Can’napopa Wi (December) - the moon of the popping trees.

December 2017
Welcome New Councilman " Norman
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Newsletter is a monthly publication by the
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.
Digital photos, text on diskette or other media is encouraged.
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
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If inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate information is brought to our attention, a reasonable effort will be
made to print a correction in the next available newsletter. We reserve the right to omit submissions if it is
felt that the content or subject matter is inappropriate.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION
GUIDELINES:
Submissions must be made in typewritten (or computer generated) format. They can be submitted di-
rectly to Marcie Redday in hardcopy, on disk or via email at: Marcie.redday@fsst.org or
gail.soward@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 inclusion until subsequent newsletters.

“Welcome Norman Kitto”
Senior Center & FSST Employed

Thanksgiving Dinner

Getting Our Grub On!!
Happy Birthday to...
Steven on 12/01
Buster on 12/20
Love you,
Mom

Merry Christmas from my sissy and I

Merry Christmas
FSST Education Department Newsletter

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Education Department
Higher Education, Community Education, Johnson O'Malley Program

Education Office Updates

Since the last newsletter, the FSST Education Office has been busy! The Dakota Language staff and I have been participating with the Title VI middle and high school groups, having a variety of discussions, exploring ideas for events, & doing team builders.

Additionally, the Dakota Language staff and I have been periodically meeting with the Dakota Language koska/wikoske during teen night to discuss different issues such as healthy coping skills and healthy relationships.

I am starting to plan the 8th Grade Recognition & Senior Honoring – if you know any students that are not part of the Johnson O'Malley Program, please encourage them to contact me to see if they are eligible to register in order to participate in the 8th Grade Recognition & Senior Honoring. Please contact me before the end of the 1st semester if you have any questions, concerns, or updates regarding your children.

During the November school board meeting, I met with the school board to deliver a report to address a few concerns I have observed the last few years. I have been employed as the Education Coordinator.

The report and presentation included my feedback and recommendations for improvement in the following areas: classroom & behavior management; mental health – including suicide prevention; communication and dialogue between parents, community members and the school district; race relations, bias and self-awareness; and school identity, direction, belonging, and goals.

Darren Hamilton recommended a follow-up, so I met with Superintendent Weber and Emily Pieper to explore ideas and plans on how to address some of the concerns. One idea included partnering with Emily Pieper as she applies for a Bush Foundation Community grant. We also met with the Tribal Clinic administration to brainstorm ideas to address mental health concerns.

I will continue to meet with Weber & Pieper to implement short-term and long-term plans.

Regarding the Education Department Education Assistant, we are currently reviewing applications to see if there are any qualified candidates for the position and inviting them to interview.

In regards to tutoring options, several South Dakota State University students will be tutoring students (K-12) on Mondays and Tuesdays after-school at the Wicicicag Otiipi Community Center. These students are certified tutors and they can cover basic subject areas. There is no need to fill out any information, just show up!

Lastly, I will be sending out scholarship information to junior and senior students soon. We will also be hosting more scholarship & college nights next semester.

School Board presentation & goals going forward

December 2017 Issue 13

Upcoming Events and Deadlines:

December

JOM Parent Meeting
Dec 6 @ 5:15 pm | WOCC

FPS Elementary Concert
Dec 7 @ 7 pm | FPS Elem Gym

Dakota Language Program
CLOSINGS
Fri., Dec 8 & Mon., Dec 11
Thurs., Dec 21 – Tues., Jan 2
Will reopen Wed, January 3

6th Annual Wanyetu Wacipi
Dec 9-10 | WOCC

School Board Meeting
Dec 11 @ 6 pm | MS Conf. Room

College & Scholarship Night
Dec 12 from 6-8 pm | WOCC

HS Band/Choral Concert
Dec 15 @ 7 pm | HS Gym

MS Band/Choral Concert
Dec 18 @ 7 pm | HS Gym

FPS – End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester- December 22

FPS – No School (Winter Break)
Dec 25 - Jan 2
Classes Resume January 3

DEADLINES/SCHOLARSHIPS

FAFSA is now open for the 2018-2019 school year!

