



# Nashauonk Mittark™



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DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Message



Wuneekeesuq Nutawâm (Greetings to my Tribal Community),

This is truly an exciting time for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe! With the passage of the expanded gaming bill, we have a real opportunity to move our Tribe forward by creating good jobs and providing additional funding for housing, healthcare, education, economic development issues, and cultural programs and as a whole the uplift of our tribal nation. We have many hurdles still to cross, but we are one giant step closer to realizing our goal of operating a destination resort casino. Working smart and hard, we will succeed and our tribal nation will win as promised.

The progress on the gaming legislation has been possible with the concerted efforts of a great team of committed people. I appreciate their support, focused work ethic and collaboration and working with me to get the job done. I also thank our tribal community for the outpouring of support and good medicine you

## Massachusetts Expands Gaming

**T**he Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is poised to realize its goal of operating a destination resort casino in southeastern Massachusetts with the passage of an expanded gaming bill. The bill, which authorizes three resort casinos and one slot parlor, designates southeastern Massachusetts as the dedicated region in which the Tribe can work with the state to build and operate its casino.

The bill gives the Tribe and the Governor until July 31, 2012 to reach a compact which must also be approved by the legislature. In addition, the host community will need to approve gaming in a referendum.

"I am ecstatic about the passage of the bill," Chairman Cedric Cromwell remarked. "Today is an important day for the Mashpee



Wampanoag Tribe and our neighbors. We're excited to get to work quickly on a destination resort casino that will bring jobs, revenue, and increased tourism to southeastern Massachusetts."

## Health Center Grand Opening

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and Indian Health Services will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the Health Center. The grand opening and ribbon cutting will be held on Saturday, December 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Health Center, 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee. Tribal Members, family, friends and neighbors are invited to attend the



grand opening ceremony. For more information, please call Cheryl Fry-Cromwell at (508) 477-6912.

## 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*

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

Youth Cultural Night, *Rod and Gun Club* (dinner is provided)

**Fridays - 6:00 p.m.**

Transitive Inanimate Verb Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

**Fridays - 7:00 p.m.**

Youth Ministry, *Mashpee Baptist Church*

**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*

**Bimonthly - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Youth Dance Class, *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

**Dec. 10 - 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Health Center Grand Opening, 483 *Great Neck Road South*

**Dec. 11 - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Holiday Business Card Exchange, *MWT Headquarters*

**Dec. 11 - 2:00 p.m.**

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

**Dec. 18 - 11:00 a.m.**

2nd Annual Christmas Service, *Old Indian Meetinghouse*



\* **Brooklyn Amaya Cardoza** was born October 20 at 6:06 a.m. to Jeremy "Brett" Cardoza and Marissa DiCarlo. Brooklyn weighed 6 lb 14.8 oz. and 19 inches. Brooklyn is very healthy baby girl and growing fast! Congratulations!

\* **Cameron Frye**, Senior at Bishop Feehan High School shines as the running back averaging 100 plus yards and a minimum of a touchdown each game. Cameron is a scholar student who has received honor roll throughout middle school and into his high school years including this semester. With less than six months of high school Cameron is actively pursuing his college search and plans to study Politics and Law with a minor in Business. We are proud of Cameron's achievements and wish him well.



## Chef John and Robin's Diabetes Workshop and Cooking Class



We hope you can make it to the very first Tribal Diabetes Workshop and Cooking Class on Saturday, December 17 at 1:00 p.m. at The Mashpee Senior Center.

Chef John and Robin will go over some important basics for anyone interested in learning more about diabetes. There will be professionals on hand to answer any medical questions you may have. A great sampling of healthy delicious food choices will be served along with recipes and ideas for healthy snacking! Whether you are a diabetic or know someone who is and want to learn more, please come and join us for this fun class and enjoy some great food!

For more information, please call the Health Department at (508) 477-6967.

## Chairman's Message *(continued)*

have provided during this effort. I have heard from many tribal members with very positive support towards the positive advancement of our tribe over the past 2 ½ years since I have been in office.

