



# The Official Newsletter of the SENECA NATION



September 10, 2021 - **visit us at [www.sninews.org](http://www.sninews.org)**



## A message from President Matthew B. Pagels



### Gagwe:gö̃h sgë:nö̃,

I'm thankful you are well. As summer winds down many things will move indoors. We must stay persistent with our health and wellness protocols as the COVID-19, Delta variant is most likely within our communities. As I mentioned in a recent PSA our COVID cases continue to rise at an alarming rate. For those unvaccinated members, the Health Departments continue to offer vaccination clinics. The Nation

has also initiated pop up bluestone COVID testing for individuals on both Territories.

We are working to keep our numbers low and our young members protected so they can remain at school on regular routines. We need to work together to stay safe. The Nation has proactively re-initiated our COVID protocols in all government buildings for employees, community members and visitors. We have also set personal protective equipment (PPE) distribution dates beginning this month.

Our priority is keeping our communities safe and healthy. Data supports vaccination as a way to curb the spread of the virus. If you would like more information about the vaccination or would like to set up an appointment please call Teri Cowles at Allegany Health at 945-5894 or Kim Bradley at Cattaraugus Health at 532-5582. You may also complete the online form at [SenecaHealth.org/vaccine](http://SenecaHealth.org/vaccine) to schedule your appointment today.

More information will be forthcoming regarding the potential third dose or booster shot. It currently is recommended

for individuals who are immune-compromised or have comorbidities. Contact your health center for a review of your medical records to see if you are eligible for the third dose.

Staying healthy is important as students have returned to school for face to face instruction. For the safety of those not able to get vaccinated doing our part so they remain healthy is most important. They are counting on us to keep them safe. We wish them a healthy and productive school year.

Lastly, the annual Fall Festival is scheduled for September 11th and 12th. It wasn't anticipated to occur during the middle of an increase in COVID numbers on Territory. Please wear your masks when in close proximity



**Make sure to check out the UPDATED COVID-19 Response Hub: <https://covid19.snigis.org>**

The COVID-19 Response Hub has been updated with a new look for better viewing on mobile devices and computers. It has the latest on testing events and statistics, as well as video PSAs and other important information.

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\*top photo by Patrick Redeye, SMCC

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to others, and use hand sanitizer frequently. We want to enjoy the Festival and remain safe and healthy. Come and support our local vendors and enjoy all of the activities. The schedule of events is available on the Nation website.

As always, stay safe, stay strong.

Dah ne’hoh dih ae’.  
Matt



Presidential Updates

Don’t forget to follow & subscribe to the Seneca Media & Communications Center YouTube Channel to watch President Pagels’ up-to-date virtual messages!

President Matthew B. Pagels has been addressing important Nation news, the status of all things COVID-19 related on our Territories and everything in between over the course of the last few months via short video clips that are posted to the Seneca Media & Communications Center YouTube channel and other SNI media outlets. So, if you’re looking for the most up-to-date Nation news, make sure to tune in!

You can also access the Presidential Updates here:

- **SNI Official Newsletter website:**  
[www.sninews.org](http://www.sninews.org)
- **The Nation’s main website:**  
[www.sni.org](http://www.sni.org)
- **Seneca Media Facebook page:**  
[www.facebook.com/senecamedia](https://www.facebook.com/senecamedia)
- **Seneca Nation COVID-19 Response Hub**  
[covid19.snigis.org](http://covid19.snigis.org)
- **Seneca Nation Twitter account**  
[@theSenecaNation](https://twitter.com/theSenecaNation)

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER



Greetings,

Its official, the cooler temperatures indicate we're heading into fall. Our days are gradually getting shorter and our nights getting longer. Our youth should all be back in school by now, as we continue to navigate around this COVID pandemic. I know these times have not been easy, but

I hope they can put the trying times from their previous school year behind them and progress forward with the hope of enjoying the year in front of them.

In August, I had the opportunity to visit a family member in Alaska. I had actually planned on traveling there, back before COVID hit, but my plans had to be cancelled. The scenery in the rural areas of Alaska were breath-taking and I'm glad I was able to take in some of the local culture. Everywhere I went, I saw Native Alaskan folks. My family and I saw some beautiful sights and had a good visit; but for this Seneca, I couldn't wait to be back in our Seneca homelands and the familiarity of our own beautiful Seneca Territories! After numerous trips across the United States, I really know what they mean when they say, "There's no place like home".

I hope all those that applied for their August ARPA fund distribution have received them by now and it has improved your overall quality of life; as well as helped to re-coup on COVID-19 expenses for needed supplies.

The deadline for the September distribution was August 31st, 2021. Those funds will be distributed on September 29th, 2021. Please call the Clerk's Office, if you have any questions concerning these one-time ARPA distributions. Allegany Clerk's Office: (716) 945-1790; Cattaraugus Clerk's Office: (716) 532-4900; Buffalo Office: (716) 951-7555.

As cases of the dreadful COVID-19 Delta Variant increase in our communities and the surrounding counties, we are reminded that we must remain vigilant and keep our collective guard up - in order to prevent a drastic outbreak. In addition to re-establishing mask protocols within all government buildings, if you are presently unvaccinated, for the protection of all our people - please consider getting your COVID-19 immunization shot(s) as soon as humanly possible.

Respectfully,  
Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.







Marta Kettle, Clerk  
CATTARAUGUS  
TERRITORY



Bethany Johnson,  
Deputy Clerk  
ALLEGANY TERRITORY

***Please Continue to stay Safe & Healthy***

The Clerk’s Office continues to monitor the current pandemic & practice safety measures that protect the Clerk’s Office staff and Community as a whole, please watch for changes. Nya:Weh

**CLERK’S OFFICE -**

The Clerk’s Office on the Cattaraugus Territory has opened our doors with safety protocols in place. If you have not been 100% vaccinated, you must wear a mask and social distance. The Clerk’s Office on the Allegany Territory will be opening soon, we will remain open with a walk-up window for limited services. Our hours are Monday through Friday; 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. We encourage members to bring their own pen if needed, as a safety precaution.

Please have your SNI Enrollment # ready when you are visiting or calling the Clerk’s Office.

We are happy to announce the Allegany & Cattaraugus Clerk’s Office are now accepting Credit/Debit Card as a form of payment for I’s, utility bills, business & fishing licenses, etc.

**ANNUITY CLOTH**

ANNUITY CLOTH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP ANYTIME IN BOTH ALLEGANY & CATTARAUGUS CLERK’S OFFICES.

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

Marta Kettle – Clerk  
Geraldine Huff, Executive Assistant (Notary Public)  
Kelly Mohawk, Deeds Recorder  
Leslie Cooke, Executive Secretary  
Tammi Stafford, Administrative Assistant (Notary Public)  
Ashley Warrior, Administrative Assistant  
Lori Waterman, Administrative Assistant / Receptionist  
Dana Maybee, Business Permit Officer

***Seneca Allegany Administration Building - Allegany Territory – (716) 945-1790 ext. 3000***  
**Allegany Clerk’s Office Staff**

Bethany Johnson, Deputy Clerk (Notary Public)  
Charisse Ground, Executive Secretary  
Sue Case, Enrollment Officer  
Leslie R. John, Enrollment Assistant  
Kathleen “Yomie” Hill, Administrative Assistant  
Lexus McClune, Administrative Assistant  
Olivia Sanford, Receptionist

***The Buffalo Office Staff & Location - (716) 845-6304 or (716) 951-7555***  
**Buffalo Office works in Conjunction with the Clerk’s Office**

Ramona Marion – Director  
Stephanie Maybee – Administrative Assistant  
Judson Logan - Tutor

533 Amherst Street  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
Monday-Friday: 8am-4:30pm

## **NOTICE**

**TO APPROVE RESUMING ENROLLMENT APPEARANCE REQUIREMENT**

At the Regular Session of Council held on July 10, 2021 Council approved a Resolution to Approve Resuming Enrollment Appearance Requirement that was waived due to COVID-19.

**WHEREAS**, the Seneca Nation Council temporarily waived the in person enrollment appearance requirement of the Nation’s Enrollment Ordinance, as amended on March 12, 2016, in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the President’s State of Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate of infection of Coronavirus among the Seneca people has been reduced to a point that it is now relatively safe to resume in person enrollment; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that, should the infection rate continue to remain stable or decline, the Nation Council hereby reinstates the in-person enrollment requirement effective October 1, 2021.

**IN PERSON REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT**  
**Please get your Annual In Person Registration completed before December 31, 2021, if you are unsure of your current registration status please feel free to give the Clerk’s Office a call and ask.**

**CLERK’S OFFICE FORMS**

Completed forms can be mailed along with a copy of your photo identification as proof of identify if you are unable to obtain a notary to: Seneca Nation of Indians, 90 Ohi:yo’ Way, Salamanca NY 14779.

All forms are available online at [www.sni.org](http://www.sni.org) under Clerk’s Office documents.

• **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).

• **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.

• **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.

• **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 (<http://seneca.cm3solutions.com>)

If you need to obtain a Financial Literacy Certificate please contact the Seneca Nation Education Department for details. Contact Info: Allegany Territory - Seneca Nation Education Department (716) 945-1790, [traci.pacini@sni.org](mailto:traci.pacini@sni.org); Cattaraugus Territory - Seneca Nation Education Department (716) 532-3341, [barbara.weston@sni.org](mailto:barbara.weston@sni.org).

**Seeking Invocators**

The Seneca Nation Clerks Office is seeking Individuals interested in Invocating/Opening with Gano:nyok for Council each month.

Anyone interested for Allegany may contact Charisse Ground at [Charisse.ground@sni.org](mailto:Charisse.ground@sni.org), 716-945-1790 ext. 3036 and for Cattaraugus you may contact Leslie Cooke at [Leslie.cooke@sni.org](mailto:Leslie.cooke@sni.org), 716-532-4900, ext. 5038.

**Seeking Non-Profit Organizations**

The Seneca Nation Clerk’s Office is seeking Non-Profit Organizations to serve refreshments and or dinner during Council each month.

**Any organization interested for Allegany may contact Charisse Ground at [Charisse.ground@sni.org](mailto:Charisse.ground@sni.org), 716-945-1790 ext. 3036 and for Cattaraugus you may contact Leslie Cooke at [Leslie.cooke@sni.org](mailto:Leslie.cooke@sni.org), 716-532-4900, ext. 5038 to request a form.** Forms are also available at the Clerk’s Office. Any questions or can be directed to Charisse Ground or Leslie Cook.

Due to Covid-19, the in person requirement for enrollment has been temporarily suspended, therefore we are asking parents who recently have or will be having their child(ren) enrolled and wishes to have their child(s) pictures included in future editions of the SN Newsletter, please email a picture to: **[Leslie.john@sni.org](mailto:Leslie.john@sni.org) or [Bjohnson@sni.org](mailto:Bjohnson@sni.org)**

***We would like to say Nya:wëh for your patience and understanding during this time and please watch for updates as this may change unexpectedly. Any changes will be posted online.***

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Seneca Nation is seeking enrolled members of the Nation who are interested in serving on the:

SENECA NATION DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Committee is to provide enrolled members of the Seneca Nation with useful tools whereby a Nation member with a disability can gain and maximize his or her independence, competencies, productivity and ability to learn in all life settings, particularly in a setting with non-disabled peers.

