

# DECEMBER 2020

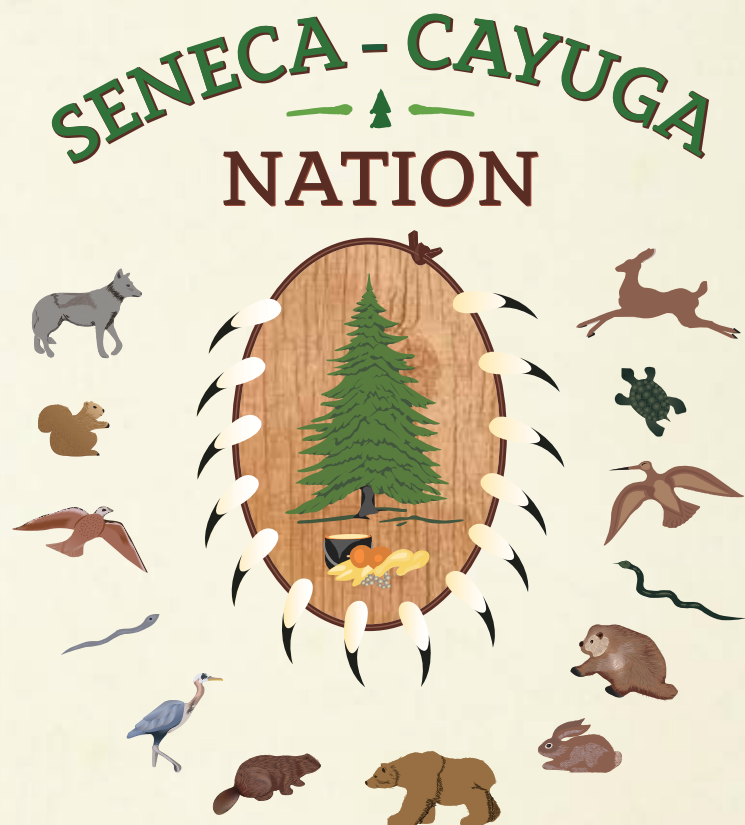
# GAH-YAH-TONT

## *It is Written*

### SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE:

- A word from the Chief
- Upcoming Election Information
- Voting Instructions
- Candidate Profiles

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
SENECA-CAYUGA NATION



Keep up with the latest news, events, and updates from the Seneca-Cayuga Nation.

Official Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OfficialSenecaCayugaNation](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSenecaCayugaNation)

The latest news and updates: [www.morescnation.com](https://www.morescnation.com)

Access benefits and government information: [www.sctribe.com](https://www.sctribe.com)

## A WORD FROM CHIEF SARAH S. CHANNING



Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of being Chief of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. It is an honor to serve as the first woman chief of our great Tribe. I am committed to working with the Business Committee and including every Seneca-Cayuga citizen as we work for the success of our Nation. We may not always agree on policies, but we have common ground. I believe everyone reading this newsletter has a desire for our Nation to flourish. We are unified in this belief! I am confident we can all work together for a prosperous future.

The Seneca-Cayuga Nation's future is bright, but we do face challenges. I cannot overstate the impact of COVID-19 on Tribes across the country. As a Nation, we have lost several members to the disease. Revenue at Grand Lake Casino is down as a direct result of COVID-19, which means there is less money to pay benefits and fund other programs. Despite the challenges, we are fortunate. We do not have high levels of debt or overhead expenses. The leadership at Grand Lake Casino has adapted to the challenges of COVID-19. For example,

Grand Lake Casino recently launched the "One Casino... Three Ways to Play" initiative. Three ways to play gives guests options to play in areas of the casino focused on safety with masks required, or in more traditional areas, with masks optional. This is just one way we are developing new strategies to compete in today's casino market. We are already seeing an increase in customer traffic as a result. Despite decreased revenue, we have avoided layoffs, and we continue to pay benefits as money is available. Seneca-Cayuga Nation staff have shown resilience as they adapt to working from home when necessary.

The upcoming election is an opportunity for every Seneca-Cayuga citizen to have a say in the direction of our Nation. In January, we will be electing four out of seven Business Committee members. I encourage you to read each of the biographies in this newsletter carefully. When you vote, choose people you believe can help our Nation prosper for the sake of future generations. Please make voting in the upcoming election a priority in your schedule.

I am hopeful. We must be unified in order for us to come out of this difficult year as a stronger Nation. I look forward to gathering as a community at the ceremonies, which are critical for our spiritual health. I am hopeful that COVID-19 will recede, and Grand Lake Casino will reach new heights in financial contribution to the Nation. I am encouraged that many of us are preparing for a better future by continuing our education, even under challenging circumstances. We all still face difficulties from COVID-19 and its effects, but as we face those challenges together, I know that the coming year will be better for all of us.

Sarah S. Channing, Chief



## A SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE SENECA-CAYUGA NATION'S ELECTED OFFICERS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON JANUARY 30, 2021.

Those positions include Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, 2nd Council Person and 4th Council Person.

The term of office for these positions will be January 30, 2021 to June 4, 2022. This is to re-establish staggered elections.

All Tribal members who are 18 years of age or older on January 30, 2021 and are on the Tribal rolls, are eligible to vote and should receive an official ballot from the election administrator.

The ballot process will be by mail in ballots only. No walk-in ballots will be accepted.

