



Nashauonk Mittark™



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mashpeewampanoagtribe.com August 2012

DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

IN THE NEWS

POWWOW

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Message



Wuneekeesuq Nutawâm (Greetings to my Tribal Community),

Congratulations on a very successful 91st Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow! Thank you to all the Tribal members who came out and assisted in making the Powwow such a wonderful event for our Tribe.

I want to thank Powwow Director David Weeden, Assistant Director Marcy Hendricks, Powwow Staff and the Powwow Committee for all their hard work.

Thank you to our traditional leaders, Chief Vernon Silent Drum Lopez, Medicine Man Earl Soaring Eagle Cash, Supreme Sachem Ellsworth Drifting Goose Oakley, Clan Mothers and our Elders for their spiritual and traditional leadership.

Special congratulations to 2012 Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow Princess Keturah Peters. Keturah is a member of the National Honor Society, a member of the Youth Council, and a leader amongst our Mashpee Wampanoag teens.

I also want to give a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing Powwow Prin-

(Continued on page 3)

Tribal-State Compact Reached

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe has reached a Compact agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to develop and operate a destination resort casino in Taunton, Massachusetts. The Tribal Council voted 7-1 in favor of this Compact pending General Court approval and approval of the US Department of Interior.

(Continued below)

into-trust process. This is another step in an economic development plan that will bring long-term prosperity to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe while also bringing much needed job opportunities and revenue to the Commonwealth.

Our destination resort casino will enable our Tribal government to move toward economic self-sufficiency and the ability to fully provide for the needs of



The Compact outlines the terms under which our Tribe will be able to operate our destination resort casino as well as providing for Commonwealth support for the federal land-

our Tribe, including housing, health care, education, job training, cultural preservation, and conservation of natural resources. We are committed to running a

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Compact Protecting Fishing and Hunting Rights



As the Tribal Council liaison to the Natural Resource Commission,

I have been proud to work with dedicated Tribal commission members who advocate for the respect and enforcement of our aboriginal rights to hunt, fish and gather without interference, and to have access to the waters to do

so. We have met with municipal officials, environmental police, state agencies, yet our rights to fish and hunt are still being interfered with and sometimes Tribal members are even being harassed and physically abused.

Too often, municipalities do not recognize our rights, especially access to waterways. Tribal members often get parking tickets despite displaying their Tribal parking permits. When they contest these tickets in court

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Calendar of Events

Weekly Events

Mondays - 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous, *Maushop Farm, 213 Sampson Mill Rd.*

Mondays - 5:30 p.m.

Youth Cultural Night, *Mashpee Rod and Gun Club*

Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m.

Noun Possession Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Beginner Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.

Prayer, *Old Indian Meeting House*

Thursdays - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Youth Cultural Night, *Rod and Gun Club*

Fridays - 6:00 p.m.

Transitive Inanimate Verb Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

Fridays - 7:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry, *Mashpee Baptist Church*

Sundays - 6:30 p.m.

Evening Worship, *Old Indian Meeting House*

Biweekly - 10:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.

Mashpee Food Pantry, *The food pantry is held on Monday and Wednesday every other week*

Biweekly - 10:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m.

New Bedford Food Pantry, *The food pantry is held on Tuesday and Thursday every other week*

Monthly - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Youth Dance Class at General Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

Monthly - 7:00 p.m.

Chiefs Circle, *Old Indian Meeting House. It is held the first Tuesday of the month.*

Additional Events

August 12 - 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

August 19 - 11:00 a.m.

Richard Bourne Sunday Service, *Old Indian Meeting House*

September 9 - 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*



* Congratulations to **Nonya S. Collier**, granddaughter of the late Elynor Coombs Grant, who graduated from the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania with a MBA this past May.

* Congratulations to **Tara Sabre Collier**, granddaughter of the late Elynor Coombs Grant, who has been awarded the Skull Scholarship from Oxford University, England. This scholarship will be used for her to get a MBA in 2012/2013 at Oxford.

* Congratulations to **Mariah Hendricks**, daughter of Martin "Bruzzy" and Jayne Hendricks. Mariah graduated from AIT schooling on June 14, 2012. She left for tour on July 10 and is now stationed in Japan.

* Congratulations to **Alexis Molokwu** who graduated from Brockton High School on June 1, 2012 with Honors. She is the daughter of William and Valerie Molokwu.