American Indian College Fund Scholarship opens January 1st
Student Advisory Council – Empowering Students

In partnership with the Wakpa Ipa'san Dakota Language Program and the Title VI program (serving as advisors), we have implemented a Student Advisory Council for the middle and high school students at Flandreau Public School.

The purpose of this student advisory council is to encourage students to express in their words what their needs are, what kind of programming they would like to see, and how our services can improve. Students will have meetings with the JOM Parent Committee/School Board representatives during the JOM/Title VI meetings at least once a semester and with the FSST Executive Committee at least once a year. We are planning for these meetings for the spring semester.

Students have already started brainstorming ideas and planning how to structure their groups. Student advisory members will also be vital in collecting feedback from their peers and helping with student surveys to gather their classmates’ input. Their feedback will be used this year in aiding the different programs, departments, and school in developing their education plans, incentives, and educational events at the school.

Students had the opportunity to sign-up for the advisory council in November. Middle School students structured their council based on officers: Keva B. – President, Angel V. – Vice President, Tiffany T. – Secretary. The high school students are using the cultural concept omničiyi to structure their group. The HS students have brainstormed different ideas to see happen and developed goals including seeing more native representation, events, and programming in the school and more college/career preparation.

Cansayapi Dakota Language Bowl—Congratulations!

Congrats to the Wakpa Ipa'san Dakota Ipa’s Ospayel! The students and staff attended and participated in the Cansayapi Language Bowl in Cansayapi (Morton, MN) during Veterans Day weekend.

Three teams entered into the language bowl: two student teams and an adult team. The High School team consisted of Justis Shortman, Gayle Vasquez, Diamond Roy, and Angel Vasquez. Their team took 1st place out of 7 teams. The Middle School team consisted of Arianna Weston, Mikey Tollefsen, Morning Glory Lovejoy, and Nalani Beaulieu. They placed 5th out of the 7 teams. The Adult team consisted of Dusty Beaulieu, Devin Drapeau, Avery Jones, and Sylvia Roy – they took 1st place out of 6 teams.

Teams participated in an online game called Kahoot where they used tablets to answer multiple choice questions, translate words, conjugate verbs, and make sentences. The teens worked hard the last few weeks to prepare for this language bowl so congratulations to all of the teams and to the program for an amazing job at the Cansayapi and for representing Wakpa Ipa'san well!
Critical Thinking Skills: Recognizing Cognitive Biases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchoring</td>
<td>The tendency to be over-influenced by the earliest information presented to us when making decisions, thus allowing oneself to be driven to a decision or conclusion that is biased towards that initial piece of information (the &quot;anchor&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Aversion</td>
<td>The tendency to strongly prefer decisions that allow us to avoid losses over those that allow us to acquire gains; shows that the human perception of a loss is as much twice as powerful as that of an equal gain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Effect</td>
<td>The tendency to place greater value on a good that we own than that which we place on an identical good that we do not own.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Framing Effect</td>
<td>The tendency to react to, judge, or interpret the exact same information in distinctly different ways depending on how it is presented to us, or &quot;framed&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation Bias</td>
<td>The tendency to overweight, seek out, or more readily recall information in a way that confirms our preconceived beliefs, while simultaneously undervaluing or ignoring information that disproves our preconceived beliefs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindsight Bias</td>
<td>The inclination, after an event has occurred, to see the event as having been predictable, even if there had been little to no objective basis for predicting it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability Heuristic</td>
<td>A common mental shortcut that causes individuals to rely on immediate information or examples that come to mind first when evaluating a specific topic, concept, method or decision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunk Cost Fallacy</td>
<td>The tendency to irrationally include sunk costs (costs that have already been incurred and are irrecoverable) as a factor in our forward decision making.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambler's Fallacy</td>
<td>The tendency to believe that, if something happens more frequently than &quot;normal&quot; during a period of time, it must happen less frequently in the future, or vice versa.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JOM Registration

Please inform parents/guardians that if they want their child(ren) to receive JOM services (tutoring & advocacy support, school supply cards, participation in the 8th Grade & Senior Honoring, incentives, workshops, etc.) to sign-up for JOM! They must provide documentation that children are enrolled or at least ¼ Native American.

