



Nashauonk Mittark™



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December 2015

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Column



Dear Tribal Family,

It's official! Our land in Mashpee and Taunton has now been acquired by the federal government and placed in trust. It is protected for our people now and for future generations! As you know, on September 18, 2015, the U.S. Department of Interior announced its decision to approve our Land-In-Trust application, which included approximately 321 acres of land in Mashpee and Taunton. And when our land was officially transferred to the Department of Interior on Nov. 10, it marked the moment the federal government delivered on its promise.

We now have a land base from which we can sustain our cultural traditions, develop a thriving tribal economy, and serve the needs of our people as we see fit.

Now that the trust acquisition is complete, any threat to our land base - legal or otherwise - will be defended by the most powerful government on Earth; a government that many Tribal citizens have sacrificed life and limb to defend in every major U.S. conflict going back to the inception of the United States of America.

Yes, this year's Thanks Giving will have a much different meaning for our Tribe. No, it's not about thanking the federal government for giving us what is rightfully ours. But, we can all be thankful to our Creator who is bringing us full circle and has guided us to this moment. We are on a different journey now. Instead of losing more land and access each year, we are changing course and headed in a different direction. And that is something to be thankful for.

Yet, even as we celebrate our prog-

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"It's Official" - Tribal Lands are Placed Into Trust

On Thursday, November 12 The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe announced that the federal government took formal ownership of tribal lands in Mashpee and Taunton and placed these parcels into trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

"It's official," said Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell. "Our land has now been acquired by the federal government and placed in trust. It is now our land, protected forever for our people today and for future generations."

On September 18, 2015, the U.S. Department of Interior announced its decision to approve the tribe's land-in-trust application, which included approximately 321 acres of land in Mashpee and Taunton.

"We are on a different journey now. Instead of losing more land and access each year, we are changing course and headed in a different direction. We are coming full circle."

Cedric said.

Nearly four centuries after helping the first European settlers survive in south-eastern Massachusetts - the story of which has been mythologized - this new beginning for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe also marks an important milestone in American history and Indian Country, reversing centuries of injustice and encroachment on Wampanoag lands that began in the years after the first Thanksgiving.

"We rejoiced in September when the Department of Interior announced its approval of our land-in-trust application. Today, however, the Federal Government has delivered on its promise. We now have a land base from which we can sustain our cultural traditions, develop a thriving tribal economy,

and serve the needs of our people as we see fit," Cedric said.

As detailed in the land-in-trust application, the Trust acquisition will allow the

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"This is about controlling our own destiny and having the means to preserve our aboriginal culture."

- Cedric Cromwell

Tribe Celebrates Thanks Giving

Gathered in the Old Indian Meeting House tribal citizens, family, friends and neighbors shared prayers and thoughts of thanks at the 6th annual Thanks Giving Celebration. The celebration, held on Saturday, November 21, opened with a ceremony in the meeting house followed by a prayer ceremony by the fire. The celebration was an opportunity for the entire community to share traditional ceremony and pay homage to ancestors, loved-ones and expresses thanks for all of the Creator's blessings.

Vice Chairwoman Jessie "little doe" Baird spoke during the ceremony about the importance of taking time to reflect on all that we have to be grateful for and the



perseverance of those that came before us to weather many, many storms and remain here in Mashpee. Her message was perfectly timed with the federal government taking some of the tribe's land into trust and the fact that the entire event took place on sovereign land. "Land that will be protected for future generations."

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Events Calendar

New Events

December 5

Elders Christmas Party, MWTCGC

December 12 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

2nd Annual Christmas Craft Fair,
MWTCGC

December 13 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

December 19 - 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Children's Christmas Party, MWTCGC
(Trip to Edaville Railroad will follow)

January 6 & 7 - 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Economic Development Community
Input Session, MWTCGC

January 9 - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Family Immersion Day, MWTCGC

January 10 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

Weekly Events

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

Youth Boys Basketball, MWTCGC

Tuesdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Elders Lunch & Learn, MWTCGC

Tuesdays - 5:30 p.m.

Enrollment Committee, MWTCGC

Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Coed Volleyball, MWTCGC

Wednesdays - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

& 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Tribal Health Yoga with Virginia and
Kimma, 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

Monthly - 6:00 p.m.

Housing Commission, MWTCGC,

It is held on the third Monday of each month.

Monthly - 6:00 p.m.

Chief's Circle, Old Indian Meeting House

It is held the first Tuesday of the month.

Monthly - 5:30 p.m.

Public Safety Commission, MWTCGC,

It is held the third Thursday of the month.

Recipes from Aunt Joan

Wampett Cranberry Slump

In a medium pot put three cups whole fresh cranberries. Add three cups cold water, one and half cups white or brown sugar, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, nutmeg and vanilla. Add three pats butter. Stir and taste for sweetness. If you like it sweeter add more sugar. Bring to boil over medium heat and set aside. In medium bowl add 2 cups white flour, ¼ teaspoon salt, 2 ½ teaspoons baking powder, two tablespoons melted butter or canola oil and 1 cup milk. Mix well with wooden spoon. Mixture will be thick. Use large tablespoon or small ice cream scoop drop dumplings on top of cranberries. Cover pot and boil over low heat for about 12 minutes or until dumplings are done. Test dumplings by inserting a table knife in the center and it comes out clean, they're done! Serve hot,

Mashpee Big Bog Cranberry Nut Pie

3 cups whole cranberries
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1 cup diced peeled apples or peaches
(optional)
1 ½ cups sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon Vanilla flavor
½ teaspoon salt
2 ½ tablespoons flour

Pastry for two crust pie. In bowl mix everything together. In another bowl make pastry for 2 crust pie which you can find in most cookbooks. Line pie plate with bottom crust. Fill with cranberry mixture. Dot with four pats butter. Cover with remaining pie crust. Prick crust with fork so steam can escape. Brush pie crust lightly with milk. Bake in oven on cookie sheet (to prevent spillage in oven) at 375 for 25 to 35 minutes.



