

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Monthly Newsletter February 2022

Wi'ca'ta Wi (Moon of the Raccoon) February– the “wica” signifies the raccoon, the one of the first animals to come out of hibernation so this month is named after the “waca”.

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

Tribal medical marijuana cards leading to arrests

Flandreau Chief of Police Zach Weber said that his records indicate only about 20 arrests have been made or citations given in Flandreau to non-Native medical marijuana card holders for possession of an illegal substance since July of 2021. The number locally, if correct, would be far fewer than the number mentioned this past week in an article in the Argus Leader.

The Argus reported more than 100 arrests were made among those who have medical marijuana cards and who purchased products from the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe’s dispensary since it opened its doors this past summer.

Chief Weber didn’t dispute the local arrests. What he did shed light on is that any additional arrests or the confiscation of materials likely happened elsewhere. He said he’s fielded calls from other jurisdictions about how to handle such stops.

It comes as the state Department of Public Safety and the attorney general’s office stand firm in their stance that the cards aren’t yet valid for people who aren’t tribal members.

Weber said his department is following that directive. But he told the Moody County Enterprise that city officers have no interest in watching who is coming and going from the dispensary. All stops, according to Weber, were for legitimate other reasons somewhere else in town — either for a traffic violation or an equipment violation. If marijuana was found in the car, and the card holder was a non-Native, either an arrest was made or a citation was given per the Department of Public Safety and Attorney General’s offices directives.

“We’re not watching everyone that’s coming in and out of there trying to find a way to stop them,” said Weber. “But through the course of our job, if we find an infraction and stop someone and there’s weed in their car and they have a medical marijuana card and they’re not tribal, then we address it.”



This Enterprise file photo shows the growing of the marijuana plants for the Santee Sioux Tribe’s medical marijuana program.



Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Newsletter is a monthly publication by the

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

Digital photos or sending other original files is encouraged.

Deadline for submission of material is

5 work days before the 15th of each month

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

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NOTICE OF DISCLAIMER:

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The information in this newsletter have been compiled by the FSST Newsletter staff from a variety of sources, and are subject to change without notice. The FSST makes no warranties or representations whatsoever regarding the quality, content, completeness, or adequacy of such information and data. In any situation where the official printed publications of the FSST differ from the text contained in this newsletter, the official printed documents take precedence.

If inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate information is brought to our attention, a reasonable effort will be made to print a correction in the next month newsletter. We reserve the right to omit submissions if it is felt that the content or subject matter is inappropriate.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

GUIDELINES:

All information submitted for newsletter must be received 5 (five) working days before the 15 of each month. We cannot guarantee inclusion of any submissions after that date in that month's newsletter. Submissions must be made in typewritten (or computer generated) format. They can be submitted directly to Marcie Walker in hardcopy, on disk or via email at:

marcie.walker@fsst.org

The FSST reserves the right to edit submission for content and clarity when appropriate. Additionally, submissions not of a time sensitive nature may be delayed for next month newsletter

Medicinal marijuana was approved in November of 2020 by voters in the state and legalization is set to take effect later this year. How that program will operate, however, remains to be finalized by state officials.

FSST meanwhile, which operates the only medical marijuana dispensary currently in the state, is helping those who want to fight the charges against them. The tribe has reportedly issued about 8,000 cards to tribal members and people who aren't tribal members.

Seth Pearman, the tribe's attorney general, confirmed for the Moody County Enterprise that his office is currently involved in at least 10 active cases.

"These are the only people that have reached out to us. Some of these individuals are members of FSST and other federally recognized Indian Tribes," Perman said.

The tribal medical marijuana program operates independently of the state's medical marijuana program. State health officials started issuing state medical cards last fall, though no state-licensed dispensaries, grow facilities or testing sites are operating.

Asked if he or his department had approached tribal officials on how to better work together on the matter, Weber said that neither side had reached out directly to look at how they might better work together on the evolving legislation and landscape regarding the legalization of medical marijuana.



State Foosball Tourney held at Royal River

That foosball table you've got stashed away in the basement collecting dust, you might want to brush it off and practice up.