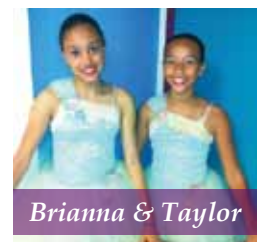
* Congratulations to **Kallie Maxim**, who is a 2012 graduate of Bourne High School.

* Congratulations to **Brianna Cheatham** and **Taylor Rose** for a successful dance recital on June 15. They are both students at the Sandwich Dane Academy Ballet School.

* Congratulations to our very own Mashpee Wampanoag **Brian Weeden** for being elected to the National UNITY Council Executive Committee.



Mariah Hendricks



Brianna & Taylor



Brian Weeden Being Sworn In



MWT Youth Council at UNITY 2012

Child Care Services Available in New Bedford

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Child Care Development Fund is now providing services out of the New Bedford office. For more information about the child care services available through our New Bedford Office or to schedule an appointment, contact child care manager Kitty Hendricks at the Mashpee education office at (508) 419-6017 ext 602, or ghendricks@mwtribe.com.

(Continued on page 3)

Chairman's Message (continued)

cess Tiana Lopes for representing our Tribe with pride, dignity and honor. Tiana is an honor student and a positive role model in our community.

Thank you to the dancers and drummers who competed in the heat of the Powwow weekend, and congratulations to those who won their competitions!

As you know, the theme of this year's Powwow was honoring our future through our youth, and I want to give special recognition to our junior head dancers Kevin Frye Jr. and Keturah Peters for exemplifying our bright future.

This bright future was on display throughout our Powwow, and was mentioned time and again by the Tribal members in attendance. Folks were happy about the great Powwow, the chance to catch up with family, and the good feeling they had about the Powwow and the future of our Tribe. I was honored to be able to speak with so many Tribal members - those who live locally as well as those who were visiting from far away - about the Tribe's advancements.

Again, congratulations to our Tribal family, and thank you to all who helped make it possible!

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell
Qaqemasq (*Running Bear*)

Young Tribal Member Named Youth of the Year

Congratulation to 15-year-old Zachary Edward Avant, son of Edward and Vicki Avant, for being chosen as the Boys and Girls club and the Peterson Air Force Base (AFB) youth of the year. Zachary was chosen for this prestigious award because of his commitment to maintaining a high academic standard and community service. He is rated as the number one freshmen in his class with a GPA of 3.28 and volunteers at a homeless and youth center. Zachary is a mentor in the Peterson AFB youth activities program. Zach made a clean sweep for the award because of his leadership, academic and community service skill sets.

As part of his award package, Zachary received a laptop computer and attended the youth leadership awards banquet in Washington D.C where He met with congressional and military leaders! Zachary believes strongly in making the community a better place and has served as a great role model in his com-



munity. His passion right now is basketball and the martial arts. He is on the Junior Varsity basketball team and holds a blue belt in Kempo Karate. You can see Zachary speak at the following Regional Youth Competition on YouTube www.youtube.com/watch?v=55AXs572EOY.

Moratorium is Lifted on New Citizen Applications

On July 13, 2012 with an Enrollment Committee quorum present, it was unanimously voted to lift the moratorium beginning Friday, July 20, 2012 on new tribal citizen applications.

The Enrollment Ordinance has been updated, approved by the Tribal Council and posted online at mashpeewampanoagtribe.com.

Enrollment applications can be obtained at the Enrollment Office at 766 Falmouth Road, Madaket Place, Unit A3, Mashpee, MA. 02649

For more information, please call the Enrollment Department at (508) 477-6160

Register to Vote



The voter registration deadline in Massachusetts is Wednesday, October 17. Please remember to register and vote in the presidential election on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. It's an important election and your vote counts.

Update on Services from Tribal Health Department

Support Services is doing an assessment for upcoming veteran and diabetic programs. If you or someone you know is a Veteran or a Diabetic, please give Support Services a call to have the Tribal Member's name put on our lists.

Contract Health Forms Due

It is very important that you complete your Eligibility Review Form (ERF) immediately. Contract Health will not be able to assist you with coverage for things like, prescriptions and Co-Pays, etc. if your ERF is not complete. ERFs are available at Tribal Health Support Services.

Commonwealth Care Members

If you have been recently notified that you are eligible for Common-

wealth Care you may still need to enroll in a plan. Please call 1-877-623-6765 to enroll in a health plan.

