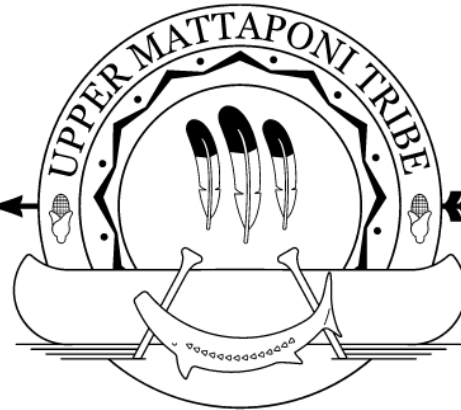


# Tribal Talk



HONORING OUR PAST

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



## Message from the Chief

Exciting news! Our quarterly 'Tribal Talk' newsletters are back, bringing you updates and stories from our community. I'm also thrilled to announce that preparations for the 35th Annual Powwow are in full swing. Let's come together to celebrate our culture and unity on the 25th and 26th of this month!

Warm regards,  
Chief W. Frank Adams

## In This Article

Page 2 - Announcements

Page 3 - Government

Page 4 - Powwow

Page 5 - Moccasin Class

Page 6 - UMT Health

Page 7 - Programs

Page 10 - Resources

Page 11 - Powwow Flyer

Contact  
[info@umitribe.org](mailto:info@umitribe.org) for any  
questions or comments  
regarding Tribal Talk.

# Announcements



## Job Openings

### UMT Health

Home Health Nurse (RN & LPN)

Dentist

Health Admin Intern

Finance Intern

Physical Therapist

### UMT Government

Managerial Accountant

Financial Technician

Executive Assistant

For more information, you can find the job postings on the website at [www.umitribe.org](http://www.umitribe.org)

## Get Involved!

Join us at our upcoming events:

- Family Nights every other Wednesday from 4/3 to 8/7
- Family Planting Day 5/4
- 35th Annual Powwow 5/25 and 5/26
- Youth Camp 7/22 to 7/26

## Looking for volunteers!

- Powwow volunteers
  - Reach out to Assistant Chief Lou if you'd like to help out [lou.wratchford@umitribe.gov](mailto:lou.wratchford@umitribe.gov)
- Community Garden volunteers
  - Reach out to Jen Alexander, Garden Manager if you'd like to help out [jennifer.alexander@umitribe.gov](mailto:jennifer.alexander@umitribe.gov)

## 2024 SIS Scholarship

Interested in furthering your education? The 2024 Sharon Indian School Foundation Scholarship is now open through June 14th. Please reach out to Deborah Wilkinson for application information or check out the SIS page on our website.

Deborah Wilkinson, SIS Treasurer  
[deborah.wilkinson@umitribe.org](mailto:deborah.wilkinson@umitribe.org)



## Tribal ID Cards

Did you know that Tribal IDs are an acceptable form of official identification? Reach out to Wilma Hicks today if you need any services related to obtaining or renewing your Tribal ID. More information about what documentation is required can be found on our website.

Wilma Hicks, Director of Enrollment  
[wilma.hicks@umitribe.org](mailto:wilma.hicks@umitribe.org)



# Tribal Government



## Judicial Assessment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Tribal government has been actively advancing our newly established judicial system. Recently, key stakeholders and elected officials hosted a law firm, under contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to conduct an assessment of our judicial framework. Our Tribe is pioneering tribal court practices in this region, making this preliminary assessment a significant milestone. With the assessment completed, we are now focused on collaborating with the BIA to develop a strategic plan and secure funding to achieve our judicial objectives. This initiative represents a crucial step forward in strengthening our tribal sovereignty and ensuring effective governance for our community.

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

- 6/22 - Council meeting at 9 am
- 6/22 - General Citizen Meeting at 10 am

## Did You Know?

The Council has established a law library where citizens can access all laws and acts that have been voted on and passed by the current and previous Tribal Council. Check it out at [law.umitribe.org](http://law.umitribe.org)!



# 35th Annual Powwow



## Celebrating 35 Years of Powwow Ceremonies

The photo above, shared by Chief Emeritus Ray Adams, is from the first Upper Mattaponi Powwow held on Sharon Indian School grounds in 1988.

Today, the Upper Mattaponi's Powwow ceremonies are held on the tribal grounds right across the street. The powwow ceremonies have grown to be a very successful event for the Tribe, drawing in crowds of thousands of people! This year's powwow will be the 35th annual, hosted on Saturday May 25th and Sunday May 26th. If you aren't planning on it already, please make plans to come join in on the fun and celebrate the Tribe with fellow citizens and broader community. More information about the Powwow can be found on the Tribe's website or at the end of this newsletter.

