



# Nashauonk Mittark™



© Copyright 2017

[www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov](http://www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov)

June 2017

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

TAP

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Family,

His remains were scattered far and wide. But, on May 13, in Warren, Rhode Island, we laid to rest – for the second and final time– one of the most important figures in our Tribe's history.

8sâmeeqan (pronounced oosa-meeq-kwan), as you know was a Wampanoag Massasoit who signed the first treaty with the Puritan Pilgrims. He was a Supreme Sachem for the 69 tribes that made up the Wampanoag Nation when the Mayflower first dropped anchor off the coast of Provincetown before landing on Plymouth Rock. For thousands of years before that, our ancestors lived on and ruled the land that stretched from Gloucester Bay across southeastern Massachusetts to Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island.

As our Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Director Ramona Peters said, "8sâmeeqan stood at the historical crossroad between the indigenous people of this land and the origins of what would eventually become the United States of America."

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when our ancestors first encountered the early settlers, 8sâmeeqan had a vision of how we could all live together. That vision helped to ensure 50 years of peace between the English and Wampanoag -- until he died in 1665, ten years before the King's Phillip's War.

Fast forward to 1851. 8sâmeeqan's grave on Burrs Hill overlooking Narragansett Bay was unearthed by railroad construction, looted and treated like a sideshow instead of a sacred burial site of human remains that deserved the same respect and decency afforded to Europeans.

(Continued on page 3)

## Tribe to Receive Updated Decision on Land on or Before June 19

**T**he Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe announced on April 28 that it hopes to fully remobilize construction crews in Taunton, Massachusetts this summer for its \$1 billion First Light Resort & Casino project and have doors open by summer 2018.

The Tribe's announcement comes on the heels of information from the U.S. Interior Department that it will issue a new decision on the historic Tribe's land status on or before June 19, 2017.

"We are confident that an amended ROD (Record-Of-Decision) from the Interior Department will reaffirm what has already been well-established and documented: we have lived on this land for thousands of years and it is only right that we remain," Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell said.

"We are ready to deliver over 7000 jobs, tens of millions of dollars in critical traffic infrastructure improvements, and hundreds of millions of dollars towards urban renewal in a region of Massachusetts that so desperately needs it," Chairman Cromwell said.

The initial ROD that re-established reservation land for the Mashpee tribe was issued by DOI in September 2015 under what is known as "Category 2" of the Indian Reorga-



nization Act -- living continuously on an existing reservation. Shortly after that decision, a group of anti-Indian activists with out-of-state funders in East Taunton filed a suit challenging the DOI's authority to take land in trust under Category 2.

Although federal district court Judge William Young initially ruled against Category 2 as an independent basis to take land into trust, the judge later ruled that the DOI could revise the initial ROD to include Category 1, which establishes that the Tribe was under federal jurisdiction before 1934, the year the Indian Reorganization Act was enacted.

Earlier this month the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear any further appeals on the legality of DOI's issuance of a Category 1

(Continued on page 4)

## Wampanoag Massasoit Returned To Original Burial Site

For centuries, the remains of the Wampanoag Massasoit 8sâmeeqan (pronounced oosa-meeq-kwan) had been scattered far and wide.

On Saturday, May 13, the re-interment of the Wampanoag leader who signed the first treaty with the Mayflower's Puritan pilgrims in 1621 was commemorated at his original burial site in Burrs Hill Park overlooking Narragansett Bay.

"Today is a very special, spiritual day. It's somber and yet we celebrate being

able to bring his remains back to Burrs Hill," Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell said at today's ceremony, which was attended by over 150 tribe members and officials from the Town of Warren.

The ceremony included traditional drumming and songs, somber reflections and food.

"Our great sachem 8sâmeeqan was the leader throughout these lands. So it was important that he was re-interred here,

(Continued on page 6)

## Events Calendar

### New Events

**June 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**  
Train to be a Recovery Coach, MWTCGC

**June 8 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**  
Indian Education Public Hearing,  
MWTCGC

**June 10 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Recipe Workshop, MWTCGC

**June 11 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

**NEW DATE June 17**  
Youth Sobriety Powwow, Powwow  
Grounds at MWTCGC

**June 17 - 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
Strawberry Thanksgiving, Mashpee  
Wampanoag Indian Museum

**June 19, 20 & 21 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**  
Daughters of Tradition, Mashpee  
Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club

**June 23 & 24 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**  
Free OSHA Training, MWTCGC

**June 25 - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
Museum River Walk, Mashpee Wampanoag  
Indian Museum

**July 1, 2 & 3 - Gates Open at 10:00 a.m.**  
96<sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow - Cape Cod Fair  
Grounds

### Weekly Events

**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

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

**Thursdays - 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Youth Dance & Drum Class, MWTCGC

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

**NEW Saturdays - 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**  
Youth Rec Nights (grades 7-12),  
MWTCGC

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

## Johnathan (Newcomb) Austin to Ride in Worlds BMX Tournament

**J**ohnathan (Newcomb) Austin first began riding BMX in August 2011 at the age of 6. He quickly fell in love with the sport and to be honest would have slept with his bike if he could. He advanced quickly from Novice to Intermediate then to Expert within about a year and a half. Once he turned Expert he was picked up on a factory team and began traveling Nationally (from Canada to Florida and everywhere in between). Last year he received a N.A.G (National Age Group) plate, ranking #17 on his 20" bike and #10 on his cruiser.