Aiyana Hicks with her little sister, Lillyana, at the Granny Squantity Walk on October 24 that was hosted by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Youth Council with support from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Youth Programs Department. Twelve year-old Aiyana served as the 2013 to 2015 Little Miss Wampanoag and attends Ohrenberger Boston Public Schools, where she receives high marks in her Advanced courses including Science, Math, English and Spanish while also excelling on the school's cheerleading team. Aiyana and Lilyana are the daughters of Brice Hicks, Jr. and granddaughters of Gerry and Brice Hicks, Sr. of Mashpee.

Special Meeting Held on Raises

At the request of tribal citizens, Tribal Council held a special meeting on Friday, October 30 to discuss a series of raises that were approved for Tribal Council and employees of the Tribe. During the meeting Tribal Council provided an overview of the issue and listened to the questions and concerns of those in attendance.

The raises were the result of an extensive study completed by Blue Stone Strategy Group, a native owned firm that specializes in

data modeling, that compared the salaries of Tribal Council and employees to comparable positions at peer organizations. The report recommended the pay adjustments that were approved by Tribal Council.

As a result of the special meeting Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell will be sending out a letter to all households further discussing the report and raises. The letter is expected to hit homes in early December.

Do You Have News to Share in the Mittark?

Do you have Tribal news to share? We want to hear from you. All Tribal Members are encouraged to submit news to be included in the Nashauonk Mittark. Please contact Trish Keliinui at trish.keliinui@mwtribe.com.

Tribe Receives Healthy Communities Grant

Thanks to a grant issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe are a significant step closer to bringing Popponeset Bay watershed back to the thriving and self-sustaining shellfish population is used to have.

The EPA announced on Friday, October 30, at a special event in Taunton that it had awarded the Tribe \$198,174 to build an approximately four-acre oyster reef in the bay. Assistant Director of Natural Resources for the Tribe Chuckie Green was on hand to accept the check on behalf of the Tribe.

The grant is part of \$700,000 from the federal agency's Southeast New England Program for Coastal Watershed Restoration, an initiative designed to maintain coastal watersheds in Southeast Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The reef project will tie into ongoing nitrogen mitigation efforts by the Tribe and the town of Mashpee and is another indication of a long-time collaboration between the tribe and the town to restore and clean Mashpee's estuaries.



Assistant Director of Natural Resources for the Tribe Chuckie Green accepting the EPA grant

"It is everybody's bay," said Chuckie. "The goal is to fix the bay. It's not about jurisdiction."

If all goes as planned, the reef, Chuckie said, will not only protect marsh banks and shoreline in the bay during storm surges, it will also create a self-sustaining habitat for filter feeders, fish and other wildlife.

Chairman's Column

(continued)

ress, there is much work to be done to fully establish our sovereignty. With Land-In-Trust come questions of how fire, emergency and police services will be delivered to our people.

To that end, we have negotiated an Inter-Governmental Agreement with the City of Taunton that, in the absence of our own fire/EMT services, will allow the Taunton Fire Department and EMT providers access to our lands should an emergency occur. We are currently in talks with the Town of Mashpee to do the same.

Of course, we intend to police our own people, which is why Tribal Council adopted a code of laws that essentially mirror state laws in terms of what constitutes a crime. To enforce the Tribe's criminal laws and provide public safety, we have also deputized two Tribal Law Enforcement Security Agents to serve as our initial police force. These new officers are Kevin Frye, Sr. and Curtis Frye, III.

I would like to congratulate and recognize both Kevin and Curtis for their service as it was a remarkable moment to have presided over the swearing-in ceremony that took place on November 12th, 2015 in the presence of the Tribal Council and other Tribal citizens attending the meeting.

Kutâputunumuw,
Cedric Cromwell
Qaqemashq (Running Bear)

Tribe Recognized as Leader in Energy Efficiency

The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP) recognized the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe as one of this year's Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency. NEEP recognized the Tribe for its "outstanding efforts to advance energy efficiency" in the construction and management of the Community and Government Center. The Tribe joined 13 other businesses from across New England that were also recognized this year.

Michael Maxim, director of facilities at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, accepted the recognition on behalf of the Tribe at the NEEP workshops at the Omni Mt. Washington Resort in Bretton Woods, NH, on November 12 and 13.

Lisa Cascio, public relations manager for NEEP, was grateful to the tribe for continuing its work as responsible environmental stewards. "On behalf of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, I would like to once again congratulate you [Michael Maxim] and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe for being recognized as a 2015 Northeast Business Leader for Energy Efficiency. We were honored to have your participation in our Industrial Efficiency Summit at



Director of Facilities at the Tribe Michael Maxim and Compact Administrator for Cape Cod Light Compact Maggie Downey at the awards ceremony.

New Hampshire's Omni Mt. Washington Resort," said Lisa.

Lisa added, "Your story of sustainability as well as your partnership with Cape Light Compact to maximize efficiency incentives and savings is inspiring. It is a great example of what can result from stable public policies that support effective efficiency and clean energy programs. We are happy that you were able to share your story with the engaged audience at the celebration dinner and the thousands we reach through our continued coverage of the Business Leaders in social and traditional media outreach."

Correction



In the October edition of the Mittark we incorrectly reported that there were only two members of the first Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council that are still with us. In addition to our Chief Vernon "Silent Drum" Lopez and Putnam Peters, George Tobey is still very much alive and well and appears in the above photo between Putnam Peters and John Peters.

