



# The Official Newsletter of the SENECA NATION



January 14, 2022 - [visit us at www.sninews.org](http://www.sninews.org)



## A message from President Matthew B. Pagels



*Nya:wëh sgë:nö' gagwe:goh (I'm thankful you are all well),*

As we start off 2022, we continue to be caught up in the middle of a pandemic. As we gathered for the holidays the Omicron strain of the COVID-19 virus has been gaining momentum infecting thousands of people a day throughout the country. This trend is also evident within our communities here in Allegany and Cattaraugus.

In the first week of January we've had

238 COVID-19 cases in our communities. These are being recorded both through our health facilities and CTS testing sights. Our overall positivity rate is near 15%. In comparison, last year the surrounding counties we considered red zones if their daily positivity rate higher than 5%. We are currently three times higher with this new variant.

Our alarming numbers indicate just how contagious the Omicron variant is. One of the most effective method to combat the spread and to lower the degree of symptoms is to get vaccinated. The vaccination clinic continues to schedule appointments at 716-532-5582 Cattaraugus and 716-945-5894 Allegany Health Centers. You may also schedule online at [SenecaHealth.org/vaccine](http://SenecaHealth.org/vaccine).

To strengthen our detection efforts we continue to offer and expand testing on territory. Both Allegany and Cattaraugus testing sites have changed to new locations but continue seven days a week from 3pm – 7pm (Allegany). CTS testing in Allegany is at the ACC, located at 3677 Administration Dr back parking lot. Blue Stone testing daily option from 4pm – 7 pm for elders and enrolled members is located at the Allegany

DPW building. Photo ID is required and access to an email and/or electronic device is required for the PCR test.

In Cattaraugus, the daily CTS testing is available starting at 1pm-7pm at the Seneca Fire station 2. This is located off of Route 5 behind the Gil Lay Arena. This testing site is available for everyone. Appointments and insurance are not required for CTS.

In addition, to testing sites we have held two drive through at home test kit giveaways for enrolled members. We will continue offer kits as we are able to replenish the supply.

Lastly, we encourage everyone to limit their large group gatherings and continue to follow Covid-19 protocols. With the Omicron variant so contagious mask mandates are important to follow.

A few changes within the Nation to combat the virus are: mandated weekly testing for employees who are not vaccinated, employees and consultants who perform work at the Nation must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, we have also restricted large group gatherings within our Departments including activities at the ACC and CCC. Access to Nation

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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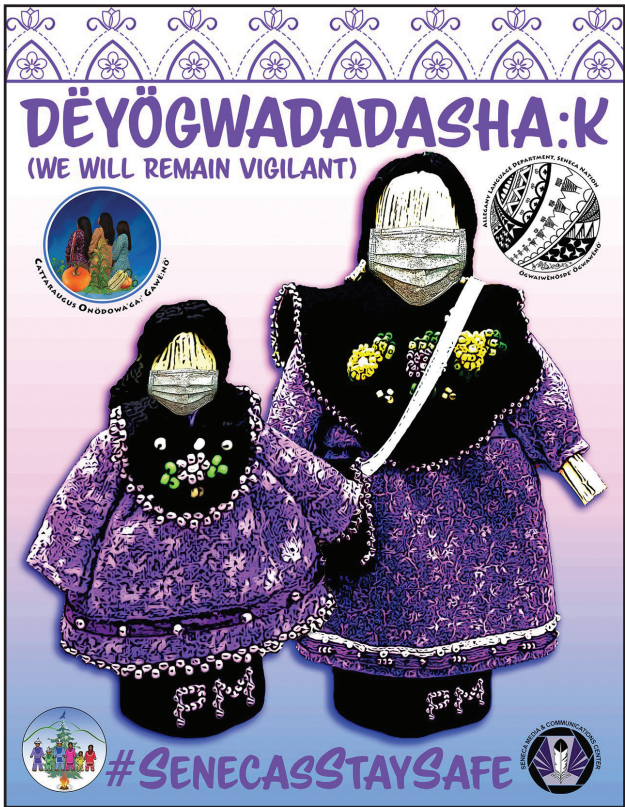
*\*\*Top photo by Lisa Longboat,  
SMCC*

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BRADFORD, PA



facilities will also be restricted requiring appointments only.

We must all continue to do our part in protecting our Nation and one another. You can monitor the COVID-19 situation on our website and social media channels for important updates. We continue to keep our lines of communication open to our community and are open to suggestions on getting the message out to those without social media options.



SENECA NATION HEALTH SYSTEM

ON-SITE NO-COST COVID-19 TESTING

CTS

RAPID

5-10 MIN

PCR

24-48 HRS

+++ APPOINTMENT & INSURANCE NOT REQUIRED +++

SENECA FIRE CATTARAUGUS

12879 ROUTE 438

IRVING, NY 14081

855-566-1003

3:00PM - 7:00PM

MONDAY - SUNDAY

CHRISTMAS EVE 1:00PM - 3:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED

NEW YEAR'S EVE 3:00PM - 5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY CLOSED

SENECA FIRE ALLEGANY

8184 EAST LOOP ROAD

SALAMANCA, NY 14779

855-566-1003

Have a Happy New Year and please stay safe, and stay strong!

Dah ne'hoh din ae'

\*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED ON PG. 5



FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER



Greetings,

With the holidays behind us and a new year to jump into, I'm looking forward to seeing what 2022 brings for us! So far, we've had a pretty mild winter; but, I don't think the remainder will be as mild. Stay warm and remember to check in on our elders in our communities to see if they are okay or if they need anything.

As previously reported, our Fiscal Department is finalizing several end of year accounting tasks, in addition to making

sure routine check processing continues on a smooth, but busy schedule. By now, all of our departments should be operating well, with their new budgets and working on new projects for 2022.

With the surge of COVID-19 cases increasing in New York State, to rates seen in January of 2021, the Seneca Nation has implemented our own Bluestone COVID testing for enrolled Seneca Nation members. In Cattaraugus, the testing is taking place at the Seneca Fire-Irving substation seven days per week, from 3pm-7pm. In Allegany, the testing is taking place at the DPW drive through bays seven days per week, from 3pm-7pm. All together, we have put approximately a dozen enrolled Senecas to work, to carry out this temporary, additional testing option for our community members. This additional testing opportunity will operate for about four weeks, provided the increased need remains necessary. We all want the rates of infection and hospitalizations to decrease, but we won't see that unless we continue to follow a few simple practices. I highly recommend everyone continue to wear facial coverings (masks, shields, etc.) and continue to practice social distancing, as much as possible. One of the most

important things we can all do is - to avoid large gatherings with people whom do not live in our home. This has been a suggestion from day one and continues to be a logical, simple, logistical practice we can all abide by. If you absolutely must be in a large gathering, please maintain a safe social distance and wear a face covering of some sort.

Once again, I remind everyone, we are still operating under emergency COVID-19 protocols which were established in the spring of 2020. This is a global pandemic, which means it is a Seneca community issue, as well. The Omicron strain of this virus is reported to be more highly transmissible than the original virus, but I believe we can come together for the good of our entire communities and do our part to put this deadly pandemic behind us. If you would like to receive a vaccine, please call and make an appointment as soon as possible: Allegany Health, Teri Cowles (716) 945-5894 or Cattaraugus Health, Kim Bradley (716) 532-5582.

Respectfully,  
Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.





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

MASKS ARE REQUIRED UPON ENTRY TO ALL SENECA NATION BUILDINGS

The Clerk’s Office on the Cattaraugus Territory has re-opened our doors with safety protocols in place. Masks are required at all times and you must social distance while in the Building. 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 Cards as a form of payment for ID’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  
Cattaraugus Clerk’s Office Staff

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

Seneca Allegany Administration Building - Allegany Territory – (716) 945-1790

Allegany Clerk’s Office Staff  
Bethany Johnson, Deputy Clerk (Notary Public)  
Charisse Ground, Executive Secretary  
Sue Case, Enrollment Officer

Kathleen “Yomie” Hill, Enrollment Assistant  
Lexus McClune, Administrative Assistant  
Amos Vogle, Administrative Assistant

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

VIRTUAL COUNCIL SESSIONS

The Seneca Nation will be utilizing the virtual online platform “GoToMeeting” for the Council Sessions for enrolled members to have safe access to each Council meeting.

To participate, enrolled members will need access to a computer, tablet or smartphone as well as a valid email address to sign up. To request access, please send an email to: SNGotomeet@sni.org Your emailed must include the following information:

“I would like to register to participate for the Council Date. My information is as follows:  
Name:  
Enrollment#:  
Telephone#

Upon enrollment verification, a reply e-mail will be sent to you that includes a registration link for the meeting. Please follow the instructions and fill in all requested information when requesting online. Once registered, another email will be sent with a link to the online Council Session, which will go live at the scheduled meeting date and time.

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).