This process will be handled by an independent election administrator engaged by the Business Committee

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

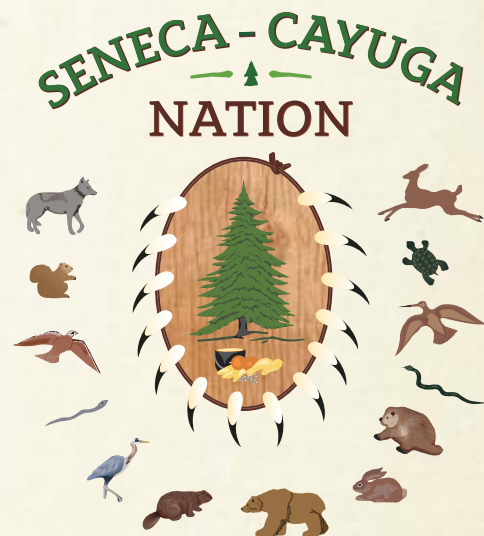
Sarah S. Channing, Chief

Jerry Crow, 2nd Chief

Cynthia Donohue Bauer, 1st Councilperson

Lisa Spano, 2nd Councilperson

Hoyit Bacon, 3rd Councilperson





# 2021 *Election*

On January 30, 2021 the Seneca-Cayuga Nation will hold an election for the positions of Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, 2nd Council Person and 4th Council Person. Every Seneca-Cayuga person who is 18 years or older will be able to vote and have a say in who leads our Nation. This year's election will be conducted by mail-in ballot. Using a mail-in ballot will ensure everyone has equal access to the polls. Voting by mail is simple, but there are a few essential things to know as you prepare to vote.

## GETTING YOUR BALLOT:

Ballots will be mailed to every eligible voter. An eligible voter is anyone who is 18 years or older on the day of the election and is listed on the rolls maintained by the Enrollment Department. You do not need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed to the address on file at the Enrollment Department.

If your ballot does not arrive, or arrives damaged, please contact Leslie McCoy by calling 918-791-6027 or e-mail [lmccoy@sctribe.com](mailto:lmccoy@sctribe.com).

## COUNTING THE VOTE:

The third party election administrator, Election Trust, will count the vote. Employees from Election Trust will have access to the PO box that ballots are mailed to. No one else will have access. On January 30th, 2021, employees from Election Trust, supervised by the Election Committee, will open the PO box. Ballots will be securely transferred to the Community Center for counting. Ballots will be counted by the election administrator, under the Election Committee's supervision, and observed by representatives for each candidate.







## VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Voting is simple. Follow the instructions included in the packets to fill out the ballot and voter affidavit. Here are the steps:

1. Fill in your ballot and seal it in the blue secrecy envelope.
2. Place the sealed blue secrecy envelope in the provided return envelope. Do not seal the return envelope.
3. Complete the affidavit. It must be notarized.
4. DO NOT put the affidavit in the blue secrecy envelope.
5. Place the affidavit in the provided return envelope.
6. Seal the return envelope.
7. Mail your ballot through the United States Postal Service.

Your ballot must arrive at the post office box listed on the return envelope before 11:00 am on January 30, 2021. Please mail your ballot early.

The address on the return envelope is a post office box set up specifically for the election. The post office box can only be opened by the third party election administrator. Ballots must arrive in the post office box before 11:00 am on January 30, 2021. Ballots that arrive after 11:00 am on January 30, 2021, will not be counted. Please mail your ballots early to ensure they arrive on time. You must use the return envelope provided. If you send your vote in a different envelope or using different forms, it will not be counted.

There will be no in-person voting for this election. If you want to vote, be sure and mail in your ballot.





# SENECA - CAYUGA NATION



## *Candidate* **PROFILES**



There are several positions up for election this year. We asked candidates to submit bios and pictures which follow. These have been published as submitted without editing.

This years election will be conducted by mail in ballot only. There will not be in person voting. Ballots will be mailed to every eligible voter. An eligible voter is anyone who is 18 years or older on the day of the election and is listed on the rolls maintained by the Enrollment Department. You do not need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed to the address on file at the Enrollment Department.

## SHARON KATIE BIRDSONG - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND CHIEF



Sgeno Swagwegoh (Greetings to all),

My name is Sharon "Katie" Birdsong and I am seeking the office of Chief in the upcoming election. I am very proud of my Tribal family lineage, I am of the Deer Clan. I am a descendant of Tribal ancestors that have held unique significant leadership roles in the History of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma. I am the great-great granddaughter of the late James Logan, the last traditional hereditary head Chief of the Oklahoma Cayuga's, Granddaughter of the late David "Uncle Babe" Logan who was a traditional faith keeper or "pot-hanger" the majority of his life, and daughter of the late Frances "Jackie" LoganBirdsong.

It has been my honor to have previously served on the Business Committee 10 years with four years as Second Chief, and 6 years as Councilperson. Through that experience

I have learned a lot regarding the issues facing the Tribe. I believe as an elected official all decisions made should be based on how the outcome will affect the people today, as well as generations yet to come. Upholding and honoring the Constitution and By-Laws along with General Council directives; as they were set in place to give us guidance, they MUST be followed.

We should safeguard all tribal and federal programs to ensure funds are allocated appropriately. Creating new businesses will offer more employment opportunities along with revenue for Tribal programs. The education program and guidelines need to be reevaluated to better serve the needs of our tribal members. Ensuring that resources are available to provide services for all qualified members, in addition offer guidance in researching other avenues to gain assistance.

Communication is a MUST in order to provide good leadership along with accessibility and accountability. All Business Committee members should equally be provided with all information regarding the Tribal business at hand in order for the Tribe to move forward and make the best decisions for the Tribe and future generations. I understand the importance of open communications.

It is important that we support, acknowledge, and work together with our Traditional people, and all those who take interest in learning and preserving the culture and language. It is important that we support things like Tribal Language Classes and such in their efforts at passing the ways on to our young so that our Tribal customs and Ceremonies will continue on into the future. I pledge to honor our elders, children, and all members of the tribe, and treat all members fairly.