ELIGIBILITY

An individual shall be eligible to serve as a committee member if the individual satisfies the following criteria:

- A. An enrolled Nation member, including:
  - 1) Individuals with disabilities;
  - 2) Parents, spouse or guardians with disabilities; or
  - 3) Representatives of public and private agencies providing services to individuals with disabilities
- B. Has earned a high school diploma or equivalent; and
- C. Has not been convicted of any felony

If interested, please submit a letter of intent & current resume/ qualifications to the address listed below no later than: September 30, 2021 to:

Seneca Nation of Indians Clerk’s Office  
Attention: Marta L. Kettle, Clerk  
12837 Route 438  
Irving, New York 14081

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION IV OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SENECA NATION, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BIENNIAL **JUDICIAL ELECTION OF THE SENECA NATION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021.**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| PEACEMAKER JUDGES | 2-Vacancies Allegany/Oil Spring Territory<br>2-Vacancies Cattaraugus Territory |
| SURROGATE JUDGES  | 1-Vacancy Allegany/Oil Spring Territory<br>1-Vacancy Cattaraugus Territory     |
| COURT OF APPEALS  | 1-Vacancy Allegany/Oil Spring Territory<br>2-Vacancies Cattaraugus Territory   |

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> day preceding the biennial election.* Therefore, all Candidates must file with the Clerk at the William Seneca Administration Building, Cattaraugus Territory, **no later than 12:00 midnight on Monday, October 18, 2021.**

September 2021

Marta L. Kettle, Clerk  
Seneca Nation



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Seneca Nation of Indians is currently accepting letters of intent for those interested in serving on the:

SENECA NATION HEALTH BOARD RESEARCH REVIEW COMMITTEE (2)

- 1 – Allegany Territory Community Member
- 1 – Cattaraugus Territory Community Member
- (Stipend may be available if not employed by the Nation)

Purpose:

The purpose of the Seneca Nation Health Board Research Review Committee is to review and to recommend to Nation Council approval or disapproval of all health research activities that use Nation resources and/or that occur within Nation jurisdiction. The Seneca Nation Health Board coordinates the Research Review Committee.

Qualifications:

- Enrolled Seneca (provide roll #), current resident of Cattaraugus or Allegany Territory
- Possess a sincere interest in the activities of the Research Review Committee
- Involvement in community enhancement activities and/or for work in cultural preservation, practices, enrichment

If interested, please submit a letter of intent no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 17, 2021.

Mail to:  
Seneca Nation of Indians Clerk’s Office  
Attention: Marta L. Kettle, Clerk  
12837 Rte. 438  
Irving, NY 14081

Request for Proposals: Seneca Nation Beach

The Seneca Nation of Indians is soliciting proposals from qualified individuals or companies to assume management of the Seneca Nation Beach recreational area, with the potential to design, develop, construct and operate proposed Facilities at that site.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a letter of interest, statement of qualifications, rate for management services, and proposal for future development. Proposals are due to the Seneca Nation of Indians on or before September 15, 2021. The Nation plans to schedule interviews in October and select the successful candidate, if any, by October 31, 2021. A copy of the RFP is available by calling the Office of the President at 716-532-4900, or on the Nation’s website at www.sni.org.

The Seneca Nation desires to enter into an agreement with the selected candidate. Applicants should be experienced in managing recreational areas, as well as be prepared to provide a detailed proposal for the design, construction and management of the proposed Facilities, including a financial analysis supporting the long-term economic viability to the Seneca Nation.

Proposals should be submitted to:  
Office of the President  
Seneca Nation of Indians  
12837 Route 438  
Irving, New York 14081



# THE INSIDE SCOOP

WITH DR. LORI QUIGLEY

SEPTEMBER 2021

## On a Personal Note...

Nya:wëh Sgë:nö'! And Hello September! To kick off this month, I'm pleased to introduce you to the last of our new SGC Board Members, Allie George! Please take a moment to read about Allie's impressive background.

I love fall because we have so much happening within the Nation and at our properties! On September 30, please join us at 6 PM in Seneca Square (in front of Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino) for our **Every Child Matters Remembrance Walk**. This is one of the many activities planned at SGC as we stand in solidarity with those impacted by the former residential schools, like the Thomas Indian Residential School in Irving. We also changed our thruway billboards at the end of July to build awareness for this forgotten past, while many Team Members took part in the walk at the Steamburg Community Center on August 3.

As you can see, SGC's culture truly embraces our Seneca Nation values, which is why it's the perfect place to launch your next career. Call Matthew Snyder, our Native Recruiter, at (716) 501-2215 or (716) 425-5289 or visit [TheBest8Hours.com](http://TheBest8Hours.com) to learn how you can experience The Best 8 Hours with us!

Before we know it, October will be here and it will be time for our next **Stakeholders' Meeting** on **Saturday, October 23**. Until then, stay safe, stay well.



Sincerely,  
**Lori**

Chairwoman, Board of Directors  
Seneca Gaming Corporation

## MEET ALLIE GEORGE

When it comes leading Team Seneca Gaming Corporation to bigger wins, Allie George is ready. The fourth of our newest SGC Board of Directors, Allie joins us with the energy and determination of a coach—which he is! For the last decade, Allie has been honing his leadership skills as he helped develop young players to deliver their best, even when they're already at the top of their game.



Allie believes there is always room to grow and do better. "SGC is vital to the Seneca Nation and to our communities," he said. "Our generation will be called upon to step up and become tomorrow's leaders. I took this opportunity to get involved and learn as much as possible about the corporation, the Nation, and all things relatable. I have gained a better perspective on what is working and where we need to improve."

Not only does Allie have the drive, he has the expertise to make this vision a reality. He has an associate's degree in Business Administration with a focus on Marketing and Management and currently serves as Director of the Seneca Nation Conservation Department on the Allegany Territory. From a gaming perspective, Allie obtained his Level I and Level II Commissioner Training Certification through the National Indian Gaming Association and served as Chairman of the Class II Enterprise Board of Directors from 2019 to 2021 where he made sure that the values of transparency, trust, integrity, and hard work were at the center of everything they did.

A Wolf Clan member, Allie was born and raised in 'Ohio:yo' where he currently lives with his wife and three boys. His children's future and the future of all our Nation is his inspiration for joining our board. "Previous board members have done a great job laying the foundation and we will continue those efforts to ensure a healthy and sustainable future for our gaming enterprises."

## SENECA GAMING CORPORATION STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2021 • 10 AM

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

JOIN US VIRTUALLY\* OR IN PERSON! RSVP REQUIRED

Enrolled members must send an email to request access by **Friday, October 21, 2021 at 10 AM** to [SenecaStakeholders@SenecaCasinos.com](mailto:SenecaStakeholders@SenecaCasinos.com) as follows:


I would like to register to participate in the October 2021 SGC Quarterly Stakeholders' Meeting.

My information is: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment #: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to attend virtually/in person.

To participate virtually\*, interested enrolled members will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, as well as have a valid email address to sign up.

\*Join only; attendees will be named.





# NATIVE AMERICAN

HERITAGE MONTH

HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE

## Call to participate in the Native American Heritage Month Vendor Market!


**SENECA ALLEGANY RESORT & CASINO**  
**November 6, November 13 & November 20, 2021**  
**10 AM – 6 PM**

Community dinner and social will be held  
at Niagara on November 17, 2021 • 5 PM – 8 PM

**SENECA NIAGARA RESORT & CASINO**  
**November 6, 13, 17, 19 & 20, 2021**  
**Saturdays: 10 AM – 6 PM • Wednesdays & Fridays: 3 PM – 8 PM**

Spaces are limited and availability will be on a first come, first serve basis.  
Deadline to register is Friday, October 22, 2021.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RECEIVE AN APPLICATION TO BE A VENDOR  
For Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino: contact Kerstin Shinnars at 716.244.5328 or [KShinnars@SenecaCasinos.com](mailto:KShinnars@SenecaCasinos.com)  
For Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino: contact Nikki Seneca at 716.501.2674 or [NSeneca@SenecaCasinos.com](mailto:NSeneca@SenecaCasinos.com)





# PRESIDENT'S OFFICE- EXECUTIVE ORDER

## Mask Mandate for Seneca Nation Government Facilities

**WHEREAS,** The Seneca Nation is responsible for the health, safety and well-being of our members, residents and employees and is taking precautions to reduce the impacts of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on our community members and their families, and

**WHEREAS,** there has been an increase in the number of individuals in the area who have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, primarily among the unvaccinated, and while fully vaccinated individuals generally remain protected from the most severe symptoms of COVID 19, we remain concerned about the spread of the virus, and

**WHEREAS,** the Seneca Nation COVID-19 Response Task Force has recommended that the Seneca Nation reinstate the mask requirements for Nation owned facilities,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT**

- All individuals (both visitors and employees) entering the Nation's government facilities must wear a mask while indoors.
- Fully vaccinated employees may remove their mask

if they are in their office areas and able to maintain a distance of six feet from other employees.

- Visitors to government facilities (defined as all Nation owned buildings, not including gaming operations or Seneca One Stops) must remain masked while on the premises.
- Mask requirements for patrons of Nation gaming operations (Class II and Class III) and customers of Nation owned retail operations shall be determined in collaboration with management of the Nation's gaming and retail operations.
- Nation Employees of SG&E, SGA and the Seneca One-Stops whose job requires interaction with the public are required to wear masks while in public areas of each facility to protect themselves and the public . Otherwise, fully vaccinated employees may remove their mask if they are in non-public areas of the facilities and able to maintain a distance of six feet from other employees.
- Employees of SGC and subsidiaries shall follow directives as set forth by the SGC Management and Board.

August 26 , 2021

**Matthew B. Pagels, President**  
**SENECA NATION OF INDIANS**

# Language Immersion

By Nicole Martin

What does it take to become a speaker of a language you were not raised up with from infancy and how long would it take to become proficient?

Naturally language transmission happened being surrounded in the community by loved ones where we learned from watching and mocking others on their sounds and actions. Since many of us don't live with our elders to transmit language to us in the home Immersion schools have been growing and advancing with the times recognizing how important and effective they can be. Some have first language speakers others only advanced second language speakers to transmit the knowledge.

O'tgwanö:nyö:', Gaweniyosta ni:'a, I am currently occupying a seat on the Agwadeyesta Board of Directors here in Ohi:yo'. My passion for languages, cultural experiences and a thirst for cosmological knowledges have led me on a remarkable journey the past 20 years meeting beautiful human beings and doing a job that not many in the world have the opportunity to do-working in an immersion setting -striving to help in the efforts of language revitalization.

I will share with you some insights into the

adult immersion curriculum that has been implemented in the beginning of 2017. The Immersion environment combined with the root-word method takes a simple approach on the road to become a beginner speaker and comprehend-er of the language. With many hours in the hotseat you can easily -but not without wit and determination-go from a person with very little vocabulary -nouns- to a full sentence speaking chatterbox in as little as a couple months. The very first day you begin hearing the sounds and making simple complete sentences.