We apologize to George Tobey and his family for the error and thank George for his contributions as a member of our first Tribal Council.

Fighting Climate Change with Traditional Values

Engaging students, faculty and community members at Framingham State University (FSU) in a healthy discussion about traditional ecological knowledge and climate change policy was almost second nature for Chairman Cedric Cromwell. The discussion was part of the FSU President's Distinguished Lecture Series held on Tuesday, November 10 and challenged those in attendance to find balance and a path that will help improve the human and natural relationship upon which a healthy world depends.

Chairman Cromwell along with a panel of Native American leaders that included Aja Decoteau, a member of the Yakama Nation and department manager for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, joined FSU professors Vandana Singh and Carl Hakansson for the discussion titled Native Wisdom: Facing the Crisis of Climate Change. The panel spoke about modern science incorporating the wisdom of indigenous people to



President of FSU Dr. F. Javier Cevallos and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Chairman Cedric Cromwell chatting before the lecture

help restore balance and health to the earth.

Chairman Cromwell emphasized the importance of keeping future generations in mind as decisions are made. He said, "Our philosophy is to look at seven generations before us to see what we have learned, and the seven generations to come and to think about

how mankind, through its advancement and development, has impacted this earth."

Chairman Cromwell urged the students to think about Mother Earth. "It's important that you think about Mother Earth as you walk and stand on her. If she gets hurt and if we don't have her anymore, we don't exist." Decoteau echoed the Chairman's remarks and added that western science and traditional ecological knowledge are "complimentary to each other." She added tribal people "look into future generations" and how the impact of what they're doing today might affect their descendants.

Chairman Cromwell added, "for us, it's about balance and sticking with the land management principles our ancestors were committed to." As a modern tribe with ancient ties to this land "we will develop a vibrant economy in a way that is true to the values of being the first environmental stewards of this land."

Message from Our Powwow Princess

Wunee Keesuq! Good day everyone!

My name is Abigail Peters, Powwow Princess 2015-2016. As Powwow Princess the past summer and fall have been extremely fun and busy filled with opportunities to represent my tribe, I am very honored. Along with powwows, events and volunteer work I have done in the past 5 months I'm very excited that our tribe has received land into trust, land of the Wampanoag, and I'm thinking of and thanking all of our ancestors.

So far I've attended Ancestors Day, recognizing ancestors that attended the Carlisle school in PA; treatment centers for drugs and alcohol; historic preservation and history discussion, the 2015 Native Tribal Scholars Summer Program and the Granny Squannit walk on October 24 I've also attended seven powwows including our very own Mashpee Wampanoag powwow, MC-NAA Danvers-MA, Narragansett -RI, Mohegan- CT, Schemitzun-CT, Shinnecock-NY, Aquinnah-MA and the Veterans Powwow - CT. I also plan on attending the Gathering of Nations 2016 - NM and Lumbee 2016- NC. As for events, I've attended The National UNITY Conference in Washington D.C. this past summer, and upcoming events I would like to attend would be The Mid Year UNITY conference held in Arizona in 2016 and The National UNITY conference held in Portland, Oregon also in 2016.

As for volunteering, I've volun-

teered at the Back 2 School Bash where we gathered and distributed school supplies for tribal youth; Youth Dance and Drum class to teach youth girls how to do traditional, fancy and jingle dances at powwows; Rumble on the Rez to support tribal substance abuse programs, and the Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Council as I was recently nominated and elected co-secretary for 2015-2016. Kutaputush, thank you and good medicine to you all.



Departments Give Presentation to FEMA



In honor of November being Native American Heritage Month Nelson Andrews Jr. and Ann Marie Askew of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department teamed up with colleagues Ramona Peters and Talia Landry of the Tribe's Historic Preservation Department to give a presentation to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The presentation on the history of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe was given to staff, leadership and the Regional Administrator of the Region I FEMA. This collaboration adds to the growing relationship between the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and FEMA.

Saints & Strangers Gets it Wrong



The opening scene of the National Geographic Channel's new Thanksgiving film, "Saints & Strangers," shows pilgrims looting food from a Native village, digging up burlap bags of buried corn to help sustain them over the long winter.

Less than 60 seconds into the film, a band of whooping Natives descends on the pilgrims and the two groups exchange fire—bullets from one side and arrows from the other. The scene exhibits many of what the four Wampanoag tribal communities are calling "cultural, historical and linguistic inaccuracies" in the film.

"It's completely irresponsible telling of history," said Linda Coombs, director of the Aquinnah Wampanoag Cultural Center. "This is one of the most well-documented parts of history, but it is distorted for the purposes of sensationalism."

The two-night movie event was billed as the "real true story of the Mayflower passengers, the founding of Plymouth and their relationship with the Native Americans." It has garnered praise for its Native cast members and dialogue that was translated into Western Abenaki.

But descendants of the Wampanoag, the indigenous people who participated in that first Thanksgiving feast and entered into a peace treaty with the colonists in 1621, are poking holes in the film. The criticism covers everything from language and regalia mistakes to historical and cultural inaccuracies, but it also raises broader questions about creative liberties, cultural distinctions and who gets to interpret history.

By criticizing National Geographic, the Wampanoag communities are taking on a global organization that prides itself on "integrity, accuracy and excellence." In a statement responding to the criticism, Christopher Albert, senior vice president of communications and talent worldwide for Nat Geo, defended the film.