Johnathan is now looking forward to riding at the Worlds BMX tournament that's being held July 23-30 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The worldwide tournament only comes to the US every few years and Johnathan is hoping to bring a title home for the USA and his Wampanoag Nation.

Johnathan competed in 2 different states TX and SC to qualify and there was quite the competition. He joins 31 other riders of his age group that were given a spot on Team USA.



Johnathan's mother, Jessica (Newcomb) Austin, is so proud of her son's accomplishments and excited to see him compete on a world-wide stage. "I always knew he would be great, but never dreamed he would have come this far," said Jessica. "His passion for this sport shows through everyday. He dreams of riding professionally and seeing where he is now there is no doubt in my mind he will succeed."

Congratulations Johnathan and we look forward to seeing you compete at Worlds in July...your Tribe is cheering you on.

## Youth Powwow Rescheduled for June 17

The Youth Sobriety Powwow has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 17 with a rain date of June 24. The Youth Powwow will be held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Powwow Grounds located next to the Community and Government Center on Great Neck Road South in Mashpee.



## Karen Frye Mattos Graduates with Honors

**C**ongratulations to Karen Frye Mattos who graduated from Eastern Nazarene College on Saturday, May 6. Karen graduated with high honors, given the title Magna Cum Laude. Having a home daycare for nearly 20 years she never imagined returning to school to obtain a degree but at the age of 61 Karen was doing just that. Four years later her husband Raymond and their five children along with her father Curtis Frye Sr. and siblings watched proudly as she walked across the stage and receive her Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education. Karen is the daughter of Curtis Frye Sr. and the late Clarice Bearse Frye. She is the mother of Julio, Amilcar, Imani, Raymond Jr. and Shyla. She's

also grandmother of 20 and a great grandmother of two. Her family is beyond proud.



## Chairman's Column *(continued)*

Thankfully we've had a long line of strong, forward thinking leaders that followed our Massasoit 8sâmeeqan. Several of our tribal leaders, both past and present, had a hand in drafting NAGPRA, a federal law enacted in 1990 that requires museums to return the remains so they can be re-interred in their original burial sites.

Over the past two decades, the Wampanoag Repatriation Confederation - made up of tribal members representing the Mashpee, Aquinnah, and Assonet Wampanoag - have been engaged in painstaking historical detective work. They managed to recoup the remains from seven museums across the country and re-acquire the grave contents of 42 burials and 658 funerary objects removed from the burial ground at the edge of 8sâmeeqan's village of Sowams, now known as the Town of Warren.

I share this history with you because it's a microcosm of the struggle we face today. Over the past 400 years, colonization almost wiped us out. We who remain have been nearly squeezed off our land. But, ever since our Tribe was granted federal acknowledgement in 2007, the tide has begun to turn.

In September of 2015, the U.S. Department of the Interior declared 150 acres in Mashpee and 170 acres in Taunton as our initial reservation land. The process of repatriation for 8sâmeeqan's ancestors had begun. We started construction on our First Light Resort & Casino to uplift our people -- a path forward for our people to become

economically self-sufficient so that we can reach a place where we no longer rely on government assistance to sustain our tribal government.

This forward movement was halted by a lawsuit filed by a group of anti-Indian activists, initially funded by an out-of-state competing casino developer. Our history, sovereignty, and self-sufficiency has been treated with the same looters mentality that scattered the remains of 8sâmeeqan by this small group of plaintiffs.

But, in the next few weeks, we will get word from the Interior Department on a revised Record-of-Decision. We have submitted reams of evidence to prove what we already know: our Tribe more than meets the criteria the DOI needs to issue a positive finding.

Let's stand together as one nation and prepare to embrace the future our Creator has in store for us. There's no doubt we are on the right side of history and because of that, I believe truth and justice will prevail for our people, despite our enemies best efforts to keep us from claiming what is rightfully ours.

Kutâputunumuw;



Cedric Cromwell  
Qaqemasq  
(Running Bear)

## Vice Chairwoman Baird to be Honored as Unsung Heroine Honoree

Jessie "little doe" Baird, vice chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, has been selected by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women as one of the Commonwealth's Unsung Heroines of 2017.

Annual Unsung Heroine honors go to incredible women who have been nominated by legislators from their districts and selected for their contributions to their community and the Commonwealth. Unsung Heroines are women who don't always make the news, but truly make the difference in their communities, businesses, or volunteer endeavors. Jessie was selected because she is a woman who, without fanfare or recognition, uses her time, talent, spirit, and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of others.

The MCSW will honor and celebrate



Jessie and the other Unsung Heroines from across the Commonwealth at the 2017 Unsung Heroines Ceremony on Wednesday, June 21 at the Massachusetts State House.

Congratulations Jessie on an honor well deserved and thank you for all of your special efforts to make your Tribe and community a better place to live and work.

## RFP for Catering

The Natural Resources Department is accepting bids now through June 23.

Summary: Contracted services are needed for Traditional Wampanoag Lunches for 18-20 people for Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays from the dates of July 11<sup>th</sup> through August 2<sup>nd</sup> served at different locations.