More than 100 table hockey competitors were in town over the weekend for a statewide competition. Contestants ranged in skill all the way from rookie status up to experts, pros and pro-masters.

If you feel like you missed your chance to get in on the fun and a shot at the state title, there's a chance the tournament might be back at Royal River Casino and Hotel again next year.

Whether you realize it or not, foosball has long been a seriously competitive event outside of the bar you used to hang out at in your college days. In fact, there's an international league that hosts tournaments every month.

Locally, Sioux Falls hosts a gathering every month as well and there might be 30 or so people there playing at six tables. A statewide tournament, however, hasn't been held for 11 years. Royal River Casino and Hotel, as a result, was sold out over the weekend.

"We're really happy with the turnout," said Terry Wade, who organized this year's event.

Players gathered at 25 tables all day every day over the three-day contest. They came from New Hampshire, Texas, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and more, as well as from across the state. Several were slated to attend from Canada but had to cancel due to the weather. A few locals rounded out the roster of competitors.

"A lot of people don't even know there are professional foosball players," said Wade

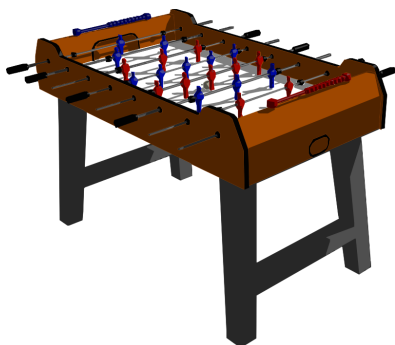
"Some people do it for a living. There's a gentleman named Kevin Romero, he's a promaster, he's here. There are beginners, rookies, amateurs, experts, pros and pro masters, all kinds of different levels you can play on. There's women's, singles, draw your partner," he listed off. The youngest competitor taking part over the weekend was 9-years-old, the oldest was in his 70's.

"It's just great to see everybody here," said Wade. "A lot of these guys, they travel — there's a tournament next month in Wisconsin, the following month in Oklahoma, there's a tour people do it on. All of the tables here were hauled in from Colorado too," he added as he looked over the busy room with a smile.

Wade said they were already getting inquiries about next year's event long before the weekend tournament was through — and they may just be back.



More than 100 table hockey or foosball players, from locals to national professional competitors, took to the floor at Royal River Casino and Hotel Feb. 18-19 for a state tournament.



Attention Parents/ Grandparents of

Tribal Member Children:

Please be sure your child's address is up-to-date so you are able to receive your child's minors trust statement every quarter.

Contact: Enrollment or Membership Services.

SD tribe buys Shopko building for medical marijuana cultivation facility, but will there be an odor?



Shown here is the front of the former Shopko building in Mitchell that the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe recently purchased with plans to possibly open a medical marijuana cultivation facility.

MITCHELL — After sitting vacant for three years, the former Shopko building on the north side of Mitchell could be welcoming a new business.

According to Mitchell Mayor Bob Everson, the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe is planning to transform the large building into a medical marijuana cultivation facility.

Davison County property records show the Flandreau Santee Sioux tribe recently purchased the large building, located at 1900 N Main St., for \$1.6 million, marking about a \$400,000 decrease from the initial \$2 million listing price.

“It’s encouraging to see an entity buy one of our largest vacant buildings that is in a good location,” he said.

Although Everson was informed that the Flandreau-based Native American tribe bought the building to grow marijuana plants, the tribe’s medical marijuana business, known as Native Nations Cannabis, has yet to submit an application for a cultivation and manufacturing license that’s needed to legally grow and distribute cannabis in Mitchell. [Native Nations Cannabis is one of the three entities that’s awaiting a decision on its variance request to allow the group to open a dispensary at 1620 S. Burr St. in Mitchell.](#)

Attempts to reach officials with the Flandreau tribe were unsuccessful.

The 71,846-square-foot building housed a Shopko for several decades until the company closed the Mitchell location in 2019 after filing for bankruptcy.

Mitchell was among all of South Dakota's Shopko stores to close in 2019.

With the sizable amount of square footage in the building, Everson said it's encouraging to see the group purchase it for future use. But Everson has fielded questions and concerns from Mitchell residents concerned about the odor that the marijuana cultivation facility could emit around the area.