"National Geographic Channel

New England Native Youth Event Encourages Historic Preservation Careers

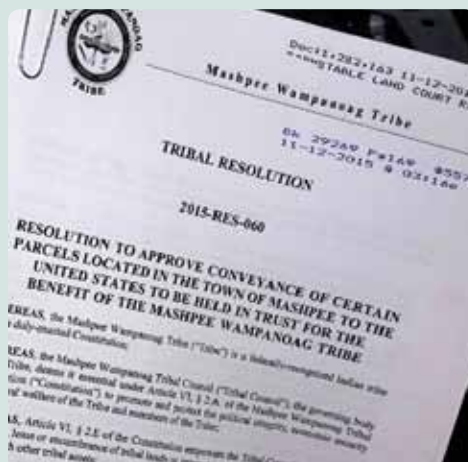
As part of the ACHP's growing Native Youth Program, in late July it co-hosted a day long event to introduce Native youth from Southern New England to the field of historic preservation to discuss issues, concerns, and career opportunities. Members of the Mohegan, Mashantucket Pequot, Eastern Pequot, Mashpee Wampanoag, Aquinnah Wampanoag, and Nipmuc tribes participated. Professors from the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography are training Narragansett students in underwater cultural resource management and also attended.

Participants visited the Mohegan Archaeological Field School, now in its 20th year, and learned about an 18th-century site being studied by this year's field school and how the Mohegan Tribe partners with non-tribal archaeologists to learn about their past. A lunch roundtable discussion followed—focused on issues related to historic preservation—that allowed experienced historic preservation professionals from area tribes and the University of Rhode Island to share with tribal youth their knowledge and experiences, and answer questions. The day concluded with a trip to Cohegan Rock, an important cultural and historic site for the Mohegan Tribe. Tribal youth led dances and songs as part of the day's activities.



The event was hosted by the Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut and co-coordinated by the Mohegan THPO and the ACHP Office of Native American Affairs. This was the third event coordinated by the ACHP in 2015 as part of its Native Youth Program designed to introduce Native youth from across the country to the field of historic preservation. In December 2014, President Obama announced the launch of Generation Indigenous (Gen-I), an initiative focused on improving the lives of Native youth by removing barriers between them and opportunities to succeed. The ACHP's Native Youth Program supports the Gen-I initiative by introducing Native youth to historic preservation as a potential career choice and providing Native youth an opportunity to voice concerns regarding protection of sacred sites.

Tribal Lands are Placed Into Trust *(continued)*



Resolution approving land to be held in trust for the Tribe recorded and stamped by the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds.

Tribe to rebuild its land base and pursue opportunities for economic development and self-government, including but not limited to, the Tribe's mission to house, educate and

otherwise provide for its Tribal members.

Economic development revenues will be used to fund the restoration and preservation of cultural sites, as well as fund health services; educational; cultural; social; tribal youth and Elder programs, including the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project.

"We intend to begin construction on a world-class destination resort casino in Taunton in accordance with the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. But, for us, this goes far beyond economic development. This is about controlling our own destiny and having the means to preserve our aboriginal culture," Cromwell said.

"And now that the Trust acquisition is complete, any threat to our land base—legal or otherwise—will be defended by the most powerful government on Earth; a government that many Tribal citizens have sacrificed life and limb to defend in every major U.S. conflict going back to the Revolutionary War," Cromwell said.

WLRP To Launch Preschool in Fall 2016

Thanks to a growing partnership between the Montessori Academy for Teacher Training and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Childcare Program, the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) is pleased to announce our plans to co-launch a Wôpanâak language immersion preschool for tribal families in Fall 2016 as well as after-school language immersion programming to tribal students in grades K thru 8 beginning January 2016.

Although WLRP had initially pursued launching a charter school, this alternative Montessori-based approach moves us in a new direction that represents a positive, community-driven choice that reinforces tribal sovereignty and self determination.

This unique approach was born out of an idea between the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribes' Childcare Program and the Montessori Academy which provides both funding for WLRP's language teachers to obtain Montessori certification and the use of state and federal childcare vouchers to be used for children to attend the preschool.

This Montessori certification will complement the vast amount of Wôpanâak language- and culture-based curriculum and the more than one thousand daily lesson plans that WLRP has developed over the past three years thanks to a grant from the Administration for Native Americans.

Fourteen slots will be available for the Fall 2016 launch of the preschool. The



school will be on-site at the existing Montessori Academy of Cape Cod in North Falmouth, MA, which is a state-licensed early childhood education facility. Registration forms will become available in early 2016 both on www.wlrp.org and www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com.

The after school programming will begin on January 4, 2016 from 2-5pm daily Monday through Friday and be held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center.

For more information about the Montessori immersion preschool, contact us at info@wlrp.org.

For more information about tribal Childcare Program vouchers, contact Marcy Hendricks at MaHendricks@mwtribe.com.

Wôpanâôt8âtôh - Let's Talk Wôpanâak - Family Language Immersion Day



Come together to have family fun and learn your language at the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project Family Immersion Day. The language immersion day will be held on Saturday, January 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center. You may register for the immersion day online at www.wlrp.org/events. The registration deadline is Saturday, January 2.

All ages are encouraged to attend this immersion event to challenge yourself and others to speak Wôpanâak for the day. This is a free program with 3 blocks for classes including a class for children ages 5-12. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Potluck is also welcome. Family Immersion Day is open to all members of a Wampanoag household, including non-tribal partners, step-children, foster parents, etc.

For more information visit www.wlrp.org or call (508) 477-0208 x 176.



Share a Recipe in the "Elders' Cookbook" and support a great fundraiser

We already know you are an amazing cook and everyone enjoys your special dishes, now consider passing your cooking legacy along to the next generation through the Elders' Cookbook. Help make the Elders Department cookbook a success and bring us your recipes. The cookbook is a fundraiser for the Elders Department and they need your support to keep producing the events and programs our elders deserve.

