Daswöndio:go

The Onöndowa’ga:’ Gawë:nö’ Nadö:diyeö:je’ koh Program will continue with its’ regularly scheduled evening classes on Thursday evening from 6pm - 8pm. The past several classes were cancelled due to weather and the holidays. We look forward to seeing all the participants and new ones in class!

The Onöndowa’ga:’ Gawë:nö’ Nadö:diyeö:je’ koh Program will be hosting a movie night with concessions on December 11th. Concessions open at 6:30pm and the movie will begin at 7pm. All proceeds from the concessions will be donated to the Newtown Longhouse. Come join us for an enjoyable family evening!

Are you interested in learning more about our culture? Ever feel like you don’t know who to turn to, to ask your questions. If interested in attending an event addressing these issues/questions, notify the Onöndowa’ga:’ Gawë:nö’ Nadö:diyeö:je’ koh Program.

Please feel free to contact the Onöndowa’ga:’ Gawë:nö’ Nadö:diyeö:je’ koh Program if you have any comments or questions at (716) 532-8162. We will be happy to assist you in anyway we can.

Jodto:h dates to remember:
• 5th - SNI Birthday (observed), SNI closed
• 7th - Cakewalk, 7pm, Newtown Longhouse
• 10th - IWI fundraiser, 5:30pm, Canisius College
• 11th - Movie Night, 6:30pm, Saylor Community Bldg.
• 13th - ECLC Christmas Bazaar, 9am - 4pm, CCC

Gawë:nö’ Lesson: Extreme Weather

With the recent fault activity in mind, here are a few extreme weather conditions to learn:

In Onöndowa’ga:’
1) Agwas gaiwëntwëh
2) Odëtghëdöh
3) Wo’oniyoë’go’
4) Wo’oënjë:nda:t
5) Wo’oga’säë’go’
6) Wo’oëhjë’go’
7) Deyo’sgayëndö:je’
8) Wëdäga:ses
9) O:hësdë:ndë:nö’
10) On:dö’
11) Dayo’däö:je’gowa:’
12) O’wahtehja’k

In Ganyö’ökha’
1) Devastation (absolutely destroyed)
2) Blizzard
3) Avalanche
4) Earthquake (the earth shook)
5) Mud slide (mud avalanche)
6) Land slide (dirt avalanche)
7) Hurricane (it disturbing the bushes as it goes)
8) Tornado
9) Drought
10) Flood
11) Tsunami (approaching huge waves)
12) Sink hole (it just broke off)
Nödaeyawëhse:'

Ping Pong Club
Tuesdays
8pm - 10pm
Cattaraugus Comm. Center
New day, same time!
Come down and join the fun.
New players are always welcome.
For more info, call: Clarence Seneca at 716-532-8162

Seneca Language & Culture Class
Thursdays
6pm - 8pm
Saylor Community Building
Facilitators: Gayawëö:wi' & Aédza:niyo'
Come down and learn Seneca in a fun & encouraging environment!
For more info, call: 716-532-8162

Children’s Christmas Party
Dec. 19th
12pm - 4pm
NACS
1005 Grant St., Buffalo, NY
Pre-registration required
For more info, call: 716-845-6304

GCS Social & Basket walk
Dec. 18th
5pm - 7pm
Gowanda Middle School Gym
Hosted by the Gowanda Central Schools
Title VII Indian Education
For more info, call: Caroline Young at 716-214-3147

Social & Cakewalk
Dec. 7th
7pm
Newtown Longhouse
Make a festive cake &
Bring your dancing shoes!
For more info, call: Jordan Cooke at 716-532-3341

Smokin’ Blues dance & fundraiser
Dec. 10th
5:30pm - 11pm
Montante Center, Canisus College
Smoke Dance contest, Cake contest, Cake-walk, Silent auctions, Vendors, Native foods
Tickets: $20 (advance), $25 (at the door)
For more info, email: Nancy Johnson at iggbertj@aol.com
Ahsoh Nödaeyawêhse:'

Community Craft Night
Dec. 3rd & 17th
5:30pm - 8pm
Saylor Community Building
Pack up your latest project and come to the Saylor to work on it in the company of other crafters. No materials provided.
For more info, email: Marlene at babswake@hotmail.com