Flandreau Public School: 1st Quarter Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance

Straight A: Erika Bien, Keva Burshiem
A: Mya Nichols
B: Brandon Allen, Jon Burshiem, Shirley Kohl, LaTanya RedBuffalo, Jon Schrader, Jr., Steven Moose, Veronica Shortman, Saraya Weddell, Gary Moose, Tiffany Taylor, Cherish Neconish
Superior: Tishara Hardy, Gia Renteria, Michael Witte
Excellence: Teiloni Hardy, Kennedy Peper, Toby Taylor, Tristan Bietz, Aaliyah Dupris, Angel Esquivel, Hunter Witte, Justin Shortman, Jacqueline Allen, Nathan Cloud, Gabrielle Drapeau, Andrew Julson
Merit: Alaina Cloud, Diego Serrano, Liliana Perez, Marissa Shortman, Rosella Fox
Perfect Attendance: Neveah Burshiem, Kaylina Ohrmsch, Cyril Trottier, Caleb Allen, Kenneth Burshiem, Emille Trottier, Dwayne Williams, Emma Armstrong, Terissa Taylor, Donald Williams, Mason Brushbreaker, Dreamer Coumouyer, Ave Trottier, Katrina Linenberg, Mya Nichols, Talon Hardy, Lalo Montoya, Gary Moose, Izzabella Bietz, Cherish Neconish, Michael Tollefson, Aaliyah Dupris, Teiloni Hardy, Tishara Hardy, Toby Taylor

A part of developing critical and problem solving skills requires a level of self-awareness of our thoughts and biases when they happen. If students practice exercises where they work to identify biases within themselves and in the news, it will help them develop stronger writing and thinking skills when evaluating evidence and arguments. It's important to remember that this is a continual everyday process! We are never going recognize every bias, it's nearly impossible!— But encouraging students to become aware of biases and understanding how bias works will help them recognize it more and develop the critical and problem solving skills that guide us in decision-making & life!

"In this absence of absolute black and white judgment, there was wobble; a high level of observation and critical thinking skills. There was the science of wacintanka; to discipline behavioral weaknesses. When one went through the process of wobble and wacintanka, the result was woksape; the maturity of wisdom that people should strive for. This processing, depending on each situation, could happen overnight or could take a lifetime. We relied on these concepts, this processing to guard our sense of order, our morality and spirituality."
Rosalie Little Thunder, 2011
JOM Parent Committee & Programs Updates

JOM Parent Meeting
Wednesday, Dec 6 | 5:15 pm
Wicoicaga Otipi Community Center

The JOM Parent Committee voted to increase the incentives amount for students. This is a short-term plan until we can explore further on how to improve our incentives program for JOM students.

Due to the lack of quorum in the last JOM Meeting, the 2017-2018 Education Plan will be voted for approval in the December meeting. This will outline the new goals & objectives for this year. One of the main goals by the JOM Parent Committee is to construct a draft of the Interagency Agreement – which would help outline the different roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in Native education in Flandreau. This would help establish a collaborative partnership, similar to a memorandum of understanding, for these different entities.

Additionally, we are awaiting approval from the Executive Committee to develop a resolution to pass the constitution & bylaws. Following approval, these will be mailed out to all parents and guardians.

We will be contacting those who volunteered for the fundraising committee again! So please watch out for calls soon, especially if you are still interested in serving on the fundraising committee.

Due to the role of the Flandreau Indian Education Committee, we are working to develop a binder of information, including deadlines for all of the federal programs for future committees. This binder will include information regarding Impact Aid, JOM, Title VI and other ESSA consultation recommendations. The assistant tribal attorney, Lacy End-of-Horn has been helpful in assisting us develop this binder.

The JOM Parent Committee met with the Flandreau Superintendent to develop the Indian Policies & Procedures for Impact Aid. This will need to be approved by the School Board before the Impact Aid application deadline in January.

Lastly, the committee received concerns regarding bullying and have been exploring ideas to address these concerns.