I have assigned different members of our tribal government to work closely with me in order to make certain we stay on track with our many ongoing efforts. For example, Vice Chairman Aaron Tobey has worked directly with me on gaming legislation, communicating with Tribal Council and our outside team to make sure our goals are met to get this legislation passed and make sure our rights are respected.

In addition, I have assigned Aaron to assist me in managing our constituent services, and he fills an important role in dealing with internal affairs, liaison for our Fish and Wildlife Commission, and our tribal designee for relationships with outside law enforcement and correctional agencies.

With the depth and breadth of

issues that we deal with on a daily basis as a sovereign tribal nation, it would be impossible to accomplish all we do without a united team working tirelessly toward our goals. We are in the midst of an exciting, important chapter in our Tribe's great story, and working together we can ensure that this chapter tells the story of our Tribe reaching true economic independence and self-determination.

There is nothing we can't accomplish if we continue to work together. I envision our destination resort casino as the first step in a plan to lift every Mashpee Wampanoag up to realize his or her full potential. I ask for your support, your advice, and your prayers as we move forward together. We are on the move and we will win!

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell  
Qaqemasq (Running Bear)

## Holiday Invitation for Tribal Craft Vendors

A special craft fair will be held December 11 at the Sunday General Monthly Meeting in the Mashpee High School Cafeteria.

Tribal Members who are interested in setting up a "Holiday Craft Table" during the December 11 General Meeting are welcome to participate.

Time frame: 1:45 - 4:30 p.m. (to allow for set up/break down)

Vendors will be responsible for clean up in their respective area

Table space will be restrictive, please plan to limit vendor table-size to accommodate all participating Tribal Member vendors

Tribal members who will be participating are asked to notify Trish Keliinui at [TKeliinui@mwtribe.com](mailto:TKeliinui@mwtribe.com) or (774) 316-0305 by Friday, December 9.

## Tribal Video History Project

**T**he Museum Committee in collaboration with the Education Department and the Elders Committee will spearhead a video project which will capture the life-stories of our Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Elders.

Douglas Pocknett, Jr., a student at Mashpee High School and member of the Audio/Vision club will lead the effort, while members of the Elders Committee will coordinate the scheduling of elders at each monthly meeting to sit with Doug and share their stories, which will be

kept as part of the ongoing archival efforts of the Museum and the Tribe.

All elders are encouraged to participate.

Tribal youth who are interested in participating are also welcome to contact Education Director Renee Pocknett for further details.

Feel free to contact the Museum Committee at (508) 477-9339 during their hours of operation on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or simply leave a message for additional information.



## Economic Development Committee News

All Tribal Businesses are invited to the first Mashpee Wampanoag Holiday Business Card Exchange.

Come meet and network with the Economic Development Committee and other tribal business owners. Let the Economic Development Committee know how we can best help your business grow and become sustainable. We look forward to a great event to kick off the New Year. Bring extra business cards and promotional information you have.



### Holiday Business Card Exchange Event

**Date:** Sunday, December 11, 2011

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Tribal Headquarters

**RSVP:** [greg@firstlighttrading.com](mailto:greg@firstlighttrading.com)

## Education Notes

For everyone who is or has a student in high school please be in touch with the Education Department as soon as possible. I would like to make an appointment with each and every one of you to talk about your educational plans. Especially for juniors and seniors, now is the time to begin creating checklists for all of the things you must accomplish to reach your future goals. This office is here to help you through the often stressful process of planning for college, vocational education or entering into the workforce. If you have not yet taken the PSAT, SAT or ACT exam it is time to do so now so that you will have many choices in your future.

The Native Tribal Scholars program is actively recruiting students in grades 9 through 12 for the academic year component which includes tutoring, cultural and educational activities. Please contact us at once if you are interested or would like additional information.

The Indian Education Program at Mashpee High School is undergoing some significant changes. We need more parent involvement in this program, because a strong and active parent committee is what makes a strong and active Indian Education program. Parent Committee meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month, in the Mashpee High School's Indian Education Room. All Native community members are welcome to attend. Please consider joining us and our children, our absolute most-precious natural resource need YOU to be involved!



