



Nashauonk Mittark™



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August 2017

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

TAP

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Family,

It's been almost two years since our land was taken into trust. However, our work to forever protect our ancestral homeland and our way of life continues. It continues as we work with the Department of Interior (DOI) to further define our existence as a strong, vibrant tribe with historic ties that date back to the first Europeans that made this land their home too. It continues as we appeal a case that has challenged the DOI's ability to hold our land in trust under category 2. It continues as we explore other alternatives to protect our land.

I'm confident that we'll be successful in our bid to secure our land in trust. We have a strong history that dates back well beyond 1934. It's a fact that cannot be changed and why I'm confident we will be on the right side of history when everything is said and done. There's no questions that we've got a lot of work to get through over the next few months, but we've got a great team that's willing to work right by my side grinding the midnight oil to ensure the Department of Interior receives the supplemental material they've requested.

While I'm confident that we'll be successful in this fight, it's this continuous struggle and the impact it's having on our community that concerns me right now. I know how much anxiety this process can cause and how it can weigh on each and every tribal citizen. I know that we take it personally each time a new group or legal definition questions our status. It hurts. The seemingly endless list of obstacles and moving goals can be exhausting. I worry about you, my tribal family, and how

(Continued on page 3)

Forever Protecting Our Homeland

As the Department of Interior (DOI) analyzes a new avenue to retain the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's sovereign land under category 1, the Tribe is continuing to move forward on several additional tracks that will forever protect its homeland. It's an exhaustive and thorough approach that the Tribe's taking to defend its sovereign rights, which include providing supplemental information to the DOI in support of the application review, a vigorous appeal of a case challenging the DOI's ability to hold the Tribe's land in trust under category 2, and alternative avenues that are being fully explored.

The next steps with the Department of Interior are outlined in a letter from Associate Deputy Secretary James Cason sent to Chairman Cedric Cromwell on June 30. The tribe and the plaintiffs in the lawsuit challenging the land in trust status have until Aug. 31 to submit additional material related to additional analysis Interior is undertaking and then another 60 days, or until Oct. 30, to reply to the opposing submissions, according to Cason's letter.

The supplemental information that will be supplied by the Tribe will help the DOI further analyze an aspect of the case that had not been previously explored: whether the state's authority over the tribe could be considered in place of the federal government's

authority in determining whether it met one of the alternative definitions of Indian required for land to be taken into trust on its behalf.

Cason wrote in the letter "To ensure a thorough analysis of this complex issue, I therefore request supplemental briefing from the parties on the question of whether the exercise of authority over the tribe by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts could be considered a surrogate for federal jurisdiction for purposes of the (Indian Reorganization Act's) first definition of 'Indian.'"

The letter from Cason also reiterated that the 151 acres in Taunton and 170 acres in Mashpee remains in trust.

While no dates have been announced for the appeal of a case challenging the DOI's category 2 decision, the Tribe is going to vigorously prosecute the appeal. It's the position of the Tribe to examine all avenues available under the law in order to protect its ancestral homelands, while the issue of legal categories works its way through the courts.

Chairman Cromwell sees several tracks that will accomplish the Tribe's goal. "We will continue our existing appeal while working closely with the Interior on more options to forever protect our land base, bring thousands of jobs to Southeastern Massachusetts, and secure a prosperous future for the Tribe and the entire region."

Tribal Leaders attend Self-Governance Training Session

At the end of July the Falmouth Institute, widely recognized as the premier training company in Indian Country, held a training session title "Roles and Responsibilities of Tribal Board and Council Members" at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. The two-day program provided council members and active leaders in the community with specific skills to help them lead and govern their Tribal Nation.

Falmouth Institute offers this pro-

gram as a way to help Native Americans become effective board or tribal council members. Attendees were able to develop skills and knowledge that will help them work harmoniously with peers, resolve conflict and learn the art of compromise to achieve a specified goal. In addition, the program covered financial issues, government-to-government relations, group dynamics, leadership, conflict resolution, staff evaluation, self-governance, and board/council liability.