Language Immersion programs have existed since the late seventies around Haudenosaunee Country-mainly for school aged children. Some might argue it's the best way to replicate an environment that can best effectively produce a speaker in the shortest amount of time. With a daily intention of exposing the circle of students to as much information on a daily basis that you want them to learn- you cut out the English completely early on, (within the first few weeks after they are comfortable with how the days experiences flow) explain by moving through various activities, pictures, hand gestures or actual items and reinforce the words from the days prior- what it is you are teaching.

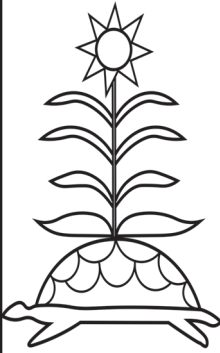
At first there is a time where you're exposing your learner to the sounds of the language, where around 90% of the time they are taking it in and repeating what is being spoken. Mocking birds for the first little while. It takes a few weeks before the expected flow takes hold, the students gain confidence and want to talk more. This is the key. Let them talk. You ask them open questions that need more than one-word answers-such as "tell me what you did last evening?" Its easiest to talk about oneself when first starting off. "I went to the store with my family to buy some food, then we went home, my mom made us spaghetti. We ate together then I went for a bike ride before it got dark". With a great plan of what it is you want your student to regurgitate in as little as a few months you will have the beginnings of a foundation for them to grow and think in our original languages.

Imagine a space, a community, a collective nation taking back and rekindling the words, that connect us to the land and to how we existed through the generations. As an adult, Immersion can get there if you are willing to contribute a few of your hair turning gray and a few headaches.



# Intellectual Disability Information

Submitted by Colby Curry, TERC



What is an intellectual disability? An intellectual disability is when there are limitations to a person's ability to learn and function on a daily basis. These limitations may include difficulties in communicating, taking care of themselves and social skills.

Children with intellectual disabilities (sometimes called cognitive disabilities) may take longer to learn to speak, walk, and take care of their personal needs such as dressing or eating. They are likely to have trouble learning in school. They will learn, but it will take longer. There may be some things they may not be able to learn. (Center for parent information/resources 6/17).

- What are some causes of an intellectual disability?
- Genetics - abnormal genes from the parents or errors when the genes combine. Ex. Down's Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome.
  - Issues during pregnancy - the baby's cells didn't divide the right way, or the mother has drank alcohol, used drugs or maybe the mother contracted an infection such as rubella that may affect the unborn baby.
  - Problems at birth - during delivery the baby may have lost a substantial amount of oxygen.
  - Health issues - diseases (ex. whooping cough, measles), poor nutrition, and not adequate health care during pregnancy or exposure to lead/mercury.

- Some signs may include:
- Sitting up, crawling or walking later than other babies
  - Learning to talk or trouble speaking
  - Not remembering things
  - Difficulty in understanding social rules
  - Trouble seeing the consequences of their actions
  - Problem solving
  - Thinking logically

It is estimated that seven to eight million people in the United States have an intellectual disability. Which means 1 in 10 families are affected and 425,000 children (3-21) receive special education services in public school. (Center for parent information/resources 6/17).

Having an intellectual disability isn't contagious. It's not a disease or mental illness such as depression. People who have intellectual disabilities can learn, work and function just as you or I. People with an intellectual disability may require a little extra instruction, patience, kindness and effort to become successful.

Please contact your health professionals if you have any questions or concerns. This article is for educational purposes.

# Natural Gas Map

Submitted by Seneca Energy & Seneca Utilities

During July’s Council, the Seneca Nation approved the repair and expansion of the natural gas distribution system on the Cattaraugus Territory. The below map depicts the areas where natural gas lines exist or will exist once the project has been completed. You will receive a direct notification letter if you will be effected by the upcoming project. Some residents will require a new service line and other residents will gain access to cheaper, more reliable natural gas. Construction will begin this summer and continue through June 2022.

Nya:wëh - Seneca Energy / Seneca Utilities

# Economic Planning: We Need Your Input

Submitted by Courtney John-Jemison, Community Planning & Development Department



Blue Stone Strategy Group (a Native-owned advisory firm in its 14th year of operations in providing Tribal specific services) has been retained to support the Community Planning & Development Department on behalf of the Seneca Nation in leading the Nation through a planning process that will produce an Economic Resiliency Plan tied to the latest Seneca Nation's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The Plan will create a guide to provide the Seneca Nation with feasible and practical short-term and long-term economic recovery and resiliency solutions.

The Economic Resiliency Plan will develop and tailor strategies for COVID-19 pandemic recovery, resiliency and workforce development for the Seneca Nation. The strategic planning process produces the best results when it is collaborative, inclusive and community centric, so we would like to request your participation by providing feedback through an online survey process.

We will be posting survey questions on a weekly basis over the next four weeks via our social media, Facebook page. The full survey can be made available to you via email or hard copy upon request to Courtney Jemison, 532-4900 x5093 at the Planning Department.

- Complete the questions each week to be entered in a drawing.
- 1 entry per person
- All answers are kept separate from entry.

## Links:

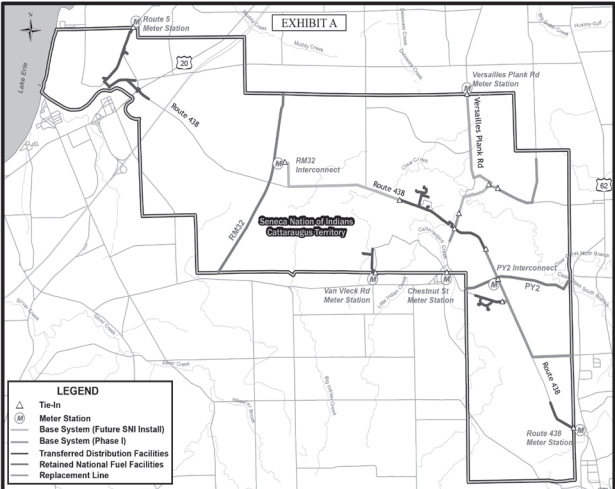
To complete survey w/ all questions:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R9YY6Y6>

Week One (4 Questions):  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R97PBPK>

Week Two (3 Questions):  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R9P8RY7>

Week Three (3 Questions):  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RD926SZ>

Week Four (3 Questions):  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RDR6Y9R>





# Climate Crisis Community Survey Results

**THROUGH** April and May, the Climate Change Task Force asked you to fill out a survey to get a picture of your thoughts on climate change. We greatly appreciate all the feedback we received! Here is a glimpse of the results from the survey. One of the most important take aways was what skills our community knows when it comes to having to provide for ourselves. The 5 top responses show our community is strong in basic hand sewing, cooking from scratch, cooking with an iron skillet, repurposing/recycling and using basic tools. The skills that respondents would really like to learn is carpentry, food preservation, basic survival skills, soap making and medicine/poultice making.

If you have any questions/comments, we will be happy to answer you at [climatechange@sni.org](mailto:climatechange@sni.org) or you can call 716-532-4900 ext. 5401.



**90%** of participants responded with concern about climate change.

### Gender Breakdown



**70%** of respondents agree that climate change is affecting **LIFESTYLE**



**50%** of respondents agree that climate change affects spiritual, mental, & physical wellbeing



- ## Top 5
- Responses for Definition of Global Warming
1. Climate change negatively affecting life on earth.
  2. Increase in the temperature of the earth.
  3. Consequence of ozone depletion.
  4. Climate changes.
  5. Melting of glaciers as a consequence caused by human action.

| Type of Experience                       | We know how to.. | Interest in Learning |
|--|------------------|----------------------|
| Animal husbandry/raising                 |                  |                      |
| Animal training                          |                  |                      |
| Baking without an oven                   |                  |                      |
| Basic hand sewing                        |                  |                      |
| Basic mechanic skills                    |                  |                      |
| Basic survival skills                    |                  |                      |
| Beekeeping                               |                  |                      |
| Butchering                               |                  |                      |
| Candle making                            |                  |                      |
| Carpentry                                |                  |                      |
| Cleaning and cooking fish                |                  |                      |
| Composting                               |                  |                      |
| Cooking from scratch                     |                  |                      |
| Cooking with a cast iron skillet         |                  |                      |
| Cultivating food                         |                  |                      |
| Electrical Work                          |                  |                      |
| Fodder systems                           |                  |                      |
| Food preservation                        |                  |                      |
| Foraging                                 |                  |                      |
| Hand washing laundry                     |                  |                      |
| Harvesting food                          |                  |                      |
| Harvesting, splitting, stacking firewood |                  |                      |
| Hide tanning                             |                  |                      |
| Hunting/Fishing                          |                  |                      |
| Making laundry detergent                 |                  |                      |
| Making your own apple cider vinegar      |                  |                      |
| Making your own smokehouse               |                  |                      |
| Medicine/poultice making                 |                  |                      |
| Metal working/forging                    |                  |                      |
| Milling grain                            |                  |                      |
| Operate heavy machinery                  |                  |                      |
| Permaculture                             |                  |                      |
| Raising chickens                         |                  |                      |
| Repurpose/recycle                        |                  |                      |
| Saving seeds                             |                  |                      |
| Silviculture                             |                  |                      |
| Soap making                              |                  |                      |
| Soil Preparation                         |                  |                      |
| Solar array skills                       |                  |                      |
| Tapping maple trees                      |                  |                      |
| Textile production                       |                  |                      |
| Tying knots                              |                  |                      |
| Using a sewing machine                   |                  |                      |
| Using basic tools                        |                  |                      |
| Weather forecasting                      |                  |                      |
| Windmill building                        |                  |                      |
| Worm composting                          |                  |                      |

## Gakwi:yo:h Farms

### Market & Mobile Market

FARM HOUSE MARKET OPENS  
TUESDAY, JULY 20TH  
HOURS: TUES & WEDS 1- 6 PM

Products available at Markets:

- Fresh Produce
- Frozen Bison
- Maple
- Corn Products
- Honey
- Canoe Women Elderberry Elixir
- Sweet Grass Braids

Farm House Market location:  
13594 Taylor Hollow Rd  
Collins, NY 14034

We accept:  
Cash, Card, and Veggie Bucks

Mobile Market opens on  
Thursday, July 22nd  
Mobile Market Hours  
Thursday's at Salamanca One Stop  
Parking Lot 11-1pm  
For more Info Call LeRoy (716)244-0493

## Looking for a cozy getaway?

Look no further! Book your cabin now at Highbanks Campground

Away From It  
All, But Easy To  
Find!



## Highbanks

CAMPGROUND

1370 West  
Perimeter  
Road, Steamburg, NY 14783  
OPEN YEAR ROUND!!! \*\*Winter rates apply now  
[camphighbanks.com](http://camphighbanks.com) I Check us out on Facebook & Twitter



# eBenefits Fact Sheet for Veterans

Submitted by Tisheena Jimerson



## What is eBenefits?

eBenefits is a joint VA/DoD web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to Veterans, Service members, and their families to research, access and manage their VA and military benefits and personal information. eBenefits uses secure credentials to allow access to personal information and gives users the ability to perform numerous self-service functions. It also provides a list of links to other sites that provide information about military and Veteran benefits. It is an essential way for Veterans, Service members, and their families to receive access to and service from VA and DoD.