The following MUST be included in the bid:

- Estimated invoice based off of 20 attendees for three days per week. Please include fixed pricing per person.
- Lunch menu (traditional foods & drinks must be included)
- Serve Safe Certification
- Insurance information if applicable

In addition bidders will need to:

- Provide their own cooking supplies
- Be available for a one hour consultation, two weeks prior to the event
- Be available for a one hour follow up meeting within two weeks after the event
- Be responsible for the complete clean up (including floors) at the close of the event.
- Be physically on the premises for the entirety of meal preparation, serving, and cleanup.

BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING & COMPLETED BY 4PM ON Friday June 23, 2017 with a subject line 'Youth in Science-Preserving Our Homeland' via email to Director of Natural Resources at [Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe-nsn.gov](mailto:Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe-nsn.gov) or mail: Casey Thornbrugh, Natural Resources, 483 Great Neck Rd. South, Mashpee, MA 02649. For additional inquiries email Casey or call (508) 477-0208 x 131

## Register for STEP UP Summer Program

Education Department STEP UP summer program for youth ages 14-18 is now open for registration. Contact John Hanlon (508) 477-0208 x163 or [john.hanlon@mwtribe-nsn.gov](mailto:john.hanlon@mwtribe-nsn.gov) for more information. The program will run from July 10<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup> and include cooking lessons, fishing and crabbing outings, youth employment skills, White Bison Youth 12 step program, College Pathways workshops, and Friday college and fun trips. First Nations will be here August 4<sup>th</sup> to do fun financial literacy activities and ALTERNATIVES will be here August 21-25 for college readiness workshops for youth entering grades 11 and 12.

## Department of Interior Decision *(continued)*



ROD for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, essentially securing the legal basis for Mashpee's own Category 1 eligibility.

"The firm date provided by the Department of Interior puts any false claims about further delays to rest. We recognize that the Interior has a rigorous review process, but the June date at least gives us certainty there will be a decision very soon, and we are confident that our undeniable historical legacy will support a favorable outcome," Chairman Cromwell said.

"Now that we have a firm commitment from the Interior Department that a decision is imminent we can focus on preparing to resume work at the site this summer, and putting the frivolous lawsuit filed against



the Interior Department last year behind us," Cromwell said.

"It's unfortunate that a small group of anti-Indian activists and out-of-state dollars have created a legal side show in an attempt to ignore the wishes of Taunton's leaders and residents, and to deprive us of our sovereign right to sustain our culture and government, and to develop First Light Resort & Casino as a means of economic uplift for our people and the City of Taunton," Cromwell added.

"We've been challenged every step of the way, and each step we have prevailed. We look forward to prevailing yet again in June," he said.

**"...we have lived on this land for thousands of years and it is only right that we remain."**

- Chairman Cedric Cromwell

## Youth Council Fundraiser for UNITY

Each year a few of our Tribal Youth - the future of our Nation - are given the opportunity to attend the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Conference. This year we have 12 dedicated youth and two chaperones that are planning to attend the gathering. To help make this a reality, the Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Council has launched a gofundme campaign to raise needed funds for the trip. Any support that you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

This year's UNITY Conference is being held in Denver, Colorado, where our tribal youth will join over 1,500 attendees from around Indian Country for the exciting five-day conference from July 6-10. Our youth will experience traditional speakers and have access to over 40 workshops, a career expo and a cultural exchange to help them grow into strong, confident leaders.

To make a donation online, please visit the Youth Council's gofundme page at [www.gofundme.com/mwyc-unity-trip](http://www.gofundme.com/mwyc-unity-trip). Let's make sure our youth have a wonderful conference and make a donation today.



## NRD Seeks Activities Coordinator

The Natural Resources Department for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is seeking an "Activities Coordinator" for the 2017 Native Youth in Science - Preserving Our Homelands (POH) summer environmental science camp July 11 - August 3. POH is a summer environmental science camp that combines Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with Western conventional science concepts to teach tribal youth about their local environment.

The Activities Coordinator will be responsible for working with the POH staff to reinforce and support the lessons taught at the camp by tribal culture keepers, visiting environmental scientists, and other guest instructors during the camp. For more information please contact the Natural Resources Department Director Casey C. Thornbrugh at (508) 477-0208 ext 131 or at [Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe-NSN.gov) or Assistant Director Chuckie Green at (508) 477-0208 ext 138 or at [Chuckie.Green@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:Chuckie.Green@mwtribe-NSN.gov).

## Junie makes High Honor Roll



Lawrence "Junie" Hendricks Jr. has made High Honor Roll for the third academic quarter at Wareham Middle School and is proof that the old adage "it truly takes a village" is correct. Junie has worked diligently with the Tribe's Education Department and in particular with Assistant Director Scott Shepherd. Junie has received one-on-one tutoring since October at the Community and Government Center. His hard work is paying off. Junie is the son of Jody Santagate and Lawrence Hendricks of Wareham.

## Vice Chairwoman Jessie “little doe” Baird Honored at Yale University

**J**essie “little doe” Baird, founder and director of the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project and vice chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, was presented with an honorary doctorate from Yale University at a commencement ceremony on May 22 along with former Massachusetts Senator and Secretary of State John Kerry, Congressman John Lewis, and famed musician, singer and songwriter Stevie Wonder.