(Continued on page 5)

Events Calendar

New Events

August 1 - 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
National Night Out, *Mashpee Police and Fire Department Field*

August 13 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Body Meeting, *MWTCGC*

August 24 - 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
All Nations Back to School, *NAICOB*

August 27 - 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Church Without Walls, *Mashpee Community Park*

September 10 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Body Meeting, *MWTCGC*

Weekly Events

Tuesdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Elders Lunch & Learn, *MWTCGC*

Tuesdays and Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Coed Volleyball, *Mashpee Pond*

Wednesdays - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Tribal Health Yoga Classes with Yoga Neighborhood, *MWTCGC*

Thursdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Elders Lunch & Learn, *MWTCGC*

Fridays - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley, *MWTCGC*

Sundays - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley, *MWTCGC*

Food Pantry Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Narragansett Indian Tribe's 342nd Annual August Meeting

August 12 & 13, 2017 at the Narragansett Indian Church Grounds (off Route 2, Charlestown, RI). Gates Open at 10 a.m. each day. Grand Entry at 1 p.m. each day. \$6 adults and \$2 children.

Angela Shwom Joins IHS

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Services (IHS) unit is pleased to announce the recent hire of its new Medical Support Assistant Angela Shwom. Angela joins the team with a strong background in Indian services and will be assisting administratively with clinic duties in her new role. Her position will allow her to provide support at patient registration and referrals and improve overall clinic operations.

Angela has over 20 years of grant administration representing tribal governments, Health Alliance Hospital and tribal nonprofit urban service centers. She is a certified Medical Assistant and a graduate of Fisher College. Angela will be returning to college in the fall to pursue a degree in health administration.



Angela is a member of the Peters family and is the daughter of Anne W. Peters and John Marcellino, sr.

Cienne Shines at Wareham High School

In June Wareham High School held a celebratory dinner to honor a special group of students that have excelled academically over the past year. Among the small group of students that were honored for being in the top 10% of their class was Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Citizen Cienne Jade Fernandes. Cienne is a Junior at Wareham High School and is the daughter of Michelle Fernandes and the youngest of four daughters and one younger brother. Congratulations Cienne on your academic achievements. We look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Cienne carries the name "One



Who Follows Her Own Path." This name suits her well and continues to be an example to her entire family.

Lisa Lopes-Berry, RN Joins IHS

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Services (IHS) unit is pleased to announce the recent hire of its new Nursing Clinic Supervisor Lisa Lopes-Berry, RN. Lisa has a background in emergency medicine, community nursing and case management. Three areas of service that will allow IHS to continue to enhance the service it provides to its clients.

Lisa is a lifelong resident of Mashpee and is grateful and excited about her new position and working with her patients. "I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you, please stop by and introduce yourself," said Lisa.

If you are not already a patient of Indian Health Services please call (508) 477-6967 today, so that they can start your journey of health. Lisa is available by phone or in person at the Mashpee Health Service Unit, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Chairman's Column

(continued)

the anxiety is affecting us as whole.

I'm worried that the anxiety we all carry inside of us will have a very real impact on our community for years to come...long after these legal appeals and document submissions are completed. It's why I urge you to talk with our traditional leaders about any anxiety you hold onto and try to remember that our culture and faith is something that can never be taken - we were Wampanoag yesterday, we're Wampanoag today and we'll be Wampanoag tomorrow.

Many tribal members have talked to me about how this process and the uncertainty has weighed on them. I feel it too. However, we should all know that our future remains bright.

Let's remember that we've got an amazing group of young men and women that will ensure our Tribal Nation continues to thrive and grow for generations to come. In fact, as I sit at my desk writing this month's column I can hear our tribal youth at summer Turtle Camp and Preserve Our Homeland Camp learning our culture and language and developing a strong identity. It's a beautiful sound and I'm so grateful that the Creator has blessed us with such amazing children. These kids are bright, energetic and proof that Mashpee will Shine.

Kutâputunumuw;



Cedric Cromwell
Qaqeemasq
(Running Bear)

Attaquin Weeden Chosen for Earth Ambassadors Leadership Program

United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY) announced last month the recipients of the 2017 UNITY Earth Ambassadors Leadership Program. Among the 10 youth that were chosen from across Indian Country is Mashpee Wampanoag Citizen Attaquin Weeden. Attaquin along with his classmates are the second group to be honored through this Environmental Stewardship program, which was reinstated in 2015 thanks in part to a matching grant awarded to UNITY by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC).