# PRESIDENT'S OFFICE EXECUTIVE ORDER

## COVID-19 Public Gathering and Travel Restrictions

**WHEREAS**, the Seneca Nation is responsible for the health, safety, and well-being of our members, residents and employees and continues to take precautions to reduce the potential impact of Corona virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) on our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Seneca Nation Territories have experienced a drastic increase in individuals testing positive for the COVID-19 virus, in part due to the new "Omicron" variant, 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

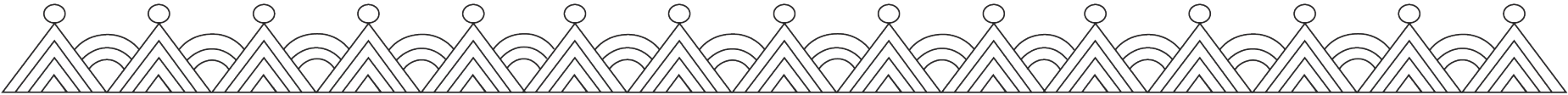
**WHEREAS**, the Seneca Nation COVID-19 Response Task Force has recommended the following additional precautions to help protect our community,

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT**

- All Nation employees are required to verify their current vaccination status through the completion of the COVID-19 employee forms sent to all employees on January 3, 2022.
- All public gatherings in any Seneca Nation buildings are hereby suspended until further notice. This includes, but is not limited to: sporting events, activities taking place at the Community Centers involving more than 3 non-employees, and any other non-essential gatherings. Employees may continue to conduct internal meetings if necessary in order to continue to provide services, but all employees in attendance must be either vaccinated or comply with the Nation's testing protocols for non-vaccinated employees, wear a mask, and maintain social distancing of at least six feet from each other person. This pause in public gatherings shall remain in effect for 30 days and will be reevaluated upon expiration.
- Access to Seneca Nation buildings is restricted to appointments only for all non-employees for a 30-day period.
- Regular and Special Sessions of Council, including the January 8, 2022 Regular Council, shall be 100% virtual until further notice.
- Travel is hereby restricted for all Seneca Nation personnel for 30 days. The Seneca Nation recommends against personal travel for its employees. Fully vaccinated employees who choose to travel will not receive administrative time for personal travel-related quarantines, evaluations, or COVID diagnosis/isolation. Further travel guidelines will be implemented for vaccinated employees.
- For all employees not fully vaccinated, the following travel rules shall apply any time an employee leaves New York State for more than 24 hours, whether on business or personal travel.
  - After you travel:
    - \* Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel. The employee must use his or her own time (PTO, vacation or EPL) to quarantine and is not eligible for admin time.
    - \* Even if you test negative, stay home and self quarantine for the full 7 days.
    - \* If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
    - \* If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
    - \* Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
    - \* Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
  - Employees with a work anniversary occurring in the next 30 days and who are unable to utilize their vacation time prior to their anniversary date, shall be paid out up to 80 hours as per existing policy, and may rollover the balance of their vacation time above 80 hours to the following year.
  - Each Department Director is directed to recommend and identify employees who can move to a remote telework arrangement pursuant to the Nation's Telework Policy (passed via Resolution 05-08-21-35) for their respective department. The recommendations should include a timeframe for the proposed telework, and shall not extend for further than 30 days. The goal of the telework program should be to minimize on-site employees, recognizing the need for employees to provide daycare, wrap-around childcare services, and care during quarantines of children.
  - Directors should consider employee/rotations and schedules consistent with the needs of their respective Departments.
  - This order applies to all Nation governmental buildings and Nation employees (not including Gaming Operations or Seneca One Stops).

Dated: January 6, 2022

**Matthew B. Pagels, President**  
Seneca Nation of Indians







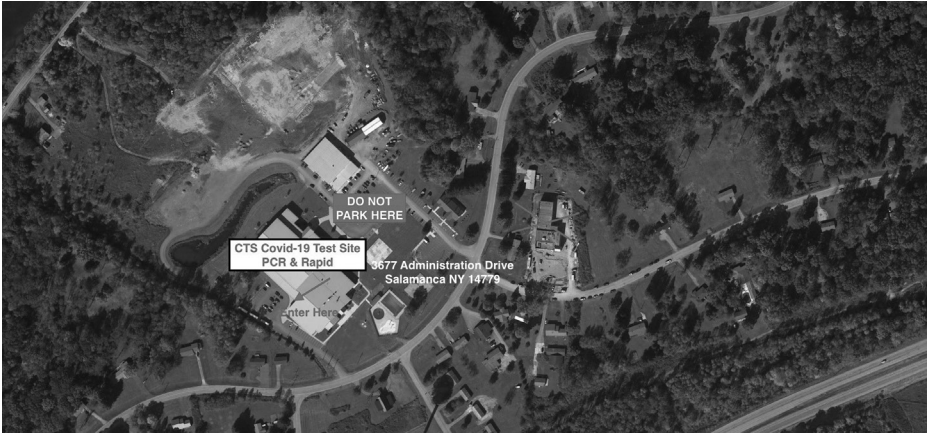


# Seneca Nation Covid-19 ALLEGANY Test Site Update

The Seneca Nation Covid-19 Taskforce has relocated the CTS FREE Covid-19 testing site to the rear entrance of the Allegany Community Center located at 3677 Administration Drive, Salamanca, NY 14779.

Testing hours remain the same. Operations will continue daily for all community members from 3 to 7 p.m. Please be prepared to utilize a smart phone or electronic device for registration. All parties tested will need access to an email account for PCR results. Rapid results can be provided in as little as 15 minutes.

*For all questions, please contact Mike Gates, Director, Emergency Management at 716-244-0820. Photo ID required.*



**Free COVID-19 Testing Site**

**New Location!**  
**Daily 3 - 7p.m.**

**3677 Admin Drive**  
**Salamanca NY 14779**

DO NOT PARK HERE  
CTS Covid-19 Test Site PCR & Rapid  
3677 Administration Drive Salamanca NY 14779  
Enter Here

**Enter Back Entrance Of The ACC**  
**Park In Rear Parking Lot**

**Enter Through Back Entrance Doors**

**Follow Arrows And Partitions**  
**To Testing Area**

# Seneca Nation Covid-19 CATTARAUGUS Test Site Update

The Seneca Nation Covid-19 Taskforce has relocated the CTS FREE Covid-19 testing site to Seneca Fire Cattaraugus Territory Fire Station 2 located on Erie Road (Route 5) behind Gil Lay Arena.

Testing hours are now expanded from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Please be prepared to utilize a smart phone or electronic device for registration. Everyone 18 or older must provide photo ID. All parties tested will need access to an email account for PCR results. Rapid results can be provided in as little as 15 minutes.

*For all questions, please contact Mike Gates, Director, Emergency Management at 716-244-0820.*



**Seneca FireStation 2**  
**FREE COVID - 19 Test Site**  
**PCR and RAPID**  
**Questions: Call Mike Gates**  
**716 - 244 - 0820**

**All Vehicles Will**  
**Enter at Lucky Lane**

**Vehicles Enter Through Black Door**  
**(Bluestone PCR) - Elders and Senecas**  
**Pedestrian Traffic Through White Door**  
**(CTS PCR & Rapid) - All Welcome**

**ALL patients awaiting results**  
**use this parking lot to sit**  
**inside their vehicle awaiting**  
**test results**

**Midwinters Discussion**  
**held Virtually**

**January 19th @ 6pm**  
**on “Google Meet”**  
**Hosted by Jordan and Aedzaniyo**

**To register :**  
**Call the Cattaraugus Education**  
**Department**  
**532-3341**

**2022 Seneca Nation**  
**Calendars coming**  
**soon.....**

**A collaboration between Seneca Media**  
**and the Seneca Nation Newsletter**




# Seneca Holdings Leadership Team visits Seneca Territory

Last month, the Seneca Holdings Leadership Team held a retreat on the Allegany Territory of the Seneca Nation. The trip had many highlights, including a traditional meal sourced from Gakwi:yo:h Farms, the Seneca Nation farm. The team visited the Seneca Iroquois National Museum, the Nation’s bison herd, and the Allegany Reservoir. These experiences have given Leadership a much deeper appreciation of the importance of Seneca Holdings’ mission and opportunity to truly deliver meaningful benefits to the members of the Seneca Nation.


Seneca Nation Group  
Seneca Global Services, LLC  
Great Hill Solutions, LLC  
Western Door Federal, LLC  
Executive Protection Systems, LLC  
Seneca Solutions

## Serving the Seneca Nation



### Leadership Team Visits Seneca Territory

The Seneca Holdings Leadership team held an offsite retreat last month on the Allegany Territory of the Seneca Nation. The team met with several Seneca Nation members and experienced a variety of aspects of life on territory.





Online Event

## Career Opportunities for Senecas

Learn about career opportunities at Seneca businesses


Join us virtually for a networking event to learn more about career opportunities at Seneca Gaming Corporation (SGC) and Seneca Holdings.

During this presentation, leadership from SGC and Holdings will describe the career opportunities available to Senecas. Hear directly from:

- Kevin Nephew, CEO, Seneca Gaming Corporation
- Jeffrey Ellis, CEO, Seneca Holdings

The goal of this session is to make Senecas aware of potential career paths at Seneca owned business. A variety of internship and employment opportunities are available.

**January 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM**  
**To register, please email:**  
[LeadershipSeneca@SenecaCasinos.com](mailto:LeadershipSeneca@SenecaCasinos.com) or  
[careers@senecaholdings.com](mailto:careers@senecaholdings.com)



## DID YOU KNOW?



The Seneca Nation Group selects names for its companies that celebrate the culture and history of the Seneca Nation. Western Door Federal refers to Senecas being known as the "Keeper of the Western Door", the westernmost Nation within the Iroquois Confederacy. Great Hill Solutions highlights that Senecas are referred to as "Great Hill People", which is in reference to the hills of their ancestral lands.



# Cattaraugus Community Center USE Update Effective Thursday, January 6, 2022, During the 30 Day Pause issued by the SNI

Regarding the use of the CCC during the “30 Day Pause” issued by the Seneca Nation President’s Office, please be advised that at this time, we will adhere to: Appointment based use of the CCC ONLY. CCC members only. Day Pass entrance will be temporarily suspended. We are open to ages 15 & up to reserve a time slot. 14 & under must be accompanied with an adult within the CCC area.

*Please call the front desk (716) 532-8450 for availability.*

**Our hours are 8am-8pm: Monday – Thursday; 8:45am-5pm: Friday – Sunday. The following rules will apply:**

\* 3 patron Max per area (CCC members only)

- \* 1hr time slot per area
  - \* 15min closure to sanitize
- Areas to book:**
- \* Arena A or B
  - \* Gym 1: A or B
  - \* Gym 2
  - \* Walking Track
  - \* Fitness Room
  - \* Cardio Room
  - \* Golf Simulator
  - \* Pool (once back open)

*Nya:wëh and stay safe!*









# Career Readiness Workshops

Offered by Cattaraugus T.E.R.C.