## What can I do in eBenefits?

Some of the features within eBenefits allow Veterans and Service members to access official military personnel documents, view the status of their disability compensation claim, transfer entitlement of Post-9/11 GI Bill to eligible dependents (Service members only), and register for and update direct deposit information for certain benefits. For a full list of features, see the reverse side of this fact sheet. New features are being added regularly.

## How do I access eBenefits?

eBenefits is located at [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov). Before Veterans can access and use eBenefits they must be listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and obtain a DS Logon. Service members can access eBenefits with a DS Logon or Common Access Card (CAC). They can choose from two levels of registration, DS Logon Level 1 (Basic) and DS Logon Level 2 (Premium). Note: If Veterans attempt to register and are informed they have no DEERS record, VA will first need to verify their military service and add them to DEERS. All VA Regional Offices have staff familiar with procedures for adding a Veteran to DEERS.

## What is a DS Logon?

A DS Logon is a secure identity (username and password) that is used by various DoD and VA websites, including eBenefits. If you are already registered in DEERS, you are eligible for a DS Logon. Once you have a DS Logon, it's valid for the rest of your life.

## How do I register for an eBenefits account?

You can register for an eBenefits account online using the eBenefits DS Logon Account Registration Wizard. There are two types of registration, Basic and Premium. You will be walked through a series of questions to assist you in obtaining a Premium eBenefits Account, which gives you the highest level of access to eBenefits features. With a Premium Account you can view personal data about yourself in VA and DoD systems, apply for benefits online, check the status of your claims, update your address records, and more. To get a Premium eBenefits Account, you must verify your identity.

Many people will be able to verify their identity online by answering a few security questions. Service members may verify their identity online by using their CAC. Military retirees may verify their identity online using their Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Logon. For those unable to verify their identity online, you will instantly receive a Basic Account. A Basic eBenefits Account lets you customize the site and access information you enter into eBenefits yourself; however, you cannot see your personal information in VA or DoD systems. However, there are other options available to you. Veterans in receipt of VA benefits via direct deposit may have their identity verified by calling 1-800-827-1000. Others may need to visit a VA Regional Office to have their identities verified in person.

## eBenefits Features

### If you are a Veteran:

- Apply for Veterans benefits online- New claims
- Check on your compensation or pension claims status-links to VA.gov
- Upload documents to support your

- compensation or pension claim
- Check Post-9/11 GI Bill enrollment status
- View DoD TRICARE health insurance
- Sign up for Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) (Time limits apply)
- Search for and select an accredited representative or organization
- Order prescription medications
- Message your physician securely
- Access your medical information via Blue Button
- Order medical equipment such as hearing aid batteries and prosthetic socks
- Check on your appeal status
- Generate a VA home loan certificate of eligibility
- Obtain official military personnel documents such as DD Form 214
- Register for and update direct deposit information for certain benefits

### If you are a Service member:

- Use the eLearning Center for the online transition assistance program and more
- Transfer Post-9/11 education benefits
- View DoD TRICARE health insurance
- View DoD TRICARE reserve select
- Sign up for Service member out-of-pocket medical expenses (CCD)
- View Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) elections
- Apply for Veterans benefits online
- Conduct a health benefits eligibility check
- Update Service member civilian employment information
- View Service member personnel information
- Generate a VA home loan certificate of eligibility

## If you are a Family Member of a Veteran or Service member:

- Check on your compensation and pension claims status
- Use the eLearning Center to get important health information
- View Post-9/11 GI Bill enrollment status
- Check your VA payment history

**For More Information visit [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov)**



# Museum Hosting Free Concert

Submitted by Hayden Haynes



Nya:wëh Sgë:nö,

In light of what everyone has been through in the recent year and a half, the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum is happy to announce a FREE musical performance of OPLIAM at the Onöhsagwë:de' Cultural Center.

OPLIAM is a multi-instrumentalist whose music crosses all musical boundaries. He plays rock and roll, hip-hop and reggae. Sometimes separately, sometimes interwoven. OPLIAM has toured internationally, playing shows in Australia and New Zealand. In 2019, OPLIAM played both the Indigenous Peoples March in Washington, DC as well as the 23rd Annual World Peace and Prayer Day, held by Chief Arvol Looking Horse. OPLIAM has also played shows with Indigenous, Frank Waln, and members of Gogol Bordello. OPLIAM's Mohawk ancestry has influenced him as a musician. OPLIAM originates from

Kahnawake Mohawk Reserve outside of Montreal, Quebec. OPLIAM's 4th studio album "What Symbol Represents a Spirit" is an LP, that was released July 2021. Hear samples of his work by visiting his website, [opliammusic.com](http://opliammusic.com).

**The performance is free and open to the public. For more information, please call (716) 945-1760.**



TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT  
RESOURCE CENTER HOSTS...

## Community Flea Market

October 2, 2021.  
23 Thomas Indian School Drive. Irving, NY.

MORE DETAILS TO COME.  
FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO STAY  
UP TO DATE!

## UNEMPLOYED? Need a Job?

CAREER READINESS WE CAN HELP!  
WORKSHOPS

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Sept. 8th @ 10am<br>Sept. 10th @ 2pm  | <b>JOB SEARCH</b><br>What is your ideal job? How to properly fill out applications. Asking people for references.   |
| Sept. 15th @ 10am<br>Sept. 16th @ 2pm | <b>RESUME</b><br>Provides detailed explanations, step-by-step processes for creating an effective résumé and cover letter.  |
| Sept. 22nd @ 10am<br>Sept. 23rd @ 2pm | <b>INTERVIEW 101</b><br>What are the do's and don'ts of the interview process or what to wear in the workplace? Learn how to answer the 15 most important interview question. Learn how to dress to impress!!!  |
| Sept. 29th @ 10am<br>Sept. 30th @ 2pm | <b>WORKING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE<br/>CONFLICT RESOLUTION</b><br>Do you know how to work with difficult people? After you've been hired you must make sure you keep that job. Problem solving on the job and how to resolve conflict within the workplace. |

**CATTARAUGUS TERC**

To maintain health and safety- unvaccinated individuals will be required to wear a mask. A limit of 6 students per class.

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

# REMEMBER THE REMOVAL

SUSTAINING OUR CULTURE & TRADITIONS



## SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2021 10AM @ REDHOUSE BRIDGE AREA

**TRANSPORTATION:**

- Buses will be available for drop-off and pick up. The bus will meet walkers at the Seneca Allegany Administration Building (SAAB) starting at 9am to be dropped off at the Red House Bridge. The bus will pick up walkers at the Breed Run bridge at the end of the walk to bring them back to the SAAB.

**EVENTS:**

- Lunch will be served at 12pm at the SAAB.
- Arts & craft demos from 12pm-2pm, located inside the council chambers and the outdoor patio. Vendors will be set up from 11am-2pm.
- The RTR committee will display photos of community members engaged in cultural traditions. We are accepting photos from the public of Seneca community members making traditional foods, labor or crafts. Photos will be displayed at the SAAB during the event.

LIMITED VENDOR SPACE AVAILABLE, CONTACT FALLON SNYDER  
(716-945-1790 EXT: 3114) TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CALL 716-945-1790  
AND REQUEST THE COUNCIL OFFICE.

The Cattaraugus Education Department presents


# BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

## Tuesday, September 21 4:30 - 7:30pm

### Cattaraugus Community Center

Interactive Play Attractions      Ice Skating  
Game Corner      Native Craft Demo  
LAX Skills Competition (Bring your own sticks!)      Photo Booth  
Door Prizes!

**Complimentary Take Out Dinner  
While Supplies Last  
(No In Person Dining. Masks Required Indoors)**




For more information, contact the Education Department 532-3341  
In the event cancellation or changes please check the  
Seneca Education facebook Page




# WEAR ORANGE

## September 30th-Orange Shirt Day

In remembrance of those who have been impacted by the residential school system.



# EVERY CHILD MATTERS

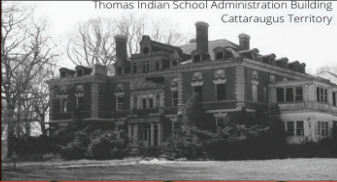


### SENECA NATION OF INDIANS

Crime Victim Services  
Child & Family Services  
Area Office for the Aging

## Remembering And Healing

From the impact of residential schools in our community.




### COMMUNITY HEALING WALK & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL EXHIBIT @SULLY HUFF HERITAGE CENTER

12857 ROUTE 438, IRVING, NY

# Thursday-Sept. 30

4-8pm~ Residential School Exhibit open for viewing  
4-5pm~ Check-in for walk (Pick-up dinner tickets)  
5pm~ Opening remarks  
5:30pm~ Walk begins (1 mile of paved paths through old TIS campus)  
6-7pm~ Take-out Dinner for participants



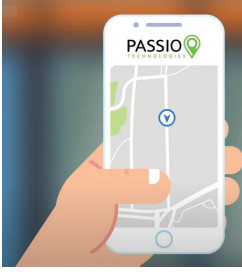
#EveryChildMatters  
#SNIRememberingAndHealing

For more information, please contact Sharon Francis @ SNI Victim Services, (716) 532-4900 ext. 5060

## STS Announcement:

Our buses are now equipped with AVL or automatic vehicle location devices! You can now track the bus on the PassioGo app on your smartphone.

Simply download the free app and select Seneca Transit System. You will be able to see the bus number and location as well as expected time of arrival at bus stops.



GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

Watch the video and download the app. We hope this will make your trips more convenient and manageable!

## Native American Heritage Association

# CLOTHING & HOUSEHOLD ITEM DRIVE


CATTARAUGUS DROP-OFF @ CCC: September 20th & 21st  
ALLEGANY DROP-OFF @ ACC: September 21st & 22nd  
**10:00AM - 3:00 PM**

The Native American Heritage Association was started in 1993, by David G. Myers, as a charitable non-profit organization dedicated to helping Native American families in need, living on sovereign lands in South Dakota and Wyoming. (naha-inc.org) Their mission is to help as many families as possible with basic life necessities and self-help programs.

In support of these efforts, the Seneca Nation will be holding a clothing and household item drive, which will then be sent to Black Hawk, South Dakota, for distribution.

All items donated for this effort must be in good, new or gently used condition.

Nya:weh from Treasurer Rickey L. Armstrong and staff



### Clothing, Furniture, Toys, Books and Household Items...

For additional information, please contact:

Emily Nephew at: (716) 945-1790 ext. 3109

## THE SENECA NATION FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL

# 3D ARCHERY Shoot



**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER  
18**

**7:00AM-NOON**  
ENTRY FEE  
**ADULT/YOUTH: \$10**  
**20 - 3D TARGETS**

SENECA NATION HATCHERY- EXIT 19 RED HOUSE  
PRIZES FOR TOP SHOOTER IN EACH CATERGORY

ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT SNI FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT 945-2779





# COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

Submitted by Dawn Stevens, Emergency Management

The Seneca Nation still is offering COVID-19 diagnostic testing to individuals and employees of the Seneca Nation. Testing is open to anyone who would like to be tested. You DO NOT need to have COVID-19 like symptoms to be tested.

