



MATTAPONI TRIBAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Machicomoco: Indigenous Peoples Celebration

Machicomoco State Park held an Indigenous Peoples Celebration on November 4th, 2023. The weather was beautiful and there was a great turn out. Chief Mark T. Custalow, Lois Custalow Carter, and tribal archivist Katie Gibson, set up a display of Mattaponi tribal history and enjoyed engaging with visitors throughout the day.

Updates on new Mattaponi Indian Tribal Website

The new Mattaponi website enhancements continue to display and develop a well thought out presentation.

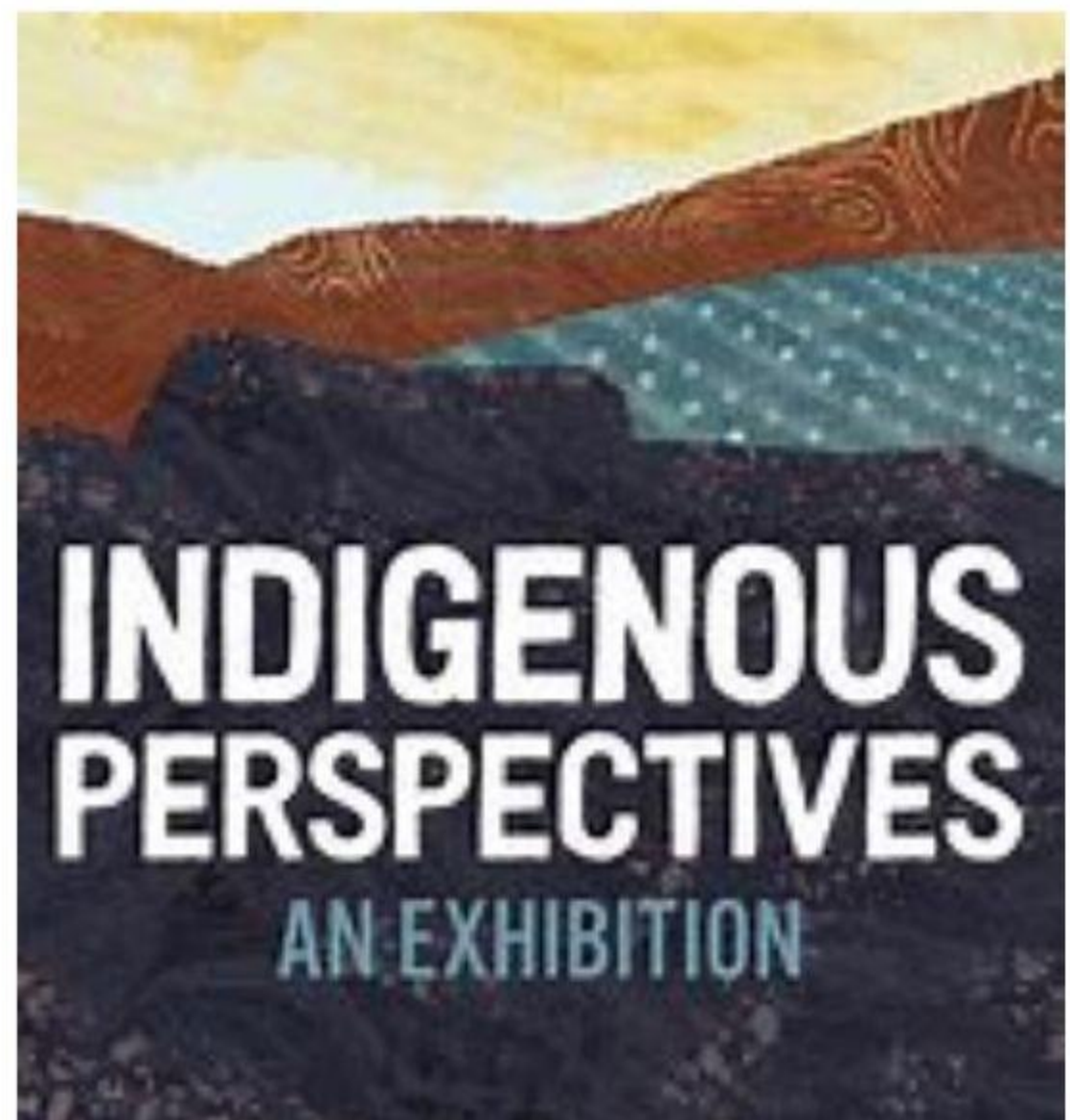
“Coming soon”