## Photo of the First Upper Mattaponi Powwow

Pictured from left to right:

Leonard Adkins  
Chickahominy

Bill Miles  
Pamunkey

Ray Adams  
Upper Mattaponi

Webster Custalow  
Mattaponi

Tecumseh Cook  
Pamunkey



# Moccasin Making



## Fun at the Moccasin Workshop

April marked the return of youth and family nights at the Sharon Indian school. The first three sessions of youth and family nights entailed learning to pattern and sew a pair of traditional center seam moccasins. The tribe provided all necessary supplies for individuals to take home a pair of moccasins.

The first session was April 3rd with 31 tribal members in attendance, with more than half of those being tribal youth. In the first session, tribal members learned how to take their measurements and make a pattern using paper bags. After creating the pattern, citizens traced and cut out the pattern from leather. After cutting out the leather, citizens then learned how to create the toe of the moccasin and began sewing. At the end of the third session, all citizens had a new pair of moccasins just in time for Powwow.

## Upcoming Family Nights

5/15 - Powwow Dancing

6/5 - Traditional Games

6/19 - Garden Activity

7/3 - Social Dancing

8/7 - Back to School Social

For more information, contact:

Martin Saniga  
(804) 629-2429  
Suzanne Soule  
(804) 629-2403

# UMT Health News



## Dental Clinic Coming Soon!

We are excited to share that Aylett Family Dentistry is planned to open in September 2024! Due to some construction permit requirements, our plans have been slightly delayed. Despite those setbacks, we look forward to serving patients soon with the expertise of Dr. Lori Ha as our first tribal dentist. Dr. Lori Ha is a King William County resident and has practiced dentistry for over 10 years.

## Stay Healthy with AFW!

Preventative care is key to good health! Schedule your well-check up in advance to ensure you get the time and attention you deserve. Aylett Family Wellness also provides same day sick appointments for tribal citizens. Pediatric sick appointments are available MWF 7:30-3 and TTH 9:30-5. If you or your child need to see a provider urgently, call us at (804)769-2015 and the team will be happy to fit you in.

## Move More This Month!



The best way to get moving is to take a walk!

The benefits of walking:

- Think better, feel better
- Improved sleep
- Improved heart health
- Reduced risk of serious diseases
- Increased energy levels
- Improved mental well-being
- Improved memory
- Boost bone strength
- Prevent weight gain

# Programs & Services



## Get a Free Laptop!

If you have not already received a laptop, reach out today!

## Get Bill Pay!

Income eligible citizens can receive internet bill pay assistance.

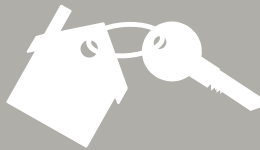
**Call Sophie at (757) 707-5967 for details!**

**UMT YOUTH DAY CAMP**

**JULY 22 - 26 2024**

EMAIL [SUZANNE.SOUJE@UMITRIBE.GOV](mailto:SUZANNE.SOUJE@UMITRIBE.GOV) FOR MORE INFO!

- ✓ AGES 5 TO 17
- ✓ FREE REGISTRATION
- ✓ CULTURAL EDUCATION
- ✓ FIELD TRIPS
- ✓ BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK PROVIDED



## Purchasing a Home?

If you're purchasing a home within the 25-mile service area, you may be eligible for a downpayment assistance of \$6,000!

## Get Assistance Today!

## Renting a Home?

If you're renting a home or apartment within the 25-mile service area, you may be eligible for 24 months of rental assistance!



## Have Septic Issues?

If you're a homeowner experiencing issues with your water or septic, apply for assistance today!



## Minor Home Rehabs Coming by Fall 2024!

Coming soon, native homeowners residing within the 25-mile service area may be eligible for minor housing rehabs. More information will be coming via email and mail about this exciting opportunity!

## Call to Inquire!

Contact Kathryn Rowell,  
Director of Housing  
(757) 707-5099



# Programs & Services

Upper Mattaponi Tribe

## FAMILY PLANTING DAY & PICNIC



**MAY 4 | 10-1 PM**  
TRIBAL CULTURAL GARDEN  
AT 13597 KING WILLIAM RD

COME SOW NATIVE SEEDS AND PLANTS IN THE TRIBE'S CULTURAL GARDEN.

WE'LL PROVIDE THE TOOLS, PLANTS, AND FOOD.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN!

