



Nashauonk Mittark™

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DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY

OUR STORY

PROGRAMS



Word from the Chairman

Wuneekeesuq Nutuwam (Hello My Tribal Community);

I write to you at a time of great optimism for our tribe. Despite the many challenges we have faced, I am truly encouraged by the progress we are making and by the way our tribe is coming together, once again, in the face of adversity.

During the weekend of October 10-12, our tribe gathered at a Unity Conference at tribal headquarters and in the sacred circle down back at 55 acres where we listened, learned and reconnected. I would like to extend a sincere Thank You to all who made this uplifting and deeply spiritual weekend possible.

During the weekend, the Red Hawk drummers shared their drum with the Eastern Suns and Wakeby Lake Singers, providing song and the heartbeat of Mother Earth. Surrounding that drum each evening of the conference were members of every tribal clan. The many different voices soared and united as one, stronger and richer than any one voice could ever be alone.

Just like our singers, each of us has our own voice. But together, united as one voice, the voice of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, we are stronger and richer and can accomplish so much more.

The tribal members who attended the Unity Conference left with the goal of sharing unity with tribal members who did not attend. Russell Peters, Jr. agreed

(Continued on page 2)

Potential Carcieri Fix Introduced in US Senate

Seeking to end the uncertainty caused by *Carcieri v. Salazar*, Senator Byron Dorgan, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, has introduced an amendment to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The amendment would reaffirm the Secretary of the Interior's ability to take land into trust for Indian tribes as well as ratify land taken into trust over the past 75 years.

In his remarks on the Senate floor, Senator Dorgan warned that, "Inaction by Congress could significantly impact planned development projects on Indian trust lands, including the building of homes and community centers; result in a loss of jobs in an already challenging economic environment; and create costly and unnecessary litigation."

"Further," he stated, "if the decision stands, it would have the effect of creating two classes of Indian tribes – those who were recognized as of 1934, for whom land may be taken into trust, and those recognized after 1934 that would be unable to have land taken into trust status. Creating two classes of tribes is unacceptable and is contrary to prior Acts of this Congress. In 1994, Congress passed the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act to ensure that all tribes are treated equally, regardless of their date of recognition."

The amendment was developed by the Committee on Indian Affairs after months of hearings and consultations with

affected parties, including the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Similar legislation is now being introduced in the US House.

Chairman Cedric Cromwell remarked that the tribe is "encouraged by the amendment introduced by Senator Dorgan, and we are hopeful that Congress will take this opportunity to resolve the inequitable situation caused by *Carcieri v. Salazar*."

"Our tribe, just like dozens of others, must be able to proceed with the land into trust process. We are confident that in the near future we will achieve our goals of economic development, job opportunities, housing, education and healthcare for our people."

Chairman Cromwell to Meet With President Obama

Chairman Cedric Cromwell will meet with President Obama on November 5th as part of a Tribal Leaders Summit that will take place in Washington, DC. This meeting is a fulfillment of President Obama's promise during his campaign to meet regularly with tribal leaders. Chairman Cromwell stated, "I am grateful for the opportunity to meet with President Obama, and for his commitment to strengthening the US Government's working relationship with Indian Country. I look forward to a discussion on economic development issues, including a resolution to the uncertainty surrounding land-into-trust applications."

November

- 2 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Mobile Dental Clinic, Tribal Headquarters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 7 Mobile Dental Clinic, Tribal Headquarters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 8 General Body Tribal Meeting
- 9 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Mobile Dental Clinic, Tribal Headquarters, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 14 Mobile Dental Clinic, Quashnet School, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 14 Tribal Health Fair, Quashnet School, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- 14 Wampanoag Cultural Celebration and Education Day, Quashnet School, 10 am to 6 pm.
- 15 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.
- 30 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.

December

- 6 Falmouth Christmas Parade – Look for the tribal float!
- 7 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Special Election
- 14 Youth Cultural Night, Mashpee Rod and Gun Club, 6:30 p.m.