Schedule Appointment for WIC

Women, Infant and Children's Program (WIC) will be at our Tribal Health Office on August 8. Support Services is taking appointments for WIC now for a start date in August 2012. For more information, please contact Kim Frye or Wendy Pocknett at (508) 477-6967 or call (508) 771-7896 for an appointment.

SNAP Benefits Now Online

If you are enrolled in the Nutrition Assistance Program/SNAP, you can now check the status of your health, food and/or cash assistance benefits online at www.mass.gov/vg/selfservice.

FEMA Workshop

The WIA department, in partnership with FEMA and Parsons Brinckerhoff, will be offering free one-day workshops to anyone interested in being certified as a FEMA independent housing inspector.

The classroom style workshop will give people the opportunity to use the actual computers, and ask questions of an experienced inspector. Ideally candidates will have skilled trades backgrounds and will need to pass a background check.

A FEMA housing inspector is deployed to disaster areas on an on-call basis. Independent contractors receive \$57.50 per inspection. Each inspection takes about 30 minutes with top inspectors performing over 20 inspections a day.

Call Yvonne Tobey, WIA Director, at (508) 419-6017, ext. 606 for additional information.

IN THE NEWS

Protecting Fishing and Hunting Rights *(continued)*

they are usually dismissed, but fighting the tickets means losing a day of pay to go to court. Not many of us can afford to do this, so many Tribal members pay the fine instead. When I am made aware of these tickets, I often work with the municipality to waive the fines so our Tribal members do not have to make the decision to pay the fine or lose pay.

Even more troubling have been instances of different municipalities choosing to ignore our rights, resulting in fines, confrontations, or worse. There is no uniformity between municipalities in how they respect and enforce our rights.

When Chairman Cedric Cromwell appointed me to represent the Tribe as the lead negotiator in Tribal/State Compact negotiations, I asked him if he would support the aboriginal rights provision in the Compact and he offered his full support, as did the Department of Natural Resource Commission.

We saw this as an opportunity

to negotiate with the Commonwealth to ensure that our aboriginal rights are respected and enforced by state officials but also by all municipalities and we will be meeting with the Commonwealth to develop a memorandum of understanding to accomplish this.

In addition, we are and always have been stewards of the waterways in our ancestral homeland. The problems faced with pollution and overfishing are not of our making, but we are uniquely able to help mitigate these problems and heal our waters through identifying the problems and offering solutions. We should be one of the decision makers at the table on any matter concerning the waterways in our homeland.

Some Tribal members have questioned the language in the Compact and tried to construe it as ceding our aboriginal rights. This could not be further from the truth. While the Compact language mentions "certain lands," that is only because the Commonwealth does not have

the ability to enter an agreement with us on federal lands. We deal directly with the federal government to ensure our rights on these federal lands.

Everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion on this Compact; however, it is unfortunate that some may choose to misconstrue the agreement for their own political purposes. The Compact provides simply for an agreement to negotiate. It does not guarantee a resolution. No one has compromised anything. This groundbreaking agreement does nothing to cede our rights, but in fact will serve to avoid any more disrespect of our aboriginal rights by working with the Commonwealth to enforce our aboriginal hunting and fishing rights. The Tribal body will have an opportunity to vote on the aboriginal rights memorandum of understanding (nonbinding vote) between the Tribe and the Commonwealth, then the Tribal Council will vote.

by
Aaron Tobey

Tribal-State Compact Reached and Approved by Tribal Council

successful, fiscally responsible operation for the benefit of the Mashpee Wampanoag people for generations to come.

The Compact includes many important provisions to enhance the economic opportunity and protect the sovereignty of our Tribe. While the Commonwealth will receive an allocation of 21.5% of the future Tribal casino's gross gaming revenues, this revenue sharing is based upon several meaningful concessions made by the Commonwealth, including:



- » Granting exclusive casino gaming rights to the Tribe in Region C;
- » Early and expedited negotiation of a Compact before the completion of the federal land in trust process;
- » Advocacy for expedited Compact approval by the General Court;
- » Advocacy for Compact approval by the Secretary of the Interior;
- » Advocacy for expedited federal acceptance of land in trust for both gaming purposes on the approved site and for non-gaming governmental purposes in and around Mashpee;
- » Attempting to resolve the Tribe's public land claims in and around Mashpee; and



» *Consideration of an agreement to facilitate the exercise of historic Tribal hunting and fishing rights.*

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to our Tribal members, especially our Elders, who have been instrumental in showing support and focus toward reaching our goals. Your perseverance and guidance has made all of this possible.

