



Nashauonk Mittark™



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October 2017

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

TAP

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Family,

We've been through it all. Over 40 years ago we started our formal petition for Federal Recognition. Long before there was even a thought of Indian Gaming. We did it for the very simple reason that we wanted to protect this land that we call our home, preserve our heritage and culture and continue to exercise our aboriginal rights to hunt and fish responsibly on these lands. Since then we've watched our homeland become overcrowded with construction as we continued our fight decade after decade to recapture our ability to protect this land with land in trust.

It's been a drawn out battle that's gone on longer than our elders and ancestors who delivered those papers to Washington DC back in the 1970s could have imagined. It's been an exhaustive process with a few ups and many downs that have tested our resolve and our resources. This latest setback challenging our land in trust has once again stretched our resources out and forced us to make some hard choices. But let me be very clear, our fight for this land and our way of life is not something that we will ever compromise or give up fighting for.

What we have decided to do is look for ways to trim our budget and become more creative and thoughtful with our operations. It's our goal to find cost savings where ever appropriate and to do so with as little impact to the programs and services that are so vital to the education of our youth, the structure of our growing families and the health of our elders.

To accomplish this, I appointed several Tribal members to a Sustainability Working Group back in August to review each de-

(Continued on page 3)

Emergency Management Department Receives Significant FEMA Grant

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management (EM) Department has recently been awarded a \$570,000.00 FEMA Tribal Homeland Security Grant specifically for enhancing the capabilities of and strengthening the EM department. The grant will allow the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe to have more robust, training, exercises, planning as well as preparedness and response equipment to be more ready for all hazards.

The Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (THSGP) plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient Nation. The building, sustainment, and delivery of these core capabilities are not exclusive to any single level of government, organization, or community, but rather, require the combined effort of the whole community. The THSGP's allowable costs support all core capabilities in the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

The funding for this three year grant is provided through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Roxanne



Nelson Andrews leading the Barnstable County All Hazards Incident Management Team through a training.

Brown and Judi Urquhart from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Planning and Development Team worked alongside the EM department to put together another remarkable grant application.

Over the next three years, the THSGP projects and department enhancement will be led by Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews Jr along with assistance from Emergency Preparedness Specialist Allyssa

(Continued on page 8)

Anti-Opioid Music Video Seeks Community People To Appear

SKL is seeking volunteers from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe as well as other First Nations people and community members to appear in a public service announcement/music video for the Anti-Opioids Anthem, "FLIPPIN" by Soul Poet's Syndicate.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in conjunction with Song Keepers, Ltd is looking for people from the community to appear in the video. They are particularly reaching out to people who have family members to this epidemic to appear with



pictures of their loved ones.

The shoot will take place on Saturday, October 7 at the Old Indian Meeting

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Events Calendar

New Events

October 1

LIHEAP Applications Open, MWTCGC

October 6 - 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

National Night Out, Mashpee Police and Fire Department Field

October 7 - 1:00 p.m.

FLIPPIN Music Video Shoot, Old Indian Meeting House

October 8 - 1:00 p.m.

FLIPPIN Music Video Shoot, Herring Run

October 8 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

October 20 - 8:00 a.m.

UMass Amherst College Tour Depart, MWTCGC (RSVP due October 6)

October 28 - Dusk

Granny Squannit Walk, MWTCGC Powwow 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

Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

WAYK (Where Are Your Keys?) an interactive language learning game, 800 Falmouth Road 307C, Mashpee (starts October 24)

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

Tribal Health Yoga Classes with Yoga Neighborhood, MWTCGC

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

Elders Lunch & Learn, MWTCGC

NEW Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Recovery Meeting, Old Indian Meeting House

NEW Fridays - 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Toddler Hour, Wampanoag Museum

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

Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley, MWTCGC

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

Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley, MWTCGC

Food Pantry Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

From Aunt Joan's Archives

Aunt Joan Avant Tavares was recently going through her personal archives and came across a few photos from "back in the day" that she wanted to share.

These were special times and special people that many of us have fond memories of. Let's never forget where we come from and those that have paved the path for us to walk.



Toddler Hour at the Museum

Toddler Hour at the Museum is returning on October 13 and will continue each Friday through June 22, 2018. The weekly event for will be held Fridays from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum.

Join Miss Toodie and Miss Kitty for story time, and Wôpanâak songs and games. Toddler Hour is free of charge to all tribal home day care providers and tribal families.

For more information, please call (508) 477-0208 ext 143. Toddler Hour is offered by the MWT Education Department and the Language and Tribal Historic Preservation Departments.

Chairman's Column

(continued)

partment, program and budget line by line to find savings. Since then, this dedicated group has been pouring through our income and expenses and will be providing Tribal Council with a list of recommendations. Again, we're doing all this while maintaining our commitment to protect our land in trust and minimize any disruption to the programs and services we all rely on.

Initial feedback that I've received from the Sustainability Working Group has been surprisingly positive. They've been able to find additional grant funds that were not being utilized to the best of their ability and opportunities to streamline our operations. It's a process we should have conducted sooner and will certainly look to implement every few years going forward. It's a healthy process for a government to review its operations on a regular basis.

With all that said, there's no question that these are challenging times. But let me remind you that we are a strong, creative and smart people that have persevered through far more difficult circumstances. I'm confident that we will succeed in the end. We will have a prosperous future; rich with culture and economic development opportunities, including our world-class destination resort casino First Light.