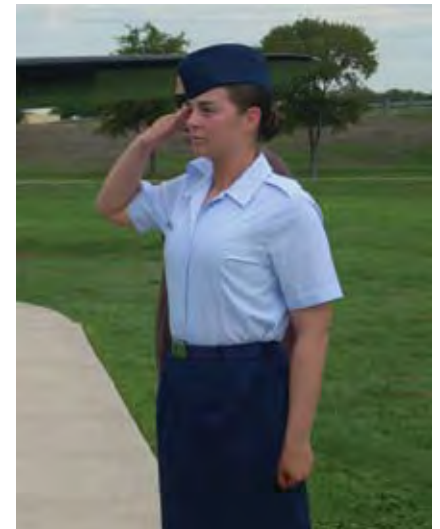
Editorial Staff

Leslie Jonas

Selena Jonas

Paula Peters

- Mashpee Baptist Church Pastor Curtis Frye would like to remind all tribal families that Sunday school for children of all ages is at 9 a.m. every week. Weekly Sunday Worship begins at 11 a.m.
- The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is developing a **Cultural Resource Speakers and Performers Bureau** in order to respond to requests from outside groups including schools, clubs and other organizations to have speakers knowledgeable about our history and current events and cultural performers. Interested tribal members must have previous experience and be able to demonstrate an ability to present historically and culturally accurate lectures and or performances. The tribe is also seeking tribal members interested in sitting on a three member review board for the Cultural Resource Speakers and Performers Bureau. Anyone interested in either being listed on the Cultural Resource Speakers and Performers Bureau or sitting on the review board should contact Council member Cheryl Frye-Cromwell.
- **Job opportunity:** NAGPRA (Native American Graves and Repatriation Act) Director, to direct the Mashpee Wampanoag NAGPRA program by developing and upholding policies and procedures to identify, evaluate, register, document, protect and submit claim to Mashpee Wampanoag historic items and archeological resources, both in the field and museum collections personally and/or through the program assistant. Other duties may be assigned. For a full description of the job and qualifications necessary please contact tribal Treasurer Mark Harding at mharding@mwtribe.com.
- Congratulations to tribal member, Airman First Class Jordan Kendall Frye upon graduation from Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas on Oct 2nd. Jordan is the daughter of Curtis Frye III of East Falmouth. She has now started Intelligence school at Goodfellow AFB in Texas and is expected to graduate from that program in April 2010. She will then participate in three more months of training with the 102nd at Otis when she gets back, before heading off to college in the fall of 2010 to study Criminal Justice.



Airman First Class Jordan Kendall Frye

Tribal members who would like to submit items of interest for On the Drum Beat or news for Naushaonk Mittark should send their information to SJonas@mwtribe.com. The deadline to submit all edited copy is the first Friday of each month.

(Word from the Chairman, continued from page 1)

to hold more unity sessions for the tribe and talking circles to bring our nation closer. I hope that all will attend and join us with a feeling of Pride, Unity, Respect and Love.

I would also like to express a warm welcome to all tribal members that have been recently added to the tribal rolls. You are an important piece of our future. In the spirit of tribal unity, I would like to invite you to take part in all of the different ways that our tribe comes together. We as a tribe need you to attend the monthly tribal membership meetings, join the Mashpee Wampanoag language classes, serve on a committee, support our elders and the Tribal Elders Council, and engage your children in Youth Council and Youth Cultural Nights.

Let your voice be heard, and let it join with us to create a stronger, unified voice of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

Aho
Kataputumu;
Qaqeemasq (Running Bear)



Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project

Fall 2009 Class Schedule

Mashpee Class Schedule: 483 Great Neck Rd. South, Mashpee, MA 02649

Start Date ~ October 19, 2009

Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m.: Beginner Workbook or Noun Possession (curriculum will depend on registration/interest levels.)

Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.: Advanced Workbook/Immersion (continuing speakers only)

Aquinnah Class Schedule: Tribal Council Building

Start Date ~ October 19, 2009

Mondays @ 6:00 p.m.: Beginner Workbook/Immersion (No prior class pre-requisites; this class will be held based on interest level. Please call 508-627-1935 to confirm interest.)

