



Nashauonk Mittark™

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January 2015



DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Column



Dear Tribal Family,

Happy New Year! Of course, the holiday season is supposed to be a time of good cheer and glad tidings. And that is what I want to share with you.

In case you missed the news, a federal judge has sided with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe in its long fight to establish a reservation and build a casino in southwest Washington. It's a decision being celebrated across Indian Country, as tribes that have yet to establish reservation lands had worried the Supreme Court's 2009 *Carcieri* decision would prevent tribes federally recognized after 1934 from ever being able to do so.

It's great news for us because the ruling that came down from the Washington D.C. court on Friday, December 12, upheld the Department of Interior (DOI) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) ability to take land into trust for tribes federally recognized after 1934, like the Mashpee Wampanoag.

This case, along with an update on the status of our land in trust application, was discussed at length at our General Body meeting in November.

Taking land into trust has always been a lengthy bureaucratic process, a process that became far more complicated ever since the *Carcieri* decision that essentially said the DOI did not have the authority to take land into trust for any tribe that was not "under federal jurisdiction" before 1934.

This decision created uncertainty in the process, but was addressed relatively quickly by the Department of Interior (DOI) with the release of Solicitor Hillary Tompkins legal opinion in March of 2009. Solicitor Tompkins' 26-page document clarified the legal lan-

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Destination Resort Casino Reaches Another Milestone with FEIR

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reached another milestone in its economic endeavors with the recent announcement of the publication of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for Project First Light, marking the passage of a key milestone for the tribe's resort destination casino project.

"We are pleased to submit this final report of our proposed destination resort casino in Taunton," said Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Chairman Cedric Cromwell. "This report is the final step in the state's environmental review process and helps us stay on track to bring thousands of jobs to southeastern Massachusetts."

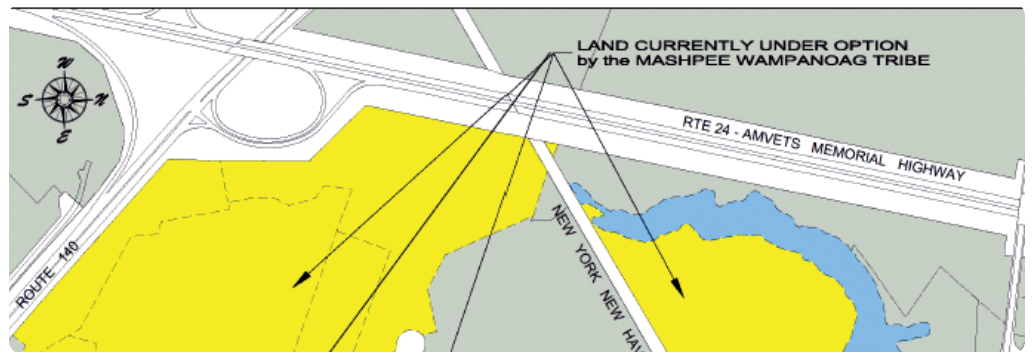
The tribe has submitted the FEIR on Project First Light in accordance with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act. The analysis includes responses to comments submitted during the public comment period on

the draft report, which was released last year and discussed at numerous public meetings. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (FEIS) released its Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the tribe's land in trust application in early September.

The Mashpee Wampanoags, a federally-recognized Indian tribe that has historically resided in southeastern Massachusetts, is proposing to build a casino, hotels, restaurants, shops, and an events center on a 151-acre site in Taunton. Project First Light will be built on lands that will be taken into trust by the federal Department of the Interior.