## Health Department Update



The Health Department's first event in the new facilities was an excellent Halloween Party! Thanks to Robyn Tobey Stamps and the health staff for planning the Halloween party for tribal families. Over 25 kids and their families stopped in to enjoy the festivities of the event.

## Youth Cultural Club

Youth Cultural Club is going strong - Thursday evenings, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Rod n Gun Club. Please contact Sherry Pocknett for more information at [sherrypocknett@yahoo.com](mailto:sherrypocknett@yahoo.com)

By Renee Pocknett

## Child Care Development Fund Grant Funded

**T**he Education Department will receive upwards of \$200,000.00 each year from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to help tribal families afford the cost of child care. With this funding, vouchers will be available that the Tribe will be able to issue to pay for child care costs. The new annual funding is a good start for which we are very grateful!

In late June, the Education Department & Development Office completed and submitted a grant that would help Education provide child care services to our tribal members who are working or are in school.

The CCDF (Child Care Development Fund) grant is annually recurring "federal formula" funding for which the Tribe is eligible - but has never before sought or received until now!

The opportunity was originally identified and researched by the Tribe's Development Officer Wanda Jean Lord, and then vetted with regional DHHS leaders during meetings set up by Tribal Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell between regional leaders and the Education, ICWA and Development departments. Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell also serves as a national representative for Indian Country on the US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Council (STAC) where she advises and advocates for the needs of Tribes regionally and nationally.

Over the course of the last six months we've worked hard together to refine and revise our application to ensure funding, and because of the joint collaboration and expertise of Education's Director Renee

Lopes-Pocknett, Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell, Development Officer Lord, and legal review provided by Rory Delweg of Tilden & McCoy - we were successful!

The Tribe has been awarded \$205,097 to begin structuring a program and implementing day care/child care services. Looking forward, we are already working to increase our formula funding sources even more next year - so that we can increase the numbers and types of child care services offered in 2013.

Thanks go to the Department of Health and Human Services, and especially to all those folks who worked with us to assure that the child care needs of American Indian/Alaska Native people in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's five County service area are met better than ever.

We especially recognize the work of everyone at the DHHS' Child Care Bureau Region 1 Office:

**Shireen Riley**

*Regional Program Manager*

**Donna Brown**

*Child Care Program Specialist*

**Janine Gerry**

*Child Care Program Specialist*

**Amy Spates**

*Child Care Program Specialist*

Special thanks go to folks in Washington, DC for helping our tribal children have the child care they need - to DHHS Secretary Sebelius for her continued commitment to the inclusion of the needs of Tribal Nations at the Department of Health and Human Services, and to Associate Director of the Child Care Bureau Shannon Rudsill.

## Child Care Services for Tribal Members

We are working as fast as we can to set up the first of its kind services that we will soon offer to tribal members. However, It is going to take several weeks to set-up this structure. Here are some of the first steps we will be taking to roll out the new services:

1. Child Care Waiting List Forms are available at the Education Department
2. Our Goal is to be able to offer services throughout our entire service area in the Counties of Barnstable, Bristol, Plymouth, Suffolk and Norfolk
3. To reach this Goal, grant funds will be used to purchase vouchers/certificates from existing child care agencies and contracting with these agencies' to place our children in care in their centers, family day care homes and pre-school settings
4. We will likely be able to offer some support for 'kin-ship care' also (when a family member, like a grandparent, cares for a child)

Our fees and structure will be very similar to how daycare services are typically offered through the state and we, too, will have a sliding scale fee according to a family's income.

Please contact the Education Department to complete and submit a Child Care Form to place your child/children on our waiting list. If you provide an email address an electronic copy of the form can be mailed to you.

## Good News from the Development Office

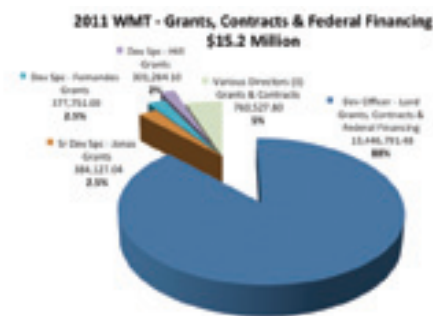
**D**uring 2011, over \$15.2 Million in grants, contracts and federal low interest financing have been proposed for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and over \$14.6 Million have been secured in 2011 to support tribal programs and projects.