The honorary degrees were handed out during the acclaimed university’s 316<sup>th</sup> commencement ceremony.

“With the honoring of this class, clearly Yale remains sharply focused on its mission and recognizes and celebrates the constant desire of the Universe – that there be diversity and that we do not exist absent this universal law,” Baird said in addressing the class from the podium.

Baird, a MIT-trained linguist who also serves as vice-chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, was chosen by Yale to be honored for her pioneering work in reviving the Wôpanâak language spoken by her Wampanoag ancestors.

The citation Baird received reads as follows: “Your commitment to the past, present, and future of indigenous communities has made an enduring contribution to the life of your people. As the co-founder of the Wopanaak Language Reclamation Project, you are working through research and education to preserve and revitalize a language once spoken by tens of thousands in southeastern New England. Your work has helped reach into the past and reclaim what has been lost, connecting all of us to our shared humanity. Citizen of



*Vice Chairwoman Baird with Stevie Wonder*

the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and representative of the Native American tribes throughout our nation, as we stand here on what was once Native land, I am humbled to present you with this Doctor of Social Science degree.” During her acceptance speech, Baird spoke of the Wampanoag Massasoit 8sâmeeqan (pronounced oosa-meek-kwan), the Wampanoag leader who signed the first treaty with the Mayflower’s Puritan pilgrims in 1621 and whose remains were recently returned to his original burial site in Warren, RI.

“8sâmeeqan’s dream of diversity in philosophy, mutual education, and the free exchange of ideas and religion set the tone for the relationship between my Tribe and those arriving on these shores,” Baird said. “That dream of diversity and mutual respect nurtured a peace – the longest period of peaceful diversity America has ever known. It is this ideal which we must continue to strive toward and what is evident in the life work of this class.”

## Mysterious Barricade Blocks Public Road



Just before the entrance to a portion of Daniel’s Island Road that’s lined with million-dollar homes sits a public, dirt road that provides the public with access to the water. It’s a road that tribal members and the general public have used for generations to access the healthy fishing grounds. However, accessing it has become impossible since a series of boulders along with a fence were put up to stop vehicles from using the public road.

The well-orchestrated barricade is a mystery to town officials and to tribal members. Vice Chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Jessie “little doe” Baird recently inquired about the blocked road to town officials who were unable to provide any details about how the road was blocked or by whom. It’s also unclear what steps will need to be taken to remove the barricade.

For now, tribal council will continue to work with the town to resolve the issue and clear the road for public use once again.

## MWT Indian Education Public Hearing

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Indian Education office invite you to attend a public hearing to gather input and recommendation on the school districts Title VI Indian Education grant application. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 8 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center, 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649.

The public hearing is an opportunity for parents of Native American children and teachers, representatives of Indian tribes attending the school district of Barnstable, Falmouth, Sandwich, Wareham and New Bedford to receive services from



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s Indian Education office.

Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Kitty Hendricks-Miller at (508) 477-0208 ext 143 or [gertrude.hendricks@mwt-nsn.gov](mailto:gertrude.hendricks@mwt-nsn.gov).

## Budget Passed at May 7 Meeting

At a General Membership Meeting on Sunday, May 7 the Tribe’s annual budget was passed. Of the 86 tribal citizens who cast ballots, 64 voted yes, while 22 voted no. Thank you to the tribal citizens that voted and to the Tribe’s Finance Department, led by Treasurer Gordon Harris, for the hard work they put in to present another balanced budget.

## Wampanoag Massasoit Homecoming *(continued)*



where he lived," Cromwell said.

The 20 year quest to track down the scattered remains (and artifacts) of 8sâmeeqan has been led by Ramona Peters, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Director for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe; Repatriation Officers, Edith Andrews of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Kenneth Alves of the Assonet Band of Wampanoag, and John Peters Jr. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

"8sâmeeqan is a significant figure in our shared history," Peters said. "He stands at the crossroad between the indigenous people of this land and the origins of what would eventually become the United States of America."

"In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when the Wampanoag first encountered the early settlers, 8sâmeeqan had a vision of how we could all live together. There was 50 years of peace between the English and Wampanoag until he died in 1665. That was 10 years before the

King's Phillips War, which changed the whole course of history in this country," Peters said.

A citizen of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe - one of two federally-acknowledged tribes who trace their roots to the confederation of Wampanoag tribes that stretched from Gloucester Bay across southeastern Massachusetts to Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island - Peters is also the coordinator of the Wampanoag Repatriation Confederation.

Over the past two decades, the confederation has been focused on finding the remains of 8sâmeeqan, which had been removed from his original Burr Hill Park burial site in 1851 to make way for railroad construction. Through painstaking historical detective work, the Confederation was able to recoup the remains of the Massasoit through the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act with the cooperation of the seven museums which had 8sâmeeqan's remains in their archives for many years.

Over the years, the Confederation has successfully repatriated the grave contents of 42 burials with 658 funerary objects removed from the burial ground on a hill at the edge of 8sâmeeqan's village of Sowams, known today as the Town of Warren.

Yesterday's ceremony was held a day after tribal leaders re-interred 8sâmeeqan's remains in his original burial site. The grave was sealed and covered with a large rock engraved with 8sâmeeqan's signature and an inscription celebrating his vision of peace with the early settlers.

