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September 2017

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

TAP

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Family,

I originally wrote this as an op-ed that I submitted to several newspapers after the horrific events in Charlottesville. It's an important message that needs to be spread and I wanted to share it with my people as well.

As the Chairman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, that first welcomed the Pilgrims to America with an open hand of friendship in the Plymouth colony in 1620, I was horrified by the images of hate and terror that came out of Charlottesville, Virginia last week and am deeply disturbed by the divisiveness that has become our national identity.

For nearly 400 years, my people have experienced the oppression and hateful vitriol we are seeing on full display in 2017 by white nationalists and so-called American Nazis whose mission is to take back "their country" by force and send the rest of us back to whence we came.

But this is OUR country. It belongs to Native Americans and it belongs to our friends and partners of all nationalities, races, and religions, who believe in the ideal of America and what it stands for.

The waving of Nazi flags is an insult to us all, and to those who have fought for and shed blood for our collective freedom, including our 96-year-old Chief Vernon "Silent Drum" Lopez.

Chief Lopez was among the 156,000 Allied soldiers who landed on the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944; his military service part of a long line of Wampanoag warriors who have fought on behalf of America in every major U.S. conflict going back to the

(Continued on page 3)

Cape Cod Times Editorial: Cultural Identity

A federal court judge in Boston last week agreed to further delay proceedings in a lawsuit against the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in its bid to build a casino in East Taunton.

The lawsuit was filed by neighbors of the would-be casino who argued the tribe does not qualify for the federal trust land that would allow it to build First Light Resort & Casino. A U.S. District Court judge last year ruled in favor of the neighbors, and the tribe appealed to the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The appeal was put on hold while the U.S. Department of the Interior considered whether the tribe qualified for land under a different legal category than the one rejected

by the court. The Interior Department in June found the tribe does not qualify for land under the alternative definition, but left open its review to consider another possibility: whether the state's authority could stand in for the federal government's authority in connection with taking land into trust.

James Cason, associate deputy secretary of the Department of the Interior, has asked for representatives on both sides to consider once again whether the tribe was recognized by the federal government in 1934, the threshold for taking land in trust for tribes under the Indian Reorganization Act.

Cason believes there may be an opportunity to recognize the tribe's relationship

(Continued on page 6)



Rental Lottery Applications Due Friday, September 29

The Housing Department is now accepting applications for a new Rental Subsidy Lottery. Applications for the lottery must be submitted by Friday, September 29 and should be dropped off in the locked box located at the front desk of the Community and Government Center.

This year the rental lottery has 15 slots, which will provide up to \$300.00 per



(Continued on page 5)

Events Calendar

New Events

September 10 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

September 14 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Community Development Corporation
Community Meeting, MWTCGC

September 15
Education Scholarship Applications Due,
MWTCGC

September 16 – 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Peacemakers Training, MWTCGC

September 16 – 11:00 a.m.
Ancestor's Day, Old Indian Meeting House

September 17 – 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Peacemakers Training, MWTCGC

September 18
RSVP for College Visits Due, MWTCGC

September 29
Rental Lottery Applications Due,
MWTCGC

Weekly Events

Tuesdays – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Elders Lunch & Learn, MWTCGC

Tuesdays and Thursdays – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Coed Volleyball, MWTCGC

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

Thursdays – 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tribal Health Zumba with Shirley,
MWTCGC

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

Monthly Events

1st Tuesday – 6:00 p.m.
Chief's Circle, Old Indian Meeting House

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

Welcome Roderick Anthony Clark, Jr.

Irene and Roderick A. Clark would like to announce the birth of their son Roderick Anthony Clark, Jr. Roderick Jr. was born 4 weeks early weighing 6 lbs. and 2 oz. on May 10. In this photo Roderick Jr. is being held by his sister Tayani, they're the grandchildren of Cheryl Avant - Clark and Roderick Clark, and the great grandchildren of the late Carole Avant, Thatcher and James Thatcher and the late Elsie Avant, Ervin.



