a household protocol for when the kids come home:

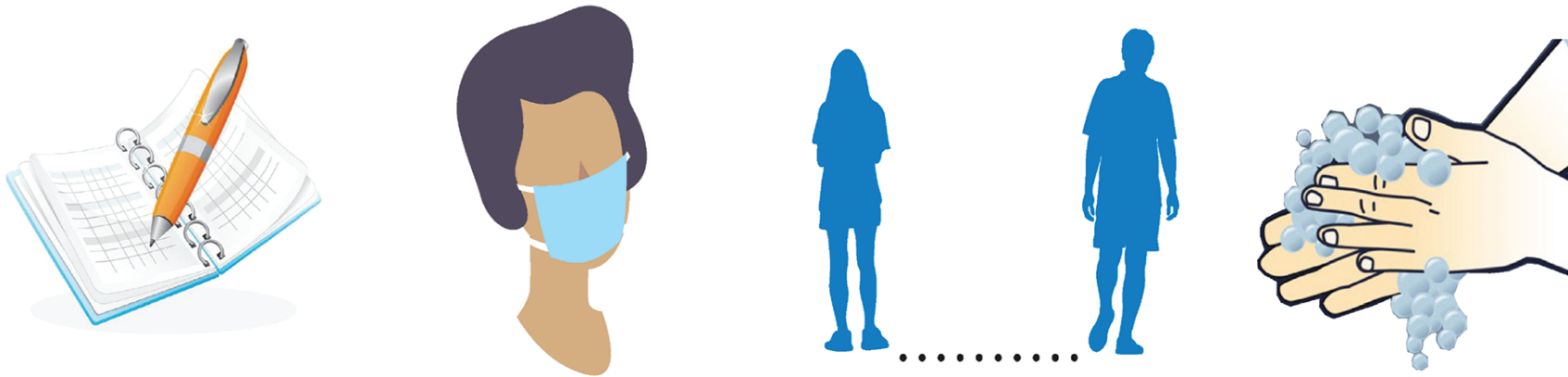
- You might want them to remove their shoes and clothes before coming inside if possible.
- Have them wash their hands immediately.

- Wash the facemasks they have worn (have plenty on hand).
- Talk with your child; ask about how school is going, interactions, and their feelings.

One of the best ways to get kids back to school safely is doing things that are going to protect all of us no matter what. If you make the communities safer, the schools are going to be safer! Wear your masks, stay socially distant and practice good hand washing/sanitizing!

\*Source: Web MD (updated 8/10/20)

## Tips for Safe Grocery Shopping During COVID-19



### Before Leaving the Home

- Write down a shopping list on paper to avoid touching your phone in the store.
- **Stay home if feeling sick with fever, cough, difficulty breathing, headache, muscle pain, chills, or sore throat.**
- Bring your own hand sanitizer, wipes, or cloth with cleaning solution if you have them.
- **Go alone** to the store to reduce risk to others in the home.
- Go when store is less crowded.
- **Contact store about new hours, and if there are special times for seniors or other groups.**

### Before Entering the Store

- **Wear a mask**, and make sure that it **covers both the mouth and nose.**
- **Wipe down shopping cart or basket handles** with disinfectant wipe or cloth with cleaning solution.
- Leave your reusable bags behind. Use plastic or paper bags from the store instead.

### When Inside the Store

- **Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.**
- **Keep a distance of 6 feet from others at all times**, especially in the aisles and at checkout. Stores may also have additional distancing rules.
- **Cough or sneeze into a tissue or the inside of your elbow.**
- Use a debit card instead of cash when at the register.
- Clean your hands with hand sanitizer after paying at the register.

### When Entering Home

- Remove shoes and leave outside.
- **Wash your hands immediately upon returning home.**
- **Wipe down phone, wallet, debit card, and other objects touched** while in store with disinfectant wipes or cleaning solution.
- **Wipe down countertops** with disinfectant wipes or cleaning solution after unpacking food.
- Put empty grocery bags in the trash.
- **Wash hands again after unpacking food.**
- Do not use disinfectant wipes or cleaning solution to clean food. Instead, rinse fruits and vegetables with water before eating.

Tips in bold are the most important steps for staying safe from COVID-19 in public.

For more information, visit [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).





# SNHS Employee Spotlight

**Irene Wheeler** is a child and family supervisor, located at the Community Health and Wellness Center. She has held this position for one year.