Nya-weh (Thank you) for your continued support and vote.

Sharon "Katie" Birdsong



## JERRY CROW - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND CHIEF



I grew up in Oklahoma. There was a period of three years during his youth that my family spent in Los Angeles in support of my father's work in the airline industry. The stay was reasonably brief, however, moving back after 3 short years to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. His grandfather, Jerry Crow, was the Chief of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation tribe in the early 1900's. My great uncles were Amos and Moses Crow, who played a critically important part of history by signing the treaty from Abraham Lincoln keeping the Confederates away from the Iroquoian Indians.

I attended undergraduate school at Spartans School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, Okla. where I pursued a bachelors' degree on a program funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. From there, I continued onward through my professional career, and completed 20 years of work within the oil and gas industry, serving and leading on teams that developed proficiency with robotics and mechanics.

For the last 27 years of my career, I worked with Tulsa Technology School on the operations and engineering of production technologies. I worked on every aspect of machinery throughout the plant until he retired from the organization in 2014.

"I want to be remembered as an honest man that followed the rules. I want to see the Seneca-Cayuga nation children be successful, pursue a job, and pursue a sustainable career. I want to see our community more independent. I want every member in our community to have access to education, while learning about a world reaching even beyond Seneca- Cayuga Nation boundary lines."

My vision is as follows: "There is a big world out there, and there exists a lot of opportunity. Our members could be a massive part of developing needed solutions to the problems of the world. What if we lived in a way that would foster a culture of higher employment numbers, of academic achievements and developed solutions? I want to see our people grow by bringing their skill sets to light. There are thousands of dollars in grants and educational funds available. Go to school, get the education, let us help you pursue your vision and your dreams. The Seneca-Cayuga Nation will be here cheering for you, you can always come home to us. Grab the opportunity around you, your future is bright!"

Being a Seneca-Cayuga member is something that I am especially proud of: "I believe in representing and supporting the tribe to achieve its full potential. I want to witness our people thriving in ways we never dreamed possible. I want generations of families to have more meaningful lives because they are Seneca-Cayuga. In order for us to do this, we have to grow and experience the growing pains. I look forward to the day this Nation operates and performs at the highest of levels without any outside financial assistance." I am proud of the work the Seneca-Cayuga Nation is doing to focus members on long-term success and impact multiple generations of a family.



## CHARLIE DIEBOLD - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND CHIEF



Greetings to all tribal members,

As you may be aware, I am the current ceremonial chief of the tribe. Tribal culture and tradition are how I was raised. And I have been blessed with the opportunity to carry on the tradition just as my ancestors have done.

After much thought I have decided to run for 2nd chief. I assure you I have not taken this decision lightly and will in no way affect my duties in the Longhouse only help our tribe. I feel I would be an asset to the tribe and my goal is that we as a tribe can look to the future and build a tribal unit which is strong Spiritually, Emotionally and Financially.

My mother was Ruby Diebold and my uncles and grandmother were also Faith Keepers. I have been married to Leanne the daughter of Homer and Stella Snell for over 30 years. We have 3 children who are grown with families and careers.

I lived within our tribal reservation while growing up till graduating NEO A&M in Miami with a degree in Electronic Technology. After graduating I moved to Tulsa and began my career. One thing I learned quickly is that you have to be able to adjust and adapt to new obstructions. Just as we as a tribe need to do in today's environment. Government involvement in tribal affairs could increase if we do not get a hold of our own future and destiny. Business expansion and diversification is an important step in the right direction. Which in turn brings more jobs and assistance to our people.

I have worked for companies large and small throughout my career and I have found training and schooling as well as hard work to be a major benefit for success. Education and tribal traditions should be a priority for our tribal members trying to make a life for themselves.

I am dedicated to the tribe and I will work hard to do what is right, do my best and treat others as I would want to be treated. I feel I am easy to work with; accomplishment driven and have the best interests of the tribe as a whole at heart.

We are in a time where we (individuals, families and nations) are faced with major obstacles, the tribe or country for that matter have never experienced before. I am a Covid-19 survivor and found how fast things can change or be taken from you and how precious the small things become. We must unite as a people to prosper and build a foundation our children can be proud of. As you are aware the casino income has taken a huge hit due to Covid-19. We must try to work towards new enterprises. Now it is not going to happen overnight, but let's come together to envision our goals, create our plan and build for the future.

I encourage everyone to vote and would appreciate your consideration. "Nya Weh"

Charles Diebold

Candidate for 2nd Chief

## KIM GUYETT (BARTON) - CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER



Sgeno,

My name is Kim Guyett (Barton) and I am running for the position of Secretary-Treasurer, of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. I live in Wyandotte, OK with my two sons and nephew. I also have two adult children and four grandchildren that live out of state. I am very proud of my family lineage: I am of the Deer Clan (Southside), great-granddaughter of the late David "Babe" Logan, granddaughter of the late Frances "Jackie" Birdsong (Logan), daughter of Glenda Barton (Birdsong), and sister of Paul Barton. I possess the education and experience necessary to effectively perform the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer position as prescribed by the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's constitution. Even more importantly, I am committed to the wellbeing of our tribal members.

I am an Accountant by profession, with 11 years of experience. I have earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, as well as, a Master's Degree in Accounting and Financial Management. Currently, I work as the dedicated accountant for Miami Tribal Systems Integrators and Miami Nation Stronghold as part of the Federal Contracting Group of Miami Nation Enterprises. While being a single mother of four, I successfully ran my own business for 6 years in order to put myself through undergraduate and graduate school. My experience also includes Secretary/Treasurer positions for an elementary school PTO and my son's cub scout troop.