Marques Hicks Excels at Junior Olympics

Congratulations to Marques Hicks who earned three All-American honors in the AAU National Championship Junior Olympics! This took place in Michigan during the first week in August 2017. To get there, he won first place in the District 12 race in New Jersey, then qualified in the Regionals, then on to the AAU National Championship Junior Olympics, in which he won medals in the 100 meter and 200 meter races, and the long jump.

Marques is the son of Danica and Antoine Hicks, grandson of Beverly Cash, and great grandson of Jessie and James E. Cash. Congrats Marques, we're all so proud of you!



Miles Bernadett Peters Appointed to Design Review Committee

The On July 24 the Mashpee Board of Selectman appointed Mashpee Wampanoag Citizen Miles Bernadett Peters to the town of Mashpee Design Review Committee. Miles was appointed to a 1-year term and joins committee members Michael Mendoza, Joseph Cummings and John Furbush.

In the professional world, Miles is a member of the architectural staff at Jill Neubauer Architects in Falmouth, MA. Prior to his work with Jill Neubauer Architects, Miles was a designer at Cape Associates and an intern with JCJ Architects. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from Portland State University.

The Design Review Committee was established to review the architectural and design concerns; which include, but not limited to: site planning, building placement, building size, design compatibility, exterior appear-



ance, construction materials and finishes used, parking and roadways, landscaping and site grading, building entrance and exit placement of signs and also address signs which require a Special Permit. The results of this committee are then submitted to the Building Inspector, Planning Board and Board of Appeals to advise them accordingly.

Chairman's Column

(continued)

Revolutionary War.

Of course, the D-Day invasion not only marked a turning point in the eventual defeat and unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany, it was a watershed event in world history in which a diverse, multi-cultural alliance began to turn the tide against the dangerous ideology that there existed a single, pure, "master race" destined to rule the world.

My people are all too familiar with what we now bear witness to in Charlottesville and what we see even in our own backyard in Massachusetts where Swastikas and other symbols of denigration are too often found. Hundreds of years before terrorists were posting beheadings on social media, our Squaw Sachem Weetametoos' decapitated head was paraded around the village of Taunton on the end of a pole as a symbol of racial terror.

Today, we stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters, our brothers and sisters in the African-American, Arab, Asian, Hispanic communities and all those who have been targeted and victimized simply because they may look different or that they pray to a different God. It is time for us all to understand that is these differences that make us stronger as Americans.

Our struggle continues on the front lines in the multi-generational fight for equality and in the courts where our Tribe and other disenfranchised groups still face an historic battle for sovereignty and respect.

And yet, as descendants of the first people to inhabit this great land 12,000 years ago, we once again extend an open hand of friendship to the newest waves of immigrants and all those who are committed to the true American ideal, an ideal that celebrates diversity, tolerance and understanding. This is OUR America.

Kutâputunumuw;

Chairman Cedric Cromwell
Qaqeemasq (Running Bear)

College Visit Opportunity

Doing the college tour is an important part of selecting the right school, but it's also expensive and a challenge to coordinate. To help ease some of this burden, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department is organizing college visits to seven schools - Bacone College, Harvard University, Haskell Indian Nations University, Institute of American Indian Arts, New York University, University of New Mexico and University of California. Air fare and lodging for the student and a parent/guardian is included.

To schedule a visit to any of these schools, you must RSVP by September 18 by calling the Education Department at (508) 477-0208 ext. 178 or (508) 237-0041. Ask for Scott Shepherd, education department assistant director; or John Hanlon, Building Pathways for Tribal Youth manager.



BACONE COLLEGE



Community Development Corporation to Host Community Meeting on September 14

The Mashpee Wampanoag Community Development Corporation (MWCDC) will host a community meeting on Thursday, September 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center in Mashpee. The meeting, which will provide the tribal citizens with an overview of the MWCDC and its goals, was originally scheduled for July 20 but was rescheduled for September 14.

President of the MWCDC Mark Harding sees this as an opportunity to not only educate the Tribe on the work they've done but also to gain valuable input from the community on the direction of the corporation. "We all have an interest in the achievements of our CDC," said Mark. "Other Tribe's around Indian Country are having a tremendous amount of success generating revenue, jobs, resources and housing through community development corporations, just like ours. We've got a great opportunity to build a successful portfolio of businesses, but to get this off the ground we're going to need input from the community...it's one of the reasons we'll be holding these community meetings."