**Location:**

**Seneca Fire** - Allegany Territory, 8184 E. Loop Rd., Jimtown (Salamanca), NY

**Seneca Fire** - Cattaraugus Territory, 12879 Rte. 438, Irving, NY

**When:** Testing is by request to set a date and time

**How:** Call Emergency Management at (716) 532-8178 (business hours) or (716) 244-0820 (after hours) or Seneca EMS at (716) 532-8550 (business hours) or (716) 574-2007 (after hours)

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. You must register for a test.**

Those without registration completed will not be accommodated at the test site and cannot be tested!

**How to Register for COVID-19 Testing:**

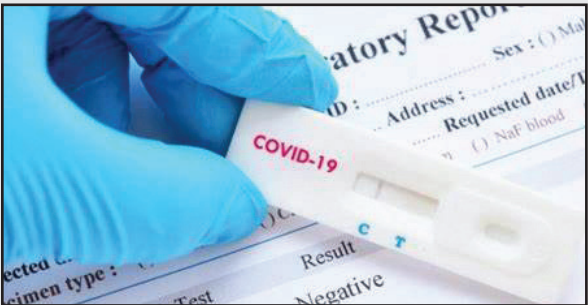
- Register online at [Bluestonesafe.com](https://bluestonesafe.com)
- Client code: senecagov and User code: 3030
- You must register prior to the testing date
- Please bring your phone with you to the testing site to access your registration link

**What to Expect on the Day of your Test:**

- DO NOT eat or drink anything one hour prior to the testing
- Please arrive no more than 5 minutes prior to your scheduled time

- Please remain in your vehicle and follow the directions of staff at the testing site
- Testing is conducted while you are in your vehicle
- Testing is conducted via saliva sample and only takes a few minutes to complete
- You can expect the results of your test in 2-3 days; by text message, email or phone call
- You should self isolate after testing until results comeback negative, to resume normal activity

*Note: This saliva sample PCR test will determine if someone is currently infected with the COVID-19 virus.*



# COVID-19 Delta Variant: What Community Members Need to Know

Submitted by Dawn Stevens, Emergency Management

COVID-19 cases are rising in some tribal communities due to the new strain of the virus called the Delta variant. This fact sheet summarizes what you need to know to stay safe from Delta:

- The Delta variant spreads much more easily and quickly than previous strains of the virus.
- Unvaccinated people are at high risk of getting sick from Delta.
- People who have been fully vaccinated are well protected against severe disease from Delta.
- Delta is just one strain of COVID-19. The virus will continue to change and make new strains as it spreads from person to person.
- Vaccines are highly effective against all known strains of the virus. Get vaccinated today to protect yourself, your family, and your community against new strains of COVID-19.

How contagious is the Delta variant?

The Delta variant is much more contagious and spreads much faster than earlier

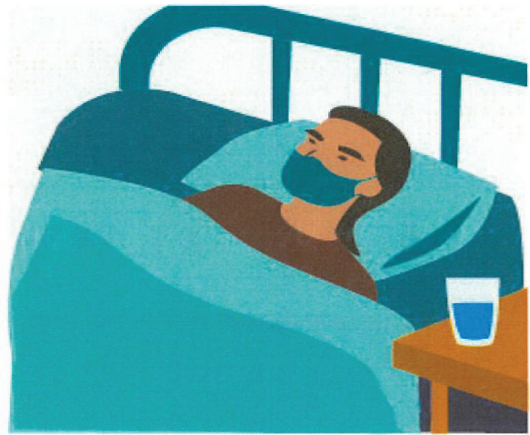
strains of the virus. The Delta variant has spread rapidly in the US. In June, Delta was responsible for just 10% of all cases of COVID-19 in the US. That number jumped to 50% in July. Increasing rates of infection show that Delta is highly contagious.

How effective are vaccines against the Delta variant?

All 3 available vaccines are highly effective against the Delta variant. Recent studies have shown all 3 vaccines provide significant protection against illness, hospitalization, and death from Delta. Vaccination is the best way to protect you and your family from Delta.

Am I at risk of getting sick from the Delta variant?

People who have not been vaccinated are at very high risk of getting sick from Delta. Fully vaccinated people are at very low risk of getting sick from Delta. Masks help prevent the spread of variants. People who are not fully vaccinated should wear a mask in indoor public places and crowded



outdoor settings.

What is the Delta Plus variant and should I be concerned?

The Delta Plus variant is a new strain of COVID-19 that was first discovered in April. It is unknown whether it is more contagious than the previous Delta variant. The best way to protect yourself against all strains is to get vaccinated.

Source: Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health & CDC, July 12, 2021



# News from the Seneca Arts & Learning Center

Submitted by Angelina Nolder, SALC

On Friday, August 27th, the Seneca Arts and Learning Center held their inaugural Ahsogh Ogwë'jō' (We Are Still Here) walk, to support the Every Child Matters crusade. The children and staff, all wearing orange, walked together around the SALC building, while listening to Yöëdza'ge:kha:' Ha'degaëno:geh (Mother Earth Songs). Everyone was encouraged to walk around three times – to honor the children who never made it home from the boarding schools; for all the children that are here today thriving and strong; and for all the children that will come in the future. At the end of our walk, all the children placed their hand painted orange rocks in to our SALC Living Rock Garden, located in the front vestibule. And SALC would like to take this opportunity to invite the community to contribute small painted rocks to our “Living Rock Garden”, any day after 5:30 p.m., in the designated container by the front door.

Also, Becky Bowen (Archives Department) read “When We Were Alone” (By David A. Robertson & Julie Flett) via webcast, to our After-school students. The book was a gentle read about what life was like while at a Residential Boarding School, from a grandmothers point of view, to her granddaughter. Becky also shared with us her family’s history at the Boarding Schools, as well as the close proximity of Boarding Schools, to our community. The children found it to be very informative and enlightening. Nya:wëh Becky!

So proud are we at SALC, because we are Indigenous. We are resilient. We are still here. Nya:wëh.



# Back to School Bash Drive-Thru held at ACC

Hosted by Allegany H.E.R.O.

On Tuesday, August 24th the Allegany Education Department, LRJHC and ACC hosted a drive-thru school supply giveaway. There was a great turnout as community members lined the parking lot of the ACC in their vehicles to pick up supplies including back packs, masks, goodie bags, etc. for the kids in anticipation of the new school year. Over 150 summer-time meals (hot dogs, hamburgers, salads & drinks) were also passed out on that hot and sunny afternoon.





2021 IBLA Pennsylvania Region Champions

Seneca Marksmen representing the Seneca Nation in Florida for the IBLA Nationals Tournament Sept 17-19

Submitted by Asa Washburn



17 Regions, 53 teams Battle it Out to be National Champions!

Pictured: Percy Booth, Jesse Jimerson, Zach Williams, Sherman Williams, Bryce Williams, Blaze White, Gage Stevens, Linden Stevens, Emerson Stevens, Jadon Jimerson, Parker Jimerson, Danny Jimerson, Johnny Jimerson, Ron John, Carmen Papa, Xavier Taylor, Baden Boyenko, Connor Gates, Jonah Mohawk, James Chadwick, Anson Gardner, Craig Seneca, Gehnew Printup, Brett Logan, Wyatt Cooper, Lucas Beaver, Coach Snooky, Ace Washburn. Missing from photo: Head Coach Joseph Williams, Assistant Coach Jonathan Williams, Darien Jimerson, Alex Kedoh Hill, Marv Curry, General Manager Asa Washburn, Frank Thompson Jr, and Coach Frank Thompson Sr.

Ja:goh Rayven Sample!

WNY athlete competes in 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games

Rayven Sample competed in the men's 400M T47 final on Saturday, September 4th

wgrz.com | September 4, 2021

TOKYO, Japan — A Western New York athlete's Paralympic journey has come to an end after he was disqualified during the competition Saturday.

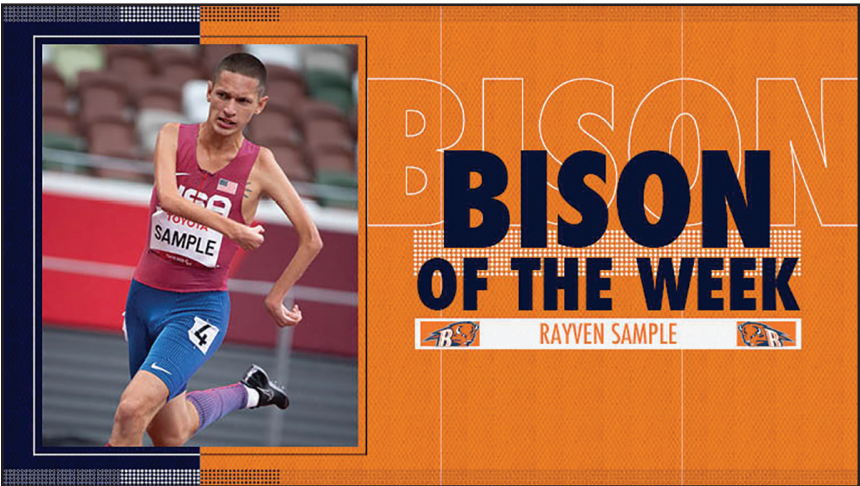
Rayven Sample, a Falconer High School graduate and current student at Bucknell University, ran the men's 400-meter T47 final in Tokyo, but he was disqualified for violating Paralympics rule 18.5, which states athletes must stay in their designated lane for the duration of the race.



Sample was born with arthrogryposis, a condition which causes a lack of muscular growth and development.

"Really nothing's a setback. It's all about your mindset," Sample told 2 On Your Side's Heather Ly in March 2020 when he was preparing to qualify for the Paralympic games. "You can either choose to be destroyed by the situations that are put on you, the different conditions put on you, or you can choose to find a better path, a positive path and really just do the most that you're

Sample previously came in third place in the semifinals to advance to the final round of competition. able to."



Rayven Sample Named Bison Athlete of the Week

<https://bucknellbison.com/> | September 6, 2021

LEWISBURG, Pa. -- Bucknell sophomore track and field student-athlete Rayven Sample has been named the Bison Athlete of the Week after competing in the Paralympics last week.

Sample made his Paralympic debut on Thursday evening, qualifying for the T47 400m final. The native of Jamestown, N.Y. finished third in his heat to earn automatic qualification, running



Source: <https://bucknellbison.com/news/2021/9/6/mens-track-and-field-rayven-sample-named-bison-athlete-of-the-week.aspx>



# What's Been Happening at Pinewoods Community Association? August 2021 News

Submitted by Jacky Snyder

## ANNUAL FIELD DAY 2021

August 22nd was a great day in Pinewoods! Community members from near and far came to help us enjoy the loosened reigns of the Covid-19 pandemic once again. The PCA Event Committee formed a well-planned event from morning to evening with many activities for everyone of all ages!

## FIELD & GROUNDS USAGE

The Pinewoods Community has seen a recent influx of suspicious activity on the grounds. Please be reminded that there are NO drugs or alcohol allowed on premises. Also keep in mind when utilizing the community area, please remember to clean up after yourself. There are garbage cans provided for your use. Please play at your own risk, and supervise your children. Nya:weh!

## WHAT’S NEW?

The PCA would like to thank Gernatt’s Gravel and Chrissy Schindler for helping get one of our goals accomplished! Our pavilion has been revamped and concreted! We



have also been able to make repairs to our softball dugout roof, as well as purchase a new storage shed for our lawnmower!