We asked her what she likes best about her job and she said “Supporting, helping and working for my community! And working with an amazing group of people at Child & Family!”

She grew up in Pinewoods/Gowanda until the age of 8, moved to Norfolk, VA until she was 18 and returned to Gowanda. She said “I now reside in Pinewoods in my Great Grandparents home built in 1926!”

She attended Erie Community College (city campus), Fredonia State and Empire State College. She earned her associate degree in early childhood and is working towards a bachelor degree in community and human services.

We asked what she likes to do in her spare time. She said “Spending time with my family and grandbabies and close friends! I love Zumba and enjoy going to concerts to listen to live music!”

We asked her to tell us something interesting or extraordinary about herself that she’d like people to know. She says “I left home at 17, dropped out of high school two times, got my GED in my early 20’s then worked hard to re-build my life, attain my college degree, raise a family and build a career working with families and children! With hard work and perseverance anyone can overcome any obstacles!”

She adds that she has four children ages 25, 18, and 13-year old twins and two granddaughters.

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

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

Veggie Bucks Are Here!

Earn Veggie Bucks after completing your appointment with the following:

- Medical
- Dental
- Diabetes Educators
- Nutritionist
- Health Education
- BHU

Contact the following staff once your appointment is completed to pick up your Veggie Bucks! You must be 18+ years.

Cattaraugus: 532-5582  
Barb Nephew, ext 5293  
Kerry Kennedy, ext. 5227

Allegany: 945-5894  
Yvonne Sweet, ext. 3279  
Jody LaMarca, ext. 3242  
Robin Crouse, ext. 3240

## Washing your hands often during COVID-19 can save lives. Learn how in 5 steps.

STEP 1

Wet hands with clean water and apply soap.

STEP 2

Rub hands together with soap. Clean backs of hands, between fingers, and under nails.

STEP 3

Scrub hands for at least 20 seconds.

STEP 4

Rinse hands well with clean water.

STEP 5

Dry hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES  
when the health centers and associated facilities are closed:

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

CIRHC (716) 532-5582

LRJHC (716) 945-5894

CHILD AND FAMILY

Cattaraugus Marshal’s Office: 532-3040

Allegany Marshal’s Office: 945-2779

SENECA STRONG

Cattaraugus: 532-8456

Allegany: 945-8413

Toll Free#: 1-844-9SENECA

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Erie County residents:

Crisis Services 834-3131

DV Hotline 862-4357

Cattaraugus County residents:

Crisis Services 945-3970

OGH Crisis Hotline 1-800- 339- 5209

Chautauqua County residents:

Crisis Services 1-800-724-0461

DV/Rape Hotline 1-800- 252- 8748

Catt. Community Action Hotline

1-888-945-3970

Haven House

884-6000

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK

NOTICE:

Seneca Nation Health System  
will be closed:

Friday, Sept. 18 ~ Ogwe’o:weh Day

Please make sure to schedule your appointments and order prescriptions ahead of time.





Jo:nisgyö:n, se:gëh neh o:nyo'gwaji:sgwa'?	Squirrel, you see it the peanut butter (nuts mashed)?
Ë:h, Nyagwai'. Ëge:gwa' ha'jigwus.	Yes, Bear. I will go get it very soon, right away.

Onödowa'ga:' Gawë:nö' Pronunciation Key					
a.....f <u>a</u> ther	ä.....c <u>a</u> t	e.....th <u>e</u> y	ë.....m <u>e</u> n	i.....pol <u>i</u> ce	o.....n <u>o</u> te
ö..... <u>o</u> wn	u.....t <u>u</u> ne	w..... <u>w</u> ash	n..... <u>n</u> ot	y..... <u>y</u> es	d..... <u>d</u> og
t.....t <u>a</u> il	g.....g <u>i</u> rl	k.....k <u>i</u> te	s.....s <u>i</u> t	j.....j <u>o</u> b	h.....h <u>a</u> t
š.....sh <u>o</u> w	tš.....ch <u>a</u> lk	dz.....ad <u>z</u> e	: .....long vowel	' .....glottal stop	



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



# Remember the Removal 2020

## Virtual Day of Remembrance

Saturday, September 26, 2020  
Drive-thru starting at 9 AM, while supplies last | see flyer for details

Where: Drive-thru pick up at Seneca-Iroquois National Museum & SCC  
82 West Hetzel Street, Salamanca, NY 14779 & Steamburg Community Ctr.