MASHPEE WAMPANOAG

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

According to the MWCDC bylaws the Corporation will hold at least two meetings annually open to the tribal community to gather input and feedback.

The MWCDC Board of Directors includes President Mark Harding, Vice President Tara Collier, Treasurer Nancy Rose, Secretary Steven Peters, Winnie Johnson-Graham, Talia Landry, Morgan Peters, Stephanie Sfridis and Angela Shwom. The Corporation was organized 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.

Indigenous Artists Visit Summer Youth Program

On Thursday, July 27th, the Mashpee Wampanoag Summer Youth Program welcomed a group of international Indigenous artists from the Cultural Survival Summer Bazaars series to camp. From four countries - and speaking six languages - the artists included Ganna Nepyivoda (Hutsul from Ukraine), Amalia Palomino (Quechua from Peru), Ujjwal Srestha (from Nepal), and Akhtar Mir (Kashmiri from India).

Each artist met with small groups of tribal youth to explain their traditional art form, ranging from intricately painted eggs made using wax and a heated tool, paper

making, weaving, and retablos - carved and painted wooden scenes of life in the Andes mountains of Peru. Students also had a chance to try their hands at painting retablos, dyeing eggs, wrapping scarves, and learning about traditional paper making.

The Cultural Survival guest artists were excited to tour the Mukayuhsak Weekuw Wôpanâak language preschool and kindergarten, and to learn about traditional Wampanoag cooking while enjoying a turkey and squash soup and roasted Atlantic striper, before leaving to tour the Tribal Museum.

Photo credits: Cultural Survival (cs.org)



Summer Camp Wraps Up with Annual Clambake





Supporting Community Wellness and Strength

The 14th Annual Direct Service Tribes National Meeting with Indian Health Services (IHS) was held August 1-3 in Danvers Massachusetts. The two-day event focused on supporting community wellness and strength, and incorporated an open forum with many discussions on addressing some of the most pressing health priorities such as: fighting the opioid crisis in Indian Country, integration of traditional medicine, partnering to improve service to Indian veterans, childhood obesity and improving child and adolescence wellbeing, and delivering patient centered care.



As a regional host, several tribal members were in attendance at the meeting

with Eastern Suns signing a flag song and honor song and Chairman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Cedric Cromwell providing the opening remarks at the annual event. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe also hosted a cultural evening with social songs performed by Eastern Suns for all attending.



Above is a photo of Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, tribal council member and health and human services liaison, with William Harris, chief of the Catawba Indian Nation, at the National Meeting. Cheryl and William represent the Nashville Area IHS - Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee. There are nine area regions represented across the US.

One 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.

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.

Rental Lottery Applications *(continued)*

month for two years. This is a 50% increase in slots and a 100% increase in award length over previous years. The increase in support reflects the pressing need for affordable housing in the community.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Department is here to provide safe affordable housing to eligible tribal citizens, and other Native Americans who reside in the Tribe's service area. It is the department's mission to provide housing assistance and opportunities specific to the needs of the Native

Americans in the Wampanoag community by offering eligible tribal members the choice to remain in existing housing or return to quality housing on ancestral lands - a place appointed to us by our Creator, and to encourage self-determination and economic independence for all Native Americans.

Please visit the Housing Department on the Tribe's website at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov/housing for more information or **complete and return the application on page 11 of the Mittark by 9/29.**

Annual Ancestor's Day September 16



Over eight years ago Tribal Citizen Stanley Dutra wanted to find a way to formally remember, celebrate and honor our family and friends that have passed on to the spirit world. With that purpose Ancestor's Day was created. Eight years later our Old Indian Meeting House Committee is pleased to continue this annual event and will be hosting the 8th Annual Ancestor's Day on Saturday, September 16.

The day will open at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House. Following the service there will be a potluck at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center.