The Cattaraugus Training & Employment Resource Center (T.E.R.C.) will be offering Career Readiness Workshops in January and February! Virtual Classes also available! To reserve a spot or for more information contact 716.532.1033.

Career Readiness Workshops

Unemployed? Need a job?

Cattaraugus TERC WE CAN HELP! \*\*\*Virtual Classes Available! \*\*\*

Job Search  
Job Applications  
References

Tues. February 1st @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. February 2nd @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. February 3rd @ 2-3 pm

RESUME 101

Tues. February 8th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. February 9th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. February 10th @ 2-3 pm

Interview Skills & What to Wear

Mon. February 14th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. February 16th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. February 17th @ 2-3 pm

Budgeting 101

Tues. February 22nd @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. February 23rd @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. February 24th @ 2-3 pm

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

Sponsored by: Please call 716-532-1033 to reserve a space!

Made with PosterMyWall.comSeneca Nation Training & Employment Resource Center

Career Readiness Workshops

Unemployed? Need a job?

Cattaraugus TERC WE CAN HELP! \*\*\*Virtual Classes Available! \*\*\*

Job Search  
Job Applications  
References

Tues. January 4th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. January 5th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. January 6th @ 2-3 pm

RESUME 101

Tues. January 11th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. January 12th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. January 13th @ 2-3 pm

Interview Skills & What to Wear

Tues. January 18th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. January 19th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. January 20th @ 2-3 pm

Budgeting 101

Tues. January 25th @ 11-12 pm  
Wed. January 26th @ 5-6 pm  
Thurs. January 27th @ 2-3 pm

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

Sponsored by: Please call 716-532-1033 to reserve a space!

Made with PosterMyWall.comSeneca Nation Training & Employment Resource Center

## TERC Celebrates 5 New Graduates

ALLEGANY TERRITORY- The Training and Employment Resource Center (TERC) held a quick social distance ceremony for five new graduates and one advanced student from their Steamburg Training Center's Basic Construction class.

Stevie Bucktooth, Lily Redeye, Gracie John, Keon Whitcomb, and Ty White all learned basic carpentry, electric, plumbing, masonry, drywall and painting skills over the last twelve weeks. Waylon Jones received advanced certifications.

Instructor Dan Macakanja spoke about each student and their strengths throughout the program.

Kerry John, Deputy Chief of Staff and Union Carpenter, spoke words of encouragement on behalf of the Treasurer's Office along with Councillors Tina Abrams and Arlene Bova. Tribal Employment Rights Office Director's Marlene Cooke and Christian Reiller were on hand with information concerning construction positions on territory.

Nancy Toth, Allegany TERC Director, also presented an award given to the program from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs' 41st National Indian and Native American Employment/Public Law 102-477 as an "Outstanding Grantee" for 2021.





# The New And Improved Sni.org Is Live!

Cattaraugus Territory- On December 22nd, a symbolic ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the launch of the new <http://sni.org>.

With a renewed focus on community service, Nation enterprise, and government initiatives, we hope this updated site will prove to be a valuable resource for our community members.

"We're really proud with the way the website came out. We hope that the Seneca Nation community, employees and general public who want to know about the Seneca Nation will go to the site and utilize it. We'll keep growing as the Nation grows," Chad Jemison, Chief Information Officer, says.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Help Dream Catcher Foundation Provide Bikes for the Children of Seneca Nation

Councillor Josh Jimerson has been working with Rob Canton from the A+C (Athletes and Causes) Foundation on behalf of Eli Ankou, Defensive Lineman for the Buffalo Bills and member of the Ojibwe tribe. His mother, Nicole Ankou, was born into Dokis First Nation, while his fiancée, Shayna Powless is a member of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin. Shayna is a professional cyclist (as is her brother Neilson, the first US Native American to race in the Tour de France).

Together, Eli and Shayna launched Dream Catcher Foundation, which is committed to impacting the children of Native American communities by providing opportunities and inspiration through sports, while also focusing on fighting for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls (MMIWG).

The initial focus of this campaign is to get new bicycles to the children of the Cattaraugus and Allegany Territories of the Seneca Nation of Indians near Buffalo, New York. We hope, with your support, to also expand to other tribes and territories. The success of this initiative will not be possible without the aid of our generous donors, and we would be honored if you would consider supporting this campaign so that we may fulfill our goal!

Go Bills! \$100,000 is the goal. \$2,845 has been raised as of January 11, 2022.

**Go to <https://bikes.givesmart.com/> to donate today!**



# Winter Weather Advisory: Bring Pets Inside during Low Temps!

*Submitted by Allie George, Conservation Fish & Wildlife Dept.*



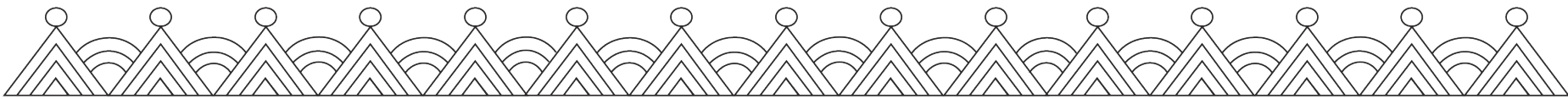
The Seneca Nation Conservation Fish & Wildlife Department would like to remind pet owners to make sure you do your part, and ensure your pet has proper shelter, bedding, food and fresh water.

**• Watch the wind chill!** Pets are sensitive to severe cold and are at risk for frostbite and hypothermia when left outdoors during extreme cold snaps. Exposed skin on noses, ears and paw pads can quickly freeze and cause permanent damage.

**• If your dog is outdoors** much of the day, they must have access to dry, draft-free shelter that is large enough for the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in their body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.

Please take the correct steps in providing for your pets this winter.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at: Allegany Department (716) 945-2779 or Cattaraugus Department (716) 532-2546.**





# Superintendent Bryce Thompson Retires From Attica Central School District After 30+ Years In Education

By Tami Watt, Editor

Bryce Thompson, Snipe clan, originally from the Cattaraugus Territory, has made the decision to retire after dedicating his extensive career to the education system, both on and off territory. Mr. Thompson was instrumental in the developing the Seneca Language Regents exam as an alternative for Indigenous high school students back in 1986.

His career in education started 1980 with the Seneca Nation Education Department’s Johnson O’Malley Program that was set up to provide assistance to students attending Gowanda, Silver Creek and Salamanca School Districts through shared resources, study groups, tutorial services, adult education programs, and activities to promote healthy communities. “We worked hard to give the students and the families a support system that was beneficial to their needs. We did our best to ensure success if they stayed in school and graduated. We tried to run the program as well as we could with the resources available at the time.”

Thompson transferred to the Gowanda School District’s Title VII Bilingual Program in 1984 as the Instructional Services Coordinator while working toward his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at Fredonia State College. The Seneca Nation Education Department was an instrumental resource for Thompson as an instructor.

He was paired with a fluent speaker, Lee Hemlock, and the two of them were assigned to teach 7th and 8th grade students Seneca Language. Together, Thompson and Hemlock introduced various Seneca Language lessons centered-around simple conversations about weather, health and food/meal times. These lessons laid the ground work for the Seneca Language high school curriculum developed by the pair which lead to not only receiving credits toward graduation but New York State Regents credit, a first for any Indigenous language in the state in 1986. Their efforts paved the way for Indigenous students to take three years of their own language as opposed to French and Spanish.

Thompson credits these years as some of his most rewarding work throughout his long career. During the summers, his team ran Seneca Language immersion



camp at the Seneca Nation’s Highbanks Campgrounds. “We tried to instill the language the best we could in a short period of time. Fluent speakers would lead the conversation with limited English opportunities with games and activities throughout the day with vocabulary. It was a great experience!”

“Our future depends our youth. We need to support them and provide them opportunities and the right experiences as they grow. I wish the best for everyone and hopefully our youth will continue to find success and grow our strong nation,” states Thompson.

Funds from the Title VII program expired but the Gowanda School District hired him in 1988 as a 4th grade teacher. He continued to teach various grades, classes and earned certifications from BOCES while continuing his education, eventually earning his Masters Degree and School Administrator certifications while also working part time as a police officer. Thompson explained, “As an educator in the classroom, Native children had the opportunity to see a Native teacher providing education in the public school they attended and I am fortunate I was able to provide that experience. There was a unique opportunity to be a role model and I relish that I held that responsibility. I hope that I did a good job instilling a positive image for the kids to aspire to do more than just attend school or play sports, there was more to it than that.”

In addition to elementary education, Thompson taught Iroquois History to high school students while at Gowanda and was able to secure graduation credit for students in lieu of Participation in

Government/Economics in their 11th and 12th grade years. “We kept trying to pull things together with the language and history, providing positive experiences for the kids and information so they had an understanding on how the Iroquois Confederacy continued to survive through contact with Europeans and post contact through the evaluation of the colonial period, how the United States was born and how we continued to be an independent Nation working with them.”

Rick Jemison and Kerwin Huff were instrumental in providing resources via the Title IV program through the Education Department. “They provided the research and information and I was the conduit to the classroom,” Thompson states.

Thompson transferred to the Attica Central School District in 1999 first as the Assistant Principle, then Principle, and finally Superintendent, a position he held for 20 years until the end of the year. His last day with students was December 23, 2021. Thompson was recognized by the Attica Music Department during the holiday band concert for his 20+ years of service to the district and his support of the arts, athletics and extracurricular activities. Students and staff honored him with roses and an original painting by talented student artist Kaidan Hofheins.

Thompson’s tenure at Attica brought stability, commitment, and various infrastructure updates. He is also very proud of Attica’s drop out rates that improved from 77% to 98% and some years up to 100%. Thompson had very few student drop outs and was committed to providing the right support and services. Over the years, he has watched many students grow and become successful adults not only through college but the workforce and business ventures as well.