I also ask you, the citizens of our great Tribe, what can you do to help? Are there areas where you can donate your time, treasure or talent back to your people? We are open to any and all ideas that you may have for improving the work we do within our community and in our Community and Government Center. We are stronger together and together there is nothing that we cannot achieve... we are Wampanoag Strong.

Kutâputunumuw;



Cedric Cromwell
Qaqeemasq
(Running Bear)

Granny Squannit Walk on October 28

As the sun sets on Saturday, October 28 tribal youth and their families will head out for a spooky walk to the ceremonial grounds at 55-acres to meet Granny Squannit. Families will gather at the powwow grounds next to the Community and Government Center for activities prior to the walk.

The legend of Granny Squannit has been passed down from generation to generation through stories that remind our youth the importance of behaving well and listening to their elders. The annual walk is organized by the Mashpee Wampanoag youth Council and the Youth Programs Department.

If you are interested in learning more about the Youth Council or about youth



events, please contact Director of Youth Programs Tracy Kelley at tracy.kelley@mwtribe.com or at (508) 477-0208 x150.

College Visit to UMass Amherst

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department is sponsoring a college tour of the University of Massachusetts Amherst along with workshops and other fun activities for high school juniors and seniors. The college tour includes transportation to and from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center (MWTC-GC), hotel, and a per diem provided for a tribal junior or senior and 1 parent/legal guardian.

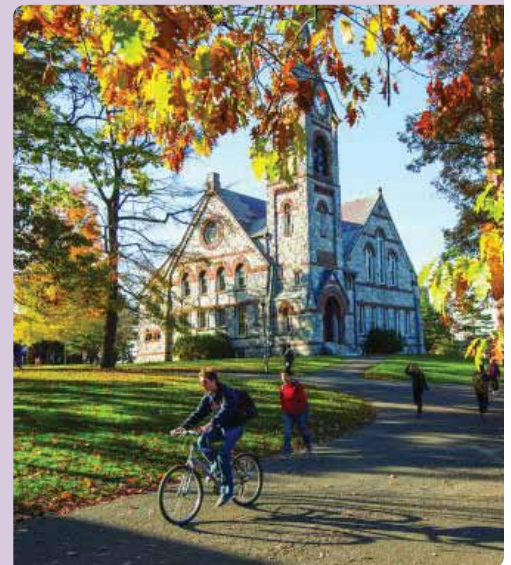
Transportation will depart the MWTCGC on Friday, October 20, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. and will return on Saturday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m.

In addition to a college tour and workshops at the Commonwealth's flagship campus, students and their family will be able to attend a Friday Night Fright Fest at Six Flags and a football game at Springfield College at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The RSVP deadline for the college visit to UMass Amherst is Friday, October 6. To RSVP or to get additional information, please contact the Education Department at

(508) 477-0208. You may also reach out directly to Tracy Kelley at x150 and tracy.kelley@mwtribe-NSN.gov or John Hanlon at x163 and john.hanlon@mwtribe-NSN.gov.

The NYCP Grant made this program possible.



Old Indian Meeting House Recovery Meetings

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Health and Human Services Department Substance Abuse Program has organized weekly recovery meetings for anyone seeking support. The recovery meetings are being held every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House located at 410 Meetinghouse Road in Mashpee.

If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Tobey-Roderick at (774) 228-3334 or Gail Costa at (774) 228-3268. Stephanie and Gail are both licensed alcohol and drug counselors in the Tribe's Substance Abuse Program.

Mashpee Commons Explores Major Expansion *from the Mashpee Enterprise*

Planners and executives with Mashpee Commons have announced plans to involve the public in its expansion plans for the future of the town's major commercial district.

Although no formalized plans have been produced on the potential expansion, aside from a 10-year-old Chapter 40B plan, representatives of the mixed-use development said it could include a zoning change, an increase of residential units, and possible road alterations.

They made a presentation to the Mashpee Planning Board on Wednesday night, September 6.

"We are proud of what we have done to serve the community, but the reality is, we stand at a crossroads in being able to continue the work we have done over the last 30 years," said Arnold B. (Buff) Chace Jr., managing general partner of Mashpee Commons. "The current zoning in the commons does not provide the direction or flexibility for the type of neighborhood we have been building and that the community has come to know and love."

"Tonight, we will introduce a proposal to enter into a process which will produce a development plan for the next phases of Mashpee Commons and that reflect the desires of the community," Mr. Chace said. "The economic reality of the current times, in simple terms, allows us to collectively work together to build on the successes of Mashpee Commons."

Mr. Chace also announced a new website for the future development and the project name, Mashpee Commons by Design. He also announced a number of public forums, charrettes, and workshops planned in order to gain insight and perspective from the public for their desires of future plans at the development. Mashpee Commons plans to have these public sessions for the next several months and into the spring.

Mr. Chace, in his opening remarks to the planning board, said that after seeing his family and children grow up on the Cape, he has felt a responsibility to make sure the region succeeds at that same time as it maintains and enhances the lifestyle and environment "that we cherish."

In that vein, he said that he hopes to involve the public's opinion in the project and to keep the Cape Cod vernacular that the development currently maintains.

He said that the current zoning on Job's Fishing Road would allow them to build big box stores, but not residential and retail mixed-use buildings like they recently built on Market Street.

Russell Preston, an engineer who has worked on the project with the development

officials, walked the planning board and audience through their plans to develop a plan with the community. He said that their goal in the project is to create a compact and walkable neighborhood that promoted an active lifestyle including bicycling.

