



MATTAPONI TRIBAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Fall Festival at the Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church

The Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church held their Fall Festival on Wednesday, October 25th, 2023, which included great fellowship, food, hayrides, and games. We would like to thank the Samaritan Church youth group who joined us for the fellowship and fun. The youth groups really enjoyed themselves and were able to collect lots of candy. We would like to thank Alvin and Cindy Gordan, and Tommy Samuels for providing the hayrides. We would also like to thank our Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church, along with the Church Youth Committee (Crystal Jackowski-Davis, Tammy Heath, and Chastity Maiorana). We appreciate everyone's time and effort that made this a successful event. We hope to see everyone again next year!



Church Youth Service



Hayride

250th Committee

In 2026, the United States will commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence on the federal, state, and local levels by highlighting historic places across the country. Tribal Archive Specialist, Katie Gibson, will be serving on the King William County 250th Committee to help plan local events for the celebration. The Mattaponi Museum has been featured on the Virginia 250th interactive map of historic places to visit. Stay tuned for events leading up to the 2026 commemoration.

Living Shoreline Project

The Mattaponi Tribal Council has hired the Environmental Manager position. Please welcome Tammy Heath as the Tribe's Environmental Manager. Tammy has worked in the Mattaponi Petition Office for the last two years helping with the Federal Recognition Petition as the Collections Specialist and the Administrative Assistant. Tammy will be working with Matt Venable who is our new Environmental Director. We look forward to their accomplishments on our Living Shoreline Project.



Environmental Director, Matt Venable

Algonquian Roundtable Discussion

The ongoing Algonquin Language Roundtable discussion was held on Saturday, October 14th, 2023, with several Virginia Tribes and Language Facilitators. Discussion took place around Powhatan language patterns.

Richmond Indigenous Peoples' Day

On October 9th, 2023, the Mattaponi Indian Tribe was a guest host for the 1st annual Richmond Indigenous Peoples' Day event at Powhatan Hill State Park. This event, organized by The Pocahontas Project, celebrates remembrance, recognition, reconciliation, and respect for Virginia Indian Tribes and America's Indigenous Communities. Highlights of the day were Tribal Educational booths, dancing, drumming, and singing. The Pocahontas Project looks forward to next years celebration!



Tribal Citizens: Chief Mark T. Custalow, J.V. Custalow, Karen Elliott, Lois Custalow Carter, Olivia Garcia, and Tribal Archivist, Katie Gibson

Mattaponi Enrolled Resident Meeting

Another Mattaponi Tribal Resident Meeting was held for all lineal enrolled residents who reside on the Mattaponi Indian Reservation on Thursday, October 19th, 2023. There was good attendance and good conversations that took place during this meeting. There will be ongoing Tribal meetings held at the Tribal Center, on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The Mattaponi Chief and Tribal Council invite **ALL** Mattaponi Enrolled resident Citizens to attend.

Indigenous Peoples Celebration at Machicomoco State Park

Chief Mark T. Custalow, Matt Venable, and Lois Custalow Carter attended the Machicomoco Advisory Committee meeting on October 26th, 2023, to review physical, natural, and cultural resources with state park and other tribal representatives. Friendly reminder, the 2023 Indigenous Peoples Celebration at Machicomoco Park will be held on Saturday, November 4th, 2023. Mattaponi will have a table set up for this event. We have a limited number of parking passes available. If you would like to reserve a parking pass, please contact the Petition Office to pick up your ticket as soon as possible. It is first come, first serve. This event is from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Address: **3601 Timberneck Farm Road**
Hayes, VA 23072



Event Map

Jamestown/Yorktown Advisory Committee

Jamestown museum has formed an Advisory group that includes a member from each Tribe of Virginia. Tammy Heath has agreed to be on this committee representing the Mattaponi Tribe. The committee will have several meetings to discuss and review the content that visitors will be seeing throughout the museum to ensure that our Virginia Indian Communities are being represented in a respectful way. Tammy will be communicating back to Chief and Council with updates. This is a great opportunity for the Mattaponi Tribe.

Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival

The Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival will be held November 17-19, 2023, at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. There will be additional screenings at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. For more information or to buy tickets go to <https://pocahontasreframed.com/festival-tickets/>

College Scholarship Opportunity

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is offering the **American Indian Scholarship** and the **Frances Crawford Marvin American Indian Scholarship**.

Applications will be accepted November 1st, 2023, through January 31st, 2024. For more information about this grant and to apply, please follow the link below:

<https://www.dar.org/national-society/scholarships/american-indian>

The College of William and Mary oversees and manages the **Anne Trevarthen Memorial Scholarship**. This is a one-time scholarship presented each April to a high school senior who will be attending the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. The scholarship amount is based on the annual return of the endowment and is administered by the college. For more information, please contact the College of William and Mary Office of Admissions at **(757) 221-4223**.

Native Sunday Service

This coming Sunday, November 5th, 2023, please join the Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church for Native Sunday Service to celebrate the first Sunday of Native American Heritage Month. Sunday School is at 10:00 A.M. and Church Service starts at 11:00 A.M.

D.C. Research Trip

On October 25th, 2023, some of our staff at the Mattaponi Petition Office made a trip to Washington D.C. to visit the National Anthropological Archive and the Library of Congress to gather information and conduct research about the Mattaponi Tribe. This is an ongoing initiative.



Tribal Archivist, Katie Gibson and Enrollment Specialist, Olivia Garcia

Grant Writing Workshop

On Friday, October 13th, 2023, The Federal Recognition Project Director went through a Grant writing workshop through NAFWS.

 **HAPPY** 
HALLOWEEN!



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