“It’s important for us to realize that we strive to improve ourselves but we should always remember our roots, where we are from and what our values are. We don’t have to stop being Native because we’re doing something off reservation, we carry that with us in our heart and we don’t have to give up one for the other. We can continue to strive for our goals and be successful and still be Seneca while we are doing it.”



# Update from the Title VI Office: *Silver Creek Central School District* - Submitted by Mary Williams, Title VI Native American Ed. Program Coord.

Every year, by statute and/or presidential proclamation, the month of November is recognized as **National Native American Heritage Month**.

So, in honor of this month, and through the school year, Silver Creek Central has provided different cultural activities/programs to all students in the district, bringing more awareness and recognizing the history of Native American people and our local Native American community, Seneca Nation of Indians. For the month of November, the Native American Education Program has been able to provide the following this year:

- **Native American Day** in the cafeteria with Native American tacos and samples of strawberry juice (volunteers from the community come into school to help prepare fry bread for the tacos). We also were able to serve Mush in the HS/MS cafeteria thanks to generous donations from Wendy Bray and Jessica Huff.
- **Rock your Mocs Day**, sponsored by AIYO (American Indigenous Youth Organization). Staff and students are encouraged to wear their moccasins and/or wear turquoise for the day.
- **Cultural dance presentations**, sponsored by AIYO. This also includes our students from the Seneca Language classes and other Native American students to assist their peers in social dances.
- AIYO provides **items to be displayed in the high school lobby showcase** like the water drum, corn husk dolls, braided corn, etc.
- **Guest speakers** come in to present to classrooms, groups of students, assemblies, and teacher professional development. This year we had Jamie Jacobs and Jordan Smith for storytelling, Marty Jimerson Jr. and his crew for social dances, and a cultural paint night for teachers to gain professional development.
- **Spirit Week** we were able to raise awareness for ongoing campaigns like MMIW (missing/Murdered Indigenous Women) and Every Child Matters.



While having a day to rock your mocs, wear your ribbon skirt/shirt and show your Haudenosaunee pride/support by wearing purple.

- **Longball** is a traditional sport played by the Iroquois. This year in collaboration with our Physical Education teachers we were able to run a unit of longball.

### Join our Program!

For students to qualify for the program, a parent or guardian must complete a [Title VI ED 506 Indian Student Eligibility Certification Form](#). The form serves as an official record of the eligibility determination for each individual child who has met the definition of an Indian to be served by the Title VI Native American Education Program. If you feel your child meets the criteria for the program, please forward the completed form to Miss Williams, Native American Education Program Coordinator. If you have any questions about the program, you can contact Miss Williams by calling 934-2603, ext. 4992 or through email, [mwilliams@silvercreekschools.org](mailto:mwilliams@silvercreekschools.org).

### Traditional Food meets the cafeteria

Silver Creek students were able to enjoy Mush, which is a roasted white corn dish. First the white corn must be grinded to a flour like consistency. Then roasted in a cast iron skillet. Once this is done, a delicate dance between water, the roasted corn flour and heat will bring this dish to the perfect consistency. Because of the multitude of servings we needed, we used brown sugar to sweeten the dish. It is usually prepared with maple syrup and salt pork. The white corn was donated by Wendy Bray and Jessica Huff.

On November 9th, the entire district was able to enjoy Indian tacos and strawberry



*Pictured is the brown sugar being added to the mush.*



*Students serving strawberry juice are Lucille Jimerson and Timothy Williams.*

juice. Indian tacos can be found in many other Indigenous people's cultures. The difference between a "regular" taco and an Indian taco is the bread. Usually, you would have either a flour or corn tortilla, but an Indian taco has a flour-based dough that is fried to perfection then topped with all your favorite taco options. WE were able to make 300 frybread all thanks to our Title VI Parent Committee members Tory Cook and Wendy Bray and our JOM staff Betsy Laurie, Tammy Blair and Aimee Sleeth who all made this day possible.

We were also able to provide students with a cup of strawberry juice. The strawberry is a medicine we use as Iroquois people. We believe it helps promote health and well-being. All the students and staff look forward to having Indian tacos and strawberry juice in November!

### Cultural Dance Presentation (Social Dance)

Marty Jimerson Jr. and his crew came in to present three different times to our high school and middle school. Every year this is an event that our Indigenous students look forward to. They spend weeks learning how to introduce the song, the singer, and the lead dancers in Seneca. With the help of Marty Jimerson Jr. this year we were able to share our traditional regalia, songs and dances with the district. Many Nya:wëhs to all the SC staff, students and administrators who help keep this tradition going.

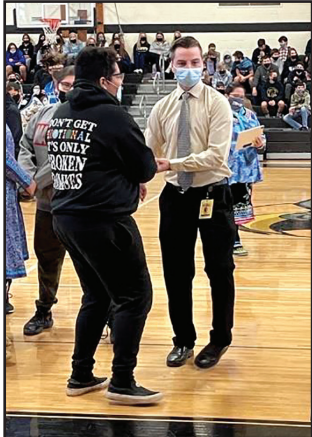
### American Indigenous Youth Organization (A.I.Y.O.)

Our students have been so busy this year, they were essential in making Native  
*(Continued on page 14)*





*Left: Timothy Williams introducing the next song, singer and lead dancers during the social. Middle: Simon White introducing the next song, singer, and lead dancers during the social. Also pictured L to R: Marty Jimerson Jr., Simon White, Allison Smith, Marty Jimerson III Right: Picture from Spirit Week, wear your ribbon skirt/shirt. L to R: Mr. Gerard, Miss Smith, Roger Williams, Timothy Williams and Miss Williams.*



*Pictured L to R, 4 pictures. 1 - A special visit from Mr. Jordan Smith and Miss Smith to Mrs. Buczkowski's class. 2 - Marty Jimerson Jr. and his crew mixed with some of our students and staff that helped in the Social. 3 - Mr. Pulver and Ryder Luke participating in the social together. 4 - Cultural Paint night for students.*

Title VI Update Continued

American Heritage Month possible. The AIYO club members have recently had the opportunity to give back to the community alongside Frank Brown and his Cousin Brownie Organization. Cousin Brownie has been giving back to the Allegany and Cattaraugus Territories for the past two years working alongside different departments from the Seneca Nation. Frank brought in some gifts that the students were able to wrap for him. Also, during the month of December, students made roughly 60 Christmas cards for the residents at Oak Tree. Oak Tree is the Seneca Nation Elder Housing unit located behind the William Seneca Building.



*Tory Cook putting the finishing touches on her wrapped gift.*

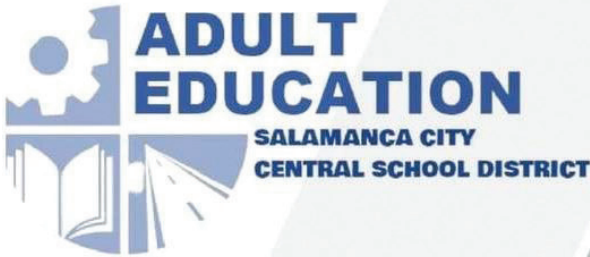


*Pictured is some of our students who helped make Christmas cards for Oak Tree. L to R: Ray Cortes, Jackson Williams, Lesten White-Pigeon and Damien Nelms.*

REMINDER: Salamanca School District seeking instructors for community courses

The Salamanca CSD Adult Education program is seeking part-time Instructors to facilitate late afternoon/evening/weekend community enrichment courses in Fitness, Painting, Woodwork, Craft, Baking, Cooking, Photography, Video Editing, 3D Printing, Martial Arts, CNC Machining, Welding, Early Childhood Literacy/Math, Seneca Language & Culture or other crafts & trades.

These courses can be taught in person or remotely. Businesses or community members with talents that they would like to share are encouraged to contact Aaron Straus, [astraus@salamancany.org](mailto:astraus@salamancany.org). Pay is 22/hr.





# Ja:goh Autumn Nephew & Rosalee LeBeau

December 24, 2021 | [observertoday.com](#) | Photo credit: GCS FB

Ja:goh to Gowanda High Senior Autumn Nephew and Junior Rosalee LeBeau on their second-place wins in the annual gingerbread house contest for Culinary studies students at the LoGuidice Educational Center via Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus-BOCES in Fredonia!

For the 25th year, Dave Caccamise had his junior and senior culinary arts/hospitality arts students at the LoGuidice Educational Center compete in the gingerbread house construction competition. His students this year did not disappoint.

“This was one of the toughest years to choose winners,” Caccamise said. “The detail and creativity the students showed was beyond imaginable.”

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s voting for winning houses was held online by 109 voters; the same number of voters who voted last year. Caccamise said the online voting is not quite as good as being able to see the houses in person.

“The only thing with going virtual was the pictures don’t



do all the houses justice,” Caccamise said. “In the past, staff and faculty would look above, around, and underneath the houses but now they have to go by pictures of the front and back.”

One difference from last year in a positive sense, however, is that the seniors were able to branch out and come up with their own house design. Last year, Caccamise shortened the length of the board the students could

build on and made the juniors and seniors work off a template, and while he kept the board length the same for this year, the seniors could come up with creative ideas.

“My biggest thing is patience and creativity,” Caccamise said. “I tell them this teaches a lot about life, in terms of facing adversity. Sometimes you walk in and your chimney is on the ground or your roof collapses. How do you bounce back from

that? Kids have to go to plan B and potentially try something else. This project doesn’t happen in one day, you have to design it, make it, and bake it.”

Additionally, juniors are required to work as partners, while the seniors can choose to work alone or in groups. Caccamise said both options have upside.

“With the juniors having to work as partners, it’s a lesson I teach them in having to work together and work through creative differences,” Caccamise said. “Seniors have the option of working in a group and that lets you do whatever you want and can let creative juices flow.”