The construction phase of the project is expected to generate over 1,000 jobs and approximately \$837 million in total economic activity in Massachusetts. Once completed, the resort's operation is expected to generate more than 3,500 full and part-time jobs as well as

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Shuttle Service for Elders Lunch and Learn

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Transportation Department would like to announce that starting on Tuesday, January 20th, 2015 we will be providing a shuttle service for Tribal elders to attend the Title VI Elders Lunch and Learn program. The program meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Tribal Community and Government Center. A more detailed announcement complete with shuttle

schedule, a list of stops, and corresponding maps will be sent to all elders through both e-mail and a supplementary notice in the mail. It will also be made available for viewing on the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's home page (www.mashpeewampanoag-tribe.com). For any questions in the interim, please contact Transportation Coordinator Chris Helme at (508) 477-5800 x11.

Events Calendar

New Events

January 11 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting,

Community and Government Center (MWTCGC)

January 24 - 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Meet the Candidates Forum, MWTCGC

Weekly Events

Mondays - 5:30 p.m.

Recovery Group, Old Indian Burial Grounds

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

Elders Lunch & Learn, 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

Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m.

Enrollment Committee, MWTCGC

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

Elders Lunch & Learn, MWTCGC

Thursdays - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adult Math and Writing Workshops, MWTCGC

Fridays - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley, MWTCGC

Monthly - 6:00 p.m.

Housing Commission, MWTCGC,

It is held the first Thursday and 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.



» **Correction to Daycia Frye Article:** Last month we acknowledged the great job Daycia Frye is doing in school but incorrectly listed her grandparents. We apologize for the error and have included the correct announcement below.

Congratulations to **Daycia Frye** for achieving high academic honors this past semester. Daycia is in the 8th grade at Dennis Yarmouth High School. Daycia is the daughter of David Frye and Alycia Larson and granddaughter of Dale Frye and great granddaughter of Curtis Frye. Keep up the good work Daycia.



» **Mashpee Students Inducted into Honor Society:** Congratulations to **Caylin M. Oakley-Robbins** and **Ryan Hendricks** for being inducted into the Honor Society on Thursday, December 4 at the Quashnet Elementary School in Mashpee. Caylin is 11 years old and in the 5th grade and Ryan is 12 years old and in the 6th grade. Both are students at Quashnet Elementary School. Great work Caylin and Ryan...your families and Tribe are very proud of your accomplishments.



» **Mashpee High Students Honor Roll:** Congratulations to Mashpee High School students **Brianna Cheatham** and **Kendall Scott** for achieving honor roll. Both students were recognized on Tuesday, December 23 at the Mashpee High School Honor Roll Breakfast. Brianna Cheatham is 14 years old and in the 9th grade and Kendall Scot is 18 years old and in the 12th grade. Brianna is the daughter of Rachelle Jonas and Kendall is the daughter of Marita Scott and David Weeden. Kendall is also a recent graduate of the Native Tribal Scholars program. Their parents are extremely proud of their accomplishments and know "our kids are destined for greatness."



» **Varsity Running Back:** Congratulations to Barnstable's newest varsity running back **Ryan Dauphinais**. Ryan, a junior at Barnstable High School, recently received his letter jacket after rushing for 1,002 yards and four touchdowns this season. His achievements are the result of his commitment to his team and his 'extreme power to find the open holes and breaking out of a lot of tackles.' Ryan is the son of Mika Miranda and the grandson of Rita Pocknett Gonsalves.



Dawnland Voices: An Anthology of Indigenous Writing from New England Features Tribal Authors

For the first time, the Native Voice of South-eastern Massachusetts is now "licensed" within the 690 pages of the recently published book (2014) titled *Dawnland Voices: An Anthology of Indigenous Writings From New England* by Dr. Stobhan Senier, University of New Hampshire.

This anthology includes the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Passamquoddy, Penobscot, Abenaki, Nipmuc, Narragansett, Mohegan, Schaghticoke and of course, the Mashpee and Aquinnah Wampanoag

Tribes. On November 1, there was an honoring dinner held at the University of New Hampshire for the authors who briefly read one or two pieces from his or her tribal nation.

The spoken words empowered the audience with humor, grace and reinforced Native American healing by listening to the cultural oral narratives. I believe in the theory "what goes around comes around", even as generations have passed by, in spite of our many ocean waves of obstacles- here

we are in the literary breadth of our native voice today.