Attaquin, who also serves as a Cultural Resource Monitor in the Tribal Historic Preservation Department (THPD), sees this as an extension of the work he's already doing to protect the environment. "Having the opportunity to work in the THPD is wonderful especially as an Earth Ambassador," said Attaquin. "When ever I'm out in the field I have the opportunity to save any type of cultural belonging and maybe even some beautiful forest at times, but the best part about it is being able to come across artifacts that were hand crafted by our ancestors years ago. I see it as being the closest thing to traveling back in time as you can get."

Attaquin added "I've been blessed with wonderful opportunities and I plan to walk this path with my best foot forward doing what's right by our 'Mother Earth'."

issues affecting the environmental quality on Native lands, and promoted the efforts to address environmental concerns within the nation's Native communities. Topics focused on, but were not be limited to, recycling, conservation, regeneration, and restoration.

The 2017 class of the UNITY Earth Ambassadors Leadership Program includes:

- Nicholas Call, 15, Yamasee Seminole - Orange Springs, FL
- Damien Carlos, 18, Tohono O'odham Nation - Sells, AZ
- Tristan Joe, 17, Navajo Nation - Kirtland, NM
- Raeanna Johnson, 15, Navajo Nation - Hardrock, AZ
- Tatiana Ticknor, 18, Dena'ina/Tlingit - Anchorage, AK
- Sonwai Wakayuta, 16, Hualapai - Kingman, AZ
- Attaquin Weeden, 21, Mashpee Wampanoag - Mashpee, MA
- Jazmine Wildcat, 14, Northern Arapaho - Riverton, WY
- Journey Zephier, 17, Yankton Sioux - Kapaa, HI
- Rainbow Star Zephier, 15, Yankton Sioux - Kapaa, HI

The newly selected ambassadors were nominated by a member of their community, meeting criteria that included demonstrating leadership potential, showing an interest in protecting the environment, and experience and participation in community service projects. They will receive leadership training and be officially recognized at the National UNITY Conference in Denver, Colorado, July 6 - 10, 2017.

"We are excited about this new class of Earth Ambassadors! They are committed young people who care deeply about Mother Earth. We look forward to what they will recommend to help preserve and protect our ecosystem. We are thankful to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community for its commitment to youth and protecting the environment," said Mary Kim Titla, UNITY Executive Director.

In addition, the UNITY Earth Ambassadors were provided special opportunities, coordinated through UNITY, to take their message to tribal and governmental agency representatives, as well as lawmakers and others committed to environmental stewardship.



Thanks to another matching grant awarded this year by the SMSC Attaquin's class was able to attend training sessions and informational workshops increasing their knowledge of environmental issues affecting Native America. They also learned to serve as an ambassador to increase awareness of the

All Nations Back to School Event

The North American Indian Center of Boston at 105 South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain in Boston will be hosting the All Nations Back to School event on Thursday, August 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event is for all native youth from kindergarten to 12th grade. Parents must accompany all children ages 8 and under.

RSVP is required by calling NA-ICOB at (617) 277-4804.

Federal Bills Could Help Mashpee Tribe *from the Mashpee Enterprise*

A subcommittee of the US Congress could help the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in its efforts to solidify land previously granted in trust in Mashpee and Taunton.

The House Committee on Natural Resources's Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs heard testimony from four witnesses on Thursday, July 13, during a hearing on a proposal to update the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act.

During the hearing, several members of the subcommittee said that they would like to move forward with a "clean Carcieri fix."

Carcieri is a 2009 US Supreme Court case that complicated the land status of tribes that received federal recognition after the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The act allowed tribes previously recognized by the federal government to govern themselves on their land.

The subcommittee has taken up two bills proposed by Congressman Thomas J. Cole (R-Oklahoma) that address a possible fix.

One would allow all federally recognized tribes to receive land in trust regardless of when a tribe became recognized. The Mashpee tribe was not federally recognized until 2007.

The other would reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust for federally recognized tribes, which could help tribes battling lawsuits throughout the country, including the Mashpee Wampanoag.

In 2015, Taunton residents sued the Mashpee tribe in US District Court in Boston over its plans to build a casino on the tribe's land in trust in Taunton.

The federal judge in that case ruled in favor of the Taunton residents, saying that the tribe did not qualify to receive land in trust. But he left the door open to a possible legal avenue for the tribe to qualify.

Meanwhile, the Interior Department has affirmed that the Mashpee Wampanoag continue to hold the land in Mashpee and Taunton in trust, barring a court order specifically nullifying that status.