**RSVP by April 29**

conor.real@umitribe.gov  
804-994-1937



UPPER MATTAPONI TRIBE  
EARTH DAY 2024

## NATIVE TREE GIVEAWAY

Environmental & Cultural Department providing up to two trees per citizen.  
*Quantities limited, requests taken in order received.*

Two varieties per recipient | 1-3 gallon pots | Planting guide provided at pick up

### AVAILABLE TREES & MATURE HEIGHTS:

- Sycamore - 60+ ft.
- River Birch - 60 ft.
- Witch Hazel - 15 ft.
- Dogwood - 20 ft.
- Persimmon - 20 ft.
- Holly - 30 ft.
- Hazelnut - 15 ft.
- Black Cherry - 50 ft.
- Bald Cypress - 60 ft.

**TO REQUEST YOUR TREES & ARRANGE PICK UP**

**CONOR.REAL@UMITRIBE.GOV**  
**804-994-1937**



## Program Management Office Updates



In our latest project update, we have made significant progress across several key areas. The steering committees have been actively engaged in guiding project direction and ensuring alignment with strategic goals. Each committee will be hosting listening sessions open to all citizens, so be on the lookout for those invitations! Strategic planning efforts have advanced, with a focus on the near-term planning of the Tribal Master Plan. We are excited about the positive impact these developments will have on the Tribe's success.

# Programs & Services

## Introducing Jennifer Tupponce, Our New Elder Care Coordinator!

Dear Elders and Tribal Members,

I, Jennifer Tupponce would like to take a moment to introduce myself as our dedicated Elder Care Coordinator, here to illuminate the path toward a brighter future for our esteemed elder community. I'm eagerly looking forward to collaborating with each of you to enhance our elder care program. Your voices matter immensely, and I warmly invite all elders to share your invaluable ideas, desires, and dreams for our program. Whether it's activities, services, or any other aspect you wish to see improved or introduced, your input is essential in shaping a program that truly reflects and serves your needs. Please feel free to reach out to me via email at [Jennifer.Tupponce@umitribe.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Tupponce@umitribe.gov) or by phone at 804-856-1961 between the hours of 9 am to 4 pm. Your feedback is not just welcomed but eagerly awaited.

Let's embark on this journey together, paving the way for a future filled with joy, fulfillment, and meaningful connections.

## Garden & Grounds Updates

If you visit the tribal grounds, you may notice quite a bit of development happening. The agricultural and maintenance department has been hard at work adding office and storage buildings and expanding the community garden.



# Resources

## Elected Officials Directory

- Chief W. Frank Adams [frank.adams@umitribe.gov](mailto:frank.adams@umitribe.gov)
- Assistant Chief Lou Wratchford [lou.wratchford@umitribe.gov](mailto:lou.wratchford@umitribe.gov)
- Speaker, Rob Adams [rob.adams@umitribe.gov](mailto:rob.adams@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson, At-Large Desiree Dyer [desiree.dyer@umitribe.gov](mailto:desiree.dyer@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson Wilma Hicks [wilma.hicks@umitribe.gov](mailto:wilma.hicks@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson Owen Adams [owen.adams@umitribe.gov](mailto:owen.adams@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson Harry "Sonny" Knighton [sonny.knighton@umitribe.gov](mailto:sonny.knighton@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson Linwood "Lenny" Adams [lenny.adams@umitribe.gov](mailto:lenny.adams@umitribe.gov)
- Councilperson Ken Adams [ken.adams@umitribe.gov](mailto:ken.adams@umitribe.gov)

## Tribal Office

13476 King William Rd,  
King William, VA 23086

(804) 769-0041

Open Monday - Friday  
9am to 5pm  
Closed on all federal  
holidays







# Upper Mattaponi Tribe

35TH ANNUAL

# POW WOW

NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW AND SPRING FESTIVAL

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

**MAY 25-26, 2024**

NATIVE AMERICAN DANCING, DRUMMING, AND VENDORS.

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EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

FREE ADMISSION. DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

**UPPER MATTAPONI TRIBAL GROUNDS**

**13476 KING WILLIAM RD.**

**KING WILLIAM, VA 23086**

**Saturday**

Grounds Open: 10:00am

Grand Entry: 12:00pm

Closing: 5:00pm

**Sunday**

Grounds Open: 11:00am

Grand Entry: 1:00pm

Closing: 5:00pm

No alcohol. No coolers. No weapons.

No pets. Please bring certification for service animals.

Bring your own blankets, chairs, etc.

[www.umitribe.org](http://www.umitribe.org) | [info@umitribe.org](mailto:info@umitribe.org) | (804) 769-0041 | [facebook.com/UpperMattaponiTribe](https://facebook.com/UpperMattaponiTribe)



## Want to opt out of receiving Tribal Talk?

If you would like to remove yourself from the Tribal Talk mailing list, please email [info@umitribe.org](mailto:info@umitribe.org) and indicate that you would like to opt out of all Tribal Talk mailers.

Upper Mattaponi Tribe  
13476 King William Road  
King William, VA 23086