Wampanoag Section:

» Introduction by Joan Tavares Avant (Granny Squannit) Mashpee Wampanoag.

» Early Texts in Massachusetts-Petition from Gay Head Sachem Mittark, 1681, Petition from Gay Head to Commissioners of New England Company.

» Alfred DeGrasse, Mashpee Wampanoag (1890-1978) About Poison Ivory, The Legend of the Red Eagle.

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FEIR for Casino *(continued)*

nearly \$512 million in economic activity each year.

The Mashpee Wampanoag are known as the "People of the First Light," hence the project's name. The tribe has both a strong and long tradition of natural resource conservation, which is also reflected in the project planning. Since the environmental review process began, the tribe has continued to refine the project's design to avoid and minimize various impacts to the city.

The tribe has worked with city of Taunton and state officials on an ongoing basis to improve traffic flow in the area, including proposed improvements to the Route 24/140 interchange.

On December 1st our Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was submitted to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and can be found online at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com/firstlightresort. On December 10th the report was released for public comment for a period of 30 days. This is another "milestone" in the journey toward our economic development as our gaming endeavor "Project First Light" moves ahead.

Similarly to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which was placed on Federal Register on September 5th, this report reflects all state-regulated environmental impact as they relate specifically to the area in Taunton where our proposed Project First Light will be located.

Public comments are due by Jan. 9, 2015 and can be sent to:

Secretary Maeve Valley Bartlett

Executive Office of Energy and
Environmental Affairs

Attn: MEPA office

Ms. Holly Johnson, EEA #14924

Cambridge Street, Suite 900

Boston, MA 02114

Or via email: Holly.S.Johnson@state.ma.us

Or via fax: (617) 626-1181

Open Seat on Election Committee

The Election Committee currently has an open seat and is searching for a new committee member to assist with the election process. Tribal Members interested in serving on the Election Committee may contact Committee Chairwoman Kim Frye at kfrye@mwtribe.com or call (774) 238-2129.

Chairman's Column *(continued)*

guage and defined how recently recognized tribes - like the Mashpee Wampanoag - could still follow the land-into-trust process. In March, the Interior Department issued a legal memorandum that clarified the meaning of "under federal jurisdiction" and has now been upheld by the Cowlitz Tribe ruling.

With procedures in place to address the Supreme Court ruling, the DOI and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) resumed taking land into trust. In 2013, land was taken into trust for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, a Pacific Northwest tribe. Opponents to the Cowlitz Tribe filed a lawsuit to challenge the federal government's decision, but U.S. District Judge Barbara J. Rothstein in a federal court in Washington, D.C dismissed the case (although the plaintiffs in the Cowlitz case do have the option to appeal the decision).

It's a case we have followed closely. We've been watching it because our land in trust application is being reviewed under the same guidelines and criteria as was used with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's land in trust application, according to our legal team headed by Arlinda Locklear, one of the most respected attorneys in Native American law.

Arlinda has spent nearly forty years in the practice of Native American law. Working for the Native American Rights Fund, and later for Patton Boggs LLP, she has defended Native American tribes in federal and state claims related to treaty land and water rights and to tribal jurisdiction on reservations. She has also established a national reputation regarding federal acknowledgment of Native American tribes. She testified before Congress in 1988 (while representing the Lumbee Tribe) on the need for better procedures for federal acknowledgment, and again in 1989, recommending approval of the Indian Federal Acknowledgment Administrative Procedures Act of 1989. From 1987 through March 2010, she represented the Lumbee Tribe pro bono in its efforts to obtain full federal acknowledgment.

To help explain where things stand, the steps we have already taken, and what is next, Arlinda provided a detailed update and also answered many questions from the general body.