I believe that the office of Secretary-Treasurer is the most important elected position of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's Business Committee. As the keeper of all tribal monies, records, documents, and as Chairman of the Enrollment Committee, this position requires complete transparency and accountability to ALL Seneca-Cayuga Tribal Members, while maintaining the appropriate confidentiality demanded by the position. As a concerned tribal member, I have been committed to increasing communication and transparency between the members of our Nation and our leadership. Through social media and email, I have informed tribal members about vital information and provided explanations of proposed constitutional changes from the Business Committee, which are often vague or confusing. Our people deserve to have all the necessary information to make informed decisions. If elected as Secretary-Treasurer, I pledge to continue my commitment to communication and transparency through an absolute open-door policy. I will keep tribal members abreast of the actions and decisions of the Business Committee, as well as the state of the tribe.

One of the most pressing issues in our tribe is the enrollment of our babies and kids. The Secretary-Treasurer acts as the Chairman of the enrollment committee and has a duty to ensure that new member applications are handled appropriately and in accordance with the constitution and the tradition built over the past 80+ years as a tribe. As Secretary-Treasurer, I will work diligently to ensure that all our babies and kids, who have been denied for years, are approved for membership and brought before the General Council.

The Business Committee is in place to serve the tribal members and carry out the wishes of the General Council, as well as enforcing all GC resolutions with transparency and accountability. I pledge, with absolute certainty, that all my passion and dedication will be focused on serving the Seneca-Cayuga Tribal members. With your vote and support we can bring the Seneca-Cayuga Nation back to the tribal members and work together to provide a positive future for all our generations to come.

Nya:weh,

Kim Guyett (Barton)  
Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer, Seneca-Cayuga Nation



## LEROY HOWARD - CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER



My name is LeRoy Howard and I would appreciate your vote for Secretary/Treasurer of the Seneca/Cayuga Nation. As many of you already know I was a councilman for 4 years, the tribal Business Manager for 13 years and the Chief for a total of 9 years. The Secretary/Treasurer has had the duties called out in our Constitution and By-Laws, many of them have been ignored. Some of these duties are obvious, like record the meetings, make out the order of business, have custody of the records and papers, keep a correct list of all members of the Council. One very important duty – Shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements. I believe the tribal membership has the right to know what these receipts are and how they are being spent. We now have no idea and haven't for years, known about our income or how it is spent. If I become secretary/Treasurer I will have a monthly report on those funds. Another historical duty of the Secretary/Treasurer is to act as Chairman of the Enrollment

Committee, which has historically, more than 40 years that I can remember, consisted of former Secretary/Treasurers and a few elders. As Chairman of this very important committee, which has largely been inactive due to the practice of having only one person making the decision on who is and isn't a tribal member. Our Constitution is very clear on how and who is to be a member. One part requires the vote of the Council. We have not had a General Council meeting in over 6 years, so there must be hundreds of people in limbo. We used to have around a hundred applications presented to the General Council each year for its consideration. We have not had a General Council meeting in over 6 years due to underhanded actions of those in charge. This policy of shutting down GC meetings and not recognizing an eligible applicant has affected their eligibility to use the Indian Health care as well as the general services the Tribe has provided in the past. If elected as Secretary /Treasurer I will end this practice and activate the important Enrollment Committee and get all eligible applications before the General Council.

Again, I would appreciate your vote for Secretary /Treasurer. LeRoy Howard

## THOMAS WEIDMAN - CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER



I am the son of Sarah Sue Channing and Grandson of Roy Fisher. I am the great, great grandson of Jack Armstrong and Elizabeth Davis Armstrong. My Great Grandmother was Sarah Armstrong Fisher. It is my belief that it's time for my generation to step up and serve our people.

In 2010 I graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting from Missouri Southern State University. Before attending MSSU, I lived in Springfield, Missouri working for Sportsman Distribution Center (Bass Pro) while attending college at Ozarks Technical Community College. After completing my education, I worked as a Program Support Specialist at Northeast Oklahoma Community Action, a non-profit agency. I currently work for the Seneca-Cayuga Nation in the accounting department as the procurement officer and have been there for the past five years.

I was honored to serve as the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's Secretary-Treasurer in 2013, and also as a Grievance Committee Member for four years (2009 – 2012). The Nation has put in place sound accounting and procurement policies and procedures that have lead to clean audits and accurate financial data. If elected as Secretary Treasurer, I will continue to support these practices. My education, prior experience on the Business Committee and working for the Nation have given me the tools to do a good job for all of our tribal members and families.

I would be pleased and honored to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer for the Seneca-Cayuga Nation and humbly ask for your help and your vote.



## STEPHEN BUNCH - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND COUNCIL PERSON



My name is Stephen Bunch and I am asking for your support for my bid for the Position of 2nd Councilperson. I am the Great Grandson of Florence Bigtail Hubbard, the Son of Sandra Wabaunsee Kingston, and a single father with a 14 year old Son, Pax-E-Kah; we are of the Snipe Clan. It has always been a cherished honor that Grandma Bigtail has the very first Roll # issued in 1937; she was Roll# 1. I have been an active participant in Tribal Affairs for 20 years now and I am a solid Constitutionalist through and through. My personal goal is to help restore the authority and dignity of the Supreme Governing Body and help move this Nation forward as a 'Representative' of The People, their desires and especially their Directives.