FSST Education Department
JOM Newsletter

Physical Address:
Wicoicaga Otipi Community Center (East Entrance)
503 W. Broad Avenue
Phone: 605-997-2859
Fax: 605-573-0310
Website: www.santeesioux.com/
AgnesrussellMain.html

FSST Education Department
FSST Education Office
PO Box 283
Flandreau, SD 57028

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Education Department

Like us on Facebook
Winners of the "YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!" DRAWING CONTEST

Morning Glory Lovejoy age 11
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

Aleah Eastman age 6
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

Winners received Art Supplies and their artwork will be printed on hundreds of magnets for the FSST community.
"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Psalm 23:4

Michael S. Weston, "Ta Canku Duta" (His Red Road), 57, passed away Thursday, November 16, 2017 at Select Specialty Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD. Mike was born December 23, 1959 at Gettysburg, SD, to Andrew and Violet (James) Weston. He attended Rapid City Central and graduated in 1979 from Santee High School, Santee, NE. Mike married Lisa Long on August 12, 1986 in Flandreau, SD. He worked as a CHR, bingo caller, a casino host, and assistant manager at the Mart. Mike was a member of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and served three terms on the council from 1996 – 2002 and from 2014 – 2017. He loved working with the youth group, the powwow committee and coaching softball, but most of all he loved spending time with his grandkids. He just loved being a grandpa and going to all their activities and spending every Saturday spoiling them.

Mike is survived by his daughter Shasta (Megan) Weston, Sioux Falls; five grandchildren, Ashton, Avayah, Aiyana, Amiyah and Arrow Weston; his former wife Lisa, Sioux Falls; siblings, Everett “Sandy” (Belva) Weston, Myrna (Dave) Louis and James “JB” Weston, all of Flandreau; his adoptive mother, Helena Thompson and several nieces and nephews. Mike was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Monday, November 20, 2017 at Wicicaga Otipi Community Center, Flandreau, SD, with burial in First Presbyterian Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. Saturday with a 7:00 p.m. wake service which will continue through Sunday all at Wicicaga Otipi Community Center.
Cradleboard Work Shop January 12-15, 2018

Friday January 12, 2018
2:00 Arrival and Prep
4:00 Dinner
5:00 Introduction and Presentation
   -Importance of Cradleboard/Cultural Significances
   -Styles of Cradleboards
   -Lakota/Dakota language surrounding the cradleboard

6:00-8:00 Material Selection/Pattern Creation

Saturday January 13, 2018
9:00-8:00 Cradle Cover Construction

Sunday January 14, 2018
9:00-8:00 Cradle Cover Construction and Adornment

Monday January 15, 2018
9:00-3:00 Complete cradleboards
   -Backboard
   -Cover
OPEN GYM

Tuesday Nights

Nov. 14, 21, 28  Dec. 5, 12, 19

7-8:30PM: 12-20 year olds
8:30-10PM: 18+ year olds

Must have Rec. Membership
18+ ADULT WEDNESDAYS
Starts December 6th @ 6:30pm
Teams picked randomly

- 12-6-17 Volleyball
- 12-13-17 Basketball
- 12-20-17 Jail Ball
- 1-3-18 Obstacle Course
- 1-10-18 Matt Ball
- 1-17-18 Flag Football
- 1-24-18 Kick Ball
- 1-31-18 Obstacle Course

Questions: Contact Sylvia @ 573-4195
Individual Leagues
Starts January 4th
first week drawn is Jan. 2nd
Wicoicaga Otipi Community Center
Flandreau, SD

every friday a new team is drawn
co-ed & 18+
big sioux 2017
winter league

entry fee
$30 if pd in january
$20 if pd in december
$10 if pd in november
must have entry fee paid prior to league

Check out our FB or call Sylvia at 573-4195.
Big Sioux 2017 Fall League

Point System:
1-Participation
1-Wearing assigned color of jersey/shirt
1-Being on-time
1-Team wins
1-Voted MVP by rest of team