Arlinda explained that simply getting through the federal environmental review process is a huge step in the right direction for taking land into trust - a process that has taken other Tribes more than ten years to complete. We were able to complete the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review process in less than two years. The DOI released the Mashpee EIS in September and the formal comment period ended in October. Arlinda noted that the speed with which we completed the EIS - the most time consuming part of the process - speaks to the strength of our application and tribal administration.

In the meantime, we are wrapping up the separate state environmental review process, with the final environmental report submitted on December 1. Once the state process is finished, all this information will be forwarded to the Department of Interior. Arlinda was optimistic at the November meeting that Judge Rothstein would support the government's position to take land into trust for the Cowlitz Tribe, and she was correct. She now anticipates that the department will now act on our application once the state process is finished.

So, with the Cowlitz decision, the speed with which we have gone through the environmental review process, coupled with President Obama's commitment to place 500,000 acres of land into trust by the end of next year - as the President said at the White House Tribal Nations Conference last month that was attended by a delegation from our tribe - 2015 is shaping up to be a momentous year for us.

May you have a prosperous and healthy 2015 with Blessings and Good Medicine!

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell

Qaqemasq (*Running Bear*)

Open Seat on Housing Commission

The Housing Commission currently is searching for a new committee member. The mission of the Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department is to provide safe affordable housing to eligible tribal members, and other Native Americans who reside in

the Tribe's service area.

Tribal Members interested in serving on the Housing Commission should send a letter of interest by Saturday, January 31 to Housing Director Deirdre Lopes at dlopes@mwtribe.com.

UNITY: A Lesson from the Geese

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates “uplift” for the bird following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds 71% longer flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and a sense of community can get where they travel on the thrust of one another.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the “lifting power” of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose takes over at the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing

the hard tasks and sharing leadership – because people, like geese, are independent.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their pace.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging – not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly again or dies. They then launch out on their own, either with another formation or to catch up with the original flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as the geese, we will stand by each other like they do.

Reprint from Local 2195 Newsletter. Part of a series submitted by our Peacemakers.

Seeking Tribal Outreach Worker

Job Title: Tribal Outreach Worker
Reports To: Department Director
Salary Range: \$19,132 - \$20,255 Annual
 24 hrs per week, Part Time (no health/dental benefits)

Summary: The Tribal Outreach Worker performs outreach in the Mashpee Wampanoag community in identifying tribal members in need of assistance, medical needs, and other services with referral to appropriate tribal resources. The Tribal Outreach Worker is responsible for engagement with a variety of stakeholders to provide advocacy, education, guidance and assistance to tribal members.

Education/Experience: High school diploma or General Education Degree (GED); Six months or more related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience, budget administration, policy development and reporting; knowledge of basic grant and contracting process for government agencies; and knowledge of rules and regulations pertaining to federally funded programs. Proficient in Microsoft Office. Must be proficient in creating/supporting ACCESS & EXCEL databases. Must possess a valid driver’s license and must pass CORI/background check.

Preferred Qualifications: CPR Certification or able to obtain within 30 calendar days of hire date; Familiarity with Mashpee Wampanoag history and culture; General procedures of health and safety for elders; Valid MA driver’s license; experience working with tribal communities; experience working with non-tribal health and social service agencies.

Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 472). A full position description may be obtained by on the tribal website at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com/jobs or by contacting Jason Turner, HR Director, at hr@mwtribe.com. Applications along with a current resume should be submitted to Jason Turner by January 31, 2015.

Tribe Seeking Emergency Prep. Planner

Job Title: Emergency Preparedness Planner
Reports To: Department Director
Salary Range: \$26,880 - \$27,300 Annual
 24 hrs per week, Part Time (no health/dental benefits)

Summary: The Emergency Preparedness Planner serves as project manager in the development and implementation of emergency preparedness plans for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. The E-Prep Planner is responsible for engagement with a variety of stakeholders, at all levels of government (Local, State, Federal, and Tribal) and administering all emergency preparedness activities and planning for the tribe.