The elders are creating a cookbook and would like to have as many recipes, anecdotes, and home remedies as possible! If you would like to submit a recipe or note for the book, please stop by the Elders Department at the Community and Government Center to pick up a form. You may also call Joanne Frye at (508) 477-0208 for more information. We would like to collect all recipes by the middle of December so that we can

have this ready by the first of the year. If you would like to pre order the Elders' Cookbook, we will be taking orders for the book by the end of November.

Please help the elders reach their goal to create a 100-page recipe book with 200 recipes, anecdotes, and home remedies. Submissions can be your own, a family member's, a friend's, etc. We are also looking for some old Mashpee pictures of the town, Tribal Members, and events. ("Mashpee Will Shine" Cookbook)



Community Discussion on Vision for Economic Development

What's your vision? Not too long ago if you took a drive through Mashpee you'd pass a series of successful native owned businesses – signs of a vibrant native economy. Businesses like Walter Mingo's Coasting Company, The Mashpee Manufacturing Company, The Hotel Attaquin, Ockry Trading Company, Peters' Oil, Amelia's Café, and of course the beloved Flume Restaurant. While the business landscape in Mashpee has changed dramatically since these businesses have closed, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Planning and Development Department believe that there is an opportunity to breath new life into a native economy.

To build off the foundation laid by the many generations of Mashpee business leaders, the Planning and Development Department will be hosting the two-day Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community Input Session on Wednesday, January 6 and Thursday, January 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on both days. The open discussion will be held at the Mashpee Public Library and is open to all tribal citizens and the public. People are asked to register by Thursday, December 17 by sending an email to Associate Planner Billie Mills at billiemills@mwtribe.com.

What's Your Vision?

Senior Planner at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Danielle Hill sees the vision and ideas shared at the two-day session as a guide to a successful plan. "Working with a broad range of tribal citizens, along with business and local community leaders will provide us with valuable insight into community strengths, opportunities, needs and priorities," said Danielle. "Finding the best way to leverage those strengths and build on the work laid by our ancestors will ensure that our final economic development plan helps entrepreneurs, small businesses and job seekers."

As a federally recognized tribe that now has some of its land taken into trust there are new opportunities and business develop-

ment advantages over non-native businesses that provide explosive potential for economic growth. However, to make this work the Planning and Development Department, charged with completing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), needs to first hear what the community wants in terms of economic development...what is their vision.

"The best way to find out what the tribe needs is to ask them, and then listen to their responses," said Danielle. "Any economic development plan we write will be grounded in the values, traditions and goals of the community to ensure we address the core needs of our business needs."

The event will be spread over two days with discussion themes on Community Values, When Mashpee Wampanoag is at its Best, What Mashpee Should do More of, Three Wishes, Forms of Capital, Economic Development Goals and Objectives, and Project Priorities.

For more information about the economic development session and the CEDS process please contact Planning and Development Department Associate Planner Billie Mills at billiemills@mwtribe.com or at (508) 477-0208 x 126.

Tribal Health Is In Need of Family Care Givers

Tribal Health is in need of Care Givers for Respite Care, Companionship and Home-making. If you are taking care of a family member who is Tribal, or know of a tribal member who needs care (temporary or long term), Tribal Health's Family Care-giver Support Program can help.

If you are interested in giving care to our tribal community and want more information on this program please call our Tribal Health Department at (508) 477-0208 x 166 and ask for Wendy Pocknett or Kim Frye.

Supplemental services are also available on a limited basis, to complement the care provided by our caregivers.



Excelling with MWT-Employment

Three tribal citizens (and WIA clients) Jermaine Peters, Vincent Peters, and Bryan Purdie successfully completed the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Hoisting Operator's Licensing class. Not only did the three tribal citizens complete the course, they all excelled with an average grade of 88%.

Prior to attending the course, Jermaine, Vincent and Bryan attended a licensing preparation class and weekly study groups hosted by the Tribe's Employment & Training Department (also known as WIA). During the preparation for the class they reviewed material and completed practice tests to ensure they were ready to complete the demanding Hoisting Operator's examination.

Yvonne Marie Tobey, Employment & Training director for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, was quick to give credit to the tribal citizens. "Jermaine, Vincent and Bryan fully committed themselves to seeing the class through to the end," said Yvonne. "They knew it was going to take a lot of hard work and they did not shy away from it. They attended the study groups and the preparation class and, that's how they were able to get their license."

The Massachusetts Hoisting Operator's License allows the three to operate derricks, cableways, machinery for discharging

cargoes, and temporary elevator cars used on excavation work or used for hoisting building material, including excavators, front end loaders, lattice cranes, and most lifting devices.

"I especially want to thank the guys for never giving up on the WIA department through this arduous process," said Yvonne. "I also want to thank my wonderful staff. Mika Miranda and Eileen Miranda worked hard through out the process."





Health coverage through the Health Insurance Market Place for Federally Recognized Tribes

Open Enrollment- November 1st, 2015 through January, 31st 2016 -What You Need To Know

- » There is no limited enrollment period for individuals enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe, and they can change plans up to once a month. AI/ANs may enroll in a QHP or change from one QHP to another one time per month.
- » While AI/AN's are NOT exempt from paying premiums, you may be able to get lower costs on monthly premiums through a tax credit, the amount that is paid to your insurance plan each month to reduce the cost.
- » If your children need health coverage, they may be eligible for the Children's

Health Insurance Program (CHIP). If they qualify, you won't have to buy an insurance plan to cover them. (CHIP provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid.)

» If you use IHS, and you do not want to buy health insurance, you need to apply for an IRS hardship exemption, AI/AN's can apply for an exemption to avoid tax penalty. (You have to be up to date with filing taxes in order to use the Health Exchange.)

For more information contact Tribal Health at (508) 477 0208 x166 about how you may qualify or find out more at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com.

What is Suboxone?