Film Series:
Ingredients & Vanishing Bees
Dec. 4th & 11th
7pm
Ray Evans Theater,
10 Main St., Salamanca, NY
Free Admission,
hosted by Food is Our Medicine Project
For more info, call: Amanda at 716-532-4900 ext. 5016

Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 6th
10am - 3pm
Allegany Community Center
SNI Allegany Territory
Look for some unique gifts for Christmas
Many vendors, Raffles & Food
For more info, call: 716-945-8119

Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 12th
9:30am - 3:30pm
William Seneca Building
SNI Cattaraugus Territory
No fee for the vendor spaces.
Grab some last minute Christmas gifts!
For more info, call: Leslie Cooke at 716-532-4900

Breakfast with Santa
Dec. 6th
11 am - 1pm
NACS
1005 Grant St., Buffalo, NY
Three 1 hour breakfast sessions (10, 11, 12)
Pictures, Goody Bags & Crafts
Reservations are required
To make a reservation, call: 716-874-2797

ECLC’s Annual Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 13th
9am - 4pm
Cattaraugus Community Center
Come and get your last minute shopping done!
Vendors, Raffles, Food
For more info: 716-532-0505
The following is a story from the Seneca Indian Myths by Jeremiah Curtin, originally published in 1922.

Once upon a time, a bald-headed old man lived on the top of a mountain. His wife and three children lived near a lake about half way to the summit of the same mountain. Each day the old man went down to fish in the lake. On his way home he stopped and gave some of the fish to his wife, and thus they lived well and happily. After they had passed many years in this manner, the old man became curious to know how large the world was.

Being chief of his people, he called a council, and said, “I want to know how large the world is. I wish some man would volunteer to find out.”

One young man said, “I will go and find out.”

“You can’t tell, for I don’t know how far I shall have to travel.”

“Go,” said the chief, “and when you return you will tell us about your journey.”

The young man started and after traveling two moons he came to a country where everything was white – the forests, the water, the grass. It hurt his feet to walk on the white ground, so he hurried back. When he reached home he notified the chief.

The chief said, “I don’t believe that he has been to the end of the world, but I will call a council and we will hear what he has to say.”

When the people were assembled, the young man said: “I didn’t go very far, but I went as far as I was able.” And he told all he knew of the White Country.

The chief said, “We must send another man.”

They sent a second man. He was gone four moons and returned. The chief called another council. He asked “Did you go to the end of the world?”

“No,” said the man, “but I went as far as I was able to go. Everything was as it is here until I came to the White Country. I traveled two moons in the White Country and could go no farther. I could not have lived had I continued my journey.”

The chief sent a third man. He traveled farther than the second man. He then came back and related that there were people who lived in white houses and dressed in fur.

The chief was encouraged and he sent a fourth man. As the man traveled he noticed everything. He crossed white rivers & white lakes. He was gone eight moons.

On his return, he said, “I came back quicker than I went, for I came a shorter way and reached the green land sooner than I would if I had come on the trail by which I went.”

The chief sent a fifth man. He crossed the White Country and beyond that he found a place where there was nothing but rocks. He climbed very high then went down, and so he went up and down until he wore his moccasins off. He was gone ten months and came back.

At the council called by the chief, the man said, “I passed over the White Country, crossed rocky places, and then came straight home. It cannot be very far across the world.”

“How did you know the way home?” asked the old man.

“As I went, I noticed the trees. The tops of the hemlocks leaned toward the East and our home is in that direction, so I followed the bend of the hemlocks.”

The bald-headed chief was learning something new each time.

Many men were sent, one after another, and each returned with a story a little different from that told by others, but still no one satisfied the chief. At last a man said, “I will start and I will go to the end of the world before I come back.”

The chief looked at the man and saw that he was very homely, but very strong, and he said, “I think you will do as you promise. You may go.”

The chief called a council of the whole nation and each man agreed to make a journey by himself, and then come home and describe all he had seen. The chief and his men went and were gone forty moons. When they came home, a council was held and each told what he had seen.

When the man came who had promised to go to the end of the world, he said, “I have been to the end of the world, I have seen all kinds of people, all kinds of game, all kinds of forests and rivers. I have seen things which no one else has ever seen.”