Mondays @ 7:30 p.m.: Advanced Workbook/Immersion (continuing speakers only)

Mondays @ 8:15 p.m.: Animate Intransitive (AI) Verbs

Bourne Class Schedule: Bourne Library, 19 Sandwich Road, Bourne, MA 02532

Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.: Beginner Workbook/Immersion (No prior class pre-requisites)

Boston Class Schedule - NEW! Boston College Campus, Campion Hall Room 208

Start Date ~ October 19, 2009

Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.

Beginner Workbook/Immersion (No prior class pre-requisites)

Campion Hall (also called Lynch School of Education) is located on Beacon Street. The campus map can be viewed at www.bc.edu/about/maps/s-chestnuthill.html

Eligibility: Mashpee, Aquinnah, Assonet, Chappaquiddick & Herring Pond Tribal & Household Members (Children must be accompanied by an adult) **ENROLLMENT MUST BE VERIFIED**

Registration: You may register at your first class. Please attempt to begin class prior to the third session of the semester.

Class Tuition: Free of charge to tribal members and their families; however, donations of any amount are gratefully accepted.

Visit the 'Ways to Help' page at www.wlrp.org to learn how you can support your language program.

Wampanoag Housing Department News

The Wampanoag Housing Department will be having its annual **Wampanoag Cultural Celebration and Educational Day** Saturday November 14th from 10-6. This event, which is open to the public, will be held at the Quashnet School on Lowell Road in Mashpee. The event will include Native food, music, craft demonstrations, vendors, a performance by the Mashpee Wampanoag Youth Program, and a penny sale. For more information contact Winona Hendricks at 508-477-0208 ext. 234.

The Housing Department is currently accepting proposals from Tribal Members for:

1. The design and construction of a sign for the upcoming Housing Development
2. A Tribal Member and/or Team of Tribal Members with Architectural Experience to start preliminary designs of future homes for the Tribe's low income Housing Development.

Contact Alice Lopez, Wampanoag Housing Program Director, at 508-477-0208 ext 211 for more information.



Young Wampanoag girls enjoy some play time in the long house during the Unity Conference.

Oakley Resigns - Special Election in December

During the Council meeting held on Wednesday, October 14, the board accepted the resignation of Council member Richard Oakley who indicated he is no longer willing to serve.

Nominations for candidates to fill Richard's seat will be taken from the floor at the General Body Meeting of the Tribe to be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 8 in the Mashpee High School auditorium.

Candidates for this seat must be present at the meeting in order to accept the nomination.

A special election, in accordance with the Tribe's constitutional ordinance, will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 13 at the Tribal Headquarters. Elders will be allowed to vote beginning at 1 p.m. The candidate receiving the most votes in that special election will serve the remainder of Richard's term, which will expire in February of 2011.

In February 2010, there will be four Council seats up for re-election. The four-year terms for Council members Yvonne Avant, Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, and Martin "Bruzzy" Hendricks all expire in February. Edwina Johnson, who was elected to serve the remainder of Aaron Tobey's Council seat as he was elected to the Vice Chairman position, will also be up for re-election.

If these Council members wish to continue to serve they will need to request nomination papers from the Election Committee and collect the requisite 25 signatures of eligible Tribal voters.

Tribal members who have attended at least six meetings, either General Body meetings or Council meetings or a combination of each, may also run for a Council seat.

Tribal members interested in running for an elected office should contact the Election Committee to request a nomination form.

Tribal IDs and Missing Citizens

Tribal citizens may obtain a tribal identification card at the Genealogy Office at Madaket Place on Route 28 in Mashpee weekdays from 1 to 4 p.m. The cost for an ID card is \$15.

The following tribal citizens' mail was returned undeliverable. Please contact the Enrollment Department if your name appears on this list or you are aware of the listed individuals' current address or other contact information.