Suboxone

- » Suboxone is a medication used to treat opioid addiction, it can also help with moderate to severe chronic pain.
- » Suboxone contains both buprenorphine and naloxone.
- » Buprenorphine is an opiate partial agonist, which means that it partially binds to the opiate receptor in the brain.
- » Naloxone is an opiate antagonist which is not absorbed orally (no effect is taken under the tongue).

Benefits of suboxone

Suboxone helps to decrease opioid cravings and withdrawal* symptoms that occur when use of heroin or opioid pain medicine is discontinued. This helps you to gain control over your opiate addiction without cravings and withdrawal symptoms.

*Withdrawal: When opioids are stopped, withdrawal occurs. Withdrawal symptoms include increased heart rate, aching, anxiety, tremors, sweating, upset stomach, crying, runny nose, and increased tiredness. *Withdrawal from opioids is not fatal but can be extremely uncomfortable.*

Length of time for suboxone treatment

Length of treatment depends on the needs of the patient determined by you and the clinical team. Group and individual therapy can increase your chances of success when using suboxone.

Suboxone treatment programs

There are several suboxone treatment programs throughout Massachusetts, at various settings. Some require participants to attend weekly/monthly groups, individual therapy, or both. When you are looking for a suboxone program or any OBOT (Office-Based-Opioid Treatment)/MAT (Medication-Assisted Treatment), make sure you understand the level of commitment and expectations to receive suboxone and suboxone services.

If you are interested in the suboxone program being offered at the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit or to inquire about other OBOT/MAT programs, please contact the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit at (508) 477-6967 and speak to a clinical therapist for consultation or on-going support. You may reach PumukQien Collins at x 2562 or Nadine Phillips-Smart at x 6965.

TCC: The Direction of Positive Change

Chances are you don't know a whole lot about the Tribal Coordinating Committee, better known as TCC, but the relatively quiet, hardworking group is steering a plan that will improve the health of our community. The Committee oversees the Tribal Action Plan a strategic plan that is partially the result of a 2-day community wellness session held at the end of September - that will address community needs.

Thanks to the wonderful input received at the community wellness session and the diligent work of the TCC the Tribal Action Plan (TAP) is almost complete and once finished will be sent to the Office on Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse, which is under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration for review and distribution to all appropriate Federal Agencies. Our TAP will notify key Federal agencies of the community driven needs of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in regards to addiction, which in return will help the Tribe gain more technical assistance and federal funding to address the goals outlined with in the plan. TAP will also be shared and presented to the Tribal community once completed and approved.

TCC by design is comprised of a broad and diverse population from the community that includes Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Vice Chairwoman Jessie Little Doe Baird; Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Councilwoman Cheryl Frye Cromwell; Health Systems Administrator IHS Mashpee Wampanoag Health Unit Rita Gon-

salves, RN and MM; Gosnold on Cape Cod and Mental Healthcare Treatment Center Program Development Associate Jo-Annamarie Landers; Tribal Citizen and Cultural Specialist Alexandra Lopes-Pocknett; Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit, and Supervisory Health Systems Specialist Lorraine Reels-Pearson; Community organizer for Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, Certified Recovery Coach and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Specialist Marcy Alexis Hendricks; Certified Pediatric Nurse Pauline L Peters, RN; and Clinical Therapist PumukQien Collins.

In an effort to continue broadening the perspective around the table the TCC is looking to bring in two additional committee members in the near future. Those new members will be Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Director Tracy Kelly and Mashpee Police Department Master Officer Kevin Frye.

Keeping a committee of this size on track is the work of Tribal Action Plan Coordinator Hope Shwom with support from a clear mission and vision statement. The committee's vision statement constantly reminds the committee what's at stake and why their work is so important. The vision statement says, "to create a safe, sustainable, and supportive community that embraces cultural knowledge with love, respect and hope. To see a future for all of our people to live a healthy and flourishing life." It's a vision that's hard to argue with.

Budget Training Workshop Hosted by Housing Department

On Wednesday evening, November 4th, the Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department hosted a training workshop in collaboration with Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC) of Hyannis. The subject was "Creating a Budget." Instructor and HAC's Manager of Housing Consumer Education Cheryl Kramer came to the tribal Community and Government Center to provide assistance to tribal citizens on what makes up a budget, when to adjust the budget, how a budget can help a household and how a budget will help meet financial goals. Student registration was funded by the Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department.

Tribal citizen April Hicks, who attended the training wrote: "I participated in the budget meeting on November 4th and I

thought the speaker was fun and kept us all interested. I took a lot of useful tips from the meeting. Thank you to all who set it up."

Ciara Jackson said of the training: "First, I'd like to thank the Housing Department for hosting this important training. I really appreciate that. There were many basic things that I just didn't know; especially being aware of being swipe happy with a debit card. Also, we had an assignment to write down every penny we spend for a 7-day period and I'm almost done with my 7 days. I'm seeing so much of where the money goes. The handouts were very good and I hope they offer this class again. I think it should be mandatory for everyone!"

Fall Safety Tips from Housing

Ok! Ok! Mom, Dad, Grand Mom, Granddad please listen to me, remove those loose rugs, put that light on, look down before you step!

One third of all elders that fall are the result of hazard-induced accidents in the means tripping over objects on the floor or falling due to poor lighting, loose rugs, poor mounted/inadequately located/lack of grab bars or unsteady furniture.

Preventive Measures

In all living areas, avoid throw rugs and secure any loose carpet edges with non-skid tape to prevent slipping. Make sure the floor is free of clutter and nightlights or motion-sensitive lighting are maintained in the home.

The Hazard hotspots in the home are the kitchen and the bathroom. Keep the floor clean and dry. Promptly clean up grease.

