

NJ American Indian Commission Newsletter

www.nj.gov/state/njcaia.shtml



March 2025



The Society of American Indian Veterans and Allies

SAIVA is a coalition focused on the health and wellbeing of Native American and Alaskan Native Veterans. If you would like to support Native Veterans in NJ feel free to join our next meeting! Our next meeting is on Thursday, April 10th at 2:00pm and will be held at 75 Manheim Ave, Bridgeton, NJ. To join virtually, reach out to Lewis Fragoso @ lewis.fragoso@sos.nj.gov.

Top News

Welcome SAIVA!

The Intertribal Veterans Suicide Prevention Coalition has officially decided on changing its name to The Society of American Indian Veterans and Allies.

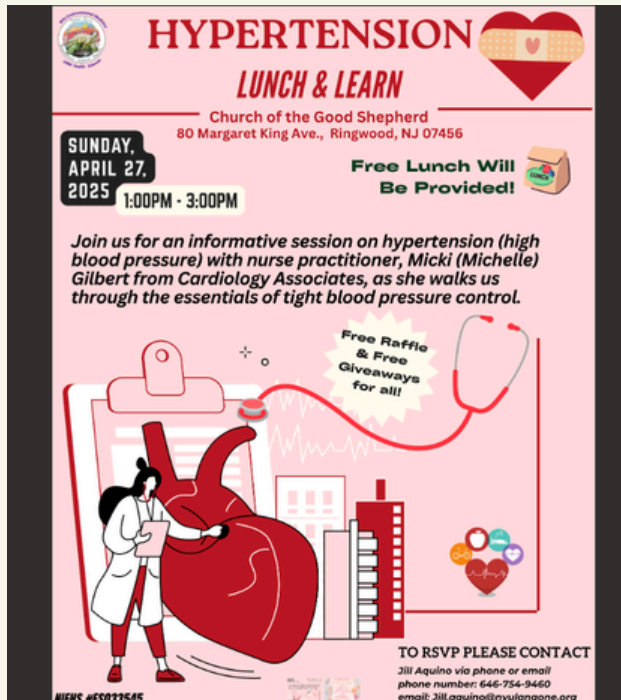


Veterans Crisis Line

Commission News

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Our Current Projects

IYC 2025

- The time has come to begin planning for our 2025 Intertribal Youth Conference! If you are interested in being part of the planning process reach out!

Elder Voices Project

- As we enter 2025 we would like to continue to work with our Native elders and veterans by helping their voices be heard. We are organizing a project to record the wisdom and history of the elders in the community to archive for future generations.



Hypertension Lunch & Learn

The Church of the Good Shepherd will be holding a special Lunch & Learn session focused on Hypertension. Join us at 80 Margaret King Ave., in Ringwood, NJ 07456 on Sunday, April 27th.

Michelle Gilbert from Cardiology Associates will be sharing her knowledge on the essentials of how to control blood pressure. There will be a free raffle, giveaways, and lunch will be provided!

To RSVP, reach out to Jill Aquino at 646-754-9460 or Jill.aquino@nyulangone.org.



Elder Voices Project

There comes a time when we must all face the reality that nothing in life lasts forever. It's important to hold on to the words and wisdom imparted to us by our elders, as they will help us to build the foundations of our community for generations to come. To this end, we are planning the Elder Voices Project: An archive of recorded conversations, wisdom, and history as told by the elders in our very own community. These recordings will be made available to all in the community so that they may always be able to hear the voices of their loved ones.



Upcoming Community Events

4/2 - 1:00pm: The Church of the Good Shepherd will be holding regular cooking classes every Wednesday in April from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. The address is 80 Margaret King Ave., Ringwood, NJ 07456.

4/10 - 2:00pm: SAIVA will be holding its next meeting on Thursday, April 10th. The address is 75 Manheim Ave, Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

4/19 - 1:00pm: The Cohanzick Nature Reserve will hold its Spring Equinox Eggstravaganza on Sunday, April 13th. The address is 62 Gravelly Hill Road in Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

4/27 - 1:00pm: The Church of the Good Shepherd will be holding a special Lunch & Learn event on Sunday, April 27th. The address is 80 Margaret King Ave., Ringwood, NJ 07456. To RSVP contact Jill Aquino @ 646-754-9460 or jill.aquino@nyulangone.org.

Future exhibits-

Claudis Ocello, President of Museum Partners, is working with NJ State Archives on an exhibit to be housed at the NJ State Museum in 2026 around the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and would like to include voices from NJ Tribal communities.

Commission Connection

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Recommended Read!

With this issue of our newsletter we continue our segment on recommended reads! This month's recommendation comes to us from Lewis Fragoso:

“The Legend of the Cape May Diamond by Trinka Hakes Noble explores the history of Delaware Bay and how fragments of quartz rock, over thousands of years, would be polished into the ‘diamonds’ beloved by beachgoers. The illustrations of this piece also reflect real life members of the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape tribe of NJ.”



Our Contact

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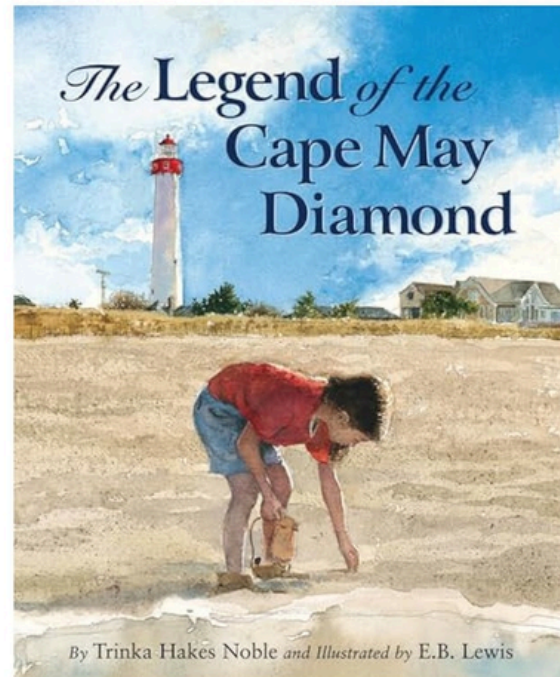
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Month of Awareness

March is National Women's History Month! Take the time this month to recognize and celebrate the wonderful women who have changed the course of history. March is a time to promote gender equality and learn about the challenges women face worldwide.