They hope to continue to create the vibrancy of community areas within the shopping center, such as green areas, while at the same time creating a whole spectrum of housing from apartments to town houses. Mr. Preston also stressed the importance of hearing from the community, and asked residents to get excited about shaping the commons' future. "Let's design it together," he said.

After the presentation, Mashpee Commons officials heard from the planning board.

Board member David W. Weeden said that he was concerned with the overall size of the development.

"The small-town feel of Mashpee has changed drastically in a small amount of time," Mr. Weeden said. "When is enough enough?"

He said that a major concern voiced in a planning board survey of the town a few years back was a concern for the rapid development of the town, and the loss of its small-town feel.

Mr. Weeden also said that many of the stores in the commons are out of the pocketbook range of many residents of Mashpee.

"I'm wondering, what type of demographic are you looking to purchase homes here?" Mr. Weeden asked. He said it appeared the development would likely attract more out-of-town residents, and would not reflect the "hard-working, blue-collar workers of Mashpee."

Mr. Weeden expressed concern over traffic. Already, he said, getting across town in the summer takes 30 minutes, even before the proposed expansion at Mashpee Commons. He wondered how they could mitigate traffic with more residents, tourists, and an even more densely populated area.

Mr. Chace responded that the process they presented that night was an attempt to find solutions to these problems with the community's input, addressing issues such as workforce housing, shops of interest for locals, and traffic. He encouraged Mr. Weeden and others to keep an eye on their development.

"We're not trying to exclude anyone," Mr. Chace said.

“The small-town feel of Mashpee has changed drastically in a small amount of time...When is enough enough?”

- David Weeden

He said, however, that there are financial realities to consider when building housing, and he would gladly go into those details during the planning process.

For traffic, Mr. Chace said the new development would try to discourage driving and encourage more bicycling and walking. He said that altering the rotary has been discussed in a traffic study, even a bypass of Route 28 in that area. He did not expand on the remark.

Mr. Weeden asked the median income of someone working in Mashpee Commons, and whether they could afford to live in the new development.

Mr. Chace said there is a great mixture of people who live in the commons currently.

"It may not be a place for everyone to live, but there are people that would find it attractive," Mr. Chace said. He said the Cape has a great need for rentals. He said that they aim to work with the Mashpee Housing Authority and other affordable housing groups and communities.

Mr. Chace also encouraged those skeptical of the plans to participate in the process.

Asked how many residential units are planned, Mr. Chace said that they currently have 382 planned under their Chapter 40B. He said they have done a study to provide an increase of 30 percent beyond that, "but we really don't know. We want to hear from you what you want," Mr. Chace said.

Board member Dennis H. Balzarini also expressed concern about the affordability of the residential units.

Mr. Balzarini asked about a grant given to the town from the state for a road constructed in the 40B development and wondered if they would have to return the money if the commons discontinues its 40B plans. Mr. Chace said that he did not think they would be required to do so. They are hoping to add at least one more building under 40B, but added that financially, it is tough.

"We are trying to show you that we are operating in good faith," Mr. Chace said, "We just can't make those buildings and make them work financially. Financial restraints are real."

Board member David A. Kooharian said he would like to discuss, at the appropriate time, the connection of the commons with the surrounding Mashpee greenways for recreational purposes.

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Wampanoag Day Returns to Aptucxet

On Saturday, September 16 all Wampanoag, including the Mashpee Wampanoag, Aquinnah Wampanoag and Herring Pond Wampanoag tribes, came together with friends from the community at the 18th Wampanoag Day Celebration at the Aptucxet Trading Post Museum in Bourne.

The event, which was not held last year, returned with new activities and community interaction thanks to the hard work of Carol Wynne, Gertrude Hendricks and others from the Museum and surrounding tribes. This year's event was a celebration of culture and history framed by education and Native American customs.

Bourne Historical Society President Diane Flynn said there were nearly 200 paying



customers this year, plus youngsters. Walk-ins from the neighboring canal service road also attended, she said.

"People are enthusiastic about this celebration," Flynn said. "It's encouraging."

Vendors sold food, artwork, jewelry, and crafts as well as toys such as rattles made of seashells and traditional cornhusk dolls.

The Legendary Wampanoag Singers and Dancers performed the The Circle Dance with guests joining the loop. The dance honors everything round and is designed to keep the energy flowing through clasped hands moving round and round to music.



8th Annual Ancestor's Day



On Saturday, September 16 tribal citizens and family came together at the Old Indian Meeting House for the 8th Annual Ancestor's Day. Those in attendance gathered in the Meeting House to tell stories of ancestors and share prayer for the community.

Over eight years ago Tribal Citizen Stanley Dutra wanted to find a way to formally remember, celebrate and honor family and friends that have passed on to the spirit world. With that purpose in mind, Ancestor's Day was created. Eight years later our Old Indian Meeting House Committee is pleased to continue this event each year.

Mashpee Commons Explores Expansion *(continued)*

Town planner F. Thomas Fudala said that he was excited to work with Mashpee Commons, something he has done often in his 33 years with the town. He pointed out that town zoning does allow for mixed-used development contrary to some remarks made, but said that the development wants to use a different method. "They can do it [with current zoning], they just want to do it a different way," he said. "We are working on it."

Mr. Fudala added that he will consider not just the design of the expansion but the impact to the town as well.