Thursdays! STARTS January 2nd.
Entry Fee is $30. If paid in December, it is $20 per person. Must pay prior to being added to League.
No deadline when you can enter League.
First week of League is drawn on Friday December 29th for the January 2nd League Games.
Must have W.O.C.C. Membership with facility.
League is open to men and women 18 and older in age.
Teams will be Pink, Black, White, Red, Blue and Green. If we have that many teams.
Pink team plays with a Women’s Basketball. (Team matched against the Pink team will also be playing with the Women’s Basketball.)
You miss a game after it is scheduled; you are out of the league.
Re-Enter league by paying Entry Fee again.
After each game is played, a slip of paper with all your teammates’ names will be written, and you will chose a player on your team of the week that in your eyes was the best. In case of tie(s), the ones who tied will be randomly drawn for that teams’ MVP.
15 Points is T-Shirt. (These will be ordered after season so we know how many to order.)
Top 10 Ballers will get Jackets.
Top Player gets GRAND PRIZE. (Value of prize will be over $100, TBD depending on how many players we have.)
Fall League will depend on how many teams, dates and times are TBD.
Shirts and Teams will be drawn RANDOMLY each Friday before the League Night. Announcements will be posted to Facebook and the front doors of the W.O.C.C., it is the player responsibility to know game time and team. We are not responsible for player not knowing game time. Can call office as well.
Points of each player will also be posted each Friday before League Night.
Women will be in the league, but does not have to have a woman on each team. (A team could be drawn with all women on the team if that is how it is randomly drawn.)
BYE weeks earn you 0 Points. You can VOLUNTEER to ref all games for 3 Points if on-time when you have BYE week. First 2 to volunteer get the BONUS points. If you volunteer and don’t show, you are out of the league. Re-Entry is $30.
If you know in advance before teams are drawn you will not be able to make it, let staff know prior and you can be placed on the BYE week with no consequences.
Any fighting, unnecessary roughness or aggression towards any players will be asked to leave the league and possible ejection from league; depending on the seriousness.
Any questions or concerns, please contact Sylvia at 573-4195.
If this runs smooth, there will be a possible Spring League.
The FSST Tribal Historic Preservation Office aims to serve the members of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe through the preservation of historic data, community education and development of projects for the betterment of the tribe. We will provide information through the monthly newsletter to membership, ensuring that our community is current on our initiatives. We would like to start by giving a brief rundown of some of our projects and will provide further information in later

**MONTE LOVEJOY – THPO SPECIALIST**

My name is Monte Lovejoy, I am the son on Rudolph (Wakinyan Duta) Lovejoy he is the great grandson Wakan Iyanku, Asa Lovejoy he was the Yellow Medicine Chief and Madeline Edmo, the great granddaughter of Shoshone Chief Arimo. I have an Associate Degree in Digital and Analog Electronics. I moved to Flandreau with my family in 2015, a lifelong dream. I started working with THPO in September. With the support of Council and THPO we started a Drone Program. I have attained a UAV Commercial License for flying drones. I plan to implement them into various tribal departments and entities to keep us, FSST, viably competitive with the outside world. We are currently using the drone to do surveys and mapping of tribal lands, historic and significant cultural sites. We are in the process of starting a Search and Rescue Program (SAR). In the spring, we will implement a crop management program utilizing multi spectrum programs to identify plant and soil health to limit the amount of pesticides and maximize crop yields. I look forward to the betterment of our community and environment.

**ELLA ROBERTSON – CONSULTANT**

Greetings! My name is Ella Robertson, a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate. I was hired as a Consultant in September to establish Food Sovereignty for the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe. I have my Masters in Tribal Administration and Governance and a background in American Indian and Dakota Studies. I have extensive experience in Economic Development, traditional foods & plants, and Community Building. A few of my current projects include integration of science and cultural activities with FIS, establish a community garden and long range Food Sovereignty Plan, Cradleboard Making class (January) and research for addition of materials, catalog and data search system for the archives. I look forward to my work with FSST, working with tribal programs and the community to help build a self sustaining future for the members of the tribe.