Library of Virginia Exhibit

A new exhibit at the Library of Virginia titled, Indigenous Perspectives, will "highlight the Commonwealth's Indigenous history and how the tribes remain a vital part of Virginia's culture today." The exhibit will also include virtual media such as an interview with Lois Custalow Carter, and Mattaponi material culture and artifacts. The exhibit begins December 5th and runs until August 2024.

Cinquoteck Historical Marker

As part of the Historical Society of West Point's historical signage program, Tribal citizen Samuel McGowan, and tribal archivist Katie Gibson, have been working to develop a sign representing the Cinquoteck village that was located in modern day West Point. The sign will highlight the significance of Cinquoteck as a center for trade in the 17th century and include information about the Mattaponi and Pamunkey tribes.



Giving Thanks Service

The Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church hosted a Giving Thanks Service on November 12th, 2023. It was a great day celebrating with fellowship and a meal. Please stay tuned for other Mattaponi Indian Baptist Church Events!



Powhatan Algonquian Roundtable Committee

Intertribal members met on Saturday, November 18th, 2023, to discuss the language project. The committee held a language session and are beginning to roll out the communication plan. Sometime in December, there will be a position posted across the tribal communities for a Language Project Director. This position will be open to all Enrolled Tribal members across Virginia.

The Monthly Mattaponi Resident Tribal Meeting

Another Mattaponi resident Tribal meeting was held at the tribal community building on Thursday, November 16th, 2023. The Federal Recognition Project Director and the Environmental Director presented their monthly updates. Tribal Council and Mattaponi residents discussed ongoing community projects and reported upcoming events.



2022 Tax Tribute

346th Annual Tax Tribute

It is time to honor the 346th Tribute with the Governor of Virginia. This tribute upholds the 1677 Treaty of the Middle Plantation. The 346th Tribute will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at 11:00 A.M. The ceremony will take place at The Executive Mansion.

Native American Heritage Month Celebration sponsored by The Pentagon

Members of the Mattaponi Petition Office were invited to attend the Native American Heritage Month Celebration hosted by the Pentagon. The event included traditional dancing, drumming, and presentations from Tribal representatives all across the United States. The petition officeteam set up an educational booth displaying artifacts and history about the Mattaponi Indian Tribe.



Enrollment Specialist, Olivia Garcia, Project Director, Lois Custalow Carter, and Tribal Archivist, Katie Gibson

Virginia Indian Advisory Board

Congratulations to Enrolled Mattaponi tribal citizen and council member, **Brandon G. Thundercloud Custalow**, for his reappointment to the Virginia Indian Advisory Board. Governor Glen Youngkin announced his administration and board appointments in a press release on November 10, 2023. Thank you, Brandon, for representing the Mattaponi citizens and letting our voice be heard.