Board engineering consultant Charles Rowley said that Mashpee Commons has considered a zoning tool called form-based code, something he knows little about. Mr. Rowley said that he hoped to learn more about the code and encouraged development officials to explain the concept. The zoning change could impact the entire town; if the board and Town Meeting allowed the

commons to enact the code just in one area, he asked whether it put the rest of the town at a disadvantage.

The planning board also gave members of the public attending the meeting an opportunity to voice concerns and questions.

The executive director of the Mashpee Chamber of Commerce, Mary Lou Polumbo, applauded the commons for opening up the project to the community and working with the town. She said that many valid concerns had already been voiced that night, including concern for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, keeping the small-town charm of the town, creating housing for workers, and traffic.

"On behalf of the business community, we really would like to see this succeed... for jobs, for employment, for housing," Ms. Polumbo said. "I am glad that they have invited us, and I hope we continue to work together."

Mashpee resident Yvonne Courtney

voiced concerns about parking. Ms. Courtney said that she already has difficulty parking in the commons.

"For any future plans, you have to come up with a plan for parking," she said, whether it be a parking garage or a shuttle. In a light moment of the presentation and question period, Ms. Courtney said that while she appreciated the thought of the Commons as a walkable and bike-able area, it was not advisable for her and others her age to bicycle.

Douglas C. Roberson, a Mashpee resident, had a concern about pedestrian and car traffic. He referenced an accident in Sandwich in which two elderly women died after being struck by a car while trying to cross the road to Stop & Shop. He encouraged a bridge or a tunnel under Route 151 for pedestrians to be able to reach Stop & Shop.

The commons has planned another meeting in October at the Mashpee Public Library.

By Sam Houghton

Anti-Opioid Music Video *(continued)*



House in Mashpee; and Sunday, October 8 at the Herring Run in Mashpee. Both shoots begin at 1:00 p.m.

"We are looking for elders, children, mothers, fathers, cousins, siblings... everybody from the community who is ready to take a stand and say no to those pushing this poison into the community." - Billie Atkins, President of Song Keepers, Ltd.

FLIPPIN is a song with a powerful message directed at members of the community who have chosen to sell heroin and other opioids to their neighbors and peers. Heroin has reached epidemic proportions throughout

the country and Native America is the hardest hit demographic with this disease. The Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, whose membership numbers below 3,000 people has been experiencing an average of one death per month due to opioid overdoses or prolonged usage.

Soul Poet's Syndicate is a spoken-word collective comprised of primarily Native American MCs, poets and storytellers and grew out of the SKL Artist Mentoring Program.

For more information, call 774-251-9021 or visit: facebook.com/soulpoetsyndicate



Nelson Andrews Graduates from FEMA's Emergency Management Advanced Academy

Nelson Andrews Jr graduated from FEMA's National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (formerly the Leaders Academy) at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD., after he completed the full curriculum that provides the strategic level training and education in the essential skills and tools for emergency management professionals to lead dynamic and resilient programs.

Mr. Andrews completed the four resident courses with three short distance learning sessions in the Advanced Academy including: A Survey of Advanced Concepts in Emergency Management, Assessment and Application of Professional Style in Emergency Management, Advanced Concepts and Issues in the Emergency Management Organization and Advanced Concepts and Issues in the Emergency Management Community and Profession.

FEMA's National Emergency Management Advanced Academy reinforces the qualities needed to lead emergency management programs, provides relevant management theories and concepts, and utilizes appropriate case studies. By working within

their series, Advanced Academy participants work within a collaborative environment on projects and establish a network of their peers. The Academy is designed for emerging leaders and mid-level managers wanting to advance their skillset. Students learn skills critical to performing leadership responsibilities such as program management and oversight, effective communication at all levels, integrated collaboration, and strategic thinking. The Advanced Academy provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their critical thinking ability through a guided research project. Students apply the key learning concepts from the Advanced Academy curriculum relative to their own skillsets and abilities within their organizations, and their own performance environments.

FEMA's Emergency Management Professional Program (EMPP) curriculum is designed to provide a lifetime of learning for emergency managers and includes three separate, but closely threaded, training programs including the National Emergency Management Basic Academy; a specialized and technical training program to develop specific, fundamental skill sets; the National Emergen-

Land Use Committee Seeking Members

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is looking for tribal members to serve on the newly-formed Land Planning and Use Committee. This committee's duties will consist of land use planning and land acquisition recommendations. The committee will consist of nine tribal members who will serve in two-year staggered terms. If you are interested in serving on the Land Planning and Use Committee, please send a letter of interest along with your resume/CV to Francie Dottin, executive administrative assistant to the chairman, francie.dottin@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

Tribal Council established a Land Planning and Use Committee in September, 2017. The primary function of the committee is to act in a formal land use advisory role to the Tribal Council through the presentation of recommendations to Tribal Council regarding the use of Tribal lands and properties that will protect our resources, promote tribal sovereignty, and protect and preserve ceremonial, cultural and historical properties. The committee's specific duties will consist of land use planning and land acquisition recommendations; and the Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to Tribal Council through its Council representative for review, approval and implementation of practices and policies in the best interests of the Tribe.



cy Management Advanced Academy; and the National Emergency Management Executive Academy; a program designed to challenge and enhance the talents of the nation's emergency management senior executives through critical thinking, visionary strategic planning, challenging conventional concepts, and negotiation and conflict resolution applied to complex real-world problems.