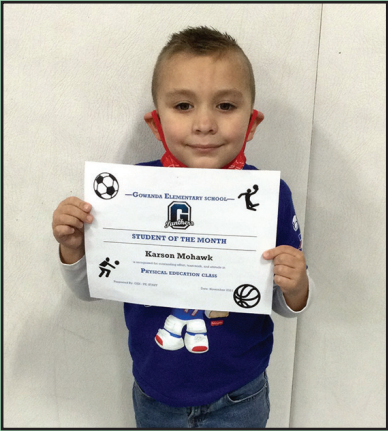

The project began Nov. 29, and ran until Dec. 17, giving the students 15 school days to complete their project in full. Caccamise said that none of his groups gave up on the project, with everyone fighting through the adversity they may have faced.

Source: <https://www.observertoday.com/news/page-one/2021/12/culinary-creativity/?fbclid=I-wAR2BBJo8GCngO8gGN-jNdTu7dghi2U8ynAgYmfYuVcN-WQOU4Xp-eN6ONExvY>

## Ja:goh Arian Rice & Karson Mohawk - GCS Facebook

Ja:goh to Gowanda Elementary School's November 2021 Students of the Month for Physical Education! These Panthers have shown respect, hard work, determination and are outstanding students in the gym:


- 4th-grader Arian Rice
- Multi-age student Karson Mohawk



## Ja:goh Rory Wheeler

Rory Wheeler had the chance to moderate the 2021 White House Tribal Youth Forum hosted virtually on November 17, 2021.

The White House, Nike N7, CNAY, and UNITY invited Native and tribal youth to participate in a forum with the Biden Harris Administration to discuss a variety of topics including mental health, climate change, public safety and more. Rory said “I’m privileged and honored to moderate the 2021 White House Tribal Youth Forum.” Rory is the Vice President and Northeast Representative, UNITY, Inc.




MEET RORY WHEELER


Join Rory (Seneca Nation) as he moderates at the White House Tribal Youth Forum November 17, 2021 1:00pm



Ja:goh Mavi Montour,  
Layla Gamble and Ethan  
Steeprock - November 2021 GCS  
Students of the Month



Mavi Montour



Student Council Presents  
**STUDENT OF THE MONTH**  
*Communication*

Mavi is thoughtful and consistently shares insightful observations during class discussions. She consistently and unflinchingly takes risks to participate in an earnest and authentic manner. Her perspective always enriches our dialogue and I am grateful for her voice. - Mr. Izard

November 2021




Layla Gamble




Student Council Presents  
**STUDENT OF THE MONTH**  
*Collaboration*

For Layla it's pretty hard to pick just one of the 4 C's because she just about exemplifies all of them. What I like about her the most is the way she shares during Earth Science Lab. Layla will answer questions but she will re-explain using her own words. There have been many times when Layla will either turn around at her desk or move across the room to help another student understand what she already knows. Layla tries very hard to help others so everyone has the chance to succeed. -Mr. Spiegel

November 2021



Ethan Steepro



Student Council Presents  
**STUDENT OF THE MONTH**  
*Critical Thinking*

Ethan not only asks critical questions during lessons, but he demonstrates a mastery level understanding in his performances as well as in his collaborations with his peers to help others understand. Kudos to Ethan's cleverness and dedication to attainment, he is a model student in algebra! -Mrs. Lobianco


November 2021

Thank you from the family of Kate Swantek:

The family of Kate Swantek would like to thank our family and friends for being there in our time of need. Special thanks to Seneca Fire, Seneca EMS, Iroquois Post #1587 and the staff at Chaffe Hospital. We thank everyone for all the food, donations, flowers, stories from the past and a shoulder to cry on, you are greatly appreciated.

Last but not least, Nya:wëh to Elmer, Lee, Travis and Brennan.

With love,  
Bob, Nick, Mark, Kayla Swantek



Ja:goh Hayden Haynes,  
Seneca, Deer Clan and  
Darelyn Spruce, Seneca,  
Hawk Clan, For receiving the  
NYS Arts Council grant for Folk and  
Traditional Arts, Seneca Bone Carving!

The ARTS Council announces \$90,000  
awarded to local artists and tradition bearers!  
January 6, 2022 | [www.earts.org](http://www.earts.org)



**Congratulations  
NYSCA Grant Recipients**

Individual Artist Grant Recipients

 <p>Akua Lezlie Hope</p>	 <p>Filomena Jack</p>	 <p>Bradford Leiby</p>	 <p>Julie Thurber</p>	 <p>Chris Walters</p>	 <p>Will Wickham</p>
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Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grant Recipients

 <p>Clarence "Bucky" Geter &amp; John Walton</p>	 <p>Hayden Hayes &amp; Darelyn Spruce</p>	 <p>Richard Koski, Michael Ludgate &amp; Katrina Mackey</p>
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This new grant initiative from the New York State Council on the Arts is designed to assist the arts sector recover from the impact of COVID-19. Two areas, Support for Individual Artists Grants and Folk & Traditional Art Apprenticeships speak directly to the mission of The ARTS Council to empower artists, foster creativity and economic vitality, create diverse connections and collaborations, and champion innovation and equity with the arts to cultivate a dynamic community. Throughout the summer and early fall, The ARTS Council's staff worked to bring awareness about this opportunity to our region's artists, assisted participants through the application process, and sponsored their grant proposals.

The ARTS Council's awardees span four counties – Cattaraugus, Chemung, Steuben, and Tompkins. Each week will highlight an artist and their proposed project.

Master Artist: Hayden Haynes, Seneca – Deer Clan  
Apprentice: Darelyn Spruce, Seneca – Hawk Clan  
County: Cattaraugus  
Artistic Area: Folk and Traditional Arts  
Project Title: Seneca Bone Carving  
Project Summary: Hayden Haynes will teach Darelyn Spruce the Seneca tradition of bone and antler carving. These carvings may take many forms, including rattles, three-dimensional figures, relief-carved medallions, beads, bone combs and more. They incorporate Haudenosaunee iconography and images drawn from Haudenosaunee cosmology and history.  
Website: [www.haydensantlercreations.com](http://www.haydensantlercreations.com)



Hayden Haynes



Darelyn Spruce



# Literary pick of the week: An animal poem for every day of the year is the Season’s Best

December 19, 2021 | [mgrossmann@pioneerpress.com](mailto:mgrossmann@pioneerpress.com) | Source: [twincities.com](https://www.twincities.com)

So many beautiful books with lyrical texts were published this year, it’s hard to chose one as This Season’s Best. But we chose, anyway. Kudos to “*Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright*,” made of an animal poem for each day of the year, a big, lavishly-illustrated anthology. The poetry spans the centuries, from William Blake (he of the Tiger! Tiger!), Lewis Carroll and Emily Dickinson, to contemporary writers including Judith Viorst, Margaret Wise Brown and Jane Yolen, as well as some from the **Seneca Nation of Indians** and Cheyenne and Chippewa tribes.

Oh, and what wonderful, lively, fish, birds and animals fly, strut, jump, hop and swim across the pages: buffalo, birds, kangaroos. Whatever animal is your favorite, you will probably find a poem about it.

The special thing about this 4.5-pound book is that it can be enjoyed by all ages. Even the little ones who have to be read to can laugh at short poems like this anonymous one titled “The Grasshopper and the Elephant”:

*Way down south where bananas grow  
grasshopper stepped on Elephant’s toe.  
Elephant said, with tears in his eyes:  
“Pick on somebody your own size.”*

If you had this book in your lap now (and that’s the only way to hold it), and turned to December, you would find poems by William Carlos Williams, Thomas Hardy



“Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright,” published in the United Kingdom last year, is making its first appearance in the United States in 2021, published by Nosy Crow, a division of Candlewick Press. (Courtesy photo)

and Stephen Spender.

The three-stanza poem for Dec. 19 is “The Yak” by Jack Prelutsky, former Poetry Foundation Children’s Poet Laureate:

*Yickity-yackity, yickity-yak,  
the yak has a scriffily, scriffily back;  
some yaks are brown yaks and some yaks  
are black,  
yickity-yackity, yickity-yak.....*

“Tiger, Tiger” follows the award-winning “I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree,” 365 poems about nature. The new volume, published in the United Kingdom last year,

is making its first appearance in the United States now at \$40. It is published here by Nosy Crow, a division of Candlewick Press. The poems were selected by bookseller, author, publisher and reviewer Fiona Waters and the splendid illustrations are by Britta Teckentrup. They did a terrific job.

We hope this book stands for every book we recommended in 2021. We thank our devoted readers and those who just drop in on us now and then.

Source: <https://www.twincities.com/2021/12/19/121921-pp-f-pick/>

# Every Blanket Tells a Story and Every Stitch is a Unique Voice in the World of Seneca Nation Artist Marie Watt, On View at the Hunterdon Art Museum

December 21, 2021 | [newjerseystage.com](https://www.newjerseystage.com)

It’s the time of the year when many of us feel like hibernating, perhaps under a favorite blanket or two. It seems fitting, then, that the Hunterdon Museum of Art is featuring the artist **Marie Watt**, known for her totemic assemblages of wool blankets, in the exhibition *Companion Species (At What Cost): The Works of Marie Watt*, on view through January 9, 2022.

A blanket offers comfort, protection, and security. It’s



what we come into this world in, the artist notes, and we often go out wrapped in one. Watt believes that blankets provide access to social connections, historical traditions, and cross-cultural meanings.

In Native American communities, blankets are given away to honor people for being witnesses to important life events. For this reason, it is considered as great a privilege to give a blanket as it is to receive one.