This is a day for Tribal Citizens and family to spend with their ancestors with time set aside for cleaning gravesites and sharing stories of our loved ones. The Old Indian Meeting House Committee will also have a variety of bulbs available for planting in honor of our ancestors.

Peacemaking Training September 16 & 17

Do you want to learn more about peacemaking? There will be a free training on Saturday, September 16 and Sunday, September 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center.

The free peacemaking training is presented by Paul Raphael from the Oda-wa Tribe.

For more information, or to RSVP contact the Tribal Court at (508) 477-0208 ext. 190 or visit www.mwtribejudicial.com.

CCT Editorial: Our Culture *(continued)*

with the government of Massachusetts at that time as a proxy for federal recognition.

Before the United States existed, the tribe had been under the jurisdiction of the British Crown after King Philip's War in the late 1600s. The colonists put the losers onto reservations, and social disruption and disease as a result of proximity with colonists reduced their numbers and voices. Colonial growth and expansion made it easier to ignore the duty to protect the Mashpee people and their property. This amounts to a dereliction of duty to protect the tribe.

The de facto anti-Indian policies (takings and subdivisions of land, forced conversion to Christianity, removing children from families) ate away at the cohesion and cultural identity of the tribe. The Department of Interior validated the Mashpee identity with its federal recognition in 2007. That decision appears to be incongruent with any eventual rejection of the tribe's effort to take land in trust.

East Taunton residents have every right to resist, but the tribe's land purchase was a zoned and designated industrial area. Within a very small radius are such other neighbors as a school, a new, large church, an expansive furniture warehouse, one of Taunton's largest building construction contractors, and a number of other industrial firms.

The commonwealth's compact and the city's community agreement with the tribe

are intended to take all those neighbors into consideration. A casino may be an effective tool for economic development for the tribe, and those agreements are intended to ensure that it is effective for Taunton — and East Taunton — as well.

However, no one can predict whether that would be the outcome, so the litigating neighbors are understandably fraught with uncertainty and fear, but the centuries of interaction between indigenous peoples and immigrants in Massachusetts have too frequently found the tribes on the losing end.

In last month's congressional hearing to discuss options for repairing the language of the reorganization act, the chief of Maine's Penobscot Nation testified that clarifying the laws is about far more than a casino.

"Tribes' ability to regain their homelands is not only critical for them to be able to overcome economic disparity, education outcome disparities, housing disparities ... but it's also at the very core of cultural identity," he said.

If Congress is able to provide a prescription for the incongruities of the reorganization act, we would be pleased to see the Mashpee's land-into-trust affirmed. And despite our opinion that casino gambling's promises are far from a sure thing, we support the Mashpee Wampanoag right to use their land as they choose.

First Circuit Court of Appeals Litigation Update

A federal court has agreed with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's request to keep a "Stay" in place. The Court had granted a "Stay" that allowed the Tribe and the Littlefield Plaintiffs to put the litigation on hold while the Department of Interior (DOI) reviewed the Tribe's supplemental filing, which was submitted at the end of August.

This "Stay" with the Court was a result of the DOI's June 30 request for a supplemental filing. On July 6, 2017, the Tribe filed a status report with the Court advising them that the process continues and requesting the "Stay" remain in place.

On August 8, 2017, the Court granted the Tribe's request for the "Stay" to remain. The Tribe is ordered to provide a further status report within 10 days of the Tribe's supplemental briefing on October 30, 2017.

Department of Interior Review Update

The Tribe submitted its supplemental filing, which was due on August 31, 2017. The supplemental filing addressed the Department of Interior's question concerning the "complex issue arising from the unique historical relationship of the Commonwealth, Tribe and the Federal Government."

The Littlefield Plaintiffs were also

asked to submit material on August 31. The Tribe will receive a copy of all materials submitted by the Plaintiffs.

The Tribe and the Plaintiffs are now able to review all materials submitted by the Tribe and the Plaintiffs to the Department of Interior and submit response. The Tribe and the Plaintiffs have 60 days (on or before Oc-

tober 30, 2017) to respond on the record.

Following the responses that are submitted on or before October 30, 2017 the Department of Interior will then review all materials and render a decision. The Department of Interior has not issued a deadline for this decision. A decision from the DOI could reaffirm the Tribe's land in trust status.