Under the vision of Chairman Cromwell and the guidance of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council the Tribe's Development Office has brought in new or sustained awarded funding for:

- Tribal Youth Sports Activities (NEW - First of its kind competitive funding)
- Continued Tribal Health Programs funding
- ICWA Foster Care and Guardianship (NEW - First of its kind annually recurring funding)
- Economic Impact Initiative grants to supplement the construction budget of the Tribal Government and Community Center (NEW - First of its kind funding)
- Continued Natural Resources funding
- Education - Child Care Development Funding (NEW - First of its kind annually recurring funding)
- Continued NAGPRA funding
- Tribal Court - Infrastructure and Peacemaker Court Funding (NEW - First of its kind competitive funding)
- Continued LIHEAP funding providing heating assistance to tribal members
- Continued WIA funding providing employment assistance to tribal members

And we are awaiting funding decisions on other proposals for:

- Tribal Health and Finance and Development to strengthen the Tribe's ability to bring in new third party health revenues - toward increasing health job options at the Tribe and ultimately to increase the federal health dollars under tribal management.
- Transportation and others.



This year the Development Team has successfully collaborated with nearly every tribal department to sustain or bring new revenues in to help the tribal community! During 2011, the Development Office has generated about \$12.00 in new grant funding dollars into the Tribe for every \$1.00 dollar spent to provide a tribal Development Office. And if the Tribal Government Center's federal financing is included, each \$1.00 spent on Development has returned well over \$100.00 in benefit to the Tribe this year.



### 2011 NEW - First of their kind Competitive Grant Awards for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe!

Competitive Grants are those grants for which an applicant must compete against other applicants who also want a funder to fund their programs or projects - no matter how well written when submitted, they are not guaranteed to be funded. We are happy to report on Development's successful competition for the following funding:

\$10,000 in NIKE N7 Fund first identified as a priority to help tribal kids by Vice Chairman Tobey, Treasurer Harding and Chairman Cromwell. The NIKE funding award was matched by the Tribal Council to provide this first of its kind assistance to 60 tribal youth to make sure our children could pay for and participate in the sports activities of their choice. The youth entered in a tribal lottery and received notice of their awards during the September 2011 monthly general body meeting. The "Wamps Can Do It" project has been highlighted on NIKE's website and in an article in the Barnstable Patriot. Watch the Mittark for upcoming updates on the activities made possible for tribal youth ages 5 -18 by the NIKE N7 Fund's "Wamps Can Do It" grant.

\$78,100 in USDA Economic Initiative Impact funding. This funding will be used to help build the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Government and Community Center.

\$177,688 in DHHS Administration for Native Americans Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) funding to support the continued development of infrastructure including Codes of Ethics and Policies and Policies and increased education and outreach for access to user friendly Tribal Court documents

## Good News from the Development Office *(continued)*

and a guide to using Tribal Court.

“Formula Grants” are types of federal funding that the Tribe is eligible to receive on an annually recurring basis. Today formula funding provides for activities like Housing, WIA (Workforce Investment Act), LIHEAP (Low Income Heating & Energy Assistance Program) and Aid to Tribal Governments from the BIA.

During 2011, all of the previously negotiated formula funding has been maintained. This year, under the direction of Chairman Cromwell, the Development Office has focused on analyzing the various formulas that define the amount of funding that the Tribe has received.

Our research indicates that previously negotiated agreements for formula funding have consistently left the Tribe underfunded dramatically – in some cases up to an estimated 80% underfunded and in other cases formula funding agreements hadn’t been reviewed or renegotiated to assure that the Tribe was benefitting appropriately in nearly 20 years. Today we are actively moving forward to renegotiate all of the formula funding that had previously been in place for the Tribe.

We are also happy to report that we have brought in NEW first of its kind formula funding for the Tribe in 2011.