As she collects blankets, Watt also collects stories. Readers may have seen her installations of pastel-colored wool with frayed satin bindings, little data tags attached, in such (Continued on page 18)





**Marie Watt, *Skyscraper/Skywalker (Twins)*, 2020. Sapling: 120×20×22 in. Flint: 120×20×24 in. Reclaimed wool blankets, steel. Collection of Princeton University Art Gallery, Princeton, NJ. Photograph by Kevin McConnell**

venues as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Yale University Art Gallery, the Denver Art Museum, and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian. More recently, she has received acclaim for *Skywalker/Skyscraper* (Axis Mundi), her columnar sculpture of dozens of stacked folded blankets in the Whitney Museum of American Art’s “Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019.” In 2017, Watt was Artist in Residence at Philadelphia’s Fabric Workshop and Museum.

“Companion Species” spotlights two monumental tapestries assembled from panels of cloth embroidered during sewing circles, an activity central to Watt’s artistic practice. A citizen of Seneca Nation of Indians, Watt’s textiles emphasize Indigenous teaching and what Watt calls “Iroquois protofeminism” – the recognition of Indigenous matriarchies predating

modern feminism by centuries, and their traditions of deep interconnections between people and the Earth.

The very words “companion species,” headlining this exhibition and in many artwork titles, also suggest that connections extend beyond humans: interspecies relationality. Watt notes “in my tribe, we consider animals our first teachers.”

Born in 1967 in Redmond, Washington, to a Seneca mother of the Turtle Clan and a German father whose family owned a ranch in Wyoming, Watt describes herself as “half Cowboy and half Indian.” Interviewed by phone, she describes her Portland, Oregon, studio where she’s worked for the past 15 years:

“At 3 p.m. the light is beautiful. There are two giant windows that look out onto a train yard. I’m five-foot-three and can only

see the tops of the box cars, loaded on the backs of trains.”

With ceilings 14-feet high – nearly three times her height – there is open storage for her artwork. I want to know how she stores all the masses of blankets that form her “palette.”

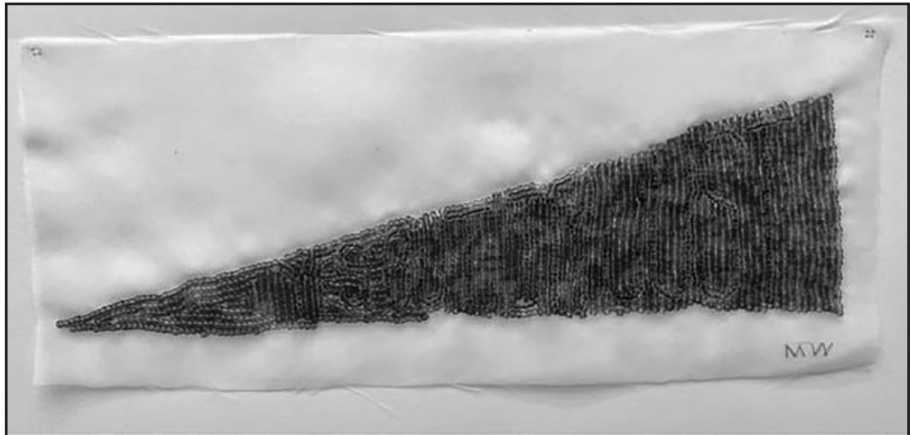
She organizes them in racks. “When I started collecting them, my focus was wool. It was not an aesthetic judgment; it’s what was available in thrift stores for under \$5. I try not to buy for reasons of taste.”

She is interested in the stories the blankets have to tell. “I lean into their stains and moth-eaten bits. I see these as the beauty marks.” And while these details are what are important to Watt, she learned that to prevent moth damage, all the blankets need to be cleaned before coming into the studio.

Sewing circles entered Watt’s practice 18 years ago. “I never anticipated doing it more than a year. Originally, I considered it to be like a barn raising, in which many hands make light work, and people were happy to roll up their sleeves. I would acknowledge their help by feeding them or giving a small, limited-edition print.”

“I like to say that I set the table (with pre-threaded needles and panels for sewing text into) and what happens is created by everyone in the space,” says Watt. “When eyes are diverted and working with cloth, stories flow. It’s intergenerational, cross disciplinary, intercultural. We all have so much to learn from one another. At our core, we have a need for intimacy – sitting down with neighbors and strangers.”

Watt distinguishes sewing



**Marie Watt, *Companion Species (Portrait study)*, 2020**

“I was originally drawn to wool for the way it packs down, and because our animal relatives the sheep have extraordinary stories. People take the time to mend wool.”

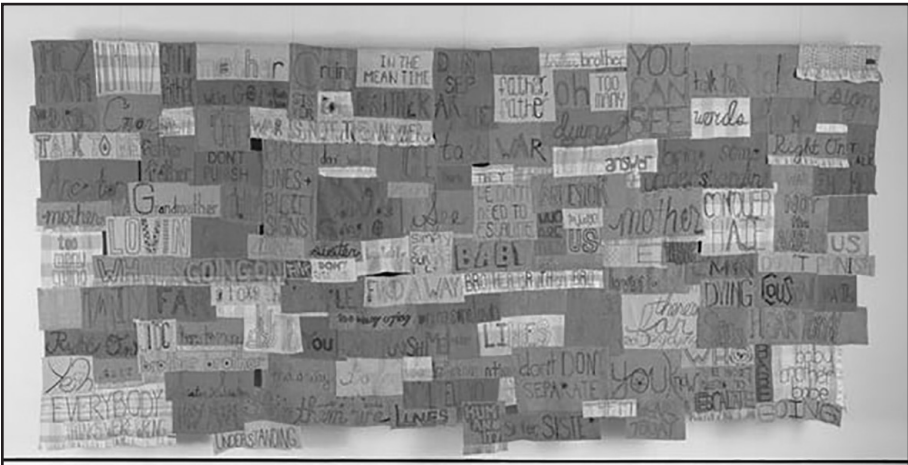
Her collecting coincided with the advent of manufactured fleece, but “fleece doesn’t have the sense of permanence and resilience.” At first, people were deaccessioning their wool blankets in favor of fleece, but, over time, many have relearned the value of wool, making the wool blankets hard to come by in thrift stores.

Watt’s racks are categorized by color family, “like tubes of paint when I need a color or a pattern, what speaks to me will come off the rack.”

circles from sewing bees, which were used to colonize women and girls. The sewing circles are open to anyone, with little or no sewing experience (the marks of those with limited experience can be more expressive, she says). Participants have ranged in age from 3 to 92.

“I’ve always appreciated how everyone’s stitch is a thumbprint, a signature. Sewing with embroidery thread is like a drawing material.”

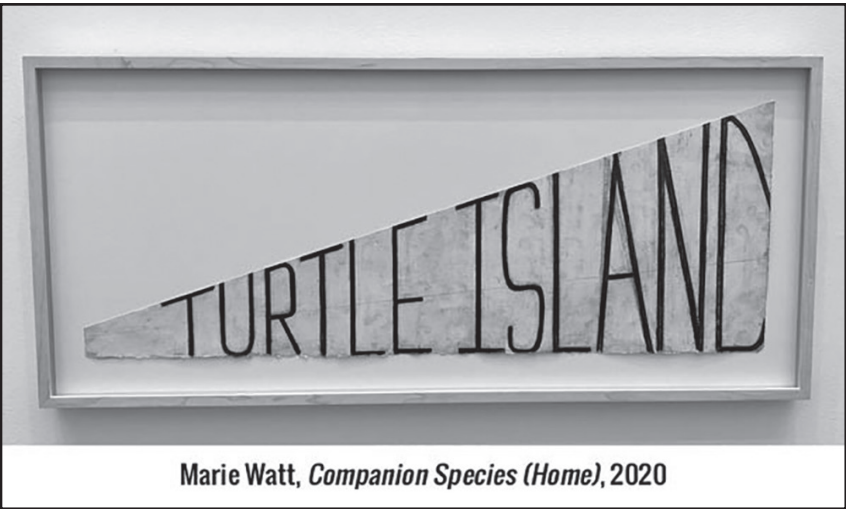
A sewing circle associated with the Hunterdon exhibition will be held at the Marc Strauss Gallery in New York on January 16, and participants are asked to read the poem “Singing Everything” by U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, a member



**Marie Watt, *Companion Species (Calling All My Relations)*, 2018**

(Continued on page 19)





of the Muscogee Nation and the first Native American Poet Laureate. Participants should then ask themselves, “What in this moment do I want to sing a song for?” These are the words that will be stitched into panels.

And yes, each participant will get a small print.

When asked what, in this moment, she wants to sing for, Watt responds, “Today, I’m going to say teenagers. I have

a kid who just turned 17 and I’m grateful for them. I’m thinking about glaciers and Turtle Island and gray skies out the window.”

The Hunterdon Art Museum is located at 7 Lower Center Street in Clinton, New Jersey.