We appreciate ALL of our community volunteers and the donations we’ve received immensely! Pictured below is Randy and Ryder, who helped with a bunch of our improvements!

**COMMUNITY CLOSURE NOTICE:**  
The PCA will be undergoing construction in the

Fall! We are grateful to the Seneca Nation for helping to provide our community with bathrooms usable for all of our community and events! The playground/ballfield will be unusable after October 1st.

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

September 19th:  
SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY MEETING  
October 10th:  
OCTOBER COMMUNITY MEETING

## SMOKE DANCE

The Smoke Dance event was one of our biggest events of the day! Thank you to Alyssa Schmidt for being our event coordinator, and to Alan Dowdy for being the singer/MC of the day.



PCA would like to thank Mary & Sam Jacobs, Annette Repicci & Family, Councilor Angie Kennedy & Family, JC Seneca, SNI Council Office, SNI Clerk’s Office & SNI President’s Offices for sponsoring  
*(Continued on page 17)*



### Jr. Boys

- 1– Quintin Van Pelt
- 2– Martin Jimerson III
- 3– Herb John IV



### Jr. Girls

- 1– Ellie Booth
- 2– Mayce Jones
- 3– Lorenza Dowdy



### Teen Boys

- 1– Winter Rivera
- 2– Cusin Lyons
- 3– Kelvin George



### Teen Girls

- 1– Eva Dowdy
- 2– Cici Rivera
- 3– Caye John



### Men

- 1– Jake George
- 2– James Jimerson
- 3– Keaton Kennedy



### Women

- 1– Monique Powless
- 2– Asia Hill
- 3– Toni Scott



### Golden Age Men

- 1– Alan George



### Golden Age Women

- 1– Sue Sue Pierce
- 2– Vicky Seneca

## CORNHOLE



1st Place

**Al & Dalli**

*Thank you Bucktown Baggerz!*



2nd place

**Parker & Craig**

## FAMILY KICKBALL



**“P-JOX FAMILY”**

## CLOSEST TO THE PIN



**MEN– Herbie John**

**WOMEN– Jayde Stevens**

*Thank you Gosheneh!*

## VOLLEYBALL



**“How I Set Your Mother”**

**Captain– Clint Jones**

*Thank you Park & Dalli!*



our categories this year! Without your generous donations, this event could not have been such a huge success!

FOR MORE PICTURES AND UPDATES, VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: “Pinewoods Community Association”

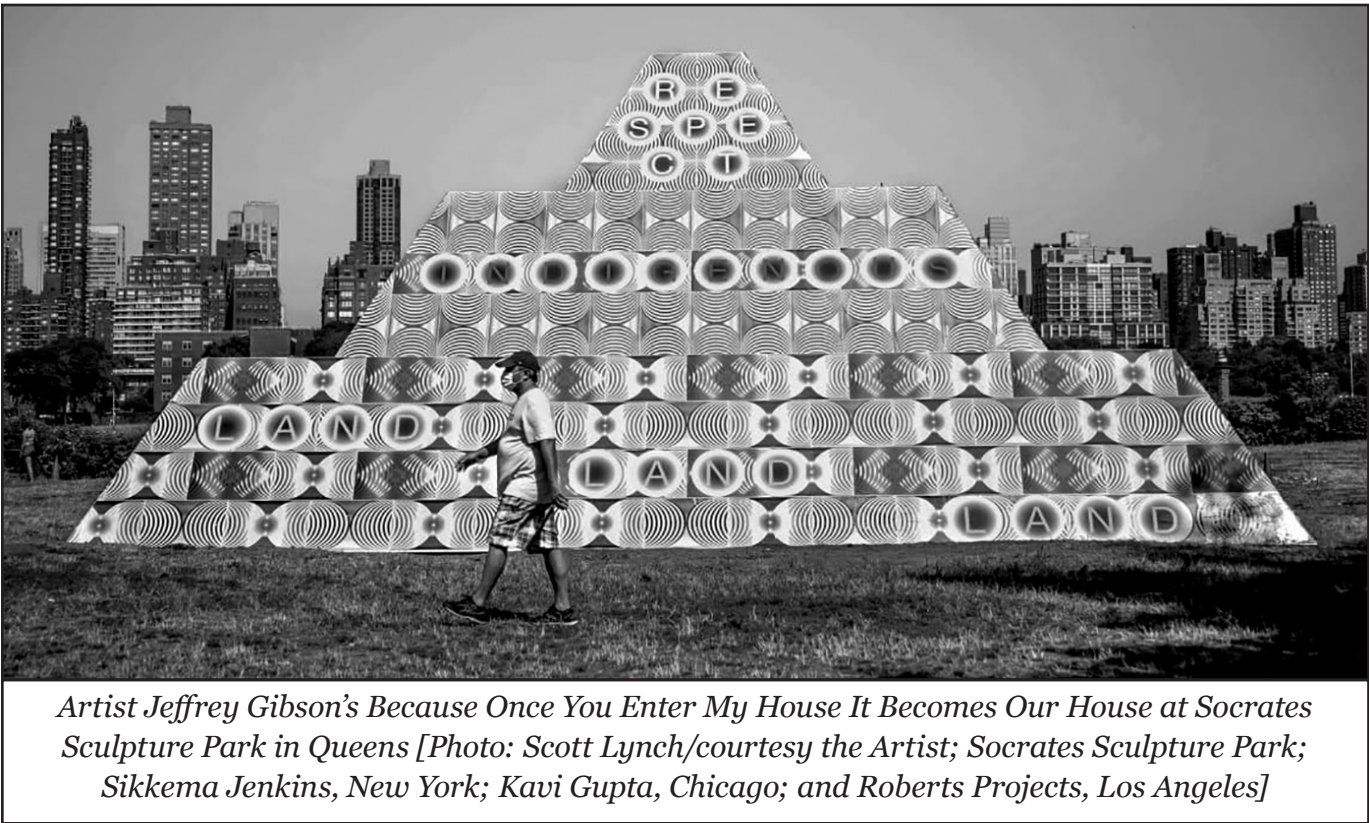
If you’d like to help plan, become involved, or be in the loop about what’s going on in Pinewoods, feel free to reach out to us! Any questions or concerns, please email us at [Pinewoodscommunityassociation1@gmail.com](mailto:Pinewoodscommunityassociation1@gmail.com).

**SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE:** Due to the Seneca Nation Fall Festival happening September 10-12, 2021, our monthly community meeting has been moved to **Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 10 am.**

# ‘The invention of a new America’: Traditional monuments get a dramatic overhaul

Many indigenous artists are creating public artworks that invite communities to engage, rather than keeping them at a distance | <https://www.fastcompany.com/90657314/the-invention-of-a-new-america-traditional-monuments-get-a-dramatic-overhaul>

Source: <https://www.fastcompany.com/90657314/the-invention-of-a-new-america-traditional-monuments-get-a-dramatic-overhaul>



The last year has highlighted America’s deep divides over identity and its struggles with how to memorialize the past. In the midst of these very public debates, indigenous artists are taking a different tack, creating art that encourages reflection and interaction as a way to start conversations and bridge the divides.

A prime example of this is *Okciyapi*, the upcoming installation by artist Angela Two Stars, which will be revealed to the public on October 9 at the Walker Art Museum’s Minneapolis Sculpture Garden.

*Okciyapi* is the first sculpture by an indigenous artist commissioned by the Walker for the sculpture garden, and it’s one of many recent public artworks by contemporary indigenous artists that envision a more inclusive American identity. These pieces offer

an antidote to traditional monuments, which for centuries mythologized men and were designed to keep viewers at a distance.

*Okciyapi* is Dakota for “help each other,” and the sculpture

is an homage to the Dakota people and their endangered but resilient language, and to all those who are working to ensure the language not only survives but thrives. Two Stars posits that there are fewer than 60 fluent Dakota speakers from her

tribe, many of whom are elderly.

Situated near the iconic *Spoonbridge and Cherry* sculpture by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, the installation will feature concentric circles of concrete benches, evocative of ripples from a water drop, and enamel panels engraved with Dakota words and phrases such as *woksapé* (wisdom), *wóohoda* (respect), and *wóohitika* (bravery). At the center, there’s a reflective water vessel.

Two Stars—an enrolled member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Dakota Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota—designed *Okciyapi* to draw visitors in as they read, reflect, and listen to audio of tribal elders telling stories in what the artist emphasizes is a very oral language.

“I like to create artwork that  
**(Continued on page 18)**





has an element of audience participation,” Two Stars says. “I want to make my art accessible to everybody, to both native and non-native audiences.”

In the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in May 2020, communities ramped up their efforts to remove a slew of monuments and statues across the country that celebrated racist and oppressive individuals—from Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia, to Christopher Columbus at the Minnesota State Capitol. There’s even a Wikipedia page that lists all the monuments that have been removed in the time period since.

“It’s a clearly acknowledged idea that monuments about one person are still claiming to be universal, but privileging one group,” says Henriette Huldish, chief curator of the Walker. “Angela’s piece is really the opposite.”

While Okciyapi is Two Stars’s largest public art commission to date, she has long been raising awareness about the Dakota through her art. In 2019, she collaborated on a public art project along the shores of Bde Maka Ska, the largest lake in Minneapolis. The project highlighted the restoration of the original Dakota name from Lake Calhoun, which was named for John Calhoun, a former vice president of the U.S. and a strong defender of slavery. Two Stars is also the director of All My Relations, a Minneapolis gallery presenting the work of American Indian contemporary fine artists.

Two Stars is one of many contemporary Native American artists whose work honors a specific culture while also prioritizing the cooperative, inviting visitors in to join and move forward together.

“To me it’s not surprising that native artists are inviting people in,” says Kathleen Ash-Milby, curator of Native American Art at the Portland

Art Museum and a member of the Navajo Nation. While this isn’t necessarily unique to Native American artists, she says native cultures prioritize community and the individual’s responsibility to the collective.

In addition to Two Stars, Ash-Milby points to contemporary artists such as **Marie Watt (of the Seneca Nation of Indians)**, Cannupa Hanska Luger (of the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Reservation), Jeffrey Gibson (of the Mississippi Band Choctaw/Cherokee), Nadia Myre (of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation), and Alan Michelson (of the Six Nations of the Grand River).

Michelson’s 2018 public artwork *Mantle* is a spiral stonework in Richmond, Virginia’s Capitol Square that invites visitors “to move within the symbolic circle of American Indian culture.”

From 2005 to 2013, meanwhile, Myre invited people to pick up needle and thread and sew their physical, emotional, and spiritual scars into canvas for *The Scar Project*. More than 1,400 people participated.

Then there’s Gibson, who created the piece *Because Once You Enter My House It Becomes Our House* for the 2020 *Monument Now* exhibition

at Socrates Sculpture Park in Queens. Gibson’s massive 44-square-foot artwork was inspired by the Serpent Mound of Pre-Columbian Mississippian culture, from which Gibson’s band of Mississippi Choctaw Indians descended.

The ziggurat structure buzzes with the neon colors of wheat-pasted posters with statements like “POWER FULL BECAUSE WE ARE DIFFERENT” and “THE FUTURE IS PRESENT.” Gibson encouraged the community to climb, dance, or go within the sculpture, where more art resided.