Although Rep. Cole filed the bills in January, tribes, as well as the congressman, have doggedly pursued a Carcieri fix following the 2009 decision that found that the US Department of the Interior could only grant land in trust for tribes "under federal jurisdiction" as of 1934. The court decision stymied an application seeking land in trust for the Narragansett Tribe, which did not receive federal recognition until 1983.

The Mashpee tribe fully supports any amendment to the 1934 act that would address Carcieri.

"Legislation designed to protect the



land of federally recognized tribes is clearly a positive development," Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council chairman Cedric Cromwell said. "As a legal matter, the Carcieri ruling complicated matters for tribes that received federal acknowledgement after the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act.

"But morally, especially when you consider that fact that our ancestors made it possible for the first settlers to survive here, it would be a grave injustice for any federally recognized tribe to be landless and not have a base from which to develop our tribal economies," Mr. Cromwell said.

It is unclear following the July 13 hearing when the subcommittee would bring a bill forward. Members took the oral and filed testimony under advisement after the hearing.

Kirk Francis Sr., Chief of the Penobscot Tribal Nation in Maine and president of a regional tribal entity, as a witness at the July 13 hearing, spoke to the importance of tribes gaining self-determination through land in trust.

Mr. Francis said that tribes across the country have been caught up in lawsuits because of Carcieri. The legal actions, he said, not only affect those tribes but the communities surrounding them and the nation as a whole.

He said that where tribes have land in trust, they benefit the local governments and towns around them, and that trust land provides housing, schools, and the services needed to govern land independently. It is also "the very core of cultural identity," he said.

"The goals of the [Indian Reorganization Act] remain unfilled," Chief Francis said in his opening remarks. "To date, only about 10 percent of the tribal lands lost have been restored."

Congress's intention behind the 1934

act, he said, was to allow tribes to rebuild after 200 years of wrongs brought by the US government. Amending that act now would help several tribes in self-determination.

But not all at the hearing favored the proposal to update the act.

Donald C. Mitchell, an attorney from Alaska who has been involved in tribal legal matters there, said in his testimony that the intent of the original 1934 congressional act was clearly stated in that tribes recognized as of 1934 could earn land in trust.

Mr. Mitchell said that Congress intended the legislation as an opportunity for Native Americans residing on reservations that existed in 1934 to integrate as tribes into the local communities and economies. Congressmen in 1934, he said, thought they were passing a bill to buy back land inside the boundaries of Indian reservations to undo the loss of land ownership by Indians.

Comments that Mr. Mitchell made during a discussion of the rigor of becoming a federally recognized tribe drew an emotional backlash from a number of people attending the hearing.

Mr. Mitchell had said it's not tough at all to become a tribe "if you have the right lobbyists," which, with a Carcieri fix, would lead to more land in trust affecting surrounding communities.

But Chief Francis said that it takes many tribes several years, or even decades, to earn federal recognition. Tribes must prove their presence, culture, language, and governance for several years.

The July 13 hearing also touched on the current Interior Department staff and how it would react to a change in the law.

James E. Cason, acting associate deputy secretary with the Interior Department, did not offer his opinion on a potential fix of

(Continued on page 5)

8th Annual Tribal Health Fair

The Mashpee Wampanoag Health and Human Services Department hosted its 8th annual Tribal Health Fair on Saturday, July 22. The focus this year was mental health awareness.

The two-hour event was held at the Tribe's Community and Government Center.

The program featured guest speakers Kim Lemmon, outreach coordinator for the National Alliance of Mental Illness for the Cape & Islands and Kevin Rosario, regional outreach representative from Gosnold.

In addition, the health fair included drumming and dancing exhibitions, an assortment of traditional Wampanoag food such as

stuffed quahogs and seafood chowder, Native crafts, raffle and door prizes.



Photos from Artisan Festival



Self-Governance Training Session *(continued)*

Tribal Council Member Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, who attended the training, found the program to be very beneficial as the Tribe continues down the road of self-governance. "I think we all walked away with a renewed vision and commitment to what we do and who we do it for," said Cheryl. "It was a comprehensive program that packed a lot into the two days, but the case studies, exercises and in-depth discussions allowed us to make connections between the topics and the issues were facing in our community. I'm glad we were able to make this training happen."

Cheryl added "it's so important that we have a strong understanding of our roles as government officials when it comes to the separation of operations and governance.

Government work trickles into operations and community services however, we as legislators must look at the bigger picture to effectively govern."

