

Basic Detail Report



Mohegan
WIGWAM FESTIVAL
2012

AUGUST 18TH & 19TH 10:00am - 7:00pm

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
10:00 Gates open	10:00 Gates open
10:30 Sister Bette Jean, storytelling	10:30 Sister Bette Jean, storytelling
11:00 Laughing Woman and Eaglewing	11:00 Taino Nation Dance Troupe
Folk Music	Noon Grand Entry
Noon Grand Entry	Dance Competition
Intertribal Dancing, Tiny Tot Dancing	Retire Flags
Dance Specials, Flute Song Challenge	
5:00 Retire Flags	
5:30 Taino Nation Dance Troupe	
6:00 Team Dancing	
6:30 Hand Drum Songs	

The Wigwam Festival is an ancient celebration of the Green Corn Festival. This was a Mohegan Thanksgiving ceremony for the corn harvest. In the early nineteenth century the festival was held under a "fair tree" at the Mohegan Church. During the revitalization of the festival in 1860, Mohegan Medicine Woman Emma Baker nicknamed it "Wigwam" for the three-sided brush-arbor built to house the celebration. The word Wigwam derives from the word "wigwamun" which means "come into the house" or "welcome."

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHIEF MATAHGA'S BIRTH

Chief Maragay/Buril Fielding was born 150 years ago. The year he was born, the tribe decided to break up the reservation in order to escape the corruption of state overseers. That corruption had resulted in the loss of most of the Royal Mohegan burial mound.

Ground in Norwich, things were difficult all around. The Mohegan language was dying and our traditional crafts were dwindling. Life in the Fielding Homestead was challenging. Jobs were scarce and the family raised turkeys, hunted, fished, chopped wood, gathered crops, performed odd jobs—whatever they could do to make ends meet. Buril's large family included siblings Gertrude Fielding (later Harris, mother of Chief Peasee Uncas), Frank Fielding, Lemuel Fielding / Chief Ocum, Albert Fielding, Phoebe "Nellie" Fielding (later Fowler, grandmother of Courtland Fowler), and Harriet Fielding (later Tantaquidgeon, mother of Chief Harold Tantaquidgeon and Medicine Woman Gladys Tantaquidgeon). We honor Chief Matahga this year for his hard work in preserving Mohegan traditions, including the Wigwam Festival. We look back on our tribe's journey for the last century and a half and give thanks for his leadership and vision. He helped us survive dark times and we are forever grateful for his guidance in the past, present and future.

MATAHGA DESCENDANTS

3 children
7 grandchildren
37 great grandchildren
66 great great grandchildren
84 great great great grandchildren

DESCENDANTS WHO HAVE SERVED ON COUNCIL

Chief Lynn Matahga

TRIBE COUNCIL
Loretta Fielding Schultz
Roberta Robarge
Roberta O'Connor
Mary Hildebrand
Mark Brown
Cynthia Lashore
Peter Schultz
Lorraine Schultz

COUNCIL OF ELDER
Margaret LaMare
Rouven Brown
Lorraine Schultz
Loretta Fielding Schultz
Bob Soper Sr.
Lutty Robarge

1.800.MOHEGAN

Title Flyers: Mohegan Wigwam Festival

Date 2012

Medium Paper

Description 2015.196.51.7: flyer, Mohegan Wigwam Festival, 2012 2015.196.51.8: flyer, Mohegan Wigwam Festival, 2012