



# Nashauonk Mittark™

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DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Column



Wuneekeesug Nutawâm (*Greetings to my Tribal Community*),

Happy New Year! May the Creator bless you, your family and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe with good health and happiness in 2013. I would like to offer prayers for those we lost from this physical world over the past year, and hope that their families find peace and comfort in knowing that their loved ones are watching over us. We honor them and hold them in our hearts. I also offer prayers to our newest Tribal members, the babies who have joined us in 2012. We celebrate their lives, their potential, and the promise that they hold for our tribe.

I would like to thank all who have worked so hard to make 2012 a successful year for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Our progress hasn't been easy, but we have always pulled together as one community, one family, one nation to move our tribe forward toward our goals.

I'd like to thank our Natural Resources Department and Fish, Wildlife and Natural Resources Commission for their hard work this year. From providing salmon to Tribal members, to making progress on the oyster farm, to fighting to preserve our aboriginal hunting and fishing rights, to teaching our youth about shellfishing, to working with our youth to preserve our ecosystem, we are very proud of your

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## Historic Preservation Commission

**T**he Tribal Historic Preservation Department seeks to establish a 7-member Mashpee Wampanoag Historic Preservation Commission (MWHPC). The Commission will provide advice to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer on decisions related to preserving tribal culture, history, language, historical sites, structures, cultural items, burial sites, and other sites of significance.

**Wanted:** Two tribal members who are interested and knowledgeable of the Mashpee Wampanoag history, culture, and land use practices of our ancestors who are willing to serve as Historic Preservation Commissioners

**Duties:** Attend meetings once a month (maximum of 2 hours per meeting), offer advice and guidance to THPO for developing protection plans

of important cultural sites and items. The Terms will be two years.

**The Historic Preservation Commission includes:**

1. Chairperson of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Museum (or appointee)
2. Chairperson of the Mashpee Old Indian Meetinghouse House Committee (or appointee)
3. The Tribal Chief (or appointee)
4. The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
5. The Tribal Medicine Person (or appointee)
6. Tribal member
7. Tribal member

Interested persons may contact Ramona Peters at (508) 477-6186 or send email to [rpeters@mwtribe.com](mailto:rpeters@mwtribe.com).

## 2012-2013 LIHEAP Program

LIHEAP is a federally-funded program that helps low-income households with their home energy bills.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

- » Those who meet the State and/or Tribal Income Guidelines
- » Elderly and within the guidelines
- » Veteran within the guidelines
- » Family with child under 5 – meets guidelines
- » Families with foster children or adopted children
- » Unemployed and within guidelines
- » Heat is not included with your rent and you meet the guidelines

### WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO APPLY:

- » Recent copy of your primary heating/utility bill
- » Recent payroll stub for everyone in household 18 years of age and over (income will be calculated on a yearly basis)

### LIHEAP Stay Warm



- » Documentation showing Social Security, Unemployment, Pension fund, Disability, Self-employment (1099), businesses owned companies.
  - » Final Utility Termination Notice (Shut-off notice)
  - » Proof of present address, Mortgage Bill/deed, Lease, property tax bill
  - » Proof of total members living in your household (School Records, tax records, etc.)
  - » Social Security Card for all members living in your household
  - » Proof of Citizenship (Green Card), Tribal ID for all household members
- Please feel free to Call Beatrice Jackson Fuel Assistance Coordinator at (508) 419-6017 ext 601 for more information.

# DRUM BEAT

## Events Calendar

### New Events

**January 13 - 2:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

**January 26 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
Health Services Open House

**January 26 - 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
Meet the Candidates Forum,  
*Mashpee High School Auditorium*

**February 10 - 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
Tribal Elections, *Mashpee High School*

### Weekly Events

**Thursdays -6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Volleyball, *Mashpee High School*

**Fridays - 7:00 p.m.**  
Youth Ministry, *Pastor Chris and Peggy's Home*

**Biweekly - 10:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.**  
Mashpee Food Pantry, *Held on Monday and Wednesday every other week*

**Biweekly - 10:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m.**  
New Bedford Food Pantry, *Held on Tuesday and Thursday every other week*

**Monthly - 7:00 p.m.**  
Chiefs Circle, *Old Indian Meeting House. First Tuesday of the month.*

### Language Classes

Please visit [www.wlrp.org](http://www.wlrp.org) for the current schedule of language classes.