The Falmouth Institute was founded to provide quality and comprehensive education and information services to the North American Indian community. They are committed to assisting their clients in addressing the challenges posed by self-governance issues and policies developed by government agencies entrusted to assist Indian tribes. They have worked with nearly all of the Indian nations in the United States, meeting their complex, ever changing educational needs and assisting them in refining or restructuring their organizations.

Federal Bills *(continued)*

Carcieri when asked by the subcommittee, although he said it would make the land-in-trust decision process in the department simpler.

"The Cole bill would make it possible for all federally recognized tribes as of today to have tribe lands taken into trust," he said.

Mr. Cason has worked on the recent Mashpee Wampanoag case.

Ranking subcommittee member Norma J. Torres (D-California) pushed Mr. Cason, who was named to his position by the Trump Administration, on how he would rule in the Interior Department on land-in-trust cases.

"During your previous tenure, as an associate deputy director at [Department of the Interior] under the Bush Administration, tribes felt there was a de facto moratorium on land into trust acquisitions," Rep. Torres said. "Rightfully, now tribes are concerned there will be a repeat of that policy in your current tenure."

Mr. Cason said that at the time of the Bush Administration, the department had been sued for departmental malfeasance by a number of tribes with land in trust, so they chose not to take more land into trust at the time. The major lawsuit was eventually settled, he said. "It was a different time," he said.

Mr. Cason said that during the Obama Administration, the department used "loose" criteria for determining land in trust. "I would be surprised if any tribe was denied under the Obama Administration," he said.

Several subcommittee members, including Rep. Torres, said that they hoped to move forward with the bills.

"While we can never fully make up for what took place, there is no question the return of land to its rightful owner, tribes, is critical to restoring tribal life," the congressman said.

The chairman of the subcommittee, Douglas L. LaMalfa (R-California), pushed for a fix. The failure to achieve one, he said, had been frustrating.

"This is something we need to get right," Rep. LaMalfa said.

By Sam Houghton

96th ANNUAL MASHPEE W



WAMPANOAG POWWOW



96th Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow Winners

Contest Winners

Golden Age Category (All participants)

Elena Moraza-Pollard
Erin Meeches
Dawn Dove
Carol Wynne
Cheryl Frye-Cromwell
Martin "Bruzzy" Hendricks
Dean Stanton
Bert Waters
James Keith Philips
Albert Sargent
Rob Green

Drum

Indian Creek
Red Hawk
Eastern Suns

Jr. Girls Fancy

Ciara Hendricks
Arlana Andrade
Amiyah Peters

Jr. Girls Jingle

Madison Strickland
Anaquhsees Pocknett
Nitana Perry

Jr. Girls Traditional

Summer Hazard
Renee Everett
Paris Hendricks

Jr. Boys Grass

Hiawatha Paul
Napowsa Pocknett
Enapay Frye

Jr. Boys Fancy

Jayden Spencer

Jr. Boys Traditional

Ezra Helme
Yoyatche Harris
Michael Jackson

Teen Girls Jingle

Alyssa Mosely
Kaya Sawni Turner
Sipsis Paul

Teen Girls Fancy

Sherente Harris
Rosalee Brown
Shaila Hazard

Teen Girls Traditional

Chenoa Peters
Aiyana Hicks
Tiana Everett

Teen Girls Eastern Blanket

Sequoyah Burrell
Daycia Frye
Katie Balbuena

Teen Boys Grass

DJ Peters
Mishquawtuk Mars
Mishquashim Zamora

Teen Boys Fancy

Missugken Zamora

Teen Boys Traditional

Ceasar Hendricks
Jahsiel Morgan
Ridge Burrell

Teen Boys Eastern War

Iyano Fermino
Pharoah Helme
Nkeke Harris

Women's Jingle

Savanah Philips
Aquayah Peters
Kendra Eaglestar

Women's Fancy

Cory Ridgeway
Sassamin Weeden
Chayna Hendricks

Women's Northern Traditional

Love Richardson
Victoria Miranda
Mykilee Driver

Women's Southern Traditional

Sparrow Plainbull
Althnageebah Myles
Madas Pocknett Strickland

Men's Fancy

Urie Ridgeway
Eric Plainbull

Men's Northern Traditional

Cheenuka Pocknett
Attaquin Weeden
Asta Zah

Men's Southern Traditional

Will Mosley
Carl Green
AJ Pierce

Men's Eastern War

John Thomas III
Norman Machado
Tatanka Gibson

Men's Fancy

Albert Zamora
Niyu Moraza Keeswood
Duncan Munson

Applying for Education Scholarships

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department is pleased to share the scholarship application dates for the fall school semester. Applications for the fall semester will be available from June 15, 2017 thru September 15, 2017. Applications will be available on the start date of availability and students are encouraged to submit their completed applications as soon as possible.