Nelson Andrews Jr completed his training on August 25, 2017.

Wôpanâak Now Being Taught at Mashpee High School

Tribal students at Mashpee High School this fall are enrolling in a daily Wôpanâak Pasuq (Wampanoag Language I) course held daily in the Indian Education room for the first time ever. Students who successfully complete the course, taught by Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project certified language teachers, will receive a World Language Credit on their transcript.

Wôpanâak Pasuq is listed in the course registration platform as an elective during this pilot year, and with Mashpee Public Schools (MPS) World Languages Department Chair Tim Rumberger as the instructor of record; however, the course is offered daily by

WLRP Language Specialist Melanie Roderick and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Education Department Director Nitana Greendeer, PhD.

Funded by a three-year U.S. Department of Education grant to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, this exciting opportunity represents a new partnership between the Tribe, WLRP, the Mashpee School District, and the MPS Indian Education Parent Committee. The course is the result of requests in recent years from tribal high school students, including Indian Ed committee student representative Abigail Peters. WLRP annually fields requests to offer Wôpanâak language instruction at area colleges and universities, but has prioritized

offering local language education to Mashpee students families.

WLRP and MWT will also support students in documenting on their future college applications that Wôpanâak Pasuq (Wampanoag Language I) fulfills the same academic requirement as any other world language course in a student's college prep track. Indigenous language education and fluency development is a foundation of success for tribal students throughout Indian Country, as well as globally, and WLRP is honored to partner with the Tribe and local schools to empower tribal youth with this exciting new academic opportunity.

Wôpanâak Lunch Bunches Returning to Mashpee Public Schools in October



In partnership with the Mashpee Indian Education Parent Committee and staff, Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) youth language instructor Eleanor "Toodie" Jackson-Coombs will offer 20 minutes of lunchtime language activities for Tribal children enrolled at Mashpee's Kenneth C. Coombs and Quashnet Schools throughout the school year.

Lunch Bunches will begin at Quashnet School on Wednesday October 4th, and students will be invited to line up with other Tribal children to join Miss Toodie for lunchtime language lessons including songs, introductions, family and mealtime vocabulary. Coombs School Lunch Bunches will resume on Thursday October 5th.

The language programming, which began in March 2014 at the invitation of the Mashpee Indian Education Program parent committee, marked the first time Wôpanâak language had been taught in Massachusetts schools in almost 400 years.

The earliest grammar and public schools in Wampanoag territory, or New England, were founded in 1635 in Boston, 1639 in Dorchester, 1643 in Rehoboth, 1644 in Dedham, and 1651 on Martha's Vineyard. Some of these early schools, organized in

part by English missionaries, included Wôpanâak language-speaking children from local communities where Tribal elders began advising and collaborating on early translations of the first King James Bible ever published in the Western Hemisphere.

Today several 17th century Wôpanâak bibles serve as key research documents for the WLRP team of linguists and community instructors who have worked since 1993 to reclaim the Wôpanâak language and offer free year-round community classes.

Jackson-Coombs is part of the WLRP team operating the Wôpanâak language immersion preschool and kindergarten, Mukayuhsak Weekuw (The Children's House), at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center, which opened in 2016. She enjoys teaching and singing in the language with Mashpee youth, and is grateful for the opportunity to practice her teaching and language skills in partnership with Mashpee Public Schools' Indian Education Program.

To learn more about the lunch bunch program or any of the other program being offered by WLRP please visit www.wlrp.org and click on "programs."

Tutors Available

There's no question that our kids are being challenged academically more than past generations were. Standardized tests, a new focus on STEM and language requirements are pushing our students to achieve greatness in the classroom. This can create a lot of stress, but there's no need for our youth to fall behind.

Tutors are available through the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department All you or your child need to do is ask for help by calling the MWT Education Department Admin Anne Foxx at (508) 477-0208 ext 151 or email anne.foxx@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

Do You Have a Student Enrolled k-12?

The Indian Education Office is collecting Title VI 506 forms for all Native American students' grades K-12 enrolled in the Barnstable, Falmouth, New Bedford, Sandwich, and Wareham Public School districts. These forms are required by the Office of Indian Education to participate in services, and will be kept on file here at the Indian Education office. Please contact Kitty Hendricks-Miller at (508) 477-0208 ext 143 or at Gertrude.Hendricks@mwtribe-nsn.gov. Kutâputush!



Indian Education Offers New Programs

The following programs have been developed by the MWT Indian Education Office for students enrolled in the Barnstable, Falmouth, New Bedford, Sandwich, and Wareham Public School Districts. Schools in this district can choose to offer the following programs:

Wampanoag Cultural Classroom Presentations K-12 (Open to whole school community)

Learn about the daily life of the Wampanoag in the 17th century, as well as their current lives and communities. Students will gain an understanding of the connection the Wampanoag and other Native People have to Mother Earth, their seasonal way of life and their respect for all living beings.

Wampanoag presenter will pass around reproduction artifacts of traditional life, such as animal furs, tools, and jewelry made from shell, stone, and bone.

Program aligns with Massachusetts History and Social Science Frameworks: 1.6, 1.8, 3.2, 4.11, 4.15, 5.6.

Indian Ed after School Gr 1-6 (Native students only)

These weekly sessions unite Native American youth and assist them in developing skills and perspectives that result in an increased knowledge and sense of pride in their cultural identity. Activities include, storytelling, crafts, clay, music, and much more!