William & Mary Athletics

W&M ATHLETICS WELCOMES

VIRGINIA TRIBES

JOIN WILLIAM & MARY FOOTBALL

NOVEMBER 18TH | 1PM

W&M VS RICHMOND



For Tickets:

Check in at Gate 1 of Zable Stadium and mention your tribal affiliation, or present this flyer

JOIN WILLIAM & MARY BASKETBALL

NOVEMBER 25 | 2PM

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS UMBC

NOVEMBER 30 | 7PM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS ODU

DECEMBER 17 | 1PM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS LONGWOOD

JANUARY 13 | 1PM

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS STONY BROOK

JANUARY 19 | 7PM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS DELAWARE

For Tickets:

Check in at main entrance of Kaplan Arena and mention your tribal affiliation, or present this flyer



William & Mary Athletics has extended an invitation to all Mattaponi Tribal Citizens to join them for a series of home games from now until mid-January. W&M seeks to welcome members of the Virginia Tribes to campus for a wide variety of activities and occasions, and Athletics events are one such opportunity. The attached flyer lists games we would be honored for Tribal members to attend. Men and Women's Basketball games in November, December, and January are available.

Free admission to any or all of these events is available to Tribal members by presenting this flyer or simply mentioning their Tribal affiliation at the ticket window.

Mattaponi Oral History Interviews and Personal Paper Collections

The petition office is continuing to interview tribal members for the Mattaponi oral history project as part of the Petition for Federal Acknowledgement. Along with oral interviews, documents showcasing historical events and accounts from Mattaponi citizens are also being imaged. Examples of this information that may be imaged from personal collections are, newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, letters, stories, etc. The petition office will continue reaching out to tribal citizens to schedule interviews. if you'd like to volunteer to be interviewed, please contact the tribal office at 804-353-5908.

Environmental Office Update

- The Living Shoreline Project is on its way to having the final design complete. Chief, Council, and the Environmental Department have had several meetings with DCR and VIMS to go over the preliminary plans of the design. After the permit application is submitted, work will begin first quarter of 2024.
- The Environmental Division is pleased to announce that we have submitted a grant for Submerged Aquatic Vegetation.
- Set up meetings with agencies to discuss the proposed Rappahannock to Mattaponi water discharge project. (more information forthcoming)
- Met with the RAFT Roundtable. The Mattaponi Tribal Environmental Office is asking for volunteers of its Tribal citizens to help in the RAFT (Resilience Adaptation Feasibly Tool's). The workshop roundtable is to begin next month. This volunteer program does offer compensation for your time. Please inquire at the Mattaponi Environmental Office. (RAFT is an emergency planning process of our community's resilience by considering environmental, social and economic resilience during coastal hazards such as storms and floods). We will be reaching out to members that have previously volunteered and are also asking if anyone is interested in volunteering for this project, please inquire at the Mattaponi Environmental Office at **804-353-5908**.

Mattaponi Tribal Offices Closed

The Mattaponi Tribal Offices will be closed Wednesday, November 22nd through Friday, November 24th, 2023. We will reopen Monday, November 27th, 2023.



Updated Interior of the Environmental Office

Remembering the Life of Kade Ferris



Kade Ferris, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for Red Lake Nation

The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) would like to acknowledge and honor the life of Kade Ferris, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Red Lake Nation, who passed away on November 4th, 2023. Kade was one of the first-ever THPOs in the nation, taking up his post and performing the sacred work of working to preserve his people's culture and sacred places not long after the THPO program was created. One of the many ways in which Kade performed the sacred work of historic preservation was through storytelling. Kade wrote several books about the culture and history of the Ojibwe, Cree, and Metis peoples. His storytelling will live on and set a powerful example for current and future generations

2024 Mattaponi Indian Tribe's Powwow

It's almost that time of year when the Mattaponi Tribal Council will meet to discuss the annual 2024 Pow Wow which takes place 3rd Saturday in June. If approved by Council, we are asking for Volunteers to help plan for this special event. We would like to start meeting as a committee in January 2024. Anyone who is interested and would like to volunteer to be on the committee, please call the Tribal Office at (804) 353- 5908 or visit the office and let us know that you are interested. Mattaponi citizens, family members, and or friends are welcomed to be a part of the committee. Beginning January 2024, we will be meeting monthly and as the date draws near, we may be meeting more frequently. Thank you for your support!

 *Happy Thanksgiving
to you and your family* 



(804)353-5908



mattaponi@mattaponination.com



Mattaponination.com