Since marijuana plants are known to emit odors, Everson said [it's exactly why the city's ordinance includes regulations to prohibit odor emissions](#) from becoming noticeable away from the cannabis facilities.

"There are ways to mitigate the odors, and we would have to make sure they do," he said.

As part of the city's regulations included in the medical marijuana ordinances, a cannabis establishment shall not allow the emission of any "gas, vapors, odors, smoke, dust, heat, or glare that is noticeable at or beyond the property line of the cannabis establishment."

While Mitchell's ordinance prohibits medical marijuana establishments from causing noticeable odor that extends beyond the respective property that's manufacturing cannabis, the city hasn't had to enforce regulatory measures involving marijuana odor issues since there has yet to be a manufacturing or cultivation facility to open in Mitchell.

Everson said a group of Mitchell city officials toured the Flandreau tribe's cultivation and dispensary facility in Flandreau. Everson was informed by some of the city officials who toured the facility that marijuana odor wasn't noticeable from outside the Flandreau building where the cultivation process takes place.



January 2022 Calls for Service

- Simple Assault-1
- Suspicious Person or Event-3
- Vandalism-1
- Ambulance-9
- Animal-12
- Traffic Stops-2
- Warrants-3
- Parole Violation-1
- Fire-1
- Assist Citizen-7
- Noise Complaints-3
- Assist Outside Agency-5
- Welfare Checks-4
- Traffic Hazard-1
- Juvenile-3
- Suicidal Subject-1
- Intoxicated Person-5
- Civil Papers-4
- Civil Matters-2
- Truancy-1
- Intoxicated Drivers-4
- Follow Up-1
- Disorderly Conduct-5
- Harrasment-2
- Drug Violations-1



Flour Free Banana Cookies



1 1/2 Ripe Bananas (mashed)

2 1/2 Cups Oatmeal

1 t. Vanilla

3/4 Cup Raisin's

1/3 Cup Margarine

Mix ingredients, using 2 tablespoons form dough into a cookie, then Bake at 350 until lightly golden brown.

Kidz Cafe

Royal River
CASINO • HOTEL



Beverly A. Wakeman

August 18, 1933 - February 25, 2022



Beverly Ann Wakeman, 88, Flandreau, passed away on Friday, February 25, 2022 at her home. Beverly was born on August 18, 1933 in Pipestone, MN to Enos and Mary (Lewis) Redwing. Beverly was baptized and confirmed at the First Presbyterian Church in Flandreau, SD. On May 9, 1950, Beverly and Richard Keith Wakeman were married in Pipestone, MN. To this union, three children were born: Richard "RK", Sandra, and Cary.

Beverly was employed for 40 years in the plant department at the Flandreau Indian School. Before her employment with the Flandreau Indian School, she was employed at the Flandreau Municipal Hospital. Through the years, Beverly was very active in the First Presbyterian and Second Presbyterian churches, as well as the Dakota Presbytery. She was active in tribal functions as the wife of the Tribal Chairman. Beverly was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, VFW Auxiliary, and the Moody County Historical Society Board.

Beverly is survived by daughter, Sandra Fleury, Aberdeen, SD; sister, Juanita Nesje, Sioux Falls, SD; 6 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; and 16 great-great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Beverly was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Keith; sons, Richard "RK" and Cary; brother, Robert "Bobby" Redwing; three half-brothers; six half-sisters; and son-in-law, Solomon Fleury.

Funeral services will be 11:00 am on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at Second Presbyterian Church, Flandreau with burial at the First Presbyterian Cemetery, Flandreau. Livestream will be available on Beverly's obituary page at www.skrochfc.com. Visitation will be 5:00 - 7:00 pm Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at Skroch Funeral Chapel, Flandreau followed by a prayer service at 7:00 pm.