Pottery Workshop Gr 7-12 (Native students only)

This six-week program will introduce students to the origins of clay, and explore their creative abilities through clay. They will experiment a variety of hand building techniques such as slab, pinch, and coil pots.

Native American Film Series Gr 7-12 (Open to whole school community)

This series will include the documentaries *We Still Live Here*, which is about the Wampanoag Language Reclamation Project and how the language was lost as a result of colonialism and how it has been reclaimed; *The Mashpee Nine*, which is about nine men who were arrested in 1976 while camping and singing on their own land. The case became a landmark case in Native rights and religious expression. And the final documentary is as yet undecided but will be about the Standing Rock water protectors and their opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline last year on the Standing Rock reservation. Each screening will include a Q&A from either the filmmaker or a person with firsthand knowledge on the topic.

Program aligns with Massachusetts History and Social Science Frameworks: 1.6, 1.8, 3.2, 4.11, 4.15, 5.6.

Native American Performance Arts Gr K-12 (Open to whole school community)

Assembly style program for school wide performances by Native American educators, artists and musicians.

FEMA Grant *(continued)*

Hathaway. Over the course of the three years a Tribal-centric citizens corps council comprised of the Tribal Community will be established. The development of a Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) will be established. Training exercises and practice drills for employees and the Tribal community will be put into place. In addition a portion of the approved funds will support the acquisition of Emergency response vehicles, communications equipment, hazmat response gear. The THSGP funding was approved to also support Nelson Andrews Jr and Allyssa Hathaway as FTEs enabling them the time necessary to plan and implement this project and the required day to day activities to ensure the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Department is more prepared and able to respond any hazards that may face our Tribal community.

Medicare's Open Enrollment Period is Oct 15 - Dec 7

Medicare Advantage (Part C) and Medicare Prescription (Part D) Plans change every year. It is very important to review your Medicare options during this period. You will receive a notice from your Prescription Drug or Medicare Advantage (HMO, PPO) Plan in September. Make sure you read this notice - it will explain the changes (premiums, copays, tiers) to your plan for 2017.

During the Annual Open Enrollment (October 15, 2016 - December 7, 2017), you will have a chance to CHANGE your plan. This change takes effect January 1, 2018. Our Medicare Outreach Counselor can help you understand your plan's changes, screen you for assistance programs and discuss other options you may have. If you do not change your plan during this period you may have to stay with your existing plan for another whole year. (Note: the open enrollment may not affect those with retiree coverage).

Please see April Dugas at our weekly Title VI "Lunch and Learn" for free Medicare counseling or ~ Call Tribal Health at 508 477 0208 x166 to make an appointment now!

Tribal Health: Medicare Outreach Program

"Getting Ready for Medicare". If you are 64 and older or are approaching 65, or know someone in your family who is, there will be a presentation held on Tuesday, September 19th 1PM -4PM (after our Lunch and Learn) to discuss the necessary steps to take when signing up for Medicare and everything you need to know about the differences between all parts of Medicare. You must sign up for Medicare Parts A, B and D three months before your 65th birthday and/or three months after, or you could face a life penalty.

You may think you are all set but changes happen every year and we want you to be sure that you are current with these changes. Please come prepared with all of your Medicare documentation and write down any questions you think you may have. For more information please

contact (508) 477-0208 x166 or email wendy.pocknett@mwtribe-NSN.gov

MASSHEALTH UPDATES:

Have you received a notice from MASSHEALTH that shows a change in your eligibility? MASSHEALTH and the HEALTH CONNECTOR review available federal and state data sources for income. If you have not called or manually updated income within the last renewal period, the system will use income shown to determine new eligibility. Please look out for any notices from MASSHEALTH or the HEALTH CONNECTOR.

Members can make changes on their own online at any-time at www.MassHealthConnector.org



TRIBAL ACTION PLAN

MASHPEE WAMPANOAG WORKING TOGETHER FOR WELLNESS

For more information please contact Tribal Health and Human Service Dept at 508-477-0208 ext 148 or the Indian Health Service Clinic at 508-477-6967.

Mashpee Wampanoag Opioid Overdose Rates on the Rise

WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids are a class of drug that relieve pain, including hydrocodone (e.g. Vicodin and Percocet), oxycodone (Oxycontin), codeine, fentanyl, morphine and many others. While opioid pain medications are generally safe when taken for a short time and as prescribed by your doctor, regular or long-term use of opioids, can lead to physical dependence and addiction.

Opioids also include illegal drugs (not for medical use) such as heroin, a very addictive drug.

Heroin is processed from morphine, which comes from the Asian poppy plant. Heroin usually appears as a white or brown powder.

The faster a drug reaches the brain, the more likely it is to be addicting. How are opioids used? there are different methods of delivery from fast to slow: smoking, injecting, intranasal (snorting) or ingestion. **All opioids carry a risk of overdose and death.**

SIGNS OF OVERDOSE CAN INCLUDE:

Opioids depress (slow down) breathing and the heart rate. If someone takes too much of an opioid, he or she may overdose. Overdose can be life threatening and requires immediate emergency care.

- No response to touch, cannot hear you
- Shallow/stopped breathing
- Can't be woken up
- Unusual snoring/gurgling sounds
- Blue/gray lips
- Floppy arms and legs, muscle rigidity (unable to be bent)

SAVE A LIFE:

If you discover someone experiencing an overdose, call 911 first, and if available administer the overdose drug Naloxone* (also known as Narcan).