**DANIEL HAWK – TECHNICIAN/DRONE OPERATOR**

Hello, my name is Daniel Hawk from Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians. I and my family have lived in Flandreau for 3 years. I attended Leech Lake Tribal College where I received my Residential Construction Certificate, I am a certified Drone Pilot and in the process of acquiring my UAV License. I was hired in October. I am currently working with the THPO team to develop a Search and Rescue Team, I am using my specialized skills with the drone to help improve the land development for the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

**MICHELLA SANTOS – ECOLOGIST**

My name is Michelle Santos. I grew up on a farm in Canovanas, Puerto Rico. I attended college in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico for Agricultural Engineering. After my third year of college I decided to move to the US in search of better opportunities. I have lived in Brookings, SD for 4 years, where I attended SDSU, receiving a scholarship for a Biological Science Degree. I was hired at THPO in November, where I am doing what I love the most and always keeping my

**JESSIE SHEPHERD – ECOLOGIST**

My name is Jessie Shepherd. I am a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate. I received my bachelors degree from SDSU in Ecology and also have a degree in Environmental Science. I was hired in June of this year. Working for FSST THPO I hope to conserve and restore some of the local tribal land back to native habitats for future generations to become more self sufficient.
Merry Christmas

1st Presbyterian Church will be having Christmas eve Services at 7 pm. Pastor Ann from 2nd Presbyterian will be officiating

The Four Directions

In worship Dakota Indians (Sioux) are very attentive to the Four Directions. When praying with the Sacred Pipe, both in private and public ceremony, they face each direction successively, beginning with the West.

In worship the color of the West is Black. Evil is Black. Danger is Black. Black is the condition of Man as he stands before Wakantanka (Wakan-Mystery---Tanka-Great).

The color of North is Red. Red is conflict. Red is tension. Red is decision, as Man determines whether to revert to Black or go on to White.

The color of east is White. White is victory. White is purity. White is life. The rising Sun eliminates redness and brings clear sky.

The color of South is yellow. Yellow is Peace. Yellow is fruitfulness. Yellow is warmth. Whatever danger or tension or conflict there might have been, it is now all past; now the Camp can rest.

Unfortunately, every man knows that at another time, in his prayer, he will have to begin again and will have to face the Black.

Merry Christmas from
Allen Auto

December Birthdays:
Lavonna Allen 12/13
Dave Williams 12/14
Jackie Barse 12/18
Taylor Family - Prairie Island 1972

Front Row L to R: Grace Moore, Agnes Ross, Nina Kitto
Middle Row L to R: Victoria Allen, Elisie Wakeman, Mr. Schwab, Gloria Lovejoy
Back Row L to R: Elisa Crawford, Agnes Heminger, Fannie Cavender, Pearl Wakeman
Stories About The Touching Kindness Of Strangers That’ll Make you Tear Up

♦ The Man at the Market When the supermarket clerk tallied up my groceries, I was $12 over what I had on me. I began to remove items from the bags, when another shopper handed me a $20 bill. “please don’t put yourself out”, I told him. “Let me tell you a story, “he said. “My mother is in the hospital with cancer. I visit her everyday and bring her flowers. She demanded I do something else with that money. So, here, please accept this. It is my mother’s flowers.”

♦ Jim and the Job My neighbor, Jim had trouble deciding if he wanted to retire from the construction field, until he ran into a younger man he’d worked with previously. The young man had a wife and three children and was finding it difficult to make ends meet, since he hadn’t worked in sometime. The next morning, Jim went to the union office and submitted his retirement paperwork. As for his replacement, he gave them the name of the young man. That was six years ago, that young husband and father has been employed ever since.

♦ A Family’s Food Angel While going through a divorce, my mother fretted over her new worries: no income, the same bills, and no way to afford groceries. It was around this time that she started finding boxes of food outside the door every morning. This went on for months, until she was able to land a job. We never did find out who it was who left the groceries for us. But they truly saved our lives.

♦ Color Me Amazed I forgot about the rule on liquids incarry-on luggage, so when I hit security at the airport, I had to give up all my painting supplies. When I returned a week later, an attendant was in the baggage area with my paints. Not only had he kept them for me, but he’d looked up my return date and time in order to meet me.

♦ Seven Miles For Me Leaving a store, I returned to my car only to find that I locked my keys and cell phone inside. A teenager riding his bike saw me kick a tire and say a few choice words. “What’s Wrong?” he asked. I explained my situation. “but even if I could call my wife,” I said, “she can’t bring me her car key, since this is our only car.” “That’s seven miles round trip.” “Don’t worry about it.” An hour later, he returned with the keys. I offered him money. But he refused. “Let’s just say I needed the exercise,” he said. Then, like a cowboy in the movies he rode off into the sun set.

