

November 9, 2023

Our speaker will be Bobby Farlice-Rubio. Bobby has been associated with the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury educating the public about astronomy. He is also an avid musician both performing and recording, but in November he will be telling us about his other interest in the Abenaki people. In anticipation of Thanksgiving, he will be telling us about the evolution of the Abenaki culture over the centuries beginning with one of the men who attended that first Thanksgiving celebration.

Bobby Farlice-Rubio is a science and culture educator with more than two decades of teaching experience working in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. He was recently elected to the Vermont House of Representatives, Caledonia One District, which encompasses the towns of Barnet, Ryegate, and Waterford. For eight years, Mr. Farlice-Rubio was regularly seen in his monthly "Star Struck" segments on Channel 3 WCAX-TV's 6:30pm news show, on which he presented the latest happenings in the field of Astronomy. During his 18- year tenure at St. Johnsbury's Fairbanks Museum, Bobby was the teacher for the Guinness World Record: "Largest Astronomy Lesson." Raised in Hialeah, Florida from Cuban and African-American roots, Bobby is also an avid musician who plays in the local band Tritium Well, as well as his solo musical endeavor, Bobby & The Isotopes. He currently resides in Barnet, Vermont.

The Abenaki people have lived in Vermont and New Hampshire for thousands of years, and they are still here today. By focusing on the individual lives of seven famous Abenakis from different times, beginning with a man who was present at the first "Thanksgiving," we'll explore how their culture has survived the centuries and evolved to meet the challenges of a changing world. We'll also discover how the Abenaki Nation has shaped the present and future for all of our nation.