The new formula funding is designated to increase the Tribe’s assistance to tribal members from the ICWA and Education departments, providing:

- About \$18,000 each year from now on for ICWA in New Title IV B funding for services around foster care, guardianship and adoption activities. 2011 is the 2nd year of new Title IV B funding that has been

brought into the Tribe by the Development Office.

- About \$200,000 each year from now on for the Education Department in New Child Care Development funding that will provide first of their kind opportunities for tribal members to access child care vouchers from the Tribe to pay for child care, for more information on this opportunity contact the Education Department.

What this means is that over the coming decade these two new formula funding awards alone will result in over \$2 Million in new funding for the Tribe if they are funded at about the same levels annually for each of the next 10 years. This is new and secure funding that was never available to the Tribe before! As long as it is properly managed and the law allows, these formula funded grants will remain dependable annual sources of funding for the Tribe to continue to help tribal members more than ever before possible.

Thank you for your time to learn more about the work of the Development Office for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

Please feel free to contact the Development Team at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s New Bedford Development Office:

Development Officer Wanda Jean Lord at [wlord@mwtribe.com](mailto:wlord@mwtribe.com)

Sr. Development Specialist Leslie Jonas at [ljonas@mwtribe.com](mailto:ljonas@mwtribe.com)

And Development Specialist Michelle Fernandes at

[mfernandes@mwtribe.com](mailto:mfernandes@mwtribe.com)

Or call us at (774) 202-6260.

## Museum to Close for Season

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum will close on December 22, 2011 for two months and will re-open for February vacation.

We had a great year! We had twice as many visitors as last year. Visitors from Montana added to our list of states that have visited the museum, bringing the total to 33. And we had visitors from five new countries; Lebanon, Austria, Switzerland, Australia and Tibet bringing our list of visiting countries to 10. All of our visitors were very interested in the Wampanoag history and culture. It’s been a pleasure to increase their knowledge of the Tribe and the Mashpee people.

The English have been our most numerous guests. The people of Wales are familiar with the Wampanoag process of language reclamation. Schools in Wales must now teach the Welsh language and 35% of the country is considered bi-lingual.

Our visitor from Tibet noted the similarities of some cultural and physical features of the Tibetans and Native Americans. One couple who own a farm in New Jersey sent us a lovely note along with a container of “Cherokee Trail of Tears” bean seeds for our 3-sisters garden. And a couple from Kansas made a point of visiting Indian museums from Washington, DC and up the east coast. They said our little museum was very impressive.

We are still looking for photos of prior sachems, chiefs and medicine men for our exhibit. We can copy them on-site and return them immediately. We also need volunteers for the mu-



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483 Great Neck Road South  
Mashpee, MA 02649

## COMMUNITY

### Museum to Close for Season *(continued from page 7)*

seum so we can expand our hours. We are only open two days a week, four hours a day and look at the number of visitors we've greeted!

We expect our 1000<sup>th</sup> visitor when we re-open in February.

One of the most rewarding parts of our museum experience has been the third grade class visits we had in the spring. Classes are divided between "One-Room School House" and the museum because of the limited size of both. Classes walk back and forth from one site to the other. It was a pleasant surprise to see how much today's children are learning about Native Americans in general and the Wampanoag in particular. We played "Hub Bub" and "stick the loop." We had a chance to pass out quahog shells and mini 3-Sisters garden kits. They loved the wetu frame and the

muhsh8n. One little boy, as the class was leaving exclaimed, "This is the best field trip ever!"

Elders are welcome to sit and recall their Mashpee experience and growing up in Wampanoag.

Lastly, we would like to announce our Elders' project to record their views and lives. The project has a two-fold purpose. First to preserve Mashpee's past through its Elders and secondly to help the next generation of Mashpee Wampanoag to connect with their heritage. We have asked Dougie Pocknett, grandson of Chief Vernon Pocknett, to do the filming and interviews and hopefully more students will become involved in this important endeavor. If you would like to be involved in any way please contact us.

Again, it's been a pleasure

and a learning experience for us to be associated with the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum.

### Date for Ball Set



Mark your calendars! The 15th Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Ball will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at the Sea Crest Beach Hotel in North Falmouth. More information to follow.