Near the conclusion of the ceremony, Ramona Peters took a few moments to acknowledge the help the town provided with the repatriation efforts.

"I am very grateful for the town officials who are present. We found this town to be incredibly warm and generous," Peters said. "It was about 15 years ago that (the Town of Warren) gave us a \$15,000 grant to help us. In the future when Wampanoag people come here to make offerings and say prayers may they always be respectful of the people of Warren and the land they have here."

## Wampanoag Indian Museum Calendar



**Strawberry Thanksgiving**  
June 17, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, June 25, Museum River Walk**  
and talk on local native medicinal plants  
and teal 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**July 1 - 3 Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow**, museum closed; table at powwow grounds

**July 10 - 14 Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum Summer Day Camp**;  
registration due by June 26

**July 23 Native Artisan Festival**  
Day of activities 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Community Park

**August 7 - 11 Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum Summer Day Camp**;  
registration due by July 24

**October 9 Columbus Day Talk**,  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. talk at museum

**November 20 - 22 Many Thanksgivings**;  
temporary exhibit at museum

**November 23 - 24 Museum Closed**

**December 1, 2017 Museum Closes to Public**

For more information about the Museum events or scheduling a visit, please contact Carol Wynne at the museum at (508) 477-9339 or email her at [carol.wynne@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:carol.wynne@mwtribe-NSN.gov). You can also stay up to date by following the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum on facebook.

## Do You Want to Work at Powwow?

Attention all Tribal Members! The Powwow Committee is looking for applicants to work powwow weekend July 1, 2, & 3. Please fill out the mini application on the Tribe's web-site [www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov](http://www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov) and return to the Community and Government Center. The Powwow Committee is looking for Ice Runners, Gate Attendants, Cashiers, and more.

They are also still looking for Parking Bidders. All bids may not exceed \$3000 and must be qualified applicants with the ability and resources to manage their staff. Please contact the Powwow committee about requirements by sending an email to [mashpeepowwow@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:mashpeepowwow@mwtribe-NSN.gov) or by calling (774) 413-0520.



96th Annual **MASHPEE  
WAMPANOAG POWWOW**

*Honoring Our Traditions*



**JULY 1, 2 AND 3 AT CAPE COD FAIR GROUNDS**

**Gates Open Daily at 10 AM - Grand Entry Daily at 1 PM**

**TICKETS**

General: \$15 - Elders: \$10  
Youth 6-12: \$10 - Youth under 5: Free  
Group Rates Available  
774.413.0520  
[mashpeepowwow@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:mashpeepowwow@mwtribe-NSN.gov)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Fireball: Sunday, July 2 at Dusk  
Clambake: Monday, July 3 at 3 PM  
Princess Crowning: Monday, July 3

more at [www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov](http://www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov)



## Michelle Hughes-Fernandes, MSCed to Lead TAP

**T**he Tribal Action Plan (TAP) is one of the most important tools in helping the citizens of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and their families' battle and ultimately put the disease of addiction into remission. It's a tall task and it's why the Tribe went through an exhaustive search to find a new Tribal Action Plan Manager – a person with the experience, broad skill set and connections within the community – to lead this plan forward. Thankfully, the Tribe was able to land Michelle Hughes-Fernandes, MSCed, a citizen of the tribe that's ready to take on this all-important role. Please join us in congratulating Michelle and welcoming her into her new position as the TAP Manager.

Michelle has a long track record of successfully leading nonprofits and working with diverse communities in areas that range from economic development and government relations to marketing and public relations. She also brings a wealth of experience working to develop and implement long-term planning with research and strategic implementation – skills that are essential to her new position.

Most importantly, Michelle understands our tribal community and the unique issues our tribal citizens and families are facing. This isn't something that you can learn on the job or learn from attending a seminar. It's a skill set you acquire from a lifetime of involvement in tribal activities, traditions and ceremonies. Michelle has also been actively involved with tribal programs and committees for decades. Most recently she served as the Title IV-E Project Manager where she de-

veloped policy and procedures for case planning and child welfare standards. She's also completed six years on the Tribe's Housing Commission, serving as the Secretary and Vice Chairwoman, where she provided oversight to the department in marketing, strategy and grant management.

Michelle looks to tap into her past experience and community engagement as she moves forward as the TAP Manager. "I've always looked for ways to give back to my tribe," said Michelle. "This just feels like the perfect fit for me and a great way for me to have a positive impact on the lives of our friends and family suffering from this horrible disease. Community engagement and input has and will continue to be a critical piece to ensuring our plan is implemented successfully and I'll continue to lean on that knowledge as we move forward together."

Prior to her position as the Title IV-E Project Manager, Michelle worked for the TJX Companies and as a public relations associate for the Healthy Child Project. She's also held positions in Case Management of Unemployment and Housing for the State of Massachusetts and as a Training Development Coordinator for Comcast. Michelle received her Master of Science in Community and Economic Development from the University of Southern New Hampshire.

The vision of the TAP is 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 where they live a healthy and thriving life style. To achieve that vision, the TAP was



*Michelle Hughes-Fernandes, MSCed*

developed and implemented to enhance community wellness. It's a living and breathing document that connects our social service programs and addresses the needs of our tribal community through a systemic and holistic approach. By increasing community wellness into current and future Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal social services programs we have begun to address alcohol and substance abuse issues at a macro level for maximum impact.