Housing Department Safety tips for the Holidays

The most wonderful time of the year also can be the most hazardous in your home. Police departments report a spike in burglaries from Thanksgiving to Christmas, and fire departments receive hundreds of calls involving fires caused by Christmas tree and holiday lights. Before the festivities kick into high gear, take a moment to protect your home and family by reducing the risk of these holiday hazards.

Burglary

Potential burglars don't need to know what type of computer or flat-screen TV is now in your home. When throwing away gift packaging, break down all boxes and place them in a dark colored trash bag or closed container, consider waiting to put your trash out the day of pick-up to reduce the time that the boxes are left out in the open.

Fire

The National Fire Protection Association warns: Do not use holiday lights that have worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Keep real trees well-watered. When a tree begins dropping needles, it's time to take it to a drop-off site or the curb.

Keep safe and season's greetings from the Housing Department.

Brenda P. Fernandez
Housing Department Assistant
Liberty Mutual Insurance
Griswold Home Care



Safety TIPS

Update from the Housing Department

At the Housing Department, our "GOAL" is to provide you with personalized service. To provide you with the attention you expect, deserve and want. We will continue to keep your personal business confidential as well as assisting you with the supports that will help you achieve your goals of affordable, secure and safe housing.

We're proud to report year to date we have provided direct services to 69 tribal citizens and provided needed support in the amount of \$266,491.25. The services Housing Department Director Deidra Lopes and her hard working staff provide ensure tribal citizens have safe, affordable housing.

MW Housing Services, Tribal Members Served, and total dollars spent

- » Rental Assistance served 25 for \$33,154.00
- » Closing Costs served 2 for \$7,670.00
- » Foreclosure Prevention served 2 for \$8,000.00
- » Eviction Prevention served 16 for \$26,170.00
- » Rental Subsidy served 14 for \$50,400.00
- » Home Rehabilitation served 6 for \$83,329.00
- » IHS (septic) served 4 for \$56,768.25

For more information about the Housing Department and the services it provides, please contact Housing Department Assistant Brenda Fernandez at (508) 477-0208 x104 or at bfernandez@mwtribe.com.



Merry Christmas and happy New Year from all of "us" in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Department!

Tribal Archives: Preserving our History one Document at a Time

Tucked away in a corner office on the ground floor of the Tribal Community and Government Center the Tribe's new Archivist Stephen Curley diligently works to collect, catalog and preserve the tribe's history. It's a monumental and extremely time-consuming task that Stephen seems right at home tackling.

Stephen becomes visibly excited discussing the future for tribal archives and the benefits it will have for future generations. "We're working towards the creation of a research repository that tribal citizens can review and contribute to," said Stephen. "Right now we are still in the beginning phase of the project and having the tribe contribute to the collections is priority number one for me. I feel strongly that the community should be the steward of their story."

While archives have had a few community members submit letters, photos and other items of tribal citizens' life in Mashpee in the early 1900's, the story of the Mashpee Wampanoag people is far from complete. Stephen is hopeful that more tribal citizens will open up their personal archives and consider sharing material that depicts their elders place

and role in the tribe into context. These types of materials can be anything from photographs, letters and papers to artwork and audio and video formats.

With care and dedication to his work, Stephen carefully catalogs and stores each item provided to the archives in the climate-controlled room. The tribal citizens that have contributed items to the archives understood that by donating a piece of their families' history it ensured their ancestors' story would be available for future generations to review.

Each item accepted into archives is carefully cataloged and preserved in our archives by Stephen. It's clear watching the process that he cares deeply for his work and mission to collect the story of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

"I'm from Tucson, Arizona – located near the Tohono O'odham Nation of the southwest – and have always felt a need to give back to tribal communities and empowering natives to be sovereign in every aspect," said Stephen. "My work allows me to fulfill that need, to dig into historical material and give back to the community...It's a great opportunity."



Prior to accepting his position at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, Stephen was in Tucson, Arizona where he worked for the National Park Service Museum Services program at the Western Archaeological and Conservation Center as an archival contractor. In his time off, he volunteered his professional experience with both the Tohono O'odham and Pascua Yaqui tribal libraries to develop their collections. He is also currently seated on the Society of American Archivists' Native American Roundtable

Saints & Strangers Gets it Wrong: Indian Country Today *(continued)*

is very proud of 'Saints & Strangers' and the great lengths our producers went to portray the time period as accurately as possible," he said, adding that Nat Geo hopes the film becomes "traditional holiday viewing as the universal message of survival and acceptance truly stands the test of time."

Problems with the film do not stem from the quantity of Native interactions, Coombs said, but rather the substance of those interactions. Coombs read the first two hours of the script and agreed to act as a consultant for Nat Geo, in conjunction with the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project.

"I was appalled at what I was reading," Coombs said of the script. "Some of the stuff that was in the story, they were just making it up."

Nat Geo also courted Jessie Little Doe Baird, cofounder of the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project and vice chair of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Baird, a 2010 MacArthur Genius Fellow, also voiced concern about a script she called "culturally incompetent."

"It was really stereotypical and prejudiced," she said. "It's one of the worst scripts I've ever seen. I told them it was terrible, but it didn't need to be."

Baird and Coombs were poised to offer translations, dialogue coaching and cultural expertise for the production. Among their concerns were invented or dramatized scenes, distorted cultural references and stereotypical portrayals of Natives.

"When we talk about relationships, especially cross-cultural and race relations, it really is important to get things right," Baird said. "When you dramatize a set of events, it's one thing. But to change the facts is dangerous because people watching it take it as fact."

For example, Baird pointed to the film's opening sequence. While it is true that pilgrims looted Native villages for food, the beginning of the film masks the fact that when colonists landed at Provincetown, on the tip of Cape Cod (before they arrived at present-day Plymouth), their first occupation was robbing graves.

