Daswöndio:go'

Whew! What a busy month. The department staff was called upon numerous times to help and present for Native American month. Good job to all the staff that was able to lend their expertise and knowledge for these events.

The first family engagement night for this year's group of the After School Language Program (grades 3-6) went well. The participants made salt dough ornaments.

The next family night will be in January.

The Mommy and Me program is adapting as the kids grow older and is now being lead by Levi Thomas and Brittany Maybee. The toddlers are at a precious age where language acquisition and usage begins to pick up. Watching the kids respond to commands in the language and then try to mimic and use the language themselves is encouraging. Good job to all involved with the program.

Please feel free to contact the Onöndowa'ga:' G awë:nö′ Nadö:diyeö:je′ koh Department if you have any comments or questions at (716) 532-8161.

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Open Bead Group

Tuesday Evenings
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Sully Huff Heritage Center
Beaders of all levels welcome.
Bring your beading projects down and join the fun!
Potluck dishes welcome.

Native American Winter Arts Festival

Dec. 8th
10am - 4pm
Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan
Storytelling, Social Dancing, Vendors, Raffles, Silent Auction, Food tastings
For more info: www.ganondagan.org

Beginner Seneca Language Classes

Tuesday Evenings
6pm - 8pm
Sully Huff Heritage Center
Facilitated by Clarence Seneca & Brennen Johns
Sign ups required.
For more info, call: 716-532-8161

Christmas Party

Dec. 10th
5pm - 7pm
SNI Library Allegany Branch
Santa in coming!
Story time, Pictures with Santa,
Santa will make it snow!
For more info: 716-945-3157

Mukluk Class at the Sully

By Gayawëö:wi’
The first part of the three part mukluk class was held on Dec. 2nd at the Sully. Each participant was able to create their own patterns, cut out the liners & leather, cement & start to sew on their crepe soles and cut out their velvet or wool vamps to begin their beadwork. Look for pictures of the finished mukluks in the next issue.

Shòdayo’dëöje’ - traditionally, as it has always been, Hejoä:döh - beyond a certain time, Sa’ñö’we:’ - sometime since
Gaga:\' time: Build your own Dayanotäyendä\'kwa-Snow boat

Instructions for building a Seneca Snow Boat a.k.a. “Da-ya-no-tä-yen-dä\'kwa” – (They use it for putting down a reed or flute)

Materials:
Block of dry hardwood (Beech is preferred) like beech, birch, maple, hickory, or ash. Needs to be at least 15” long x 1” thick x 2” wide. Small colored feather for the “tail” of the boat
A bit of glue to hold feather in place

Instructions:
1. Draw the pattern onto your block of the outline of the boat, the inside cavity, and the “S” shaped ridge on the bottom.
2. Cut the rough shape of the outline using a table saw or coping saw.
3. Using a gouge or router cut the central cavity out carefully while the bottom still sits flat.
4. Using wood rasps and files; clean up the edges of the boat and also add the gradual taper to the bottom ridge of the boat.
5. Drill the small feather hole.
6. Using sandpaper bring the wood to a very smooth finish
7. You can coat the boat in wax, varnish, or spar varnish using many layers of light coating.
8. Polish the bottom with a soft cloth.
9. Glue the colored feather into its hole.
10. Playing the game:
11. Select a long hill, clear of weeds and bushes and trees.
12. Teams are chosen (up to four) with equal number of players per team (four max)
13. Using your foot as a guide and tool, make a trench straight down the hill – one for each player. You can also try and use a small round pole big around enough that the boat will fit inside the track.
14. For added speed, the track can be “iced” by pouring water down the track. Sometimes players will also “ice” their boats which is perfectly legal.
15. Each player sets their boat in the track, and the players release them all at once.
16. Players can run boats individually or on a “team”
17. If there are two teams of four players for example – four boats should run at a time two from each team. If one team gets first and second place they win 2 points. If they only get first, then only one point is awarded. Play continues until some gets 15 points.

Bring your snow boats to Ganondagan on Dec. 28th at 10am to test them out as part of their Winter Break activities.

From: www.ganondagan.org

Haudenosaunee Snow Boat

Plans for construction
Gakö:ni:h Ganö´ja’ - Corned Venison Roast

Ingredients:
5 lb. venison roast
1/2 gallon distilled water
2/3 cup kosher salt
1/2 cup brown sugar
5 tbsp. pickling spice
3 tsp Instacure #1 (pink salt, aka Sodium Nitrate)
1 head of garlic chopped, if it’s small go with 2

Utensils:
Measuring cups & spoons
Stock pot
Brine bucket

Directions:
1. Put everything except the roast in a pot. This is the brine. Bring the brine to a boil and stir to get the sugar and salt to dissolve.
2. Remove from heat and let cool to room temperature.
3. Once it’s cool, put your roast in the brining bucket, and cover with the brine. You need to keep the meat submerged. You can easily use an object like a plate on top of the meat to push it down in the brine.
4. Refrigerate for two weeks, stirring (I just swirl the bucket) daily. I have never had a roast under 5 lb. not finish curing though out within 2 weeks. If you go bigger, you may have to go longer.
5. After two weeks, remove the roast from the brine and completely rinse off any left on spices by running it under tap water. Discard the brine.

You now have cured meat! This same recipe can basically be used on any meat but it’s nicest with four legged animals. You have a nice corned roast that you can now cook with your favorite corned beef recipe. Or you can smoke it to make venison pastrami.

Recipe & photo from: http://venisononthursday.com