I have had the pleasure of working side by side with other Nations via their Developers, their vendors and their Governments; including the Seminole Nation, a band of the Mohawk Nation and the Apache Nation as well. I have experience in Gaming and

Tobacco as a result of these Business Relationships and I retain the ability to tap those resources to bring new business and thereby Tribal Jobs to the Reservation. An important goal of mine is work to reestablish a footprint in manufacturing to create a new vehicle for Tribal Members to gain better jobs and confidently work for their Nation. In addition, we have issues with our Gaming Enterprise and we must move forward to establish an improved Business Model or we are going to left behind in this marketplace. There's only so much local revenue and we have hit that wall and now must consider the "new bar" for Gaming in this State, and that is destination Gaming Facilities. We now have Riverbend Casino and Hotel, Indigo Sky Casino Resort and the Cherokee Nation right in our backyard. I believe we must step up to the plate or watch our Gaming Revenues continue to dwindle and share what customers are left with the Cherokee Casino in Grove. As far as our Tobacco facility we should consider expansion of product lines and reconsider the export market. CDB is an excellent start and we should consider an enhanced focus on that entire industry.

There is a lot to do and I want to help. I ceased the travel assignments and rearranged my life to provide an improved quality of life for my special needs child and to care for my Mother in her golden years; and I couldn't be more grateful to have been able to do so. So I am here, I am available at all times and equipped to do the Job. rv,ost importantly, the Constitution and the respect thereof, are my primary goals. There shall never be another Council Meeting that does not respect Parlimentary Procedure, the Consitution and the Civil Rights of The People. The People shall prosper via opportunities and those opportunities are in the form of not just College Funding, but also Trade School Funding ar,d job opportunities right here on the Reservation. Support from 'The People' is earned via respect for The People and of course .... results. Thank you for any consideration and I will make your vote count. I will always work for the best interest of this Nation and be accessible to you always.

## STEPHAN M. CROW - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND COUNCIL PERSON



My name is Stephan Michael Crow and I am announcing my candidacy for the office of 2nd councilperson of our great Seneca-Cayuga Nation. Unlike other candidate's I have never been convicted of a felony. I was born in 1969 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I am the youngest of 6 siblings of the wolf clan from Lester and Donna Crow. Many of you knew my father and how great, hard-working, and fun he was providing for his family as a mechanic for American Airlines after serving our country during the Korean War. He planted the seed of serving and caring for others I have today. My uncle Vernon Crow served as our chief for 10 years. My great grandfather John Crow was chief in the 1920s. The Crow family has a long history of serving others and our great nation.

I am much like my father spending my spare time serving others for the last 20 years. Helping start a Celebrate Recovery to building homes for Habitat for Humanity and Joplin tornado recovery. I have been a member of Church on the Move for 15 years now. I started serving at Dry Gulch USA as a volunteer consultant, welding supervisor, and during Christmas Train season as a video engineer serving 50,000+ people. I am currently on the production team as a video engineer after running a camera for years. My men's discipleship group serves the greater Tulsa area reaching out to those in need. We helped spearhead the relocation of the Reed Foundation by joining with the City of Tulsa renovate the Ben Hill Community Center that keeps children and young adults off the streets.

Raised in Broken Arrow I excelled in the drafting field gaining BA's Mechanical Draftsperson of the year 1987 while attending Tulsa Tech studying mechanical systems and automotive repair just to decide to become a welder (typical teenager). Going back to school learning Computer Aid Drafting just to start my new career as a designer. In the last 28 years, I have been a senior mechanical designer for several major companies focusing on advanced 3D models, structural analysis, and rapid prototype development. A developer of 100's of products, well service rigs, and horizontal pumps worldwide. Having gained industry awards and patents I bring problem-solving business skills, team management, leadership, and appropriate communication to the table.

### Accomplishments:

- > First Place Northeastern State University / Industrial Arts (Drafting)
- > Once Certified Pipe, Structural and Aircraft Welder
- > US Patent 6,254,300 B1 July 3, 2001 Hinge Pin & Retention Sleeve
- > US Patent 6,948,752 B1 September 27, 2005, Master Link & Chain Shortener Sold in McMaster-Carr and Caterpillar
- > Eliminator Won 1st Place in the 2006 LLEAP Awards October 2006 Lift & Access
- > Patent 8,375,527 B1 Feb 19, 2013, Actuated Wedge Socket Assembly
- > Super Terminator Won 1st Place in the 2010 LLEAP Awards, November 2010 Lift & Access

I have encountered many of the same life experiences and obstacles. With all that I have experienced, I continue to overcome despite having to hit the reset button a few times. My core fundamentals as a Christian man are service, thankfulness, compassion, peace, and wisdom. With a successful lifetime of business experience and a history of creative out-of-box thinking. I am a mix of old-school that successfully made the transition into this new computer/electronic fast-paced world. Having worked with a wide diversity of people and personalities creating value with integrity that would be an asset to our great nation. I would be proud and humbled to have the opportunity to serve as your 2nd councilperson of our great Seneca-Cayuga Nation.

Regards,

Stephan M. Crow



## AMY NUCKOLLS - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND COUNCIL PERSON



Sgeno,

Hello fellow tribal members. My name is Amy Nuckolls, I am announcing my candidacy for the 2nd Council Person position on the Business Committee. I am very proud of my tribal heritage and lineage. I am of the Northside Turtle Clan. I am the daughter of Matt Nuckolls and the granddaughter of Jeff and the late Susie Nuckolls. My family has strong ties to our longhouse and our longhouse ways.

I think it is of major importance that our Business Committee should not only have the business aspect of tribe at heart but our traditional “ways” as well. I was raised around our ceremonies and still go to this day. I know our longhouse ways and I feel I can help bridge the gap between our people and our business committee. I am a very family-oriented person with a wife who I have been with for 10 years. We have 2 beautiful daughters. I am employed with TherapyTime Pediatrics in Tulsa, where I absolutely love

what I do. My job is flexible so I will be available to carry out the required duties of the Business Committee. I am seeking the position of 2nd Council Person as I feel it is time for a change in our tribe and I feel I could be of great assistance in doing just that. I believe we need new enterprises, new programs and new ideas.