Source:

[https://www.newjerseystage.com/articles/2021/12/21/every-blanket-tells-a-story-and-every-stitch-is-a-unique-](https://www.newjerseystage.com/articles/2021/12/21/every-blanket-tells-a-story-and-every-stitch-is-a-unique-voice-in-the-world-of-seneca-nation-artist-marie-watt-on-view-at-the-hunterdon-art-museum/)



[voice-in-the-world-of-seneca-nation-artist-marie-watt-on-view-at-the-hunterdon-art-museum/](https://www.newjerseystage.com/articles/2021/12/21/every-blanket-tells-a-story-and-every-stitch-is-a-unique-voice-in-the-world-of-seneca-nation-artist-marie-watt-on-view-at-the-hunterdon-art-museum/)

# Ja:goh Marie Watt for making Hyperallergic's "Best of 2021: Our Top 10 New York City Art Shows"

December 7, 2021 | [hyperallergic.com](https://hyperallergic.com)

The city brought shows to life that will be talked about for years to come. These are the shows that Hyperallergic’s critics, both staff and contributors thought were the most compelling of the year. Though it was a year of tentative venturing back out into the open to look at artwork in person, the production wasn’t tentative at all. The city brought shows to life that will be talked about for years to come. —Seph Rodney, Senior Critic

**Coming in at the 5th spot: *Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019*, at the Whitney Museum of American Art.**

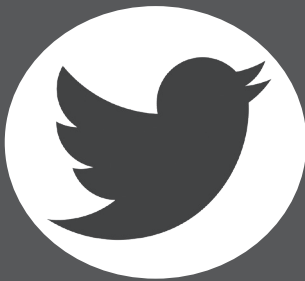
November 22, 2019–February 2022 - Curated by Jennie Goldstein, Elisabeth Sherman, and Ambika Trasi

Craft may have been historically relegated to its own domain, but it was also a frontier for artists to break free from the hierarchy of painting and sculpture. Alternative media such as weaving, ceramics, beading, or embroidery also often addressed issues of gender and race. In a completely riveting exhibition, *Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019* presents material experimentation that stretched from Ruth Asawa’s elegant hanging wire sculptures to Mike Kelly’s crazy quilt of stuffed toys and old afghans. The show successfully outlines a thrilling alternative trajectory paved mostly by women who fought the inequities of the art world with needles, thread, and glue guns in hand. —Debra Brehmer



Installation view of *Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019*; foreground, Marie Watt, “Skywalker/Skyscraper (Axis Mundi),” (2012); background, Liza Lou’s “Kitchen,” (1991-1996) (image by Debra Brehmer)

**View the entire list here:** <https://hyperallergic.com/698024/the-best-of-2021-our-top-10-new-york-city-art-shows/>



**Don't forget to check us out and FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!**

The Seneca Nation now has an official Twitter account. Follow it for regular updates from the President’s Office on governmental and community matters. This administration is committed to increasing communication with our members, as well as the general public.

<https://twitter.com/TheSenecaNation>



# American Indian Graduate Center unveils NextEra Energy Scholarship Program - The Center for Native Scholarships to offer STEM funding focused on cultural sustainability | prnewswire.com



NextEra Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NEE) announced that American Indian Graduate Center has launched the NextEra Energy Scholarship Program, a culturally relevant and Indigenous-centered scholarship specifically built for Native students pursuing careers in the field of energy and across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) as a whole.

The NextEra Energy Scholarship Program will provide 15 scholarships, each valued at \$5,000 a year, for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing a degree in the fields of energy, environment and cultural sustainability and preservation. The NextEra Energy Foundation has committed to fund the scholarship program for the next three years.

"American Indian Graduate

Center is excited to partner with NextEra Energy to create a new program to increase the number of scholars we impact each year," said Angelique Albert (Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes), American Indian Graduate Center Executive Director. "We are proud to offer programming that meets the needs of our students and directly impacts their academic journeys."

"In 2020, over 40% of our scholars were pursuing a degree in a STEM field. With a rise in applicants pursuing careers in this sector, it's critical to bolster our programs to empower them. NextEra Energy's support will allow us to continue our growth and impact even more Native students."

The NextEra Energy Scholarship Program will focus on education funding for Tribally identified priorities.

"Scholarships that have the ability to support Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK), languages, traditional food systems and more are critically needed at this time when our Tribal communities have identified climate change initiatives, protection of natural resources, food sovereignty and language immersion programs as essential," Albert said. "The NextEra Energy Scholarship program allows us to fund students academically in areas that not only support our Tribes' well-being, but also allow our TEK to inform the energy industry as a whole. It's an opportunity to have a transformative impact in the field."

"We're excited to launch this program as part of NextEra Energy's commitment to supporting the communities we serve and those that host our projects," said John

Ketchum, president and CEO of NextEra Energy Resources. "We want to support the next generation of Native leaders, as well as honor the work of tribes that collaborate with us in our effort to decarbonize the electric energy industry while ensuring that we identify, avoid and protect sensitive tribal resources during development and construction of renewable projects across the country."

The scholarship is the latest addition to American Indian Graduate Center's portfolio of more than 30 scholarships and support services that are designed specifically to address the needs of Native students in post-secondary education.

To learn more about American Indian Graduate Center's scholarships and academic support programs, please visit [www.AIGCS.org](http://www.AIGCS.org).

Source: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/american-indian-graduate-center-unveils-nextera-energy-scholarship-program-301407728.html>

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

Submitted by Lafayette Williams

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

There are three ways to contact us:

- By phone.** Call 1-800-342-9871. Interpretation and translation services are free. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can use the Relay System 7-1-1. Western New York Independent Living Inc. 1-888-564-5171
- Online.** Please visit our website: [www.nyconnects.ny.gov](http://www.nyconnects.ny.gov) . Please be safe and healthy, Nya:wëh.
- Personally:** Lafayette Williams NY Connects Independent Living Outreach Specialist: Office number (716) 836-0822 Extension 538 - Work cell phone number: (716) 578-4679 or e-mail address: [lwilliams@wnyil.org](mailto:lwilliams@wnyil.org)



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

Call us at:  
**Allegany Office**  
716-945-1790,  
ext. 3030 or x3029

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

**Visit [sninews.org](http://sninews.org)**  
and fill out the contact form



NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF KENNETH LAY, SR.**  
Administrator: Kenneth Lay, Jr.,  
P.O. Box 11, Lawtons, NY 14091  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF CARLEY SENECA**  
Administrator: Clyde Seneca,  
10899 Indian Hill Rd., Perrysburg, NY 14129  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF DONNA CROUSE**  
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163 Melinda Dr., Salamanca, NY 14779  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

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18 Confederacy Dr., Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - 1st Notice ~

**ESTATE OF NOLAN HOBART COOPER**  
Administrator: Marvin Cooper, Sr.,  
3638 Center Rd., Salamanca, NY 14779  
~ Allegany Territory - 1st Notice ~

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Administrator: Audrey Ray,  
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~ Allegany Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF TIMOTHY P. JONES**  
Executor: Jeremy Jones,  
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~ Allegany Territory - 2nd Notice ~

**ESTATE OF LYNN P. JACKSON**  
Executrix: Cynthia Ballagh,  
P.O. Box 363, Irving, NY 14081  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - Final Notice ~

**ESTATE OF RICKEY G. BENNETT**  
Administrator: Denise Bennett,  
1341 Bush Rd., Gowanda, NY 14070  
~ Cattaraugus Territory - Final 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 if you have claims against the Decedents estate, please 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 proof of claim notification, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.



COMMUNITY PATIENT  
NAVIGATION SERVICE

Indigenous & Rural Patient Navigation is a free, non-clinical, service for Indigenous and Rural community members looking for recommended cancer screening and education, additional support and resources for cancer care.

HOW TO JOIN

- 1 Call 1-888-RPGUIDE
- 2 A team member will fill out a Cancer Screening and Prevention assessment with you to see what cancer screenings are recommended for you and will discuss your concerns.
- 3 Connect you to the available resources that meet your needs.  
  
Whenever possible we can connect you with a navigator that works in or near your community.
- 4 A patient navigator will follow up with you to make sure your needs are being met.

PATIENT NAVIGATOR  
LOCATIONS

— VIRTUAL —

**1-888-RPGUIDE**  
(1-888-774-8433)

— COMMUNITY —

Serving Seneca Nation  
Communities

Lockport Service Unit

— FEDERALLY QUALIFIED —  
HEALTH CENTERS

Community Health Center  
of Niagara  
Buffalo, Cheektowaga, Niagara Falls,  
& Lockport, NY

The Chautauqua Center  
Dunkirk & Jamestown, NY

Universal Primary Care  
Olean, Cuba, Houghton & Salamanca, NY



Happy Birthday  
Frank!!

Submitted by Marlene Cook

May you smile bright & live  
everyday like it’s an adventure.  
Sending warm wishes your way.

Love ya always,  
Momma



Happy Belated Birthday to  
Keagan Stanley Fox!

Submitted by Millie Fox

Happy Birthday to my handsome, young man  
Keagan Stanley Fox on December 28th!

Love, Mom and Family



Happy Belated Birthday!

Submitted by Gary Schindler

Wishing Betty Schindler-Rogers a very  
Happy 98th Birthday! Betty who is of the  
Deer Clan and currently resides in Florida  
but is originally from Irving, turned 98  
years old on November 30th! **With love  
from your family!**



# Lifestyle Changes vs. New Year's Resolutions

Submitted by Lydia Bushman, Prevention Supervisor

So it's the same thing every year. What will my New Year's resolutions be? It's the time of year that you make promises to yourself with the commitment that it's really going to happen this year. Then you start off with a bang only to fizzle out by week 2. So how can we keep these promises that we make to ourselves? First of all, know that you are what you learned in the past, we are inherently and subconsciously a lifelong pattern of learned behaviors.

So don't take yourself too seriously. Have fun with this and don't sweat the small stuff, because in the end it's all small stuff. So here's some tips to start the New Year off right.

- Decide what you want to change**-To start, you need to think about what's working and not working. Once you look at your current life, determine if there are any changes you would like to make for the upcoming year. All changes in your life big or small will end up being life altering if practiced long enough to make it a new learned behavior.
- Be specific by breaking down**

**your goals**-Don't make your goals too vague. Write your objective out and break it down into smaller parts. Visualize and put on paper what you want the outcome to be and how you will achieve it. The more detailed the better. Also make your goals time specific.

- Be realistic with your goals**-Your goal needs to be representative of how willing you are to achieve it. You are the only one that can determine how sustainable this goal is and how much you want to make that change.
- Focus on the process**-Put all your positive energies and excitement into the practice of achieving your goals and how you feel about this each day. This helps with the uplifting feeling of accomplishment once the task is completed. Sometimes we get too stuck on the outcome to remember the process of how we got there.
- Be Flexible**-Remember there may be barriers. If you have a setback don't let that stop you from attaining your achievable

goal. Planning in advance helps you to limit these setbacks. And remember sometimes obstacles are beyond your control and that's alright too.