We are truly fortunate to have a tribal citizen, like Michelle, willing to lead this plan forward and dedicate herself to providing support to families struggling from the disease of addiction.

For more information about TAP, the TCC or substance abuse programs, please contact Tribal Action Plan Manager Michelle Hughes-Fernandes, MSCed, at (508) 477-0208 ext 145 or at [michelle.fernandes@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:michelle.fernandes@mwtribe-NSN.gov).

### TAP Hosting a 3-Day Prevention Program

The Tribal Action Plan (TAP) is hosting Daughters of Tradition, a three-day prevention education program for Native Americans, from Monday, June 19 through Wednesday, June 21. This special program is free and will be held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club (215 South Sandwich Road in Mashpee) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each of the three days.

The purpose of Daughters of Tradition is to train adult facilitators to implement this prevention education program that will provide traditional knowledge to girls to prepare them to grow into healthy women. The goal is to develop a program where the girls will learn from elders, peers and community members about ways to recognize change and get help for problems that they see or experience.

Registration for the important pro-



### TRIBAL ACTION PLAN

MASHPEE WAMPANOAG WORKING TOGETHER FOR WELLNESS

gram is free and a light breakfast and lunch will be provided daily. Attendees will also receive a facilitator manual, participant workbook, a DVD set, implementation guide, 24 hours of continuing education credits through NAADAC, and ongoing support through White Bison.

To register, please contact Talia Landry at (508) 477-0208 ext. 127 or [talia.landry@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:talia.landry@mwtribe-NSN.gov).

### TAP Coordinating Rides to Recovery Meetings

If you are a person in recovery and willing to provide a safe ride to the meeting you attend please contact Tracy Kelley at (508) 477-0208 ext. 150. Your phone number and the town where your meeting is located will be listed in the Mittark monthly, but not your name. Kutâputush!





## Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

**I**ndian Health Services (IHS) and Tribal Health kicked off a six-week chronic disease self-management program on May 25. The program is for any tribal citizens with any chronic health conditions or tribal citizens who care for a loved one with a chronic health condition. Nupumôtam8ôk ... Nuneetushkuheut8ôk My Life ... My Health is being held Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to Noon at the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit located behind the Tribe's Community and Government Center.

Nupumôtam8ôk...Nuneetushkuheut8ôk is a six-week program that focuses on building your skills so you can man-

age your chronic conditions. Attendees will learn about ways to improve management of a chronic condition, coping strategies, how to improve overall health and quality of life while providing overall techniques that will empower you to manage your own health.

Light refreshments will be provided. This program is being presented through a collaboration between IHS and Tribal Health. For more information, please call the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit at (508) 477-6967

## Denise Kersey Joins Archives as Elders Apprentice

**T**he Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Archives would like to welcome the Archives Elders Apprentice, Denise Kersey, whose position is made possible through the generous support of the Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands. Denise has been working with archival collections since her hire date back in February and feels "fantastic".

"I see a lot of relatives that I haven't seen before. I just like it. It's interesting." The Tribal Archives is lucky to receive the help of Denise as her duties will primarily consist of working with the elders of the community to contextualize the photographic collection housed in the archives in order to create richer informational captions associated with the images.

Often at times, reviewing these photographs bring back memories and strong sentiments of the tribal past. "I like looking at the different times. What Mashpee looked like before compared to what it looks like now. I feel good and bad when I recount the history. The good part is when you look at where we've come from as a people and the bad part is looking at what the land has become."

Working in the tribal archives, Denise says, has given her a "different viewpoint." "As far as looking at the pictures and saying 'Oh that's who that is.' Being able to identify people who are older now is especially interesting." Aside from working with photographs, Denise is fulfilling other operational duties in the archives: processing and physically arranging collections as well as creating metadata spreadsheets which will be utilized to populate catalog records.

Acquiring Ms. Kersey signifies another step forward in the right direction for the tribal archives. The further development of the



Denise Kersey

tribal archive is paramount to tribal archivist, Stephen Curley. Rhiannon Maher—who has volunteered with the tribal archives—worked on describing the sound recordings housed in the audio collection has also contributed to the further organization of the archives. The work that has been completed and the work soon to be undertaken are done so with the hopes that the history of the tribe will be illuminated. With the addition of Ms. Kersey, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Archives is now further poised to provide quality research services and to institute a viable, modern archives for the community.

If you have photographs that help tell the story of "Old Mashpee" (e.g. family photos, community functions/events, landmarks, buildings/structures), the Tribal Archives would love to see what you may have. Please contact Stephen Curley, Archivist at 508-477-0208 x196.

## Tribal Health Fair on July 22



The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Health and Human Services Fair will be held on Saturday, July 22 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. This year's theme is "Mental Health Awareness." The annual event brings together a wide range of health care organizations from Cape Cod and the surrounding region to share health and prevention tips and program services with the community. The health fair is free and open to the public.

Come learn about Wampanoag culture and traditions as the tribe and the vendors, including the National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI), promote and provide education around mental health awareness. In addition to health care the event will feature raffles, door prizes, native food and crafts, Native American exhibitions and stress relief techniques and much more. Please mark your calendar for this important fair.