Education/Experience: High school diploma or General Education Degree (GED); Two or more years’ experience in Emergency Preparedness or equivalent in Emergency Training Programs, budget administration, and policy development and reporting; knowledge of basic grant and contracting process for government agencies; and knowledge of rules and

regulations pertaining to federally funded programs. Proficient in Microsoft Office. Must be proficient in creating/supporting ACCESS & EXCEL databases. Must possess a valid driver’s license and must pass CORI/background check.

Preferred Qualifications: Principles and Practices of Emergency Management; General procedures of public safety and health response organizations; Valid MA driver’s license; experience working with tribal communities; experience working with non-tribal health and emergency agencies.

Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 472). A full position description may be obtained by on the tribal website at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com/jobs or by contacting Jason Turner, HR Director, at hr@mwtribe.com. Applications along with a current resume should be submitted to Jason Turner by January 31, 2015.



Santa spreading holiday cheer at Children’s Christmas Party on December 13.



Members of our Youth Council volunteering at this year’s Christmas Party.

Tribe Teams up with UMass Boston to Fight Diabetes

According to the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), Native Americans are twice as likely to develop type 2 diabetes than non natives. In addition, rates of diabetes among Native Americans younger than 35 have doubled from 1994-2004. It's a major health concern our Tribal Council and Tribal Health Department are aware of and constantly looking for new ways to combat the issue.

That's why the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Health Department is so enthusiastic about partnering with Dr. Emily Jones and the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston) in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded study, Identifying Postpartum Intervention Approaches to Prevent Type 2 Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Massachusetts American Indian Women with Previous Gestational Diabetes. It's a lengthy title with a pointed goal of developing a culturally acceptable way to promote healthy lifestyle behaviors among childbearing women who are at high risk for developing diabetes and heart disease.

Chairman Cedric Cromwell understands and has seen these diseases impact our community too often. "In our community, we unfortunately know firsthand the devastating

impact of diabetes and heart disease. We agree that prevention or delay of these diseases is crucial, and we feel that this research has the potential to help us identify practical ways to intervene early among women of childbearing age," said Chairman Cromwell.

Tribal Health are looking forward to collaborating with Dr. Jones and her research team at UMass Boston to develop a culturally relevant intervention that will help women carry out lifestyle behaviors that will reduce their chances of developing diabetes and heart disease.

As a collaborative research partner, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Health Department will assist in the recruitment and retention of study participants and will designate a liaison in the clinic to facilitate study-related activities. In addition, Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, Tribal Councilwoman and Health and Education Liaison, will serve as a study co-Investigator and assist the project coordinator in study-related activities.

The research will be conducted in a three-phase qualitative and quantitative study with female members of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe who are 18 years of age or older. This will allow Dr. Jones and study team

members to, in Phase One, conduct 45-90 minute focus groups and/or interviews with up to 30 women with prior gestational diabetes in pregnancy related to their beliefs around prevention of diabetes and heart disease, as an American Indian; in Phase Two, develop an intervention to reduce risk for diabetes and heart disease in American Indian women with previous gestational diabetes, using focus groups to validate the intervention; and in Phase Three, test the intervention for feasibility and acceptability with 30 women in our community.

Native Americans with diabetes can experience devastating complications, including heart disease and stroke, blindness, chronic kidney disease and amputations. Gestational diabetes, they type being researched in this study, only appear in pregnant women and develop in up to 10 percent of pregnancies. It usually disappears when the pregnancy is over. However, if not treated, it can cause problems for mothers and babies.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact the Tribal Health Department at (508) 477-0208.