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe scholarship applications will be available on the Tribe's website www.mashpeewampanoag-

tribe-nsn.gov on the Education Department page. You may also pick up a hard copy of the application in the lobby of the Tribal Community and Government Center. Completed applications must be mailed to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department at 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649 or hand delivered. Applications must be received or postmarked by September 15, 2017. Faxed applications will no longer be accepted.

Please remember to complete all

fields in the application, as incomplete applications will not receive funding. Also, all documents must be submitted together. For more information, please contact Anne Foxx in the Education Department at (508) 477-0208 ext 151 or at anne.foxx@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

Emergency Management Conducts CERT Training

For the second year the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Emergency Management Department has conducted a comprehensive Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. The purpose of the training is to provide members of the surrounding community and tribal citizens with the training and resources required to assist their community in the event of any and all emergency situations. This year's class included 10 graduates that completed the program in July and several other students that completed the training but will be taking the final exam at a later date.

Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews, Jr. is a certified CERT instructor and has facilitated the trainings for the past two years. The program covers a wide range of potentially hazardous situations including disaster preparedness, disaster medical, search and rescue and terrorism. Each student is required to complete the mandatory 20 hours needed to obtain the certification. All graduates receive a certificate and will receive

CERT backpacks and field operations guides.

These new graduates of the Tribal CERT Basic Training are now better prepared to help themselves and to help others in the event of a catastrophic disaster. By using this training they can make a difference by using their CERT training to save lives and protect property within the Tribal community.

If you or someone that you know may be interested in signing up for the next Tribal CERT training please contact Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews at nelson.andrews@mwtribe-NSN.gov or at (508) 477-5800 ext 15 or Emergency Management Specialist Allyssa Hathaway at allyssa.hathaway@mwtribe-NSN.gov or at (508) 477-5800 ext 13.

The Emergency Management Department is here to support tribal citizens to ensure that as a sovereign nation we work together to make all reasonable efforts to prevent and mitigate against all hazards, prepare for and respond to emergencies, and initiate recovery activities on our own, whenever possible.



Our Children Need You! Foster an ICWA Child



ICWA is currently seeking foster parents. Do you have room in your heart to provide a Native American foster home for our future generations? Our Native children of all ages, from infancy to teens, are being removed from their families at an alarming rate by the Department and Families and are being placed in non-native homes.

ICWA is in high need of stable and nurturing families to care for our children and be reunited with their parents.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a foster family, emergency placement, and respite care please contact Catherine Hendricks, ICWA Director, at (508) 477-0208 ext 144.

Are you a Veteran?

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Veteran Supportive Services is looking for ways to give back, BUT WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!

We will be collaborating with the Veterans Outreach Center and want you to share your vision as to how we can help you in your times of need and coordinate services.

Please complete the form below, attach a copy of your DD214, Photo ID, and Social Security Card and send it back to:

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
HHS Veteran Supportive Services
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649
Attention: Cassie Jackson

For more information please contact:
Cassie Jackson
Emergency Service Specialist
(508) 477-0208 Ext. 142

Veteran's Support Services Form

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Start Date _____ End Date _____

Rank _____

Branch _____

War _____

Duty Station _____



TAP Coordinating Rides to Recovery Meetings

If you are a person in recovery and willing to provide a safe ride to the meeting you attend please contact Tracy Kelley at (508) 477-0208 ext. 150. Your phone number and the town

where your meeting is located will be listed in the Mittark monthly, but not your name. Kutâputush!



DEPARTMENTS

Old Indian Meeting House Recovery Meetings

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Health and Human Services Department Substance Abuse Program has organized weekly recovery meetings for anyone seeking support. The recovery meetings are being held every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House located at 410 Meetinghouse Road in Mashpee.

If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Tobey-Roderick at (774) 228-3334 or Gail Costa at (774) 228-3268. Stephanie and Gail are both licensed alcohol and drug

counselors in the Tribe's Substance Abuse Program.