**Naloxone (also known as Narcan) is a medication that treats opioid overdose. If you or someone you know is taking opioids, consider asking your healthcare provider for Naloxone(Narcan). It is possible to get naloxone from a pharmacy without a prescription (call ahead). Tribal members can also get a prescription for naloxone at the IHS clinic located behind the Mashpee Wampanoag Government Center.*

TRIBAL ACTION PLAN MASHPEE WAMPANOAG WORKING TOGETHER FOR WELLNESS

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe declared a state of emergency in response to the rise in opioid drug abuse in July 2016 and dedicated its 95th annual powwow to breaking the cycle of addiction, offering fireball ceremonies to heal those struggling with illness.

Facts

Nationwide, Native Americans are at least twice as likely as the general population to become addicted to drugs, and three times as likely to die of a drug overdose.

We are losing 142 Americans a day to the opioid crisis.

Types of Narcan

There are different kinds of Narcan. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist to decide which is the best fit for you.





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!



COMMUNITY

Fuel Assistance Applications Available

For many Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal households, energy cost place a severe and continuing stress on the family's budget. In some instances, the household is forced to make painful decisions regarding which bills to pay and which necessities to survive without. The Low Income Home Energy Assistant Program (LIHEAP) is designed to help eligible low-income households supplement part of their winter heating service bills.

LIHEAP is a federally funded program that helps low-income households with their home heating bills. Income eligibility is based on "Net Income" (after all deductions, including max of \$2,000 towards rent/mortgage, but except for 401K, IRA, and any other saving or retirement programs). A household deductible guide with income limits is included with the LIHEAP application.

In order to determine your eligibility

for the heating season, please contact Shakira Askew at (508) 477-0208 x159 or at shakira.askew@mwtribe-NSN.gov for an application. It's very important that you complete the application in full and submit it with the following:

1. Proof of Citizenship Tribal ID, License, Mass Photo ID, (Green Card) for all 18yrs+
2. Complete application with signature and date
3. Proof of income Employment, Social Security/Disability, Unemployment, Pension fund, Self employment (1099) etc with current year to date showing for all in household 18yrs+
4. Proof of Residency for all listed on application Mortgage, Lease, Deed, (Pre/School Records for children)
5. Current primary heating bill/statement

Who is Eligible?

- Those who meet the State and/or Tribal Income Guidelines
- Elderly within the guidelines
- Veteran within the guidelines
- Family with child under five years old within the guidelines
- Unemployed and within guidelines
- Heat is not included within your rent and you meet the guidelines

For more information or to apply, please contact Shakira Askew at (508) 477-0208 x159 or at shakira.askew@mwtribe-NSN.gov.



Open Seat on CDC Board of Directors

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community Development Corporation (CDC) is currently seeking a qualified tribal citizen to join the CDC Board of Directors. The CDC was organized earlier this year to engage in activities that will promote the social welfare, economic security and community development of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and its enrolled citizens that will enable the Tribe to be self-sufficient and to provide economic support for its tribal citizens. If you are in-

terested in serving as a CDC Board of Director, please send a letter of interest along with your resume/CV to Francie Dottin, executive administrative assistant to the chairman, francie.dottin@mwtribe-nsn.gov and carbon copy mwtdc@mwtribe-NSN.gov by November 1, 2017.



MASHPEE WAMPANOAG
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Open Seat on Election Committee

The Election Committee is looking for two dedicated tribal members to assist with the election process. Presently there are two seats open on the Election Committee. If you are interested in serving on the commit-

tee, please send a letter of interest to Francie Dottin, executive administrative assistant to the chairman, at frances.dottin@mwtribe-NSN.gov.

Open Seat on Enrollment Committee

The Enrollment Committee is looking for a dedicated Tribal citizen interested in helping to oversee the Tribe's enrollment process. Presently there is one open seat for a three-year term on the Enrollment Committee. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please send a letter of interest to enrollment.committee@mwtribe-NSN.gov and Francie Dottin, executive administrative assistant to the chairman, at frances.dottin@mwtribe-NSN.gov.

The Enrollment Committee and the Enrollment Department are dedicated to the scrutiny of our Tribal roll and by all accounts hold our citizens' information in the highest confidentiality.

Enrollment Application Notice

On October 17, 2016, with an Enrollment Committee quorum present, it was unanimously voted to implement a moratorium for all new tribal citizen applications effective November 20, 2017 with reasonable notice provided to the Tribal membership. A moratorium is a delay or a suspension of an activity. The following will be the only exceptions to which the Tribal Enrollment Committee and/or Enrollment Department will be able to provide and accept new applications for enrollment:

1. Children under the age of 2, or
2. Any person under the age of 18 whose Tribal parent(s) is an active-duty member in any U.S. Armed Forces or Merchant Marines, the applicant shall submit, at a minimum, a copy of an official order to deploy, or
3. Any person who was or are in the Foster Care system or had been adopted and have never been connected or communicated with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe by means of knowledge of lineal descendant family or Tribal activities available to them, or
4. Any person that filed a Complaint in Tribal Court on behalf of a minor child that was based on the denial of enrollment and was resolved with either a Dismissal or a Stipulation of Dismissal based on the 2017 amendments to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Enrollment Ordinance.

Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction

The article we are sharing this month addresses Permanency as it is written in the "Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action" developed by the Native Nations Institute and NICWA. We will explore permanency, what it means and how it is related to Termination of Parental Rights

Permanency

Once a state or tribe has decided that it will have to take custody of a child because of child abuse or neglect, it then must determine a safe permanent plan and placement for that child. The best and most common permanent placement for a child is in her own home with supportive services to keep her safe – this is known as reunification. When reunification is not possible, an alternative permanent placement must be arranged. Common alternatives include guardianship, adoption, and customary adoption.

Guardianship does not include TPR and preserves both the parent-child relationship and, typically, the child's relationships with extended family. The guardian has full control over caring for the child without child welfare agency involvement with minimal (typically yearly) court involvement. Nearly every tribal child welfare code reviewed (95%) included procedures for some form of guardianship.

Conventional adoptions, also known as closed adoptions, require terminating the natural parent's legal rights, effectively severing the relationship between

child and parent. Some tribes, wishing to sustain child-parent relationships of some kind, have developed two creative statutory solutions: 1) open adoptions, where TPR still occurs but continued contact between child and natural parent is allowed, and 2) customary adoption, which involves establishing new primary caregivers for the child but does not involve TPR, thus preserving – to the extent appropriate in a given case – the parent-child relationship. Because customary adoption does not require TPR, tribes using this practice often couple it with provisions that modify or suspend parental rights. The majority of the codes reviewed (82%) provided for some form of conventional adoption requiring TPR, however some tribal codes allowed only open adoptions. Nineteen codes (15%) included tribal customary adoption, some in addition to conventional adoption and some in place of conventional adoption.

ICWA specifies the preferred adoption placements. Whenever possible, children should be placed with family members; if that is not possible, then with another family within their tribe; if that is not possible, then with another American Indian family. ICWA also allows tribes to change these placement preferences in their tribal codes. If a tribe changes its placement preferences, state courts must respect those changed preferences in state court proceedings.

Restorative Justice Practices of Native American, First nation and other Indigenous People of North America: Part One

The following articles will relate to Peacemaking and the Justice system. I have edited some of the material to make it cohesive and easy to read. Various tribes have included Peacemaking in their justice systems and provide a wealth of knowledge about the Peacemaking process. We will examine the Navajo Peacemaking process. It is a traditional method of Indigenous justice. We will continue with Chief Judge Robert Yazzie of the Navajo Nation.

Judge Yazzie related some stories of cases handled with peacemaking. One case involved a death that occurred in the community. The relatives decided to do the burial at home. Some of the neighbors objected, so they went to court and sought an injunction. The judge said, "Are we sure we're going to do injunction? Why don't we do peacemaking?" Because if we do the petition for injunc-

tion, it's going to take weeks. Meantime the body will just be laying there.' So the parties got together and they went back and forth all day, and each party had their say – objections – everything was heard. Before sundown, the parties came to a consensus and decided to use a regular cemetery."

Peacemaking can be very effective in cases involving family matters like child support and child custody, said Yazzie. "When people get divorced they're very bitter," he said. "I wish parties would realize that there are children at stake. Some of them use the issues to get at each other. Some of them refuse to give visitation rights, and because there's no visitation rights, the other person may refuse to pay. So we have that going on in courts. It creates a revolving door." He talked about a case where the father wasn't willing to pay

and the mother wasn't willing to give visitation rights, so they were at a stalemate. The judge suggested they do a peacemaking, and peacemaking worked.

"Why it worked," said Yazzie, "is because the ex-wife wasn't so much concerned about the outcome of the divorce, but she wanted to express her emotions. During the divorce proceedings she was never given that chance. In peacemaking they were able to talk about the history that gave rise to their dissolution. They went back and forth, and there were tears, and a lot of tissues were used. Finally at the end, the parties came to an agreement and the case was settled.



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COMMUNITY



How Do You Want to Receive the Mittark?

We're striving to keep you informed about events and news in our community in a way that works best for each individual tribal citizen. One of the ways we're doing this is by sending out the Mittark and other important news electronically by email in addition to print and traditional mail.

For some people, email is a faster and more efficient way to receive the Mittark and other news. If that sounds like you, you can start receiving news by email from the Tribe simply by sending an email to our PR and Communications Manager Trish Keliinui at trish.keliinui@mwtribe-NSN.gov and let her know you would like to be added to the Tribe's email list.

In addition to signing up to receive information electronically, you also have the ability to opt out of receiving hard copies of the Mittark that are sent through traditional postal mail. By going completely "electronic" with your communication you will be helping your Tribe save money and the environment... it's a win win. To opt out of receiving traditional mail, please include the email addresses



of all tribal citizens that live in your household when emailing Trish. (Having a current email address for all Tribal Citizens in your home will ensure each person continues to receive news.)

You have options to choose from. It's all about what works best for you. Do you like getting the print copies of the Mittark in the mail? Do you want to receive your news by email? Would you like to opt out of print copies and only receive news by email? Simply send Trish an email at trish.keliinui@mwtribe-NSN.gov and let her know what works best for you.

Our Children Need You! Foster an ICWA Child

ICWA is currently seeking foster parents. Do you have room in your heart to provide a Native American foster home for our future generations? Our Native children of all ages, from infancy to teens, are being removed from their families at an alarming rate by the Department and Families and are being placed in non-native homes.

ICWA is in high need of stable and nurturing families to care for our children and be reunited with their parents.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a foster family, emergency placement, and respite care please contact Catherine Hendricks, ICWA Director, at (508) 477-0208 ext 144.