With that being said, I am very passionate with the idea of our tribe improving and growing the current substance abuse program we have in place. I would love to see our tribe develop a cutting edge Native American inpatient treatment facility/program and other tools fellow Natives can use to regain their lives. I have witnessed so many of us in our area get drawn into addiction and nowhere to turn. I am passionate about this endeavor because about 15 years ago now, I experienced addiction firsthand and I beat it. I was one of the lucky ones.

I believe that our process of enrolling our babies (our future) has been tainted by previous and current administrations. Our future generations have been put on hold with no new enrolled members in several years. This must end. We must develop and pass a General Council resolution to address this issue. This must never happen again. We need people willing to stand up and fight for all tribal member rights and I will be that person! It's time to give the voice back to our people where it belongs. I will serve with ALL tribal members best interests at heart and I will stand by our constitution. Now, is the time to take a stand for our tribe and get it on the right path. I would love to be a part of this.

I want to graciously ask for your vote. A vote that would help mend the division within our Nation. I pledge to be available for all our members. I pledge to be accountable and transparent in all matters. Most importantly, I pledge to uphold the Constitution of our Nation and to follow all General Council orders.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 918-998-7825, on Facebook or by email at amy\_nuckolls@yahoo.com. I would love to hear from fellow tribal members and gather ideas to restore our Nation. Please let me earn your vote on January 30th, 2021.

Nya:weh,

Amy Nuckolls

Candidate for 2nd Council Person

Seneca-Cayuga Nation

## LISA GAYE SPANO - CANDIDATE FOR SECOND COUNCIL PERSON



Hello everyone .Hope you are all well and safe. Let me reintroduce myself

I am Lisa Perry Spano a widow since 2017 of Tom Spano,we were married for 39 yrs .A mother of 2 sons Joseph and David a grandmother to 6. I am a daughter of Joyce Whitecrow Perry a Seneca - Cayuga and Bill Perry a Chickasaw. Granddaughter of Mayo Sydney Whitecrow a Seneca -Cayuga and Lucille Whitecrow. I am very proud of my lineage my family is very important to me .

I am not going to tell you I've done this and that.I will say even though some may not have approved of my decisions they were made with good intent to help our nation.

Once again Iam asking for your faith and your vote on January 30,2021 for 2nd business committee member. I thank you all for allowing me to serve you it's been an honor and an experience of a lifetime ,words cannot express my gratitude.

If you any questions call ,text or email at 918-533-0684 [lspano@sctribe.com](mailto:lspano@sctribe.com)



## TONYA BLACKFOX - CANDIDATE FOR FOURTH COUNCIL PERSON



Sgeno,

Please allow me to formally introduce myself. My name is Tonya (Kahn-dahn-seh) Blackfox. I am of the Deer Clan (Southside). I have lived in the Miami area my entire life. I earned a Certificate of Mastery in Early Childhood Development from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. I have been married for twenty (20) years to Damian Blackfox. We have three (3) children, one (1) in college and two (2) in high school. I have been employed with the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma for fifteen (15) years now.

I am the daughter of our late Ceremonial Chief Richard White. He was our Ceremonial Chief for over twenty-five (25) years before he passed. I had the honor of being taught our ways through him. I recall as a child him talking about how great our Tribe was and how he was so proud of our people. Heartbreakingly, I don't think he

would feel the same way now. I have witnessed firsthand how our Tribe has deteriorated over the past few years. Now is the time we must take action to take our Tribe back. We must change the current path of closed-door policies and destabilization, to a new path of mending ties and a progressive change for the future of our people.

We recently elected two (2) outstanding Business Committee members Cynthia Donohue Bauer and Hoyit Bacon. I am looking forward to having the opportunity to serve our people with them. They, as well as I, know Economic Development should be at the forefront of our future and must be restored to our Nation. We must have a plan and we must follow through with it, I cannot stress this enough. We cannot sustain a Tribe of our size with the only income being a casino and a few federal grants that are dwindling each year. It is time that the Business Committee stops working for their own best interests and starts working for OUR people as they were sworn to do. It is time the Business Committee listens to our people and they follow our Constitution. It is time that our offices at Headquarters are opened back up instead of cutting Tribal Members off at the front door. As the 4th Council Person you can expect that I will listen to you all and you will be heard.

I pledge to be upfront, honest and serve our people with integrity. I pledge to honor and follow our Constitution and By-Laws and finally I pledge to serve the will of our General Council the Supreme Governing Body of our Nation.

I am humbly asking for your vote on January 30th, 2021. A vote that will continue the progress we made during the last election. A vote that will give your voice back and listen to our people. I want to earn your vote. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to message me on Facebook or call or text me at (918) 533-4886.

Nyaweh,

Tonya (Kahn-dahn-seh) Blackfox

Candidate for 4th Position Council Person

Seneca-Cayuga Nation

## CALVIN CASSADY - CANDIDATE FOR FOURTH COUNCIL PERSON



My name is Calvin Cassady and I am a candidate for the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's Business Committee fourth position. Why should you vote for me.

I care about you. I served seven years previous to this election. I care enough about you to show up for work daily. Benefits is a primary concern for many of the members. I feel that benefits should be distributed in a timely manner. That means BC members must be available on a daily basis to review and approve benefit check requests and to provide proper signatures. I know that when those committee members are not present, benefit checks have been held waiting for those signatures.

I care about our businesses and our federal programs. Again daily attention is necessary to review spending requests and to make sure purchase order and check requests are not delayed awaiting proper authorization.

Reviewing spending allows BC members incite into the direction and the priorities of our businesses and programs.