RFP: Tribal Museum Bathroom Contract

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Historic Preservation Department is seeking proposals from qualified contractors of various trades for construction of a bathroom (detached structure) for the Indian Museum. Deadline for proposals submittals will be September 18th, 2017. Copies of the RFP may be picked up at The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Historic Preservation Department Office 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee,

MA. The RFP may also be requested by calling (508) 477-0208 ext. 102 or by e-mail at David.Weeden@mwtribe-nsn.gov. Proposals received from qualified Native American Contractors will be given preference.

(USDA Grant Funded)



Tribe Receives AmeriCorps Indian Tribes Grant

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management (EM) Department is pleased to announce that they were just awarded a \$40,000 AmeriCorps Indian Tribes Grant specifically for program planning. The grant will allow the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe to develop a plan for becoming an official AmeriCorps program site.

AmeriCorps is a federally-funded, nationwide service program in which young people serve as community service members, dedicating their time and skills to serving with a nonprofit, school, public agency, or community organization. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps students gain valuable work experience, are often able to defer their student loans, and receive a modest living allowance during their AmeriCorps experience which usually lasts from 3 months to a year.

The funding for this initial planning year is provided through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Roxanne Brown from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Planning and Development Team worked alongside the EM department to put together a remarkable grant application.

Over the next year, the planning team will be led by Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews Jr. who has over ten years in Federal Emergency Management experience. Nelson will oversee the development of the plan and the eventual operation of the AmeriCorps program. The other team member, Emergency Preparedness Specialist Allyssa Hathaway, is an AmeriCorps alum and spent 9 months as an AmeriCorps mem-

ber at the Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps in Hoopa, CA.

Once the plan is developed and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is established as an AmeriCorps site, the focus of this AmeriCorps program will be Disaster Services and Disaster Intervention. The curricula for the program will reflect topics that fall within these key areas as well as critical trainings, including Hazmat (hazard materials) Mitigation, Emergency Medical Response, and Basic Life Support.

To publicize the opportunity nationally, the EM Planning team will advertise on Facebook and develop a recruitment brochure to post and mail out, targeting youth across Indian Country. Throughout the planning process, two (2) tribal community meetings will be also be scheduled encouraging young Mashpee Wampanoag adults, 18-27 years old, interested in AmeriCorps to participate.



Nelson Andrews Leads All-Hazards Training



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews is a member of the Barnstable County All Hazards Incident Management Team and recently managed an important training exercise. Director Andrews served as the Logistics Section Chief and provided incident support during a full-scale oil spill response training. The exercise was held on June 12 in Harwich and also involved personnel from the Harwich and Dennis fire departments and the Chatham, Harwich and Dennis Harbormaster.

The MassDEP sponsored the full-scale training. The Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC) created the Barnstable County All-Hazards Incident Management Team - which Director Andrews is a member of - to provide essential behind-the-scenes support functions enabling agencies to focus resources and concentrate on achieving incident objectives.

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Department is committed to supporting our Tribal citizens to ensure that as a Sovereign Nation we work together to make all reasonable efforts to prevent and mitigate against all hazards, preparing for and responding to emergencies, and initiate recovery activities on our own, whenever possible.

MassHealth Information for College Students - Premium Assistance Program

If you currently have MassHealth coverage, you may be able to enroll in your school's health insurance plan, without paying any more than you currently do. If you qualify, you will be automatically enrolled into your school's SHIP (Student Health Insurance Plan) and MassHealth will pay for your SHIP premium. You will get more benefits, without paying more through this MassHealth Premium Assistance Program.

How to Get Started

Make sure you enter your 12-digit MassHealth ID number when you fill out information on your school's waiver form. You can find your MassHealth ID number on your MassHealth ID card.

After you submit your information through your school's waiver process, you will be emailed updates about the status of your submission.

If you are eligible, MassHealth will mail you a letter to verify that you have been enrolled in the MassHealth Premium Assistance Program.