♦ The Little Lift One evening, I left a restaurant just ahead of a woman assisting her elderly mom. I approached the curb and paused to see if my arthritic knees could climb it. Two my right appeared an arm to assist. It was that of the elderly mom. My heart was so touched.

♦ Bounty For a Navy Wife I was balancing caring for a toddler and working a full-time job, all the while my Navy husband was on extended duty overseas. One evening, the door bell rang. It was my neighbor, a retired chief petty officer, holding a bread board loaded with freshly cooked chicken and vegetable stew. “I’ve noticed your getting a little skinny,” he said. It was the best meal I’d had in months.

♦ My Granddaughters Dress I saw a dress I knew my granddaughter would love. But money was tight, so I asked the store clerk if she could hold it for me. “May I buy the dress for you?” asked another customer. “Thank You” but I can’t accept such a gracious gift, “I said. Then she told me why it was so important for her to help me. She’d been homeless for three years, she said. And had it not been the kindness of strangers, she would not have been able to survive. “I’m no longer homeless, and my situation has improved,” she said. “I promised myself that I would repay the kindness, so many had shown me.” She paid for the dress, and the only payment she would accept was a heartfelt hug.

♦ White Shoulders A woman at our yard sale wore a perfume that smelled heavenly and familiar. “What are you wearing?” I asked. “White shoulders,” She said. Suddenly I was bowled over by a flood of memories. White Shoulders I could count on at Christmas from my late mother. We chatted a while, and she bought somethings and left. A few hours later, she returned holding a new bottle of White Shoulders. I don’t recall which one of us started crying first.
Breaking Bread  Last December, before work, I stopped at a deli and ordered an everything bagel with cream cheese. It was toasty warm, and I couldn’t wait to dig in. But as I left the store, I noticed an older indigent gentleman sitting at the bus stop. Knowing it would probably be his only warm meal of the day, I gave him the bagel. But all was not lost for me. Another customer from the deli offered me half of her bagel. I was so delighted because I realized that in one way or another, we are all looked after.

I Still Help  As I walk through the parking lot, all I could think about was the dire diagnosis I had handed my patient Jimmy: pancreatic cancer. Just then, I noticed an elderly gentleman handing tools to someone working under his stalled car. That someone was Jimmy. “Jimmy, what are you doing?” I yelled out. Jimmy dusted off his pants. “My cancer didn’t tell me not to help others, Doc,” he said, before walking towards the old man to start the car. The engine roared to life. The old man thanked Jimmy and drove off. Then Jimmy got into his car and took off as well. Take-home message: Kindness has no limits and no restrictions.

Top Note  When my husband died unexpectedly, a coworker took me under her wing. Every week for an entire year, she would send me a card saying “Just Thinking Of You” or “Hang in There.” She saved my life.

He Kept an Eye on Me  Driving home in a blizzard, I noticed a vehicle trailing close behind me. Suddenly, my tire blew! I pulled off the road, and so did the other car. A man jumped out from behind the wheel and without hesitation changed the flat. “I was going to get off two miles back,” he said. “But I didn’t think that tire looked good.

My Commanders Call  It was one of my first missions on a gunship during the Vietnam War. I was scanning for enemy fire when I spotted a bright object that looked as if it was coming straight at us. “Missile! Missile!” I shouted into my interphone. The pilot jerked the plane as hard as he could, dumping guys from one side of the cockpit to the next. Well, turns out the “missile” was a flare we had just dropped. Suffice it to say, the guys weren’t pleased. Back at the base, my commander put an arm around my shoulder. “Sergeant Hunter,” he said “you keep calling them like you see them. Better save than sorry.” That kind act gave me the confidence to be one of the top gunners in my squadron.