For more information please contact Tribal Health Manager Kimberly Frye at (508) 477-0208 ext 103 or at (774) 238-2129.

## Volunteers Needed for Tribal Health Fair

Are you available and willing to volunteer at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Health and Human Services Fair on Saturday, July 22? If you are interested, please contact Tribal Action Plan Manager Michelle Hughes-Fernandes, MSCed at (508) 477-0208 ext 145 or at [michelle.fernandes@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:michelle.fernandes@mwtribe-NSN.gov). Support from the community is instrumental in the execution of this important event.

## MWT Emergency Management Department Prepares community for Hurricane Season

**T**he Atlantic Hurricane Season is from June 1st through November 30<sup>th</sup>. In the past most tropical storms and hurricanes that have impacted our area in the Northeast have normally occurred around the months of August and September, it is very important to begin preparing yourself, your family, your home your assets, and your business now. Over the next few months the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Department will be sharing important preparedness information to increase awareness of the possible impacts of a hurricane or tropical storm and ensure the continued safety of our tribal citizens visitors and property. A brief hurricane preparedness presentation will also be held during the June tribal member general body meeting and a lot of important information and documents will be available. Some valuable hurricane season preparedness tips and information are below.

**Know where to go:** On Cape Cod in the event of an evacuation, the Cape Cod Emergency Traffic Plan (CCETP) is utilized. The CCETP has been developed to facilitate the egress of a high volume of traffic from Cape Cod in the event of a hurricane or other potential or actual hazard, particularly during peak tourist season. Also have a plan for where you can stay if sheltering in place. A list of the Cape Cod regional shelters is available on the MWT website. If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate and you decide to stay in your home and shelter in place, plan for adequate supplies for (3) days in case you lose power and water and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.

**Put together a disaster supply kit:** An emergency hurricane kit for the family and pets should include a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, battery powered radio, 3 day supply of food, bottled water and copies of your critical information if you need



to evacuate. A complete listing of what to include in a 3 day kit is available in the Community and Government center lobby and by contacting the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe EM Department.

**Have a Family Emergency Communication Plan:** It is important to have a communications plan in case families are separated during a hurricane or other emergency. Information on making one of these plans can be found on the MWT website. Copies of these plans are also available in the lobby of the Community and Government Center.

**Emergency Alert Notification:** The MWT Emergency Management Department utilizes an alert notification known as the Health and Homeland Alert Network (HHAN). If you would like your phone number and email address (Up to 3) added to the HHAN or have any questions regarding hurricane preparedness please contact the MWT Emergency Management Department at; Emergency Management Director: [nelson.andrewsjr@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:nelson.andrewsjr@mwtribe-NSN.gov) (508) 477-5800 ext 15 or Emergency Preparedness Specialist: [allyssa.hathaway@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:allyssa.hathaway@mwtribe-NSN.gov) (508) 477-5800 ext 13.

## Free OSHA Training from Employment and Training

Mashpee Wampanoag Employment and Training Department will be hosting a free Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training for both enrolled tribal citizens and non-tribal citizens and family. The two-day program will be held on Friday, June 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on Saturday, June 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Tribe's Community and Government Center. You must RSVP

for this free training program, as the program requires at least 30 participants. RSVP today by calling Marnell Cash at (508) 477-0208 ext 161.

OSHA course completion cards will be provided to participants upon graduation. This is a great opportunity to complete your OSHA certification. Please call early to reserve your space.

## Office Support Training Opportunity

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Employment and Training Department is accepting new client applications for an exciting Work Experience opportunity. The opportunity will provide the participant with valuable on the job office support skills. The program requires a minimum of 20 hours per week and a stipend will be provided. For more information, please call Marnell Cash at (508) 477-0208 ext. 161.

The Employment and Training Department staff are dedicated to providing its clients with the tools they need to become self-sufficient and self-reliant through gainful employment. The department accomplishes this by partnering with the local unions and career opportunities programs. In addition, the department assists adults with obtaining basic skills instruction and GED preparation. For more information please visit [www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov](http://www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov) and click on WIA under the department pages heading.

## Taunton Labor Union Applications on June 13

Are you interested in starting or continuing your career in the construction trades? The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Employment and Training Department is making transportation arrangements for tribal citizens interested in applying to join the Taunton Laborer's Union. The Laborer's Union will be accepting applications on June 13. If you need assistance, please contact Marnell Cash at (508) 477-0208 ext 161. The Taunton Laborer's Union is located at 5 Hill Street, Taunton, MA 02780 and its phone number is (508) 824-4670.

The Employment and Training Department staff are dedicated to providing its clients with the tools they need to become self-sufficient and self-reliant through gainful employment. The department accomplishes this by partnering with the local unions and career opportunities programs. In addition, the department assists adults with obtaining basic skills instruction and GED preparation.

## Transcending Historical Trauma

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

### Transcending Historical Trauma

Yakama elder and educator, Lavina Wilkins Continued: While Lavina was in school, she learned more about the history of her people.

A lot of history...they talk about the war and what our people did. (We) always were doing something terrible. But, a lot of the things our people did were in retaliation during the war for what was done to them. All the raping of our women and children, all the slaughter of our elders, and this was even after the treaty was signed. That was traumatic.