If you have questions about your eligibility for the Premium Assistance Program, call MassHealth Premium Assistance at 1-855-273-5903. Or our Tribal Health Support Services Program at (508) 477-0208 ext. 166.



Applying for Education Scholarships: Due September 15

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department is pleased to share the scholarship application dates for the fall school semester. Applications for the fall semester will be available from June 15, 2017 thru September 15, 2017. Applications will be available on the start date of availability and students are encouraged to submit their completed applications as soon as possible.

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe scholarship applications will be available on the Tribe's website www.mashpeewampanoag-tribe-nsn.gov on the Education Department page. You may also pick up a hard copy of the application in the lobby of the Tribal Community and Government Center. Completed applications must be mailed to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department at 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649 or hand delivered. Applications must be received or postmarked by September 15,

2017. Faxed applications will no longer be accepted.

Please remember to complete all fields in the application, as incomplete applications will not receive funding. Also, all documents must be submitted together. For more information, please contact Anne Foxx in the Education Department at (508) 477-0208 ext 151 or at anne.foxx@mwtribe-nsn.gov.



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.

Are you a Veteran?

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Veteran Supportive Services is looking for ways to give back, BUT WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!

We will be collaborating with the Veterans Outreach Center and want you to share your vision as to how we can help you in your times of need and coordinate services.

Please complete the form below, attach a copy of your DD214, Photo ID, and Social Security Card and send it back to:

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
HHS Veteran Supportive Services
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649
Attention: Cassie Jackson

For more information please contact:
Cassie Jackson
Emergency Service Specialist
(508) 477-0208 Ext. 142

Domestic Violence Support Available

Are you a victim of, or do you know someone that is a victim of domestic violence? You are not alone and help is available.

The Emergency Services Program at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe provides support to victims facing domestic violence. Through this program victims are able to receive emergency funding, referral and/or advocacy assistance. It's the goal of the program to equip tribal citizens with the appropriate resources to live violent-free and become self-sufficient.

For more information, please contact Cassie Jackson, HHS Emergency Service Specialist, at (508) 477-0208 ext. 142.

In the event of an emergency, always dial 911

Veteran's Support Services Form

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Start Date _____ End Date _____

Rank _____

Branch _____

War _____

Duty Station _____





Cape Cod A.A. Meeting Schedule

Below is a schedule of some of the AA meetings that take place in Mashpee and the surrounding community. Please note that meetings coded with "Closed" are for alcoholics only. The public is welcome to attend open meetings that are coded with "Open".

Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self supporting through our own contribution. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses or opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Inclusion in this meeting list does not constitute or imply approval or endorsement of a groups approach to, or practice of, the tradition of the A.A. Program or the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Tribal Action Plan.

For more information about A.A. contact the Cape Cod Intergrout at (508) 775-7060, email ccaa@capecodaa.net or visit them online at www.capecodaa.net.

Barnstable, H "Village Group" Unitarian Church, 30 Rt. 6A | Closed 12 Step | Thursdays - 7:30 p.m.

Centerville "Compass" Our Lady of Victory, 230 South Main St. | Open Discussion | Saturdays - 7:30 p.m.

Centerville "Be Still" Closed Meditation, Congregational Church, 565 Main St. | Women's Group 11 Step | Mondays - 6:30 p.m.

Centerville Congregational Church, 565 Main St. Open Discussion | Wednesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Centerville Congregational Church, 565 Main St.

Closed Women's Group Step | Thursdays - 5:30 p.m.

Centerville Our Lady of Victory, 230 South Main St. | Open Discussion | Mondays through Saturdays - 7:30 a.m.

Osterville Methodist Church, 57 Pond St. | Big Book Study | Mondays - 7:00 p.m.

Osterville "AnonGroup" St. Peter's Episc. Church, 421 Wiano Ave | Open Big Book | Thursdays - 7:30 p.m.

Osterville Methodist Church, 57 Pond St. | Open 12 Step | Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Osterville Methodist Church, 57 Pond St. | Open Big Book Discussion | Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Osterville "Sobriety 1st" St. Peter's Episc. Church, 421 Wianno Ave. | Open Discussion | Monday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m.