The narrative returns later to the same looting scene, during which it becomes clear that the colonists are raiding graves, but they also discover a skull with blond hair, suggesting that the Natives had killed earlier settlers and taken trophies.

At another point in the film, the Wampanoag deliver to colonists the blood-

ied clothes of a child who had been lost, intimating that they had killed the boy because pilgrims had stolen their corn. That is grossly untrue, Coombs said.

"That's an outright lie," she said. "The Wampanoag took care of the lost child. When they returned him, he was happy and healthy and probably bedecked with beads. There's nothing in history about knocking the kid on the head and bringing the bloody shirt to the colonists."

But Baird and Coombs never got a chance to correct the script. Nat Geo terminated the contract when the Wampanoag asked for authority to review the script prior to filming to ensure it was historically and culturally accurate and that any offensive material had been removed. When Nat Geo refused to forfeit authority, the Wampanoag declined to participate.

"Nat Geo said it has a policy of not allowing the subjects of a film to have any say in the script," Baird said. "We said we have a policy of not letting anyone say whatever they want about us and using our language to say it. We have a right to look at the script and determine that we're not using the language to denigrate ourselves."

Indian Country Today article.

Truth (WÂNÔMUHKUTEËY8ÔK)

In this issue of the Mittark we will be focusing on truth. Our friend, Pat Wilson of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians wrote an article on truth and he has given us permission to print it for our tribal members. He relates a powerful personal story about an experience of truth when trying to explain truth to another. We hope you enjoy the story and can relate to the difficult concept of truth.

The truth is what you believe to be correct and right. The truth is how you understand and apply the facts. What is the truth one day may not be the truth the next day. Some truths can change, but there are others that cannot change. Truth as a guiding principle, to be truthful is to speak.

Truth: To show honor is to be truthful and trustworthy. To tell the truth is sincerity in action, character, and utterance. Be faithful to fact and reality. Be true in everything that you do. Be true to yourself and true to your fellow man. Understand it – Speak it – Live by it.

For me “truth” became easier to understand, back when I was working as a substance abuse counselor. I was trying to get a client to understand what being truthful meant. No matter how I tried to get the client

to understand my explanation of what truth meant, it just wasn’t sinking in. So I did this, I said, don’t look back or turn around, on the wall there is a picture of a young Indian boy. Okay, to you right now that is one truth. That is the truth based on what you know, or in this case what I told you. At this point there is a picture of a young Indian boy on the wall that is what you believe to be the truth. I then said, “I need some coffee, and I’ll be right back.” I got up and left my office to get the coffee. When I got back the client said, “There isn’t any picture.” I answered back, and now you know another truth. You now believe there is no picture, because you turned around to see for yourself. When you turned around you were looking for a picture hanging on the wall. When you did not see one, there wasn’t a picture, because that is what you expected to see. But if you look on the book shelf you will see a magazine leaning up against the wall and on the cover is a picture of a young Indian boy. Now, that is the reality of the truth.

First, you had to take the truth on faith, next you had to find out if I was truthful. You then believed I was not being trustworthy, as you believed there was no picture, and you confronted me with your new found truth. Then the truth was revealed and the

facts came out that there was indeed a picture of a young Indian boy on the wall. The truth is hard to find but if you look in the right places you can find it.

The truth in Peacemaking is what is left when all the “he said and she said, it’s your fault, and you never listen,” road blocks are cleared away and the only thing left is the reality of the problem. Once the participants are able to see the issue for what it is, they will come to understand what the truth is for them. Once the truth is revealed, we can start to move forward.



Tribe Celebrates Thanks Giving *(continued)*

The event closed out with a potluck style feast of traditional food and drumming. In addition to food brought in by tribal citizens the menu also included salmon, blue fish, striper, cod fish cakes, butternut squash, steamers, wild rice, corn bread, muscles, turkey, corn on the cob and blueberry slump.

Thank you to the Old Indian Meeting House Committee for hosting the annual event and to all of the tribal citizens that lent a hand throughout the day. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is together, strong and have so much to be thankful for this year.



Dawn “Candy” Hendricks with a proclamation from President Obama affirming that the month of November is National Native American Heritage Month. Dawn has received numerous proclamations since 1997 from presidents and governors. She has donated them to the Tribe.



Nashauonk
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COMMUNITY



ICWA: Protecting Our Next Generation



Child in photo is not affiliated with ICWA programs

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Department is looking for Tribal Members that are interested in becoming a foster parent. The ICWA Department is in desperate need of individuals to step forward and give our next generation the warm, loving and safe home they deserve.

Please contact Catherine Hendricks ICWA Director for more info at (508) 477-0208 x 144 at (774) 255-0119 or at catherinehendricks@mwtribe.com.

The MWT ICWA Department is located in the Community and Government Center..

Christmas Craft Fair to Benefit Alice May Lopez Memorial Fund

The Alice May Lopez Memorial Statue Fundraising Committee will be hosting the 2nd Annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, December 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. The annual event brings vendors together with holiday shoppers allowing people to find those special gifts you can only get from a local artist.

All vendors are welcome to attend and display items for sale. Vendor applications are due November 29 and may be picked up at the Community and Government Center front desk. You may also reserve your vendor space by sending notice to Carol Lopez at 139 Great Neck Road North, Mashpee, MA 02649.

The vendor fee is \$30 for an 8' table, \$60 for two 8' tables and \$75 for four 8' tables. The tables and chairs will be provided to all vendors, however, vendors will need to bring their own table cover.

All funds raised from the vendor fees will benefit the Alice May Lopez Statue Memorial Fund. The committee is raising \$100,000 to create a life-sized bronze statue in memorial of Alice May Lopez who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 49 in 2011. Alice was the founder and first director of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Housing Department.