I am a proud member of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. My mother was Betty Zane Winnie Cassady, my Grandfather was Clarence Winnie, my great-grandfather was Reid Winnie a hereditary chief, and my great-great-grandfather was John Winnie, an early organizer for tribes, a hard worker in developing early native recognition and an early tribal chief. I support cultural development within the nation.

I care about fiduciary accountability and stability. On these two business pillars rest possibilities for growth. Good, consistent, flawless audits afford the nation credit opportunities necessary for the kind of growth that will add tribal businesses and tribal jobs.

I support the BC's responsibility to review all budgets before approval. I also support final BC approval on all new hires. A competent and supportive workforce Is necessary for success in today's competitive workplace.

I care about all members of the nation and continue to support the right to vote by all member regardless of where you live.

I continue to support the distribution of elders' checks and all benefit checks to all members of the nation regardless of where they live. These distributions should always be handled in a fair and proper manner.

In these uncertain times of the worldwide pandemic, I care that the Nation does all that is necessary to improve the possibilities for all members of the Nation.

I believe the constitution is the supreme governing body of the nation.

I feel that in the interest of transparency voters should know that one of my opponents participated in an illegal coup resulting in an illegal take over of a seated and recognized tribal government. That same opponent bartered her votes in the previous election to help elect another member who participated in the illegal takeover. Another opponent interrupted an audit of the Nation's claims committee and threw the audit team off the complex. The audit could not be completed and the coverup is now history. That same person called an illegal general council and replaced the sitting chief in a phoney election.

I graduated with a B.S. in education from Missouri Southern State University, and an M.S. and an Ed.S. in administration from Pittsburg State University.

I care for all members. I care for the growth and security of our Nation and I believe in doing the right thing. It would be an honor to serve the Nation once again.



## GINGER A PERRY KEYES HEATHERLY - CANDIDATE FOR FOURTH COUNCIL PERSON

My name is Ginger Heatherly. I am asking for your vote for 4th Councilperson. I have been happily married to my husband and best friend, Linden Heatherly, for ten years. We have a combined family of 5 daughters and are proud grandparents to 13 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

I graduated from Bell Gardens High School in California in 1977 and graduated from Graphic Arts School in 1980. I attended NEO Jr. College from 1987-1988. I was the Director of the Los Angeles Indian Center Graphic Arts Program before moving to New York, then on to Oklahoma, where I have resided since 1987.

I worked at the Tribe's Tobacco Plant for ten years, I was the Tribal employee in the Claims Department for three years and now am Head of Housekeeping for the Tribal Complex. In the early 2000's, I served on the Nation's Grievance Committee.

I have a deep love for our Tribal traditions and customs. I am the proud daughter of Joyce WhiteCrow Perry and Billy Perry. Both have passed on now. I am a descendent of TsuKa-Wi (the Crow). I am also Wolf Clan. My mother taught me to have an unabiding love for our Tribal people and also about the history of our Tribe. My dad never met a stranger. He taught me, by example, to have a kind and warm heart for those around me.

I know our people have been fractured for too many years. I see that we need a path to follow that brings us together again. That starts with leadership, with our Business Committee. I believe our BC must also have the utmost respect for and support our Faithkeepers.

The Business Committee must start new enterprises now. I like most of you, have heard the promises of BC members past. Promises, but no action in this regard. These are extremely trying times. Every citizen of our Tribe, and the entire world, are going through a dark time. I have watched this virus ravage our Tribal Nation and other countries. This is why we MUST seek out new opportunities to provide valuable jobs, with benefits, to our own. Healthcare, especially right now, is more valuable than it ever was before.

I hope you will put your faith and trust in me. I promise you this: If elected as a BC member, I will be accessible to our people. I will work diligently, understanding that every member of the BC has a voice and a vote. If elected, I want to walk the road together, getting our Tribe back to respectability, getting our BC back to understanding they are servants FOR our people. Not better, not worse, but one people.

I humbly ask for your vote. Ginger Heatherly for 4th Councilperson. Ya-web.



## TERRY L. WHITETREE - CANDIDATE FOR FOURTH COUNCIL PERSON



Hello Seneca-Cayuga Members,

I'm Terry Whitree candidate for Third Council Person.

As a past candidate was elected Chief, Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, and 1st Council Person. Retired from McDonald Douglas Aircraft, Rockwell International, and Boeing Aircraft Company. Served in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne and 101st Airborne Division.

I believe Tribe deserves accountability from their elected officials. Officials should carry out their responsibilities to the Tribal Members. As a elected official I will defend the constitution and by-laws of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. Treat each member the same and not be bias toward anyone. I'll work hard to do what is right. Do my best to treat others as I would want to be treated.

Elected officials become responsible for the success and needs of their subordinates. Tribal leaders and employees should be held accountable for their actions and wrong doing should be dealt with instead of overlooked.

Instead of moving forward economic independence and a better way of life for the Nation's members you could say the Indian community is surrounded by adverse forces. But instead of learning from positive examples and working hard to advance our Nation the current Nation leaders have sought merely to set back and enjoy the ride and not putting forth concrete proposals for the betterment of the nation.

I would like your support for 3rd Council Person of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation in this years election.

Terry Whitree



## OFFICIAL BALLOT Officers Election

January 30, 2021

### BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

Please use a dark pen or pencil to mark your ballot by filling in the oval next to your choice(s).