With its backdrop of the East River and the Manhattan skyline, Malvika Jolly of The Brooklyn Rail said it looked like “the invention of a new America.”

Back at the Walker, against the backdrop of the Minneapolis skyline, Okciyapi invites the community to learn about the Dakota and the origins of Minnesota itself. (Two Stars points to how Minnesota is derived from the Dakota phrase “Mni Sota Makoce,” meaning “Land Where the Waters Reflect the Clouds.”) The artwork also invites viewers to process the trauma of the past: the repercussions of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 are still widely felt, as is the legacy of

the state’s 16 American Indian boarding schools.

Okciyapi will be installed on the site where artist Ben Durant’s Scaffold stood briefly in 2017 before it was removed after a community outcry. Durant’s piece reconstructed seven different gallows from U.S. history including those used for the 1862 hanging of 38 Dakota men in Mankato, Minnesota—an execution ordered under President Abraham Lincoln in the aftermath of the U.S.-Dakota War. It is the largest mass execution in U.S. history.

“It wasn’t even about Scaffold. We didn’t want the artist to feel burdened by that history and those missteps,” says Kate Beane, who is on the Indigenous Public Art Commission that formed in the aftermath of Scaffold and worked with the Walker to commission a new work. “At the same time, we knew we needed to choose an artist brave enough to create in that space knowing what happened there.”

Beane, who is also director of Native American Initiatives for the Minnesota Historical Society and a member of the Flandreau Santee Sioux tribe in South Dakota, says they chose Two Stars because of how her artwork and process engage communities. “It was not about her,” Beane says. “She really came in without ego.”

Two Stars has frequently spoken about how the inspiration for Okciyapi was her grandfather Orsen Bernard, who spent the last 15 years of his life dedicated to the Dakota language. In her lifetime, she recalls seeing the language transforming from a source of pain for the elder generations, who were abused for speaking it in boarding and residential schools, to a source of joy for youth, including for her own young children. Now, she says she sees non-natives wanting to learn one of the original languages of Minnesota, too: “I’m inviting people into what I call my language journey.”



*Dancers perform Emily Johnson’s The Ways We Love and The Ways We Love Better – Monumental Movement Toward Being Better Being(s) on and around Jeffrey Gibson’s installation, Because Once You Enter My House It Becomes Our House. [Photo: Scott Lynch/ courtesy the Artist; Socrates Sculpture Park; Sikkema Jenkins, New York; Kavi Gupta, Chicago; and Roberts Projects, Los Angeles]*



# Honor past princesses, but retire the ‘Indian Princess’

*My near-princess experience and my hope to elevate Native women’s contributions and achievements*

By YANENOWI LOGAN | Reprinted from indiancountrytoday.com



Yanenowi 'She Guards the Corn' Logan (Courtesy image)

## Yanenowi Logan - Seneca Nation of Indians, New York State Fair Indian Village Princess

An annual highlight of Labor Day weekend at the New York State Fair is Native American Day — we Natives call it “Ind’n Day.” Natives come from across the state and converge on the Indian Village, where the Six Nations are represented in bark-covered stands and sell their wares.

A group of singers and dancers perform daily on an elevated stage in the shape of a turtle, the Turtle Mound, and share the culture and history of the people Indigenous to the state. Each year there is an Indian Princess selected to represent one of the territories; each nation gets a turn on a rotating basis. This year it was the Seneca Nation Cattaraugus Territory’s selection. The Agricultural Society selected me.

A Facebook post urging the young women of Cattaraugus to apply circulated and a couple of friends and my auntie forwarded the post to me. I decided almost immediately to apply. After submitting a letter of intent, I was invited to interview; most questions were based on my comprehension of our culture.

After the interview, I was nervous and unsure. Nervous, because I thought my answers weren’t Seneca enough. Was my storytelling up to par? Did I demonstrate knowledge of my culture and show I’m proud of it? Did I convey confidence and my desire to serve in a position that young women like my younger self would look up to? That same night I was informed that I was selected as this year’s princess and I was beside myself with excitement.

I was especially thrilled since I come from

a long line of Logans with a strong, historic presence in the Indian Village. My grandfather and great-grandfather occupied the Tonawanda stand for years; my great-aunt, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother all sat in the women’s building beading daisy chains and earrings. I was so looking forward to being there and sharing in the tradition.

And then the Delta variant hit. Despite being vaccinated, I tested positive, got breakthrough COVID-19, and was ordered to a 10-day quarantine. My princess “reign” and my State Fair Indian Village experience derailed. Even though I now sit in isolation — doing my classes online and attending conferences through Zoom, and missing out on the Fair — I believe I was selected to represent. So this is my shot.

By virtue of being granted the privilege comes with it a responsibility to honor and respect past princesses, but also to lead and be a positive role model for young Native women. It is in this vein that I strive to use this platform to propose the retirement of the Indian Princess title in lieu of a more culturally appropriate way to celebrate and honor young Indigenous women

I don’t want to dishonor or disrespect past princesses, but bring us forward with more culturally relevant and accurate nomenclature.

There are better ways of showcasing our strong women to the world. The Haudenosaunee, people of the Longhouse, are matrilineal people. Lineage and clans are passed down from the women and clan mothers determine our traditional leaders.

I understand what it means to have strong women lead and represent, and I want to contribute in my own way. Being called an Indian Princess, although a position of honor, can also be uncomfortable in predominately white spaces.

I had the awkward experience of being

called princess all day at work this summer by my white colleagues once I shared the news. Although I know their congratulations were well-intentioned, I couldn’t help but feel tokenized. I knew that I was the only Native girl they knew and now they could tell their friends and families that they knew a real Indian Princess.

The issue isn’t just a matter of discomfort with the term but the stereotypes, microaggressions and historical inaccuracies embedded in it.

All over Indian Country, at community events, powwows, and fairs, such as Crow Fair in Montana, the idea of Indian royalty and the practice of naming princesses has been pervasive.

However, the notion of an Indian princess was not part of Native culture or tradition — it was an idea, however flawed or well-intentioned, that was adopted and became a mainstay at events.

The New York State Fair Indian Village has its own history in embracing royalty into its traditions. In 1952, 69 years ago, the New York State Fair installed its first Indian Princess: Frieda Williams, Tuscarora.

Maribel Watt, Seneca (Allegany) was the second New York State Fair Indian Princess in 1953.

Maribel served twice as the clerk of the Seneca Nation and was elected to council; she was instrumental on several committees during the removal period post-Kinzua when Senecas were dispossessed of land on the Allegany territory due to the building of the Kinzua Dam when hundreds were devastated by the loss of their dwellings and homelands.

She was the epitome of strong leadership and all that we should celebrate and honor in past princesses. She passed in 2015. It is time to recognize and celebrate women, such as Maribel Watt, who are reflective of who we are and do so in ways that empower us.

I am familiar with and look up to powerful Indigenous women. Women like environmental activist Winona LaDuke, Anishinaabe, who has been an incredible inspiration in my journey in studying **(Continued on the back page)**



# AOA Elders Corner -- Directors Update

By Bethany Lay

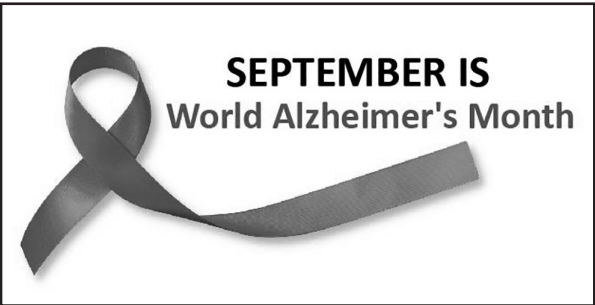
## Nya:wëh Sgë:nö'

August was a busy month at AOA. We extended our hours and activities, offered daily trips on our AOA buses, and assisted over 350 Elders. We are thankful for your patience as we ramp our programs and services back up to pre-pandemic levels.

Later this month we will be working with other SNI departments to hold a Community Healing Walk in honor and remembrance of those affected by residential schools. We hope that you will join us in coming together as a community to remember and to heal. More information can be found inside this issue.

September is World Alzheimer’s Month. Alzheimer's is a brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills. There are 10 warning signs and symptoms. If you notice any of them, don't ignore them. Schedule an appointment with your doctor.

If you are in need of support or assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact AOA in Cattaraugus at (716)532-5777 or Allegany at (716)945-8990.



## 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's:

1. **Memory loss that disrupts daily life** - One of the most common signs of Alzheimer’s disease, especially in the early stage, is forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking for the same questions over and over, and increasingly needing to rely on memory aids (e.g., reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things they used to handle on their own.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Sometimes forgetting names or appointments, but remembering them later.

2. **Challenges in planning or solving problems** - Some people living with

dementia may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Making occasional errors when managing finances or household bills.

3. **Difficulty completing familiar tasks** - People with Alzheimer's often find it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes they may have trouble driving to a familiar location, organizing a grocery list or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Occasionally needing help to use microwave settings or to record a TV show.

4. **Confusion with time or place** - People living with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Getting confused about the day of the week but figuring it out later.

5. **Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships** - For some people, having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer's. This may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading. They may also have problems judging distance and determining color or contrast, causing issues with driving.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Vision changes related to cataracts.

6. **New problems with words in speaking or writing** - People living with Alzheimer's may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or they may repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have trouble naming a familiar object or use the wrong name (e.g., calling a "watch" a "hand-clock").

**What's a typical age-related change?** Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

7. **Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps** - A person living with Alzheimer's disease may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. He or she may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Misplacing things from time to time and retracing steps to find them.

8. **Decreased or poor judgment** - Individuals may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Making a bad decision or mistake once in a while, like neglecting to change the oil in the car.

9. **Withdrawal from work or social activities** - A person living with Alzheimer’s disease may experience changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation. As a result, he or she may withdraw from hobbies, social activities or other engagements. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite team or activity.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Sometimes feeling uninterested in family or social obligations.

10. **Changes in mood and personality** - Individuals living with Alzheimer’s may experience mood and personality changes. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, with friends or when out of their comfort zone.

**What's a typical age-related change?** Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

For more information on Alzheimer’s and dementia, please visit: [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)





NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANCY JIMERSON

Executor: Pamela Pierce,  
P.O. Box 187, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - Final Notice ~

ESTATE OF PAUL D. WHITEPIGEON, SR.

Executor: Marla Nauni,  
P.O. Box 1054, Cache, OK 73527  
~ Allegany Territory - Final Notice ~

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN CURRY

Administrator: Valene M. Peters,  
P.O. Box 331, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Allegany Territory - Final Notice ~

ESTATE OF AUDREY SUOSMAA

Administrator: Annette McMahon,  
4913 Creal Rd., Homer, NY 13077  
~ Allegany Territory - 2nd Notice ~

ESTATE OF HARLAN R. SENECA

Administrator: Brandy Montour,  
12336 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Allegany Territory - 1st Notice ~

ESTATE OF BRILEY S. JACKSON

Administrator: Amanda Skiver,  
416 W. Green St., Olean, NY 14760  
~ Allegany Territory - 1st Notice ~

ESTATE OF BERNARD GEORGE

Executor: Phyllis George,  
1683 Brant North Collins Rd., North Collins, NY 14111  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

Seneca Nation of Indians | SURROGATE’S COURT  
Cattaraugus & Allegany Territory

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

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Next SNI Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next edition of the SNI Official Newsletter will be **Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021.**  
Next issue to be dated Friday, September 24, 2021.