- Honor your journey and always practice self-care**-There is nothing more important than making positive changes in your life. To focus on the journey of everyday actions is imperative to accomplishing your specific goals.

When we follow a well-thought-out plan for change, we become successful at change. No more instant resolutions fizzling out and dying. Instead have a "plan-full" New Year journey!

Source: <https://thethirty.whowhatwear.com/how-to-set-realistic-expectations>



SENECA NATIVE CONNECTIONS CALENDAR  
JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Be sure to check out our Family Engagement Challenge this month online! Earn points and be entered to win some amazing prizes while spending quality time with your family!						1
CLUBHOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT: Open clubhouse hours are at the Cattaraugus location only until further notice.						
2	3	4 Teen Night Goal Setting and Plant Kits <a href="#">Call for times</a>	5	6 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	7	8
9	10	11 One Heart Two Spirit 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	12	13 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	14	15
16	17	18 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	19 Buffalo Botanical Gardens Plant Night 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	20 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	21	22
23	24	25 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	26	27 Clubhouse Open 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.	28	29
30	31					

Please note that any event that is in-person or requires material pickup, will follow COVID-19 safety protocol. Please wear a mask and observe the six-foot social distant rule. Virtual events are hosted on LifeSize. You will receive login info when you register!

Event Color Codes  
Purple: 24 and under and their families  
Green: Open to the community  
Teal: Ages 12-17  
Orange: Ages 18 and up  
Pink: No programming/holiday

Jennifer Stebbins  
716.532.5583 ext. 5433  
JStebbins@senecahealth.org

**NATIVE**connections  
SENECA NATION  
HEALTH SYSTEM

Simply HR ~  
November

**New Hires**  
**Shawna Miller**  
Health Information Assistant, LRJHC  
November 15, 2021  
**Chanel Sanasith**  
Contract and Credentialing Coordinator, LRJHC  
November 15, 2021  
**Elizabeth Wolfe**  
Care Collaboration Case Manager, LRJHC  
November 22, 2021  
**Whitney Brooks**  
Public Health Nutritionist, CIRHC  
November 29, 2021  
**Hailey Brooks**  
Health Information Assistant, CIRHC  
November 29, 2021

Welcome to the health system team!



Volunteer Models Needed!



If interested in modeling for our program, contact:  
  
Heather Ward  
hward@senecahealth.org  
716.532.8223 ext. 5573

SNHS' GHWIC Program is looking for community volunteers to model during a photoshoot in February 2022, in order to have local representation for program marketing and displays. Desired volunteers list below!


- Expectant Mothers
- Nursing Mothers
- Mothers Nursing in Regalia
- Babies being fed traditional baby foods
- 5 Generations of Mothers






Correcting Myths About the COVID-19 Vaccine


False information about the COVID-19 vaccine has been spreading online and in our communities. This fact sheet will address and correct the most common falsehoods about the COVID-19 vaccine.




**Myth #1: The COVID-19 vaccine will impact my pregnancy or fertility.**  
  
**FALSE.** There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines can impact your pregnancy or ability to have a healthy child. COVID-19 vaccines are recommended for those who are trying to get pregnant, are pregnant, or might want to become pregnant in the future.




**Myth #2: If you were sick with COVID-19 before, you don't need the vaccine.**  
  
**NOT TRUE.** The COVID-19 vaccine provides stronger, longer-lasting protection from the virus than prior infection. A 2021 CDC study found that those who were unvaccinated and had a recent infection were 5 times more likely to get COVID-19 than those who were recently fully vaccinated and did not have a prior infection.



**Myth #3: The vaccines will not work on new strains of the virus.**  
  
**WRONG AGAIN.** There have been many different strains of COVID-19 since the vaccine was approved in December 2020. The vaccine has remained extremely effective against severe illness, hospitalization, and death from all strains of the virus, including Omicron.



**Myth #4: Not much is known about the COVID-19 vaccine.**  
  
**INCORRECT.** Though the vaccine was developed in record time, the science behind it has been studied for decades. Since the vaccine was approved in winter 2020, there have been a record number of studies about its safety and effectiveness, making it the best-studied vaccine in history.



For more information:  
[CDC.gov/covid19](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19)

Effective December 9, 2021  
Source: CDC

## Best Wishes to Barb Nephew on Her Retirement

On December 17th we celebrated retirement of Barb Nephew, who was the nutritionist at the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation Health Center.

Listed below are her accomplishments and contributions to the Seneca Nation Health System:

- 1983-1986 and 1990 to 2021 Barb was employed at SNHS for a total of 34 years.
- She provided public health and diabetes education for individuals and groups.
- 1998 - Became Certified as a Diabetes Educator.
- Knowledgeable in Iroquois traditional foods, preparation and preservation.
- Contemporary foods – Fry bread, she modified the recipe for a healthier version.
- 1999 - Collaborative effort with the Healthy Community Alliance to produce a traditional foods cookbook and video.
- Master Gardener and volunteered to do garden boxes for CIRHC/CHWC.
- Planted flowers at the entrance of CIRHC with the help of community volunteers and staff. Encouraged others to grow vegetables using a raised garden bed.
- Sugar Beaters – She facilitated a diabetes education and support group for 28 years. Topics – Medications and Blood Glucose Control; Healthy Picnics and Summertime Eating, Holiday Survival Skills, Defensive Eating; Emergency Food Pantry in Severe Weather, etc.
- Fall Festivals, Community Fairs, Bike

- Rodeos. Summer Programs, Blood Glucose and Blood Pressure Screenings.
- Home Visits to provide Nutrition Counseling for the home-bound.
- Assist AOA, ECLC, and Summer Recreation with menu planning.
- 2000 –Became a Fitness Keeper to teach others how to use the new Exercise Room at the Saylor Building.
- 2001 – Helped build the Community Playground at the Saylor Building and cooked lunch for the volunteers.
- Community Presentations – Gowanda, and Silver Creek School Districts Prenatal Nutrition Education, and Nutritionist for the WIC Program.
- Supermarket Field Trips – How to Read Labels, Shopping Tips. Field Trips – Strawberry and Blueberry picking.
- Cooking Demonstrations – She made them healthy, fun to learn and gave samples of foods we most likely would not buy ourselves, but most importantly her dishes were delicious!
- 2001 Veggie Bucks Program – she initiated this program to promote increased consumption of fresh vegetables and fruit for healthier eating. This program also supported local food vendors.
- Strong advocate to get the medical equipment patients needed to manage their diabetes, emergency food and baby supplies. Efforts above and beyond to help others.
- Assisted with the COVID Vaccination Clinics.

- Community involvement - she was a Gowanda Village Board Trustee 1998-2008. Barb helped to secure grant funding for the Gowanda Tree City, USA. Planted and cared for several trees in 1999 to present, she also initiated the flower boxes in Gowanda. Barb and her husband Mark, are often seen watering the many flower pots! Such love and dedication for her community is shown in so many ways!
- Barb truly cared for all, she went above and beyond to advocate and help others to the best of her ability. The hard work, dedication and best interests she had for our patients did not go unnoticed. Community members seek out her support, and knowledge, an obvious sign of trust, adoration and respect. The work she did throughout her career is exemplary and she is very much appreciated. The Seneca Nation is fortunate to have benefitted from her knowledge and her being.
- To a job well done, best wishes for a healthy, lovely and relaxing retirement Barbara Nephew! Nya:weh.



*Pictured: Kerry Kennedy, Diabetes RN Case Manager (left), Barbara Nephew, Public Health Nutritionist MS, RD, CDE (center), and Denise Mohawk, Diabetes Project Coordinator (right)*





Onöndowa'ga: Gawë:nö' Nadö:diyeö:je' koh  
Department brings you the Gai:wanöhge',  
the monthly Seneca Language Newsletter

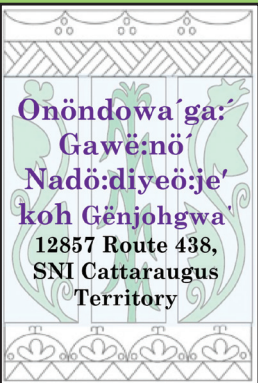
The department wishes everyone a safe, healthy & joyous 2022. "Ao'esad hehsaga:ho'" - "Happy New Year"  
Online Seneca Language Resources can be found at: [www.SenecaLanguage.com](http://www.SenecaLanguage.com)

Phrases to share this coming new year!

- 1.Dewagadë:nö:g A:sgë:nö'gëö:g Swagwe:göh - I wishing you all peace/well going forward
- 2.Ao'esad hehsaga:ho' - Happy New Year
- 3.Ao'esad no:ya' hehsaga:ho' - Happy New Year (upcoming)
- 4.Sgë:nö' ësadö:je' o:ëdö:gwa:h - Peace as you go forward
- 5.Göyanöhdö:nyoh - I'm thinking of you
- 6.Sgë:nö' goyanöhdö:nyö' - Good thoughts
- 7.Sgë:nö' o:ëdö:gwa:h ho'wënisjö:je' - Peace in the coming days
- 8.Ëgöyadënö'twas - I wish/ pray/ hope for you
- 9.Dewagadë:nön - I'm wishing it would happen
- 10.Ëgöjëö:nyö:k Sgë:nö'gëö:g Ësënöhdö:nyö:g - I'm encouraging you well thoughts going forward

Onödowa'ga: Gawë:nö'  
Pronunciation Key

a.....father	ä.....cat	e.....they	ë.....men	i.....police	o.....note
ö.....own	u.....tune	w.....wash	n.....not	y.....yes	d.....dog
t.....tail	g.....girl	k.....kite	s.....sit	j.....job	h.....hat
š.....show	tš.....chalk	dz....adze	: ....long vowel	' ....glottal stop	



Reminder:  
CHECK OUT OUR NEW  
SNI WEBSITE!

The updated site was launched last month after a yearlong effort.  
Stay tuned to this page for updates:  
<https://www.sni.org>