Tribal Authors Featured in New Book *(continued)*

- » Mabel Avant, Mashpee Wampanoag (1892-1964) Interview-The Voice of Our Forsaken Church.
- » Helen Manning, Aquinnah Wampanoag (1919-2008), From Moshup's Footsteps.
- » Frank James Wamsutta, Aquinnah Wampanoag (1923-2001) National Day of Mourning.
- » Helen Attaquin, Aquinnah Wampanoag (1923-1993) How Martha's Vineyard Came to Be & From "There are Differences".
- » Russell Peters (Fast Turtle) Mashpee Wampanoag, (1929-2002) From the Wampanoags of Mashpee.
- » Anne Foxx, Mashpee Wampanoag (b. 1950) Historical Continuities in Indigenous Women's Political Activism: An Interview with Joan Tavares Avant.
- » Linda Coombs, Aquinnah Wampanoag Holistic History: Including an exhibit at Plimoth Plantation.
- » Paula Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag, Wampanoag Reflections Beware: Not All Terms Are Terms Are Fair Game.
- » Robert Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag (b.1962) Grandfather & Red Sun Rising.
- » Mwalim *) Morgan James Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag From a Mixed Medicine Bag.



Dawnland Voices dinner held at the University of New Hampshire for the authors who briefly read one or two pieces from his or her tribal nation.

Not all stories are told in this collection, simply because all Native nations have lots of stories to tell yet.

We have been compromised by non-native people who did not want to accept our traditional teachings or the wisdom of our ancestors or what our Native Nations had to share. Too many superintendents, teachers, and scholars would say that they could not find Native American narratives or documented sources of Native Voices, while we have been here all along for generations telling our stories in our communities and classrooms for those who wanted to listen. Clearly, it was to remove and transform tribal community identity, best termed as 'colonializing', trying to put us out of existence. "Not Gonna Happen"

It was such an honor and privilege to be among my tribal brothers and sisters celebrating their literary talents. The stories were amazing and many of them had similar cultural ties to each other. I am so pleased that Dr. Siobhan Senier and the University of Nebraska Press took on the challenge and made our Native Voices known on the Eastern Seaboard and I hope to see many more stories from our tribal sisters and brothers from this region. Further, our hosts at the UNH-Durham campus treated all of us with total respect and honor which made the experience more enriching. Thanks to Jessica Fish and her crew for all the assistance and attention.

Article By Joan Tavares Avant and Anne Foxx



WLRP 2014 Year in Review

2 014 was a big year for WLRP staff-ers, who moved from small offices in Summerfield Park into the new Tribal Government and Community Center in late February. The move offered WLRP's curriculum-writing, linguists-in-residence, and charter school development team the chance to work in a brand new community classroom and shared workspace.



More than three dozen community members signed up for year-round free evening and weekend language classes in 2014 (offered in Mashpee, Boston, New Bedford and Bourne), while staff also held a series of five evening focus groups, beginning in February, to build community interest in opening a Wôpanâak language immersion charter elementary school in August 2016. Linguists-in-Residence Vonnie Brown, Jennifer Harding, Tia Pocknett, and Instructor Tracy Kelley produced hundreds of Kindergarten and First Grade Wôpanâak language and culture based lesson plans aligned with the Massachusetts curriculum standards in preparation for the future school. Harding and Pocknett also received national paraprofessional certification, while curriculum manager Nitana Hicks Greendeer finished her PhD at Boston College in curriculum design and instruction in anticipation of serving as school administrator.



A successful three-week Summer Turtle Program was held at the tribal farm in July, with new high school and college age interns helping staff lead language, culture, and sports-related activities, as well as field trips to Boston and New Bedford museums, and canoeing and shell fishing expeditions. Forty

tribal students registered for Summer Turtle, and ten Aquinnah youth visited Maushop Farm to take part in activities on two successive Mondays well. The 2014 Summer Turtle Program was sponsored by the Bay and Paul Foundation, Nike N7 Fund, Cape Cod 5 Foundation, Fidelity Charitable Fund, Sacred Fire Foundation, an anonymous donor, and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.