Osterville Our Lady of Assumption Church, 76 Wiano Ave. | Closed Big Book Study | Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Osterville Our Lady of Assumption Church, 76 Wiano Ave. | Open Speaker | Sundays - 7:00 p.m.

Osterville Our Lady of Assumption Church, 76 Wiano Ave. | Beginner | Sundays - 5:30 p.m.

Falmouth John Wesley Meth. Church, 270 Gifford St. | Open Young People Beginner | Fridays - 7:30 p.m.

Falmouth "Revelation" St. Patrick's Church, 511 Main St. | Open Discussion | Mondays through Fridays - Noon

Falmouth "Hospital Group" Falmouth Hospital, Faxon Conference Room | Open Discussion | Saturdays - 8:00 p.m.

E. Falmouth "You Get What You Give" St. Anthony's Church, 167 Rt. 28 | Open | Fridays - 7:30 p.m.

E. Falmouth St. Anthony's Church, 167 Rt. 28 | Open Big Book | Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.

E. Falmouth St. Anthony's Church, 167 Rt. 28 | Step 1, 2, 3 | Fridays - 5:30 p.m.

N. Falmouth Congregational Church, 155 Old Main St. | Closed 12 Step | Wednesdays - 8:00 p.m.

W. Falmouth "W Falmouth Group" Christ Lutheran Church, 485 Brick Kln. Rd. | Open | Mondays - 7:30 p.m.

Woods Hole "Spiritual Not Religious" Old Firehouse, 72 Water St. | Open Discussion | Sundays - 6:00 p.m.

Hyannis Human Serv. Bldg. 460 W Main St. | 12 & 12 | Saturdays - 7:00 p.m.

Hyannis Human Serv. Bldg. 460 W Main St. | Gay Open Discussion | Sundays - 8:00 p.m.

Hyannis "noontime" T-port center conf. room | Open Discussion | Saturdays - noon

Hyannis "noontime" St. Francis Xavier Church, 347 South St. | Step 1,2,3 | Mondays - Noon

Hyannis "noontime" St. Francis Xavier Church, 347 South St. | Open Discussion | Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays - Noon

Hyannis "noontime" Federated Church, Baldwin Hall, 320 Main St. | Open Discussion | Wednesdays - Noon

Hyannis "Women's BBSS" Federated Church, Baldwin Hall, 320 Main St. | Open Women Big Book Study | Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.

Hyannis "noontime" Federated Church, Baldwin Hall, 320 Main St. | Open Discussion | Mondays - 7:30 p.m.

Hyannis "sunshine Group" Barnstable Middle School, 895 Falmouth Rd. | Open | Sundays - 10:00 a.m.

Hyannis Peer Recovery Center, 209 Main St Reer | Mens Discussion | Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.

Hyannis Faith Assembly of God Church, 154 Bearse's Way | Open Young People | Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Hyannis Faith Assembly of God Church, 154 Bearse's Way | Open Discussion | Fridays - 7:00 p.m.

Hyannis Pilot House, 120 Yarmouth Rd. | Open Discussion | Mondays & Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.

Mashpee "Great Spirit" Baptist Church, 27 Great Neck Road N. | Open Discussion | Thursdays - 8:00 p.m.

Mashpee Christ the King Church, Rt. 151 | Open Speaker | Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Mashpee Christ the King Church, Rt. 151 | Open Step | Saturdays - 7:30 p.m.

Mashpee "One Day at a Time" Christ the King Church, Rt. 151 | Closed Discussion | Mondays - 5:30 p.m.

Mashpee "A Way Out" Tribal Council Bldg., 483 Great Neck Road | Speaker Discussion | Wednesdays - 7:30 p.m.

Marstons Mills "It Only Takes Two" Liberty Hall, 2150 Main St. | Open | Tuesdays - 8:00 p.m.

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. Kutáputush!

Parents Supporting Parents in Mashpee

Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) is a support group for parents and family members coping and dealing with their loved one's Substance Use Disorder (SUD). "Sharing without shame."

PSP meets every Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. except for the first Monday of the month when the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Mashpee Chamber of Commerce, 5 North Market Street in Mashpee. The office is located between Baer's Pet Depot and Woodruff's Art Center.