That was their way to get our warriors to give themselves up. It happened on almost every reservation. You know, it was like they would capture wherever the elders where...a village. Or, they would come into a village at a fast pace and start slaughtering everyone in the village, even if the warriors were not there. The elders and the children had nobody to protect them.

Grandmother Wilkins reflects on why domestic violence and sexual abuse be-

came commonplace among a people who had never practiced violence among their families. She learned how the victim became the perpetrator.

You know a lot of this happened from trauma from the past - like the boarding schools. A lot of our young men, things happened to them in boarding schools that a lot of them would not talk about. It was never beautiful what happened. And so they had to take it out on somebody.

Maybe their mothers became alcoholics and left them. And maybe this is why they became like they hated womanhood, whatever the situation. But again, it all points back to trauma that happened to them. They take it out on somebody weaker.

And that's why I look at our children and I feel they shouldn't have to go through any of this. All this learned behavior...It's something that triggers it off.

Lavina sees better days coming for her people because more of the community are recovering and turning to higher education so they can help their community heal. After her 4 year old granddaughter gets older, she plans to go back to school to get her Ph.D.



## Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction

### Removal of a Child from the Family Home

We will now continue with our article which addresses Removal of a Child from the Family Home as written in the "Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action" Developed by the Native Nations Institute and NICWA.

Tribes will need to decide what the required standard of proof should be before a child can be removed from the home. A higher standard of proof may decrease the number of unnecessary removals and help keep families together, but it also may leave some children at risk of further abuse and neglect.

A study assessed the standard

of proof that tribal codes require for determination of abuse, neglect, and safety, and the efforts tribal codes require to keep the family intact before a child can be removed. Close to 68% of the tribal child welfare codes reviewed here made statements about the standard of proof necessary to remove a child from the home. The codes included a variety of standards of proof, from the lowest (probable cause, 7% of all the codes) to the highest (beyond a reasonable doubt, 4% of all the codes). Thirty percent used the same standard (clear and convincing evidence) that ICWA requires state child welfare courts to meet when removing an Indian child from the home.

## A Comparison Between Courts, Mediation and Peacemaking

*Below is a summary of Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community by Kay Pranis, Barry Stuart, and Mark Wedge (2003). We will now explore the Ceremonies for Peacemaking Circles.*

Ceremonies and rituals need to be voluntary to work well. They serve to introduce us to each other, relax us, and put us in the right space to participate in the Circle.

Opening ceremonies: Opening ceremonies help make the transition from the outside world to the peacemaking Circle and shift us from occupying our heads to occupying our hearts. Therefore they should aim to:

- create a sense of community and connectedness;
- create respect for the Circle and its participants;
- prepare participants to let go of negative emotions in constructive ways;
- open a safe space to speak from the heart and grow mutual respect and understanding;
- inspire participants to act on personal values;
- reinforce shared values;
- prepare participants to work as a community; and
- create the sense that each person's challenge is the group's shared challenge.

Closing ceremonies: Closing ceremonies shift us back to the world outside the Circle while allowing us to digest what happened in the Circle. They reaffirm our connectedness before we are sent on our ways. In designing closing ceremonies we should keep in mind their capacity to:

- respect all participants;
- convey a sense of inclusiveness;
- appeal to personal values;
- open participants to their best selves; and
- establish the Circle as a safe and respectful space.



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

# COMMUNITY



## Mukayuhsak Weekuw Fall Enrollment

**P**arents and families interested in enrolling students in the Mukayuhsak Weekuw (The Children's House) preschool for the 2017-18 Academic Year can access a pre-enrollment form at [wlrp.org](http://wlrp.org) to be included in the July 24 lottery for available classroom slots.

As online pre-enrollment forms are received, families will be invited for a site visit and to complete a full registration form. Site visits must be scheduled in advance of the July lottery. Students should be approaching

2 years and 9 months in age by September 8. In addition to paying a monthly activities fee, families commit to attending weekly language classes, volunteering for parent committee service, and to supporting the Mukayuhsak Weekuw weekly snack and lunch schedule.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Weston, Language Department Director and Immersion School Developer for the Wópanâak Language Reclamation Project at [jweston@wlrp.org](mailto:jweston@wlrp.org) or at 508.477.0208 ext. 168

## Community Recipe Workshop on June 10

On June 10, 2017, please join Randy Netter, Vice-President of Food and Beverage of Resort World New York, for a recipe workshop to benefit the Elders Department.

The workshop starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center. Lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP on the Sign-Up List located in the lobby of the Community and Government Center. This workshop is open to both elders and non-elders. If you have any questions please call Councilwoman Yvonne Avant at (774) 238-8388 or email her at [yvonne.avant@mwtribe-NSN.gov](mailto:yvonne.avant@mwtribe-NSN.gov). The deadline for RSVP is June 7, 2017.

## Birth Announcement



Corinne Wynne and Robert Brennan are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Robert Lawrence Brennan, IV. Robert was born on April 16 in Grand Junction, Utah. Robert is the first grandchild of Carol Wynne, Hendricks, and Robert Wynne and the great grandchild of Ernestine Gray, Hendricks, Bates and Norman Hendricks and Bridget Wynne, Bonin, Hurley and Frederick Wynne. Congratulations to Corinne and Robert on the birth of their first child.