With new neighbors, including many tribal departments, WLRP also partnered with Tribal Health on a new federal Title VI Administration for Aging grant to fund a new Elders Lunch and Learn program, offering twice weekly optional language classes in the Language Center, followed by catered lunches in the gym. Two dozen elders attended the Tue/Thu classes, learning new games, family terms, and basic conversation skills in the Wôpanâak language. Instructor Tracy Kelley also administered two surveys during 2014 to gauge elders' interest in specific topic areas, and then tailor classes specifically to their requests.



WLRP staff also began offering weekly youth language activities, including a preschool museum hour at the Tribal Museum, "Lunch Bunches" at Coombs School, and a "Language After School Hour" at Quashnet School. More than forty tribal students learned Wôpanâak language songs and games, and participated in crafting and planting activities thanks to WLRP's partnerships with museum staff and the Mashpee Indian Education Program.

Enrollment Department Update

Enrollment Meetings are now on Wednesday's at 5:30 p.m. at the Government and Community Center. Also, Tribal Members should get a new ID if they still have the older laminated ID, as they are no longer valid. ID's expire every 5 years and cost \$15 cash only. You can get an ID at any age and if you are over 55 years old the ID is free, you can also sign up to vote when you come in. Appointments are preferred please call ahead at (508) 477-0208 as we could be unavailable or in a meeting.

Over the past year we have been auditing our records and will continue to do so into the New Year until it is fully completed. After a completed audit the department will be sending out letters requesting members to submit missing required documentation from member folders. This audit was also conducted in 2012, however, since updates to the Enrollment Ordinance we have found that the first audit was not extensive enough to help us collect accurate up to date information. If you have been married, divorced, had a legal name change within the past 3 years please feel free to send a copy of any legal documents to the attention of the Enrollment Department at 483 Great Neck Road - South, Mashpee, MA 02649.

If you have moved or changed telephone numbers as well please feel free to contact us or drop by and complete a change of address form. We try to always keep updated records and you can help, we strive to keep all members informed of events and services offered by way of mail and email. If you are not receiving mail from the tribe or know someone who is not please contact us, we have over 450 members for whom we do not have a means to contact them.

I'd like to thank everyone for their patience while we operate with a one-person staff and it took some time for us to fill all vacant Enrollment Committee member seats. Please welcome our new members Nancy Rose, Suzette Peters-Spinola, Laverne A. Jackson and returning member Sherry Pocknett, and of course our continuing Chairman Brian Weeden.

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WLRP 2014 Year in Review *(continued)*



WLRP team members also began exciting new partnerships in 2014—including translation, teaching, and civic engagement activities—with the Tribal Court, the Elders Judiciary Committee, Suffolk Indigenous Peoples Law Clinic, and UMass-Boston’s Women and Gender Studies Department.

Several WLRP staff members also attended conferences this year in order to learn from other tribal communities about best practices in the realm of language revitalization. Specifically, we attended the ‘Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium’ whose theme was the critical role schools/education plays in the perpetuation of our Native

languages. The Administration for Children and Families held their annual grantee meeting in Washington DC in June entitled ‘Honoring our Commitments to Native Families and Communities: Today and Tomorrow’ which also included session tracks on language revitalization efforts. Finally, we attended a conference on Indian Island in Maine hosted by the Penobscot Tribe to begin dialogues about how to implement long distance learning for language and legally protect language assets.

Finally, WLRP team members hosted local and regional film screenings of the Makepeace Productions/PBS/ITVS documentary “We Still Live Here - Âs Nutayuneân,” which tells the story of the return of the Wôpanâak language after many generations without fluent speakers, and features voices from WLRP, Mashpee, Aquinnah, and Assonet. A local Mashpee Library screening was attended by 50 local residents and tribal citizens, while other screenings at colleges, universities, and conferences featured the Wôpanâak language story for hundreds. To see film clips and the companion website visit pbs.org/independentlens/we-still-live-here/.

To learn more about programs and classes offered collaboratively by WLRP and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s Language Department visit wlrp.org.