Over the last several months, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have negotiated in good faith with the goal of providing real economic benefit to all concerned. I want to thank the Governor and his team for their efforts, and I look forward to the continuation of this productive government to government relationship. I also want to thank the Vice Chairman Aaron Tobey, Tribal Council and our gaming project team for their diligence and tireless efforts as we negotiated this Compact.

I would also like to thank Mayor Tom Hoyer and all the people of Taunton for their partnership. The Mashpee Wampanoag people have lived in Southeastern Massachusetts for over 12,000 years, we are deeply invested in this

community, and we are so pleased to bring this enormous opportunity to the entire region.

We have met multiple other milestones in our pursuit of a destination resort casino, including an Inter-governmental Agreement with the City of Taunton, approval of the residents of Taunton in a popular referendum, approval of its gaming ordinance by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and progress on our land in trust application through EIS scoping meetings held by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We have many steps ahead of us in this process, but we are making great progress. Thank you for your continued support!

by
Cedric Cromwell
Qaqemasq (*Running Bear*)



Public Works Ford Aero Tech Van for Sale

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is selling a 1993 Ford Aero Tech passenger van, VIN # 1FDKE30G8PHB95409, which currently resides at Maushop Farm. All Tribal Members are welcome to view and bid on the vehicle. The van is being sold as

is, and it will be the buyer's responsibility to remove the van by his or her own means.

Bidding will begin on Monday, August 13 and end on Friday, August 17. This will be a sealed bid process, and the van will be sold to the highest

bidder. The winning bidder will have until Friday, August 24 to have the van removed from the Farm.

Appointments to see the van can be arranged by phoning Jason Steiding, Public Works Director, at (508) 477-0208, or (774) 238-9967.

A Letter from our 2012 Powwow Director

By all accounts, our 91st Annual Powwow was a success and continued to build on the strong foundation that was built by the previous powwows. Putting on an event of this size takes months of planning and we would not have been able to pull it off without the hard work of our Head Staff, Powwow Committee, volunteers, workers, and vendors.

We also must give thanks to our traditional leaders past and present that looked after us over the weekend. We were honored this year to have Supreme Sachem Ellsworth "Drifting Goose" Oakley, Chief Vernon "Bunny" Lopez, Medicine Man Earl "Soaring Eagle" Cash, Aquinnah Medicine Man Jason Baird, and Earl "Chiefy" Mills, at the powwow to lead our traditional ceremonies.

Each year's powwow is special in its own way, but this year was different because we moved to the Barnstable County Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds were chosen as a temporary location for

many reasons, including its accommodations, and parking. The move proved to be a good, temporary solution and the turnout was great. We received lots of positive feedback about the move as we continue to look for permanent powwow grounds while the new Government Center is being built.

A special thanks goes out to Wendy and Mike and all of their staff at the fair grounds. We couldn't have successfully moved our Powwow to the new location without their support.

As Powwow Director, I would like to give credit to each member of the 2012 Powwow Committee. It's their guidance and support that allows this event to continue year after year.

I also want to acknowledge all of the volunteers that went out of their way to help at the event. Volunteers like, Rhonda Mills, Trish Keliinui, Jim Peters, Joanne Frye, Gary Anderson, Thomas Doherty, Winona Pocknett and Marita Scott. It is the hard work of our volun-

teers that makes sure we are able to staff the Powwow each year.

There is one other person that I would like to recognize; it is our Assistant Director Marcy Hendricks. She worked very hard to ensure this year's Powwow was a success.

Thank you again to each and every person that attended, participated, danced, drummed, hosted a vendor



table, volunteered and worked at our 91st Annual Powwow. We came together as a community, as a whole Tribe, and because of each of you we had a great weekend. And thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 2012 Powwow Director.