Email us: [sninews@sni.org](mailto:sninews@sni.org)

SN Disability Services

SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

\*Allegany Territory\*

ALLEGANY RESIDENTS CAN NOW CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR A PHONE CONFERENCE FOR  
NEW CLAIMS, APPEALS, RETIREMENT  
& ALL OTHER BUSINESS

A SSI Rep. will be available on the following dates:

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021  
OCTOBER 20, 2021  
NOVEMBER 17, 2021  
From  
9:00AM - 3:00 PM

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Social Security Administration is still closed to the public. The appointments will be through phone conference ONLY until such time it is safe to open back up to the public. Please feel free to contact our office for details.



Phone: 716-532-4900, ext. 5152  
Email: [Ashley.kennedy@sni.org](mailto:Ashley.kennedy@sni.org)  
[leanna.leroy@sni.org](mailto:leanna.leroy@sni.org)



SN Disability Services

SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

\*Cattaraugus Territory\*

CATTARAUGUS RESIDENTS CAN NOW CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR A PHONE CONFERENCE FOR  
NEW CLAIMS, APPEALS, RETIREMENT  
& ALL OTHER BUSINESS

A SSI Rep. will be available on the following dates:

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021  
OCTOBER 27, 2021  
NOVEMBER 24, 2021  
From  
9:00AM - 3:00 PM

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Social Security Administration is still closed to the public. The appointments will be through phone conference ONLY until such time it is safe to open back up to the public. Please feel free to contact our office for details.



Phone: 716-532-4900, ext. 5152  
Email: [Ashley.kennedy@sni.org](mailto:Ashley.kennedy@sni.org)  
[leanna.leroy@sni.org](mailto:leanna.leroy@sni.org)





# Seneca Native Connections ~ Honor Your Journey

As some may or may not know, the Seneca Nation Health System’s Prevention Team have some new faces serving our communities. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the team that makes Native Connections come to life and the program as a whole. You may have seen our flyers and even participated in some of the programs past events over the years, but some of you may be wondering...what is Native Connections?

Well, let us tell you! The Prevention Team is a part of the community services within the Seneca Nation Health System, and our mission is to reduce substance use and suicide risk among Seneca Nation youth and families through the creation of community-wide and culturally rele-

vant programming. Our goal is to encourage youth to honor their journey through a substance free and healthy lifestyle. We do this by providing education to the community, especially the youth, on topics like mental health, substance use, and life skills. The team also provides suicide intervention trainings to the community.

Our program hosts monthly events that focuses on promoting families spending time together, as positive family engagement serves as a protective factor against substance misuse and suicide. We also have our Clubhouses, which will soon have their doors open to youth ages 12-17, providing a safe place for youth to hang out or participate in a variety of

prevention programming. The Clubhouses have a wide array of different amenities to offer the youth that include computers and quiet areas to work on their homework, a gaming room, rock wall, and an entertainment area to enjoy movies with friends.

We love bringing education and awareness to the community, and we hope to see you at one of our future events and participating in our programming!



## SNHS Employee Spotlight

**Rosalind E. Statts** is a medical case manager located at the Lionel R. John Health Center.



We asked what she likes best about her job and what her job duties are. She says “Along with duties which include: assisting people in setting up & scheduling for transportation including making sure forms for (MAS) medical answering services are complete and in their system; I also assist with outside specialist appointments. What I like best about my job is getting to come here every day and be of service to people in the community.”

What is the most beneficial/inspirational part of her position? She says, “It has been a pleasure to get to know some of the people in the community - primarily it has been through months of talking and sharing on the phone, however, I have also had the privilege of meeting some patients face to face.”

Rosalind grew up in Wellsboro, PA and St. Cloud, Minnesota. She attended Mansfield University in Mansfield, PA receiving a BSW (Bachelor in Social

Work) then received a CADC (Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor).

We asked what she likes to do in her spare time. She says “Lots of things! Time with family, gardening, cooking, reading a good book, painting, traveling by car so I can stop pretty much anywhere and check out the scene.”

Favorite quote or words/advice that she lives by? She says “Serenity Prayer - God Grant Me the Serenity To Accept the Things I Cannot Change, The Courage to Change the Things I Can, And the Wisdom To Know the Difference.”

She also says that there are only a few states that she has not traveled during her lifetime and she has had the opportunity to spend time in the Dominican Republic ministering to people who live and work in the Bateyes.

In addition, Rosalind states, “It has been a privilege to work here at Seneca Nation Health System - I know that I have grown and changed as a woman. I hope to continue to have opportunities and experiences with people as I have had here.”

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

### NOTICE:

Seneca Nation Health System  
will be closed:

**Friday, September 17th**  
**Ogwe’o:weh Day**

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

Nya:weh



### Veggie Bucks Reminder

Adult patients (over 18 years old) of the SNHS can earn Veggie Bucks for attending appointments with:

- Medical
- Dental
- Optical
- And by meeting with our Certified Diabetes Educators, Registered Dietitians, Health Educators and Exercise Specialists

Contact the following staff once your appointment is completed to pick up your Veggie Bucks!  
  
**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





# Seneca Nation’s Out of the Darkness Walk

Submitted by Seneca Native Connections

We are collaborating with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to host our first Out of the Darkness Walk. This is a walk that’s intended to bring awareness to suicide and to promote suicide prevention within the community. This walk is also a fundraising opportunity; this is completely optional, and the community does not need to fundraise to participate in the walk. A part of the funds that are raised go to the National AFSP office, where they will use it for research, developing education, funding legislation, and advocacy. The other portion of the funds raised will go to the local WNY AFSP chapter, where they will use it to support loss and healing groups, prevention education, and to supply other Out of the Darkness Walks.

## OUT of the DARKNESS WALK



### HONOR YOUR JOURNEY... Support the next seven generations.

#### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25

The Saylor Community Building  
Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Walk begins at 11:00 a.m.  
To preregister visit:  
[afsp.org/senecanation](https://afsp.org/senecanation)



Walk to save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide.



Find more information at:  
[senecanativeconnections.org](https://senecanativeconnections.org)

## Continued Mask Mandate

Regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, all Seneca Nation Health System patients, visitors, and employees are required to wear a face mask or face covering within SNHS facilities.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with the continued mask mandate.



MOVIE NIGHT

## Drive-in Family Movie Night



### Family Movie Night!!!

Join us for another family movie night with **HOCUS POCUS!**

Register ASAP as this event is capped at 50 participants.  
Both showings begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 28th -**  
Seneca Clubhouse - Cattaraugus  
12861 Route 438 in Irving

**Wednesday, September 29th -**  
Allegany Community Center  
3677 Administration Drive in Salamanca

Please note that any event that is in-person or requires material pickup, will follow COVID-19 safety protocols.  
Please wear a mask and observe the six-foot social distance rule.

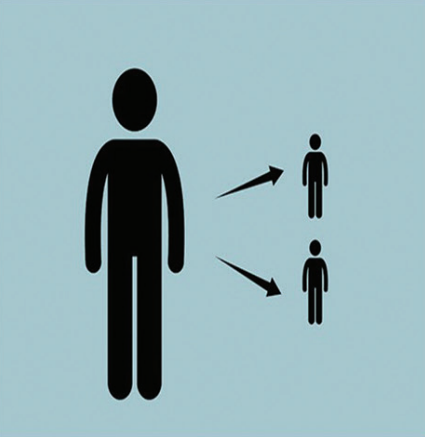
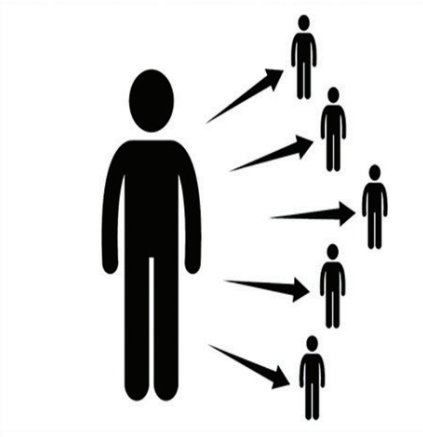
This event is open to the community RSVP:

**Jennifer Stebbins**  
716.532.5583 ext. 5433  
[jstebbins@senecahealth.org](mailto:jstebbins@senecahealth.org)



**NATIVE connections**  
Honor your journey.



## The Delta variant is more contagious than previous strains—it may cause more than 2x as many infections

| ORIGINAL COVID-19 STRAIN  | DELTA VARIANT   |
|---|---|
|  |  |

Vaccines protect you from hospitalization, severe infections, and death



CS 322041-AA 08/02/2021



# AUTUMN

wordsearch puzzle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | E | D | G | E | R | A | C |
| F | O | X | E | H | A | R | D |
| R | I | B | C | O | C | C | E |
| S | A | E | S | G | B | O | E |
| Q | R | A | N | A | D | O | R |
| U | N | R | A | K | E | N | H |
| I | B | I | R | D | H | R | A |
| R | R | E | L | F | X | E | R |

FIND Animals in the picture and in the puzzle

SQUIRREL - DEER - HEDGEHOG - FOX - BEAR - BIRD - HARE - SNAKE - RACCOON

Yanenowi Logan

environment and sustainability at Cornell University.

Women like Eloise Cobell, Blackfeet, who spent decades fighting the federal government to address and settle the precedent-setting Trust Funds case; Louise Erdrich, Turtle Mountain Chippewa, prolific writer, author, and Pulitzer Prize-winner; Deb Haaland, Laguna Pueblo, congresswoman and first Native Secretary of the Interior; and strong, beloved clan mothers throughout the confederacy such as Audrey Shenandoah, Onondaga, and my great-grandmother Arlene Logan, Seneca, those old school elders who seemed to possess inherent wisdom, knowledge, and insights who could light up rooms with their mere entry, and too many others to list here.

These women and so many others have

paved a path for Indigenous women for generations to come. They should be celebrated and more widely recognized.

I accepted the title and the honor of the Indian Princess so that I might reject the title of the Indian Princess. I propose a more accurate representation of Native women and suggest that we put an end to the Indian Princess era. I am also launching a fundraiser to commission a new sash for next year’s Miss Haudenosaunee. This is an opportunity to embark on a new path and a new way to honor our strong, up and coming, young Native women.

I honor all past Indian Princesses and their life-long accomplishments and contributions to our communities. I wish I had the opportunity to wear the sash, climb the Turtle Mound and represent in person at the New York State Fair.

But I will use my voice to ensure that Ongwehonwe women stand tall and are recognized for who they really are.

We remain rooted in culture and traditions that are ours; we must peel away the false pretenses of Indian Princess nomenclature. We have no need for notions of a Disney-fied, romanticized, abstract Princess ideal.

We have a great need for Haudenosaunee role models with resonant voices, community roots, and traditional values, yet with forward-thinking leadership qualities and convictions.

I ask not only my Seneca relations, but my Six Nations peers and all Indigenous women to join me in pressing for change. Out with the Indian Princess, on with Ongwehoweh, Haudenosaunee!