Meeting the Needs of our Community: Planning and Development Department

To ensure we continue to grow in a manner consistent with our goals and meet the needs of our community, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe has added a Planning and Development Department located in the Community and Government Center. The department, headed by Director and Senior Planner Danielle Hill, recommends to the Tribal Council, Departments, Commissions and Committees policies and proposals relating to current and future program funding, land use and economic development opportunities.

The Planning Department is responsible for executing economic, demographic and land-use related studies and overseeing all uses of federal, state and private funding opportunities in order to focus on a long-term commitment to economic vitality, environmental integrity, and cultural resilience.

Danielle Hill serves as the Senior Planner and has a Masters degree in Public Administration with a concentration in sustainable development and policy analysis and has formerly worked in the Tribal Court and as a Grants Associate for the Tribe.

Substance Abuse and Recovery Services Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit

Are you currently using drugs or alcohol, and contemplating getting help?

Are you in early recovery, and still dealing with the struggles to stay in recovery?

Have you sustained your recovery, but need on-going support?

Have you relapsed, and you feel ashamed or unsure what direction you want to go in?

Addiction is an on-going process that happens in phases and in cycles. There are biological and neurological factors to addiction, physical and mental struggles of addiction, and many reasons that trigger relapse.

In any part of your addiction cycle or recovery there are numerous emotional and mental impacts, including guilt and shame, regrets, past mistakes, trauma, or losses that often become road blocks to moving forward.

There is help and support is available. The Mashpee Wampanoag Health Ser-

vice Unit can offer:

- » Individual therapy
- » Consult and support to access treatment
- » Relapse prevention and support following a relapse
- » On-going support while in early-recovery or sustained recovery

Call today and set up an appointment with the Behavioral Health Department to see a Clinical Therapist - PumukQien Collins or Nadine Phillips - for further help and assistance at (508) 477-6967.



Nadine Phillips



PumukQien Collins

Planning Dept. Seeks Assoc. Planner

The Planning and Development Department is seeking a Full Time Associate Planner who will assist the Director in all aspects of growth and management of the Department.

Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 472). A full position description may be obtained by on the tribal website at www.mashpee-wampanoagtribe.com/jobs or by contacting Jason Turner, HR Director, at hr@mwtribe.com. Applications along with a current resume and two writing samples should be submitted to Jason Turner by January 31, 2015.

Children's Christmas Party Pics



Stay informed of Tribal updates and notices
[facebook.com/mwtribe](https://www.facebook.com/mwtribe)

Date Set for Wampanoag Ball

The Wampanoag Ball Committee is pleased to announce that the 19th Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Ball will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015.

Save the Date March 21, 2015

COMMUNITY



Notice of Election

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Election Committee extends notice to all Enrolled Tribal Members who will turn 18 years of age on or before Sunday, February 8, 2015, that they are required to complete a Voter Registration form in order to vote at the general election on Sunday, February 8, 2015 (the "Election Day").

The Voter Registration form can be obtained at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community & Government Center, located at 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649 during regular business hours. All enrolled and eligible-to-vote Tribal members are allowed to register on or before the Election Day.

The results of the Election will be posted at: (1) the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community & Government Center, 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649; and (2) on the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe official website on Monday, February 9, 2015.

The Tribal Election will be held to fill six (6) seats on the Tribal Council for current members of Tribal Council whose terms end on the Election Day.

Voting Hours:

Enrolled, Registered Tribal Elders:
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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

Location:

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and
Government Center
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

Six (6) Tribal Council Seats:

Tribal Council Member

"Meet the Candidates" Forum

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Election Committee invites Tribal Members to attend and participate in the 2015 "Meet the Candidates" Forum. The forum will be held Saturday, January 24, 2015 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center located at 483 Great Neck Road South in Mashpee. The candidate's forum is a great opportunity for tribal members to get a better understanding of who the candidates are and what they plan to do for our tribe. Currently there are six tribal council seats to be filled in the upcoming February 8, 2015 election

The Forum is open for Tribal Members and their Spouses only.