21 Apples From Max  When my grandson Max told his mother, Andrea, to donate any check she would give him for his 21st birthday, Andrea got an idea. She handed Max’s brother Charlie a video camera. Then she took out 21 $10 bills from the bank and bought 21 apples at the supermarket. When they spotted a homeless man, Andrea told him, “today is my son Max’s 21st birthday, and he asked me to give a gift to someone to help him celebrate.” She handed the man a $10 bill and an apple. The man smiled into the camera and announced, “Happy Birthday, Max!” Soon, they passed out there loot to men and women waiting in line at a soup kitchen. In a unified chorus, they wished Max, “Happy Birthday!” At a pizza parlor, Andrea left $50 and told the owners to feed the hungry. “Happy Birthday Max!” they shouted. With one last $10 bill and apple, they stopped at Andrea’s sister’s office. Unable to contain her laughter or her tears, she bellowed into the camera, “Happy Birthday, Max!”

How Did She Know?  I was driving across-country to start a new job. What began as a fun adventure turned into a nightmare when I realized I had run through most of my money and still had a ways to go. I pulled over and let the tears flow. That’s when I noticed the unopened farewell card my neighbor had shoved in my hands I left. I pulled the card out of the envelope, and $100 dropped out—just enough to get me through the remainder of my trip. Later, I asked my neighbor why she had enclosed the money. She said, “I had a feeling it would help.”

Raised Right  Children were playing at the recreation area of an IKEA store when my 5 year old granddaughter motioned for a small boy to stop. She knelt down before him and retied his flopping shoelaces—she had only just learned to tie her own. No words were spoken, but after she finished, both smiled shyly, then turned to race off in different directions.

She Gave Me Direction  As I left a party, I got on the wrong freeway and was immediately lost. I pulled over to the shoulder and called my roadside-assistance provider. She tried to connect me to the California Highway Patrol, but that call never went through. Hearing the panic in my voice, she came up with a plan B: “You’re near this office,” she said. “I’m about to go off shift. Stay put, and I’ll find you.” Ten minutes later, she rolled up. She guided me not only to the right freeway but all the way to the correct freeway exit. And then with a wave goodbye, she drove into the dark.

A Christmas Story  In January 2006, a fire destroyed a family’s home. In that fire were all the belongings of a six year old boy, including his Christmas presents. A classmate from his school who had a birthday around then asked her parents if she could give all her gifts to the boy. That act of kindness will forever warm my heart because the boy is my grandson.
Notice to Pet Owners residing on Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Lands

Under Tribal Ordinance, dogs cannot run at large on the FSST reservation. A violation of this ordinance may result in impoundment of the dog and a $100 fine. See section 13-2-1 FSST TLOC

Section 13-1-3. Licensing Requirements. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons within the Reservation to keep, posses, or have in his custody or under his control, any dog or animals of the dog kind, without first having obtained a license to do so from the Clerk of Courts, as hereinafter provided and without having paid the license fee therefore. Violation of this section shall result in a fine to be set by the court.

Section 13-2-1. Running at large Prohibited. No owner of any dog shall permit such dog to run at large within the Flandreau Santee Sioux Reservation at any time. Any dog found at large shall be impounded by the animal control officer or law enforcement, and the owner shall be subject to a fine as set by the court. ($100)

Section 13-2-5. Disturbance of the peace. The owner of any dog shall not allow the dog to disturb the peace and quiet of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Reservation by continuous barking or by making other loud or unusual noises, or by becoming a public nuisance by destroying or defacing property or causing injury to person or persons, or domestic animals. Violation of this Section shall result in a fine to be set by the court. ($50)

Section 13-2-9. Immunization Required. Every dog, cat, or other warm blooded animal held as a domestic pet on the Flandreau Santee Sioux Reservation, three (3) months of age or older, is hereby required to be immunized against rabies by a licensed veterinarian or other qualified person. Immunization against rabies shall be given by such intervals to guarantee immunity, and minimum time period between vaccinations shall be determined by the available vaccine and based upon the recommendations and approval of a veterinarian. Any owner acquiring a dog, cat, or other warm blooded animal by purchase, gift, birth, or otherwise shall have such animal immunized against rabies immediately after acquisition or when the animal reaches the age of three (3) months. Violation of the section shall result in a fine to be set by the court. ($50)

Public Safety Commission