By
David Weeden

91st Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow



Honoring our Youth



POWOW

Powwow Princess Keturah Peters



Powwow Committee

- David Weeden, *Director*
- Marcy Hendricks, *Assistant Director*
- Brian Weeden, *Chairman*
- Tia Pocknett, *Secretary*
- Joanne Peters, *Treasurer*
- Charles Foster
- Cheryl Frye-Cromwell
- Daryl Frye Sr.
- Crystal Maddox
- Sherry Pocknett
- Suzette Spinola

POWWOW



Powwow T-Shirts

If you did not get a chance to purchase a 2012 Powwow T-shirt, there is still a limited supply available. We also have copies of the Powwow Program on hand that will be given out on a first come, first served basis. If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt or would like a program, please contact David Weeden at (774) 327-0662.

Sly Fox Muhsh8n Race



2012 Youth Sobriety Powwow

Little Miss Wampanoag

At the 2012 Youth Sobriety Powwow, Anaquhsees Pocknett was chosen as Little Miss Wampanoag. Anaquhs is the daughter of Wendy Pocknett and Mashammoquet Myles. Anaquhs was handed the crown from former Little Miss Wampanoag Kuwah Deetz. Anaquhs ran against seven contestants at the 2012 Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Sobriety Powwow. Congratulations to Anaquhsees and to all of our youth for making this year's youth powwow a success



Anaquhsees, Little Miss Wampanoag

Inaugural Graduate Recognition Brunch

The Education Department sponsored the Inaugural Graduate Recognition Day at the Quashnet Valley Country Club on June 16, 2012. Event hostess Renée Pocknett-Lopes opened the program and introduced many guests including, Pat Weeden (who said the Opening Prayer), Tribal Council President Cedric Cromwell, and Ramona Peters and Yvonne

Tobey who introduced the students who finished special training programs.

The function room was nicely decorated with congratulatory signs and bright balloons. Family, friends and our graduates had a great brunch and were served a nicely decorated cake. Thanks to all who participated and helped to put the program together.



2012 Award Recipients



List of Spring 2012 Mashpee Wampanoag Graduates

College

Shanera Lindsey
Madas Pocknett
Roscell Lopez-Pitts
Alicia Molokwu
Melanie Foxx
Melanie Mulvey
Brianna Pina
Sareeda Grace

High School

C.J. Oakley-Robbins
Alexis Molokwu
Brianna Fernandez
Karryssa Dickerson
Robert Gonsalves III
Dana Alyxandra Oakley
Mikala Murad

Kelli Pires
Cameron Frye
Anthony D. Jones
Christian Oakley
Tiana Lopes
Shawna Newcomb
Jalen Bartlett
Tia Costa
Sassamin Weeden
Stephanie Plummer
Jordan Keliinui
Mariah Gunn
Amanda Frye
Attaquis Lopes-Pocknett
Derrick Gray
Anthony Grace
Zachary Shepherd

Raven Bartlett
Delaney Bartlett
Kallie Maxim

Certified Nursing Assistants

Bethany Lee Helme
Kerri Helme
Ashley Gonsalves
Felicia Peters
Alexandrea Moore
Melody Baptista

Certificate in MicoSoft

Office Works

Brenda Fernandez

Certificates Completed in

Fiber Optics:

Ervin Edwards
Shelly Peters

Roscell Lopez-Pitts
Matthew Lopes
Daryl Green
Skye Soares
Jonathan Helme
Kyle Harding
Paul Rossignol
Russell Peters
George Maddox, Jr.

Certificates

Wendy Pocknett
Kimberly Frye
Stephanie Tobey Roderick
Ann Marie Peters Askew
Jocelyn Gonsalves
Brittany Gonsalves
Shakira Askew

Making History in Tribal Health: DSTAC Meets on Tribal Grounds

Making History...Indian Health Services Director Dr. Yvette Robideaux met with Tribal Leaders and Indian Health Service Administration at our Clinic. The Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC), a national health committee, were on site to conduct its quarterly meeting on our Tribal grounds; it was the first time the group has held a meeting in the Northeast Region. Tribal leaders from 10 regions of the United States that represent their respective nations on Healthcare Issues in Indian Country gathered for three days to address the national health concerns we all face.

In between meetings, we hosted an afternoon of activities for our guests that included a tour of the historical and social places of our people, including the Indian Museum, the herring run, the Old Indian Meeting House and cemetery, Tribal Headquarters, local artisans shops, the beautiful shorelines and bays, Plimoth Plantation and an extraordinary traditional clambake provided by our Natural Resource Commission.