## Spirit Lake Basketball Tournament



The Spirit Lake Basketball Tournament will be held on March 16 and 17. The tournament is open to children grades 5 through 8. Please stop by the Tribal Office or call (508) 477-0208 and leave the name(s), grade and contact(s) of players.

## Tribal Announcements

» The Massachusetts Department of Transportation Building asked our very own **Robyn Stamps** to be a keynote speaker on November 19 for Native American Month. **Danielle Hill** assisted and the theme was Native Voices.

» The Mashpee Pop Warner "E" team had a great year. They were 8-1 and also won the Mighty Mite Bowl which was the first time Mashpee has ever taken home the 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy. Congratulations to a great team: **Carlton Hendricks** and **Robert Dias** (coaches); **Kyle Hicks Jr.**, **Caesar Hendricks**, **Robbie Dias**, and **AJ Govoni** - Great Job Boys!



## Seeking New Elders Council Member

The Elders Council is looking for their newest member. The seat is a three-year term as an Elders Council member. Any interested parties should contact the Elders Council Secretary, Anne Foxx at [elderscouncil@mwtribe.com](mailto:elderscouncil@mwtribe.com) or (508) 394-3343.

## Open Seat on Finance Committee

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council is looking to fill an open seat on the Finance Committee. Please forward a resume' to Treasurer Mark Harding, 766 Falmouth Road, A4, Mashpee, MA 02649 or fax to (508) 477-0508.

## Annual Wampanoag Ball on March 23

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Ball "Honoring our present, past and future warriors" will be held March 23, 2013 at the Sea Crest in North Falmouth from 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$30 and \$20 for elders and may be purchased at Madaket Place and Puritans in the Mashpee Commons. Rooms can be reserved by calling the Sea Crest at 800-225-3110.



The committee is now accepting bids for Security Team and a DJ. You can forward bids to the Tribal Council at 766 Falmouth Road, A4, Mashpee, MA 02649. They must be received no later than February 1. For questions please contact Suzette Peters-Spinola at [wampqueen128@yahoo.com](mailto:wampqueen128@yahoo.com). We look forward to seeing all of you again at the 16th Annual Wampanoag Ball.

Join us for the Health Services Open House on January 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Health Services Office.



## Eric Lindsey real estate broker for Boston Trust Realty Group

Also available are units in the Hyannis area located at 290 West Main Street, Hyannis. This is a 100+ unit complex for residents of the age 55+. Currently there are 7 vacant units where heat and cable are also included. Please visit [www.hyannishouseapts.com](http://www.hyannishouseapts.com) for additional information or contact Eric at (617) 501-1394 or [Ericlindsey@gmail.com](mailto:Ericlindsey@gmail.com).



## Chairman's Column *(continued)*

hard work.

I would like to congratulate our Youth and all those who have helped them reach their goals this year. I am proud of our Native Tribal Scholars, our Youth Council, our Powwow Princess Keturah Peters, all of our honor roll students, and our graduates from high school, college, graduate and GED programs. You honor yourselves, your family, your ancestors and your Tribe with your hard work.

Thank you also to all those who are working with our youth to make healthy choices, to stay connected to their culture, and to achieve great things. Thanks to those who have opened their homes to foster children, advocated for those with special needs, and gave voice to those who could not speak up for themselves. You are instrumental to our children's future and you are role models for them today.

Thank you to all involved in making the first year of our very own IHS Health Services Clinic such a great success. The ability to provide primary care to our people on our own land is a great stride forward for our tribe. Thank you also to all those who have worked to provide culturally-appropriate support to Tribal members in need through counseling, diabetes care and prevention, substance abuse prevention and support, and many other programs.

Thank you to our Elders and traditional leaders for providing wisdom, guidance, and spiritual support. Thank you for providing a connection to our traditions and for passing them on to our young people. To our Chief, Medicine Man, Chief's

Circle, and Clan Mothers and others - thank you!

Thank you to our Housing Department, which works hard every day to help Tribal members access safe, affordable, warm housing in our homeland. I am especially excited about the innovative programs being administered by the Housing Department to keep people in their homes and to acquire new housing. I look forward to even more progress in the coming year on the Meetinghouse Road housing development.