Dron Gray
Serena Holland
Jahmilla Hillings
Tyson Jones
Deja Vaughn
Jacobi Costa
Regina Muhammad
Andre Peters
Lori Rose

MIZZENMAST: Jonas Ancestors Rest in Peace at Last

by Leslie Jonas (Meeqan Neepawuk, Standing Feather)

On an August day in 1999 in a gated development called Little Neck Bay in South Mashpee, while excavating for a house foundation on a property surrounded by sassafras at 17 Mizzenmast Road, a heavy equipment operator noticed human remains in the dirt he was digging.

Appropriately, in accordance with the Massachusetts Unmarked Burial Law, the excavator stopped digging and called the police. Brona Simon, the State Archeologist, and Jim Peters, Director of Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs, were summoned to investigate.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and Rosemary Burns of the Mashpee Historic Commission were called upon to ascertain any historic significance of the site. Records revealed that this site was historically allotted to the Rosanna Jonas Family who had lived there with family and fellow tribal members for some 200 years.

The descendants of Rosanna Jonas were determined by the Tribal Enrollment office and they were summoned for a meeting at Tribal headquarters. The meeting included a good representation of the Jonas family, traditional leaders, State Archeologist, Mass Commission on Indian Affairs, Mashpee Historic Commission and the current property owners.

It was agreed that the whole site would be carefully excavated. During this excavation, 17 Wampanoag natives' grave shafts were revealed. It is probable that these were Jonas and certainly other tribal members' ancestors.

The Jonas family and other Wampanoag tribal members were saddened and angry at the thought of exhuming these ancestors so that another expensive home could be constructed on their ancestral land and sacred, final resting place.

State Archaeologist Brona Simon and Jim Peters called upon some of their colleagues such as Valerie Talmage of the Trust for Public Land and Robert Durand, Secretary of Massachusetts Environmental Management, who raised sufficient funds to purchase the quarter acre 17 Mizzenmast Road parcel and transferred the title to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council.

If it were not for the parameters set forth by the Massachusetts Unmarked Burial Law and the supportive efforts of the state and private organizations including the Department of Environmental Management, the Mass Historic Commission, and the Trust for Public Land, in a flash, or a sweep of a Bob Cat, a big part of our tribal history would have been literally dug up and swept away, never to be recovered again.

It would be almost 3 long years before state archaeologists, Cape Cod historians, and spiritual members of the tribe along with many members of the Jonas Family succeeded in restoring the remains from the disturbed gravesites to their original resting place and land.

In July of 2002, during a spiritual gathering led by Jim Peters, his sister Ramona Peters, Jonas family members, and many invited guests, including the



(from left to right) Tribal members Quan Tobey, Leslie Jonas and Chuckie Green gather at the Mizzenmast site in South Mashpee to commemorate the reinterment of their ancestors and mark their graves.

former developer of the property, Ramona blessed the remains and asked for forgiveness.

For the past 2 years, Leslie Jonas along with the Wampanoag Tribal Environmental and Natural Resources Department, Quan Tobey and Chuckie Green, have surveyed and flagged the site to hold a stone marker in honor of our ancestors.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the unearthing of the Jonas tribal ancestors. During the Powwow weekend this past July, many of the Jonas tribal members collaborated on the marking of the site to honor their ancestors and celebrated a spiritual unveiling of the ancestral resting site with a natural arrowhead stone where the 17 Jonas tribal members rest.

Bear Clan Mother, Anita Peters Little, blessed the site in prayer and walked the grounds and prayed with the Jonas family in spiritual good medicine. AHO.

Rumble On The Rez III

The Rumble on the Rez boxing fundraiser for substance abuse prevention and recovery efforts fund went on despite extreme weather on August 29. The sporting event brought boxers from all over the state to entertain the masses and raise awareness about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse among our tribal youth and tribal members. Jon Jonas was given the 360 Award for turning his life around and being a inspiration to others, showing us that all things are possible with clean living. Marcus Hendricks boxed for the second year representing the Wamps, Dr. Keeter Mclure returned for his second year, and World Champion "Irish" Micky Ward braved the weather to be a part of the event. There was a lot of help from the Tribal Health department, and tribal members gave a lot of support. We are already planning for a bigger and better Rumble on the Rez next year!