The chief was satisfied, he said, “I am chief of all the people, you will be next to me. You’ll be second chief.”

This was the pay the man got for his journey. He took his position as second chief. The old chief was Bald Eagle. The first man sent out was Deer. He feet were tender, he could not endure the ice and snow of the White Country. The homely man who went to the end of the world was Mud-turtle.
**Christmas Carol sing along**

**As sung by Seneca Hymn singers**

**Jingle Bell Rock**

Bell, Bell, Bell, Rock

Gae:yo’da’ éyögwa’se:’,
Sleigh we will ride

Honötö:de’ oisdagai’
They hear jingling

Gae:yo’da’ ohdéjö:je’
Sleigh as it’s going

Bell, Bell, Bell, Rock

Gae:yo’da’ éyögwa’se:’,
Sleigh we will ride

Honötö:de’ oisdagai’ ohdéjö:je’
They hear jingling as it’s going

Dodayosdä:te’t agwawênôhsaha’
It became bright there we start our singing

Niyo:wanâ:gwat
How amazing it is

Gashewë’da’ Niyo:wanâ:gwat
Bell how amazing it is

Éyögwa’se’ ha’dedwaya’di:h
We will ride all by ourselves

Bell, Bell, Bell, Rock

Oisdagai’ héyoiwadaje’
Jingling forever

Wao:nö:e:sa’ o’todiet
They became happy they hollered,

Bell, Bell, Bell, Rock

**ASLN update**

By Aëdza:níyo

The After-School Seneca Language Nest has been operating since mid-September, servicing students in grades 3 – 6 from Gowanda, Lake Shore, and Silver Creek. This nest is staffed with four teachers, Aëdza:níyo Seneca, Brandi John, Brittany Cooper, and Frank John.

Using several different second language acquisition methods, we have developed a structured routine to create a supportive and encouraging learning environment. We begin each session with Ganö:nyö:k. There are several “classroom jobs” that are assigned. Part of the routine is for the students to stand and announce their responsibility, using future and past tense conjugations. The repetition of the routine will ensure that the student master the vocabulary.

We are also using Dr. Stephen Greymorning’s Accelerated Second Language Acquisition method. This method requires the use of picture. We use specific sets of pictures that include animate and inanimate objects and verbs. The use of pictures eliminates the need to use English during the learning process. The students are also “mingling,” a method borrowed from the Adult Language Learning Class. Mingling encourages the use of basic conversational words and phrases. Most of the “mingles” allow for conversations to go back and forth at least three times. The students will learn to converse with others but will also learn the flow of the language.

We look forward to seeing the results of the Language nest at its conclusion in June. In the first two months, we have witnessed our students increase their language usage in class and out in the community.
Gakö:ni:’h Ganö’ja’- Pineapple Cheesecake Squares*

**Ingredients:**
- 2 ¼ C. all purpose flour
- ½ C. confectioners’ sugar
- ½ C. sliced almonds
- ¾ C. Butter
- 2 (8 oz.) packages cream cheese
- ½ C. White sugar
- 2 eggs
- ¾ C. unsweetened pineapple juice
- 1 (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained with juice reserved
- ½ C. heavy cream, whipped

**Utensils:**
- Measuring cups
- Mixing bowl
- Sauce pan
- 9x13” baking pan
- Beater
- Rubber spatula

**Directions:**
1. Preheat oven to 350°F
2. In a medium bowl, combine 2 C. flour, confectioners and almonds. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs.
3. Press into the bottom of a 9x13” pan.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 15 to 20 minutes.
5. While crust is baking, prepare the cream cheese layer: In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and ½ C. sugar until smooth.
6. Beat in eggs one at a time.
7. Blend in 2/3 C. unsweetened pineapple juice.
8. Pour over hot crust and bake for about 20 minutes more in preheated oven. Allow to cool completely.
9. Make the topping:
10. In a saucepan, combine ¼ C. flour, ¼ C. sugar and 1 C. reserved pineapple juice. Bring to a boil and stir for 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in crushed pineapple. Cool completely.
11. When cool, fold in whipped cream. Spread topping over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate 4 hours before serving.

*Recipe & picture from www.facebook.com/foodgasmsrecipes

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Sadënö’ge:äd haë’gwah sahsoh

Picture from www.freefunchristmas.com