SERVICES

Visitation

Tuesday, March 1, 2022
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Flandreau - Skroch Funeral Chapel
409 E 2nd Ave
Flandreau, SD 57028

Prayer Service

Tuesday, March 1, 2022
7:00 PM

Skroch Funeral Chapel, Flandreau
409 2nd Ave E
Flandreau, SD 57028

Funeral Service

Wednesday, March 2, 2022
11:00 AM

Second Presbyterian Church
101 N Prairie Street
Flandrea, South Dakota 57028





Flandreau 7th grade girls basketball

The Flandreau Fliers junior high basketball team wrapped up their season a couple of weeks ago. The 7th grade girls ended with a record of 3-8. Player improvement and team growth was seen throughout the season. "We had a blast and improved every day. All players put their heart into it and I'm grateful to have been a part of the program," coach Alexis Sisk commented. Leading scorers for the 7th grade Fliers included Nora Hamilton, Kiley Westberry and Autumn Bosin. Team members are front from left, Lily Arnold, Kiley Westberry, Nora Hamilton, Yohana Cuautle and Zaeda Ross. Back, Rianna Red Bear, Patricia Roy, Addy Hanford, Autumn Bosin, Elaina Bushkofsky and Jazalynn Kampeska. Not pictured is coach Alexis Sisk.





Samantha Grace Williams

of Flandreau, South Dakota

June 29, 1991 - February 17, 2022

Wake:

Monday, February 21, 2022

beginning at 7:00 P.M.

Eastman Hall-Flandreau, South Dakota

Funeral Service:

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Eastman Hall-Flandreau, South Dakota

Inurnment:

First Presbyterian Cemetery-Flandreau, South Dakota

[Read more](#)



Dakota Zoom

Do you wish you could listen to your
Dakota Language being spoken?

Do you want to visit and learn and
share with your relatives?

Do you wish you had the time to put
into your culture and identity?

Do you want to laugh so hard you
accidentally shove someone over?

Join us on Zoom Mondays and
Wednesdays at Noon. No grades, no
writing, no stress. You can eat and
participate during your work lunch.
All you gotta do is click the link.

Royal River
CASINO · HOTEL

STUFF YOU MAY NEED!

Cash N-CARRY



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22ND
DOORS OPEN:
10AM -TRIBAL ELDERS
11AM- GENERAL PUBLIC

Royal River Casino- Royal Room

- *Must take items at time of purchase
- *No hold, must haul own items
- *All sales are final

EMPLOYEE
FUNDRAISING
COMMITTEE
RRC

Historic Crescent Street Bridge to be demolished



To be removed by September 30, 2022

South Dakota Department of Transportation officials have officially chosen a contractor for the demolition of the Crescent Street Bridge in Flandreau.

Robert R. Schroeder Construction, Inc. is a Glenwood, Minnesota-based company. The bid put in by company officials, \$375,747 for the work, was the lowest of the six bids submitted for the project. City Administrator, Jeff Pederson, told the Moody County Enterprise that the contract should be signed within the next two to three weeks.

Once that contract is finalized, the Moody County Enterprise is told that a Preconstruction Conference will be held with city officials. Demolition work would begin any time after that with a completion deadline of September 30. The deadline, originally scheduled for this spring, was stretched out in order to provide flexibility to bidders and aid in holding prices down.

While Schroeder Construction came in with the lowest bid by far, documentation showed that it still exceeded the engineer's original estimate for the work by more than \$100,000. The most likely reason for that, city officials believe, is increased labor costs and the lack of efficiency in the overall project. Most often there is also a rebuild of a structure at the same time of a tear down. That is not happening simultaneously with the Crescent Street Bridge.

What will happen at the site remains up in the air.

Flandreau city officials worked out an agreement with the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe a couple of years ago that gave the Tribe the authority (for a period of five years) to construct a new bridge over the river at the site of the present one. The City has no information on the status of that effort, Pederson said, and the Moody County Enterprise failed to reach anyone with FSST for comment.

What is known is that the collective community has talked for years about the importance of either a repair of the current bridge or seeing some sort of structure replace the historic road if it did have to go due to structural concerns. Some hope for another vehicle bridge, others are fine with something like the pedestrian bridges so prevalent in other communities.

The City does not intend to replace the bridge, Pederson pointed out, and in fact has foregone the right to access DOT funding for a replacement in return for accepting the grant for demolition.

This is a story that the Enterprise will continue to follow. A more definite timeline for the demolition will follow when dates are set for the work.