MARK LIKE THIS:

#### 2nd CHIEF

Vote for One (1)

- ☐ Candidate 1  
☐ Candidate 2  
☐ Candidate 3

#### 2nd COUNCIL PERSON

Vote for One (1)

- ☐ Candidate 1  
☐ Candidate 2  
☐ Candidate 3  
☐ Candidate 4

#### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Vote for One (1)

- ☐ Candidate 1  
☐ Candidate 2  
☐ Candidate 3

#### 4th COUNCIL PERSON

Vote for One (1)

- ☐ Candidate 1  
☐ Candidate 2  
☐ Candidate 3  
☐ Candidate 4

### **IMPORTANT!**

#### **FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE SEALING AND MAILING YOUR BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE:**

- After marking this ballot, re-fold & seal it in the **BLUE BALLOT SECRECY ENVELOPE**.
- Complete the enclosed **AFFIDAVIT** according to the instructions. **Note: IT MUST BE NOTARIZED TO VALIDATE YOUR BALLOT.**
- Seal both the completed **AFFIDAVIT** and **BLUE BALLOT SECRECY ENVELOPE** in the **BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE**.
- Place the sealed **BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE** in the mail (*make sure proper postage is affixed*).
- To be counted, your ballot must be received at the designated Post Office by **11:00am CDT on January 30, 2021**.
- *No ballots will be accepted at the Seneca-Cayuga Nation offices.*
- **Ballot lost, damaged or not received?** Request a duplicate: call or email Leslie McCoy (918) 791-6027 or [lmccoy@sctribe.com](mailto:lmccoy@sctribe.com)



## Frequently Asked Questions

### When is the election?

The Seneca-Cayuga Nation election will take place on January 30th, 2021. The election will be conducted by mail. There will be no in person voting. Ballots must be received by 11:00am on January 30th, 2021 or they will not be counted.

### How will votes be cast?

All votes will be cast via absentee ballot. The absentee ballots will be mailed to all registered members of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation that are 18 years of age or older. Members will fill out the ballots and mail them back to a third party election auditor. Ballots must arrive in the post office box before 11:00 am on January 30th, 2021. Ballots that arrive after 11:00 am on January 30th, 2021, will not be counted.

### What positions and candidates are part of this election?

#### **2nd Chief**

Katie Birdsong  
Jerry Crow  
Charlie Diebold

#### **Secretary/ Treasurer**

Kim Guyett (Barton)  
Leroy Howard  
Thomas Weidman

#### **2nd Council Person**

Stephen Bunch  
Stephan M. Crow  
Amy Nuckolls  
Lisa Gaye Spano

#### **4th Council Person**

Tonya Blackfox  
Calvin Cassady  
Ginger A Perry Keyes Heatherly  
Terry L. Whitetree

### How will the votes be counted?

All ballots will be mailed directly from the voting member to a post office box established by the election administrator. Ballots will be counted by the election administrator, under the Election Committee's supervision, and observed by representatives for each candidate.

### How do I get a ballot?

Ballots will be automatically mailed to every eligible voter. You do not need to request a ballot. If your ballot does not arrive, or arrives damaged, please contact Leslie McCoy by calling 918-791-6027 or e-mail [lmccoy@sctribe.com](mailto:lmccoy@sctribe.com).

### How long is the term of office for the winners?

The term of office for these positions will be January 30, 2021 to June 4, 2022. This is to re-establish staggered elections.



To update your address please  
mail this form to  
Enrollment Department  
P.O. Box 453220  
Grove, Oklahoma 74345

Or visit the website  
[www.sctribe.com/address-update](http://www.sctribe.com/address-update)  
to change your address  
or other information.

## Enrollment Department Change of Address Form

Name

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New Address

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---

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Home Telephone

---

Work Telephone

---

Cell Phone

---

E-mail Address

---

Tribal Enrollment Number

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### Tribal children at this address:

Child Name

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Child Name

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Child Roll Number

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Child Roll Number

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Submitted By (print)

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Date

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Signature

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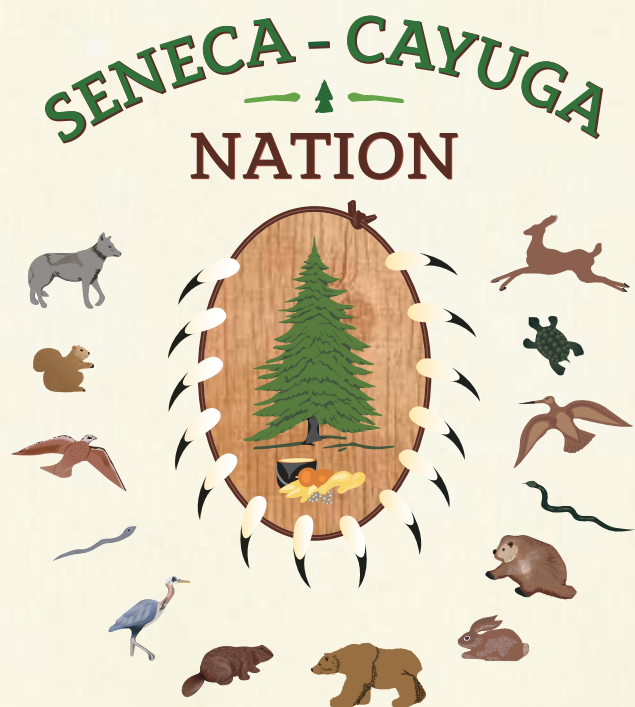
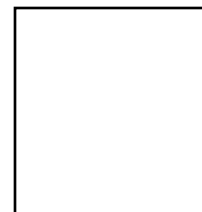
**If the change of address is being submitted for a minor child or  
incompetent adult, please sign below:**

Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SENECA-CAYUGA NATION

# GAH-YAH-TONT

*It is Written*

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Keep up with the latest news, events, and updates from the Seneca-Cayuga Nation.

Official Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OfficialSenecaCayugaNation](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSenecaCayugaNation)

The latest news and updates: [www.morescnation.com](http://www.morescnation.com)

Access benefits and government information: [www.sctribe.com](http://www.sctribe.com)