Congratulations to all who have been involved in our Community and Government Center. From the Development Department, to Buildings and Grounds, to the Project Management team, to the Tribal members working on the construction site, to all the employees who were flexible in moving their office space to accommodate the project, I thank you. This project is so exciting for our Tribe and is progressing rapidly.

Thank you to our Finance team for a successful, comprehensive first-ever annual budget, for implementation of a new software system, for a clean audit, and for professionalizing all of our financial systems.

Thank you to all who have made our annual events such an incredible success. Our entire Tribe should be proud of our Mashpee Wampanoag Ball, our Annual Powwow, the Youth Sobriety Powwow, services at the Old Indian Meeting House, Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway, Breakfast with Santa, and more.

I also want to acknowledge the real progress we made in 2012 on our economic development goal of building

a destination resort casino in Taunton. We have met every milestone on our way to bringing jobs and revenue to our Tribe, Taunton, and the Commonwealth through this project. Just this year, we acquired an option on land in Taunton, reached an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Taunton, won an overwhelming vote in the referendum to approve our project in Taunton, negotiated a compact with Governor Patrick that was also passed by the legislature, initiated both state and federal environmental reviews, completed our application for land in trust for the properties in both Mashpee and Taunton, and much more. This could not have been accomplished without the assistance of literally hundreds of Tribal members. Now, we look forward to renegotiating a compact with Governor Patrick, which will then be passed by the legislature and approved by the Department of Interior, and to receiving a positive determination on our application for land in trust.

It's impossible to list all of the exciting things that have happened in the last year. It is truly awe-inspiring to think about the incredible progress we have made together and how much we have to look forward to in 2013. With committed people working cooperatively, positively, and with a focus on our future, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Let's keep our momentum going!

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell  
Qaqemasq (*Running Bear*)

## Youth Council Elected

**T**he Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Council elections were held on December 4, 2012 and we are proud to present our elected youth council.

Brian Weeden was re-elected as chairman and Sassamin Weeden was elected chairwoman. Keturah Peters was elected vice chairwoman, Tahlia Jackson and Scotty Reels were elected treasurer, and Ryanne White-Jackson and Cassie Averrett as secretary. Congratulations!

## Meet the Candidates Forum

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Election Committee invites Tribal Members to attend and participate in the 2013 Meet the Candidates Forum. The special forum will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Mashpee High School Auditorium located at 500 Old Barnstable Road in Mashpee. It is a great opportunity to learn about each

candidate running for office and about our electoral process.

The Forum is being held for Tribal Members only and is only open to Tribal Members. The Election Committee will be moderating the forum to ensure all candidates have adequate and equal time for responses.



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# COMMUNITY

## Education Department Update

**T**he Education Department is very involved with Indian Education within the Mashpee Schools. The Department is currently doing a survey of New Bedford and of other communities on Cape Cod to help provide guidelines for schools so students are learning more about Native American heritage and therefore give all Natives a more supportive and representative education.

### Child Care Services

The Child Care Services has a heavy workload servicing our tribal families. The program has serviced over 41 families and will continue to offer services to other tribal families.

Our Child Care Services team is working with providers, tribal families and continues to work steadfastly to streamline the child care waiting list.

If you are in need, or will need, child care services please request an application as soon as possible. This grant

can serve all Native Americans (federal and state recognized) in our five contiguous counties.

### Native Tribal Scholars Program

Currently the NTS Program is working with 36 tribal students throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Staff is currently planning events through the academic year.

The NTS Program grant has been funded again and the North American Indian Center of Boston (NAICOB) in partnership with the Tribe administer the NTS grant and plan to offer a summer program in a college setting. This grant is funded by the Office of Indian Education in the Federal Department of Education. There are many components to this program including preparing for college entrance tests and learning about tribal heritage. For more information on the NTS Program, please contact Jamie Morrison, Director or staffers Kristen Wyman and Warren Griffin.

## Election Schedule

### Candidates Forum Saturday, January 26

**Location:** *Mashpee High School*

### Election Day Sunday, February 10, 2013

#### Voting Hours:

Enrolled, Registered Elders  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Enrolled, Registered Tribal  
Members: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** *Mashpee High School*

### Four (4) Tribal Officer Seats up for Election

Chairperson (4 year term)  
Vice-Chairperson (4 year term)  
Secretary (4 year term)  
Treasurer (4 year term)

One (1) Tribal Council Seat: Tribal  
Council Member (4 year term)