Contributed by Stanley Dutra



Traditional Values Reaffirmed at Unity Conference

A three-day Unity Conference held on the tribal grounds in Mashpee October 10th to 12th was successful in drawing nearly two hundred tribal members from every tribal clan to gather and discuss ways of coming together in our traditional way.

Whether in discussion groups held in tents on the powwow grounds or in the sacred circle, tribal members had an opportunity to speak about positive ways to move forward and learn about how our traditions are at the core of our cultural pride.

Among the many issues discussed was making everyone feel welcome and comfortable in the traditional circle and providing cultural education for our young people and also for those who have been away from Mashpee.

The idea that our traditional knowledge has been maintained and passed along from many generations despite centuries of sanctioned efforts to commit cultural genocide on our people provided a sense of pride for many who attended.

Another critical issue discussed was the separation of traditional and political leadership particularly as it pertains to naming traditional leaders.

It was agreed that the traditional community would continue to hold regular spiritual gatherings at the sacred circle and will move toward fulfillment of the wishes of Chief Silent Drum to conduct the process of raising a new chief.

The Chief made it clear that while he is tired, he will continue to serve until this process is completed in the traditional way which invites a gathering of all tribal members on our sacred grounds to evaluate those who express an interest in serving as Chief and

choosing that person based upon the agreement of the gathering.

A date will be chosen in the coming months to hold this ceremony and while it will not be possible for every tribal member to attend, it will be up to each tribal family to be sure they are represented.



Members of the Red Hawk and Eastern Suns drum groups rehearse for the evening social at the Unity Conference.

A Last Gift from Frances Peters: A Quilt To Raffle



Edie Newcomb Rose (on left) and Pauline Peters display the quilt designed by Pauline's late mother Frances during the Unity gathering. The blanket will be raffled off at the December tribal meeting.

During the last few years before Frances Peters passed, she cared for her husband who suffered from Alzheimer's and a sister with medical problems. For most people that would have been enough to handle, but what many did not know was that she was also dealing

with the loss of her sight as a result of macular degeneration. Even with surgery and the latest in injection therapy, she had distorted vision in one eye and almost none in the other. Regardless, her devotion to her family and tribe was steadfast.

One thing she was determined to do was to make one last quilt for the Elders to raffle. Admitting that she couldn't do it would have been admitting defeat—something that Frances NEVER did! Her life was a lesson for us all! She would say, "if I can get Fred to thread the swing machine needle for me, I could do a little at a time."

Sadly, Frances never finished the quilt before her passing but someone with her giving spirit completed the task in her memory. For some time, Pat Deschamps has been making and giving away lap quilts to patients in nursing homes, school raffles and to anyone who needed to know that someone cares. Thanks to Pat, we can now fulfill the dream of Frances to raffle her last quilt to benefit the Elders. Tickets will be sold at the Elders meetings, the regular monthly meetings, and the Cultural celebration in November. The winner will be announced at the December regular monthly meeting.

Contributed by Pauline Peters

Meetinghouse to Reopen in Time for Christmas

It has been nearly seven years since the tribe was forced to close the doors of our Old Indian Meetinghouse as a result of neglect and structural deterioration, which caused the beloved historic landmark to be unsafe.

During the tribal meeting held on Sunday, October 11, Treasurer Mark Harding announced that the tribe can expect to reoccupy the building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, in time for Christmas.

Mark thanked all those who have been behind the long effort to restore the building including past Council members as well as state legislators, town officials, and members of the Community Preservation Committee which provided funding to support the ongoing project.

The Treasurer made it clear that while the building will receive an occupancy permit, work on the meetinghouse will not be complete and will require additional funds to finish the basement, interior details, and outside landscaping.

C.H. Newton has been the general contractor responsible for the historically accurate restoration and preservation of the building that is expected to cost more than a million dollars before it is complete.

Anyone interested in helping to organize a ceremony to rededicate the building should contact Mark Harding at mharding@mwtribe.com.