Clambake Hosted by NRC

The mission of the DSTAC is to provide expertise on policies, guidelines, and programmatic issues that impact the delivery of health care for Indian Tribes with the emphasis on national policies that will impact Direct Service Tribes. An establishment of this national committee was a direct result of Indian tribes concerns to the Indian Health Services (IHS) Director and has proven to be extremely effective in addressing our challenges.

The DSTAC is comprised of Tribal Leaders from the Aberdeen, Al-



IHS Director Visiting Health Office

buquerque, Bermidji, Billings, Nashville, Navajo, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, Portland and stands ready to assist, advise and collaborate with IHS officials and representatives, National Indian Health Boards, National Congress of American Indians, United South and Eastern Tribes and Tribal Health Boards relative to the development of the budget and annual performance for the IHS, U.S. Department of Health and Human Service.

We are fortunate to have two Tribal Members on the committee to represent our region. Tribal Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell is the Nashville Area Tribal Representative and Vice Chair and Rita Gonsalves, Health Sys-



DSTAC Tour Tribal Headquarters

tems Administrator, is the Nashville Area Federal Liaison on the DSTAC Committee.

On behalf of the Tribe we would like to sincerely and graciously thank Director of Indian Health Service Dr. Yvette Robideaux for taking the time out of her busy schedule to visit Mashpee and to partially experience a wonderful traditional clambake due to her traveling constraints.

A Special Thanks to U.S. Secretary Kathleen Sebelius for consistently

exercising her phenomenal commitment to Indian Country. It was an honor to have such an important and exciting meeting here in the Northeast region and specifically to host and get the chance to educate other tribal leaders on who the Mashpee Wampanoag people are. We all have a common denominator and that is the passion and desire to always serve out tribal constituents at the best of our abilities.

We opened our Clinical Services on Dec 10, 2011 accompanied with a prior Grand Opening- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with over 200 attendees. Since the opening of the Clinic and with the support of the IHS - Contract Health Services Program and Tribal Health Support Services, tremendous strides have been accomplished in providing quality, comprehensive and culturally sensitive healthcare services to our members and their families. We are committed to continuing the development of healthcare services that will raise the physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological wellness and strengthen and empower our community.

Thank you to Chairman Cromwell for participating in the two and a half day meeting, Tribal Council, Tribal Elders, Tribal Youth Council, Clan Mothers, Darius Coombs for the Educational tour of Plimoth Plantation, Angela Schwom for guiding us through the Museum, Carol Lopez for draping our guest with Wampum and the Natural Resource Commission for sharing the knowledge and experience of a traditional clambake that brought all nations and people closer together on a day that we will all remember including the tribal leaders who had never experienced the East...What a day to REMEMBER!

By Cheryl Frye-Cromwell
Tribal Council



Nashauonk
Mittark™

483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

COMMUNITY

Mashpee Wampanoag Homecoming by Pat Weeden

Greetings to all our friends and family from near and far who attended our Annual Powwow. It was a blessed weekend. Creator sent a few raindrops in the beginning to cleanse our fairgrounds before the events were to take place. Our traditional leaders also smudged the fire, the circle, and all the dancers as they came into Grand Entry.

First, I would like to congratulate each and everyone who came together as a family to make this event possible. It made my heart soar to see all ages from our youth to the elders working diligently, putting in long hours, with all the intense heat and humidity. It was a good and well done job by all, Kutuputash.

Our Wampanoag Nation has been in existence many moons and will be in existence for many moons to come. Our nation greeted the Europeans when they landed, we befriended them at that



time, and we continue today to welcome others to our Native lands. We are proud to have maintained our heritage and ways over all these years. We give heartfelt honor to our ancestors who took the time to share their stories and legends with us. We continue to share knowledge for our future generations to come.

Creator of all, we humble ourselves before you this day. We give you gratitude for all the blessings and gifts you have given us. Help us not take things for granted. Help our world heal, let this be everyone's responsibility, we cannot do this by ourselves. Creator resides in each and every living thing - North, South, East and West. Help our world be a better place for our future generations to come. Miigwetch.

First Light Oysters Sold at Powwow



NRD Oyster Bar at Powwow

The Tribe's First Light Oysters made their debut at this year's Powwow. With the guidance of Cheenulka Pocknett, a professional shucker, we set up our raw bar and sold nearly 400 oysters on Saturday. NRD employees also volunteered at Powwow. Our oysters are sold at oyster bars throughout the northern East Coast and can be purchased at the Lobster Trap Fish Market at the Mashpee rotary.