The MIPPA Program Brings Medicare Counselor to Tribe

Tribal Health was recently awarded a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services that will allow for a Medicare counselor to be on site at the Tribal Community and Government Center. The Medicare counselor will be available to assist our tribal citizens by providing unbiased health insurance information and assistance with the following:

- Medicare Part D and other prescription drug programs
- Compare Medigaps to Medicare Advantage plans and their costs and benefits
- Assist with billing problems and appeals
- Prevent consumers from buying unnecessary or duplicate coverage
- Help prepare enrollment forms and applications for assistance

Medicare counselors help seniors and disabled adults understand their rights and benefits under Medicare and other health insurance and related low income assistance programs. All information is kept strictly confidential.

Assistance for this program is made available through the Department of Health and Human Services' Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) grant that was awarded to the Title VI Native American Programs.

For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact Tribal Health Supportive Services Resource and Enrollment Specialist Wendy Pocknett at wendy.pocknett@mwtribe-nsn.gov or at (508) 477-0208 ext 166.

Silver Diamine Fluoride at Dental Clinic

The Mashpee Wampanoag Family Dental Clinic has started using a new product called Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF). This new treatment is now being used throughout Indian Health Services (IHS), and is beginning to be used by dentists across the country.

Here are a Few Facts about SDF

- It is an antibiotic liquid.
- It is used on cavities to help stop tooth decay and decrease sensitivity.
- It is very effective in stopping tooth decay.
- Application can stop decay 60-75% of the time.
- Applications can stop the decay 80-95% of the time.
- It does not require any needles or anesthesia.
- You may notice a metallic taste after application, which will go away quickly.
- When successful, decayed tooth structure becomes stained and very hard and often root canals and extractions can be avoided if the decay is treated early enough and the treated

areas are kept clean with good care.

There are a Few Risks

Decayed areas will stain black or brown; healthy tooth will not stain. But, stained areas in visible areas can be replaced with a tooth-colored filling or a crown.

If accidentally applied to the skin or gums, a brown or white stain may appear, that causes no harm, and will disappear in 1-3 weeks.

Tooth colored fillings and crowns may discolor. Most of these color changes can be polished off, but the edge between the tooth and the filling may keep the color.

Contraindications: Reasons Not to Use SDF

- Allergy to Silver
- Pregnant
- Active painful sores or ulcers present in mouth

The Mashpee Wampanoag Dental clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment please call the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit - IHS at (508) 477-6967

Transcending Historical Trauma

We will now continue with our series on Historical Trauma which impacts Indian people today across this vast land. Judy Bluehorse Skelton, Adjunct Professor at Portland State University's Graduate School of Education is one of the many who are helping to heal historical trauma by educating her community, Native and non-native. *Wisdom of the Elders, Inc. (WISDOM)* recently recorded her for the *Discovering Our Story Project: Thanks to the Wisdom of the Elders, we are able to present what was stated in the recording.*

Transcending Historical Trauma

Haida story keeper, Woodrow Morrison continued:

Over the years, after Woody became a lawyer, he returned to explore his people's spirituality.

I got invited to go to a sweat. It was a woman who invited me because it was for her birthday. There were a bunch of us and my reason for going to the sweat had nothing to do with spirituality. And I knew what it was going to be. It was going to be dark, and it was going to be hot, and it was going to be sweaty.

So this was what went through my mind and I went into that sweat.

And it wasn't very long before I suddenly saw what I had become. I wanted no part of that and I yelled, "let me the hell out of here!" and I forced my way out. I wanted no part of that.

It was a couple weeks later, I was convinced. This guy practically twisted my arm to get me in the sweat again, and this was in Albuquerque, New Mexico. And I decided, I'm going to face me. It was the first time that I can recall crying since I was a kid. And I was ashamed of myself. And I walked out after four rounds.

This Navajo guy came up and he put his arm around my shoulder and says, "Congratulations, Woody. Now you're weak enough to be a man."

Woody's anger began to subside. Today, a treasured elder and Haida story keeper, he utilizes his education and culture to help others transform abuses and anger by exploring their own heritage.

Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction

The article we are sharing this month addresses a critical aspect of the ICWA law, *Termination of Parental Rights as written in the "Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action" developed by the Native Nations Institute and NICWA.* We will continue to examine *Termination of Parental Rights and the impact that it may have on grandparents.*

Grandparent Rights

One issue that commonly arises in tribal communities has to do with the protection of the rights of grandparents. In mainstream child welfare systems, the rights of grandparents to their grandchildren often are tied to parental rights. In such cases, when parental rights are terminated, so are the rights of the grandparents. But in tribal communities grandparents are more likely to play a critical role in the lives of children,

a role that may be different from but complementary to the role of parents. They often are directly involved in childcare, child rearing, and the integration of children into tribal culture and community.

While the codes reviewed did not specify grandparent rights or roles in child welfare processes, tribes may want to consider providing legal protections of the rights of grandparents or find other ways of assuring that, if it is perceived as beneficial in a given situation, grandparents continue to play prominent roles as guardians, mentors, or teachers in the lives of children involved. Such provisions may need to provide mechanisms to manage potential conflicts among parents, guardians, adoptive parents, and grandparents.

Peacemaking

Restorative Justice Practices of Native American, First nation and other Indigenous People of North America: Part One
By Laura Mirsky

The following articles will relate to Peacemaking and the Justice system. I have edited some of the material to make it cohesive and easy to read. Various tribes have included Peacemaking in their justice systems and provide a wealth of knowledge about the Peacemaking process. We will examine the Navajo Peacemaking process. It is a traditional method of Indigenous justice.

The Chief Judge of the Navajo Nation, Robert Yazzie stated, "I've been a judge all my life. I've handled cases; I've been a chief justice; I've written opinions; but my emphasis was peacemaking." America responds to crime after the fact, not before the fact. All native tribes prior to colonization focused on prevention by teaching and training children, this was the way of the community. The whole community was involved in teaching the children traditional ways. However, the raising of our children was hindered by the Europeans, and the U. S. government and continues to this day. Indian children are attracted to the outside world, influenced by the music industry and other cultural forces. Tribes try to teach kids about the traditional life way, but without a strong family life and a strong traditional-language background it is difficult.

A number of the life way teachings are about the spirit of nature, said Yazzie. "Some of the prayers and the teachings address the significance of where the sun comes up. What the children should be taught is the paradigm - the method of thinking, that there is a thought that begins with every day. Thinking, speaking, the ability to plan."

The Navajo process helps an offender realize that what he or she has done is incorrect. The process brings the offender and the victim together. "The first order of business the relatives would do in the process is to get to the bottom of a problem," In court, I would sue you for battery and the state would say we have to prove all the elements of a crime and use the law to prove that you are guilty. What matters here is: why did this act happen in the first place? There's a reason why the harm has occurred. Let's deal with that. Maybe we have a history of problems between the two of us. If we can get to the bottom of a problem, all the other stuff will fall into place. The damage can be acknowledged by you, and I can go away happy knowing that you say you're not going to do it again"

Gaming Authority Golfing for a Cause

Last month the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Gaming Authority stepped up as a sponsor of the Mashantucket Golf Tournament. All of the funds raised at the tournament went directly to the American Cancer Society and cancer research.





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COMMUNITY



Summer Camps Combine Culture and Fun

On July 10 tribal youth kicked off six weeks of culturally based education, language and fun at this year's Neekun (Our House), Preserving Our Homeland (POH), and Summer Turtle camps. Youth are separated into several programs and groups based on age with daily activities designed to immerse our youth in their traditions and heritage along with some good old fashioned summer fun activities.

This year's summer youth camps are a collaboration among the Education Department, The Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP)/Language Department, Natural Resources Department, and Youth Department.

Campers this summer experience a wide-range of programs including traditional songs, dancing, language classes, gardening at the farm, fishing, and frequent trips to Mashpee and Johns Pond to cool off. In addition, the staff was able to coordinate field trips to Heritage Museum and Gardens, Cape Cod Inflatable Park, Plimoth Plantation and to the movie theatre.



In addition to the daily camp activities the POH track, which runs three days per week for students between 10-13, gives the older students advanced programming to challenge their abilities. Activities in POH range from canoeing and hiking to geology and mapping. There's also trips scheduled to Sage Lot Pond to survey and measure fish, the Woods Hole Science Aquarium and to the Na-

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's Stellwagen Bank to study sea turtles and sea birds.

Summer camps will conclude on Friday, August 18 with a special ceremony, class presentations and a family clambake, which the students will help prepare. Each camper is able to bring two guests to the clambake. Additional tickets may also be purchased for \$20 each if additional family members would like to attend.