OUR STORY

Anyone who is interested in sharing a story in the “Our Story” column that is significant to Mashpee Wampanoag history or our heritage, recent or long past, should contact the newsletter committee by calling the tribal office at 508-477-0208 and leaving a message, or by sending an email to sjonas@mwtribe.com.

This letter, written 30 years ago, almost to the day of this newsletter publication, was mailed to each tribal member by the late Edgar “Hemp” Tobey to rally his Tribal family together in uncertain times. His words ring as true today as they did three decades ago. The aged yellow letter was discovered in a box of old documents and read into the record at the October 7, 2009 Council meeting, copies distributed to those in attendance, and the original given to the Tobey sisters in attendance that evening.

TRIBAL MEETING
Tuesday, October 30, 1979 7:30 P.M.
Mashpee Baptist Church Basement

Tribal differences can best be resolved by the releasing and discussion of pent up emotions.

At our last Tribal gathering it was good to see our Tribal Leaders and the many Tribal People who attended. It truly makes all of us feel good to realize that all of our aims and goals are relatively the same. But we must continually get together and discuss how we will go about reaching these goals, continually get together to measure our successes in reaching these goals, to correct the failures as they arise. This we must do for our remaining future, our children, and theirs.

Our Tribal meeting Tuesday was very good. LET’S DO IT AGAIN!!!

See you Tuesday, October 30th, 7:30 P.M. Mashpee Baptist Church. Bring the whole family!

Thanks,

Edgar F. Tobey
Tribal Coordinator

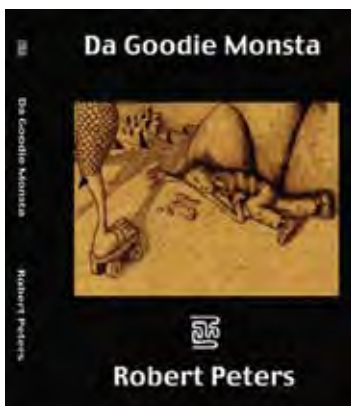
Children’s Book Appeals to All Ages

Dare to dream!

That is the underlying message in a new children’s book with a poignant message for people of all ages written and illustrated by tribal member Robert Peters.

“Da Goodie Monsta,” published by Wiggles Press in Cambridge in hard cover is now on sale in local bookstores and costs \$20.

It is a story of a scary looking but delightful monster that enters the dreams of children to frighten away their nightmares. Inspired by the author’s son, Robert Jr., it has been a labor of love and personal reflection and growth for Robert Sr. who has dedicated the book to his son and also daughter Taquana. Robert will be available for readings and to sell personally autographed copies during the Wampanoag Cultural Celebration and Education Day on November 14.



September 26, 2009: The First Annual “Honor your Ancestors Day”

On the 26th of September, my mother Glenna Eunice Coombs Mosley passed to the spirit world. Recently I saw a tribal member visiting the cemetery, and he told me he was just visiting old friends. After reminiscing a few moments, he left, and I thought what better way to honor our ancestors than to gather at the cemetery, have food, balloons, and a day of fun, peace, and show old photos. So that’s what we did. About 50 people turned out, young and old alike. We made a giant circle, said a prayer, signed our balloons, and we released them to the creator. A lot of people want to do Ancestors Day annually, they had so much fun, so let’s not forget those who came before us and paved the way, they’re not forgotten.

Contributed by
Stanley Dutra



Tribal families gather at the Old Indian Cemetery for Honor our Ancestors Day...

Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Center Awarded Federal Funding for First of Its Kind:

Earth Recovery Project For Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Services

The US Dept of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) has awarded funding for one year to the Mashpee tribal community Earth Recovery Project. This unique funding is the first of its kind to be awarded to a Northeast Tribal Nation.

Under the leadership of Mashpee tribal members including Health Director Rita Gonsalves, RN with the traditional guidance of Earl "Chiefie" Mills, Jr. and the project management of Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, the grant will develop and provide comprehensive substance abuse recovery support and mental health counseling to tribal members. Chairman Cedric Cromwell spearheaded the effort to obtain this groundbreaking funding, and credits grant writing by Rita Gonsalves, technical assistance from Tribal Health Consultant Wanda Jean Lord and Dr. Philip Levendusky, and the support of the late Senator Edward Kennedy along with Senator John Kerry and Congressman Bill Delahunt for the successful effort.

The project is based on the importance of tribal members' connection to our land and ancestors and includes activities focused on respect for our ancestors and the earth. By strengthening connections to our past, to the earth, and to the tribal community today, participants will have the opportunity to engage in counseling and traditional activities supportive of their recovery from substance abuse and increasing positive choice-making and mental health.

The project draws on best practices from Native American and mainstream medical models to strengthen recovery from substance abuse in tribal communities. Mashpee's Earth Recovery Project provides primary substance abuse/ mental health outreach and outpatient services. It includes a goal to increase the well-being of tribal adults and their families by engaging them in activities that nurture and preserve the earth and honor our Creator and our ancestry. It also enables Mashpee families living in homes touched by mental illness /substance abuse to have an outlet guided by therapeutic approaches for recovery.

Participants will utilize a greenhouse for growing and planting in our Indian cemetery while working with the basic elements of life: fire, earth, water and wind. Through these elements tribal members who seek to participate in the project can obtain the skills and knowledge in nurturing the earth to make informed decisions about substance abuse /mental health prevention and treatment and also encompass relation, harmony, balance, spirituality and wellness in the treatment healing process for recovery.

Help is available for education, prevention and follow up services such as life skills, social services employment, child care, transitional programs or services (transportation, basic human needs), housing, in-house or off-site delivery of services.

Traditional medicines and knowledge will partner with Dr. Levendusky of McLean Hospital. Gosnold Treatment and Rehabilitation Center will support the project with additional substance abuse services. Counselor Pumukqien Collins will be among the professionals providing individual counseling services available to the tribal community.

Nearly half of the grant funding is designated to create three new part-time employment opportunities at the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Center that include a Senior Earth Worker, an Earth Worker and a Licensed Social Worker.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Center's Earth Recovery Project will begin soon. For more information, or to participate, please call the Tribal Health Department and ask for Rita Gonsalves or Cheryl Frye-Cromwell at 508-477-0209.

LIHEAP Fuel Assistance Available

The tribe has been approved under our Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant to receive the same amount of funding as last year. However, the income guideline has been restored to the original 60% of the State Median Income from last year's 80%. The change is attributed to the cost of fuel and the economy. This change to the guidelines may affect continued participation for some of our clients.

Last month an application was mailed to all existing LIHEAP clients. If you have not received an application, or would like to apply for the first time, please contact the tribal office.

Elders, disabled veterans and families with small children are granted first priority for our LIHEAP funding. Any elder or disabled veteran that needs assistance in filling out their application can contact the Tribal Office to set up an appointment or have someone visit their home to help with the application.

Dental Services Available

Dr. Anthony Olatunji will be bringing his Mobile Dental Clinic to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal office parking lot to serve tribal members on the following dates in November: 5, 7, 12, 19, & 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Mobile Dental Clinic will also be available during the Tribal Health Fair on Nov. 14 at the Quashnet School parking lot from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To make an appointment for the Mobile Dental Clinic please contact Kym Frye at the Tribal Health Office, 508-477-0209.

In Our Own Words



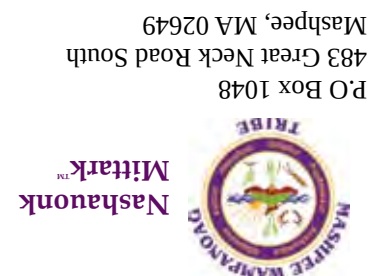
nuwôpanâôt8âm: 'I speak Wamp'

sun kuwôpanâôt8âm: 'Do you (singular) speak Wamp?'

puyôkw katnuhtôhtâeekamuqut: 'Come to class (you plural)!'



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