You are not alone! PSP shares with-

out shame or judgment, and hope that on this journey we can help educate and support each other and know that there is hope for recovery.

For more information please call (508) 419-3434 or email capecodpsp@aol.com. You can also visit them online at www.parentsfightingaddiction.com.

PSP's mission is to support, strengthen and educate ourselves, as well as others, as we help our children find and live in recovery, and for all family members to live a healthy lifestyle. Meetings are open to all members of the family.



Transcending Historical Trauma

We 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.*

The Mother of Historical Trauma

According to Maria Yellow Horse Brave Heart, widely regarded as the mother of historical trauma, "First is confronting the historical trauma. Second is understanding the trauma. Third is releasing the pain of historical trauma. Fourth is transcending the trauma." As exemplified by the stories of Grandmother Wilkins and Woody Morrison, this means we must tell our story and the story of our elders and ancestors.

In our view, community healing along with individual and family healing are necessary to thoroughly address historical unresolved grief and its present manifestations.

The process is not quick nor is it easy. However, without such commitment to healing the past, we will not be able to address the resultant trauma and prevent the continuation of such atrocities in the present. Nor will we be able to provide the positive and healthy community activism needed to stop and prevent the social pathologies of suicide, homicide, domestic violence, child abuse, and alcoholism so prevalent in American Indian communities – as in society at large – today.

The crux of our argument has far reaching implications for other colonized, oppressed peoples throughout history and those being oppressed, as we write, that are obvious to us. Wherever peoples are being decimated and destroyed, subsequent generations will suffer. We need only heed the traditional American Indian wisdom that, in decisions made today, we must consider the impact upon the next seven generations.

Maria Yellow Horse Brave Heart has given a huge gift to our Native people. While the healing circle is growing to encompass the world, the work of *Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.* in Portland, Oregon is another example of how Maria's work is bearing healing fruit for Native communities.

Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction

The article we are sharing this month addresses a critical aspect of the ICWA law, Termination of Parental Rights as written in the "Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action" developed by the Native Nations Institute and NICWA. We will continue to examine Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) and the alternatives to TPR.

Alternatives to TPR

Some tribes, finding TPR to be culturally incongruent with their traditions, beliefs, and practice, have sought alternatives that would have a less extreme effect on parent-child relationships. Many tribes believe that because a child's identity and best interest is so deeply rooted in the interconnectedness and interdependency with the tribe, to sever these ties in any way is a cultural violence to the child. This study found that a handful of tribes have created statutes that allow several levels of restriction on parental rights, such as suspension, modification, or complete cessation, while some either specify TPR as only a last resort in addressing abuse and neglect problems or have disallowed TPR altogether (although the Social Security Act Title IV-# funding program previously required tribes to include TPR

in their codes, specified alternatives to complete termination of parental rights may be sufficient for funding purposes).

These codes embed cultural concerns or values into tribal practice in various ways. Examples include allowing for a continued relationship between the parent and child even if the child has a different permanent caregiver; creating and protecting specific parental rights even where a parent can no longer provide primary care for a child; allowing parents to have rights and primary caregiving responsibilities reinstated if they are rehabilitated; and retaining the child's tribal citizenship even when a child is no longer the legal child of a tribal citizen. Tribes also can provide for customary adoptions or other traditional childcare practices.

Such alternatives not only integrate tribal values and cultural practices into the most drastic resolution of abuse and neglect issues, but they also allow either temporary or permanent placement with a relative or adoptive parent without completely severing the child's relationship with natural parents and extended family.

Restorative Justice Practices by Laura Mirsky

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.

The Peacemaking process is related to the concept of respect. In the Navajo language "K'e means to restore my dignity, to restore my worthiness." Through the peacemaking process, an offender can come to feel better, said Yazzie, especially when the person can say, "'I'm responsible, I'm accountable.' That does a lot to the spirit, the mind and body of those who participate in the process," he said.

Not only are the victim and the offender involved in the process, like in Western law, said Yazzie, "but the relatives would also feel relief, and those who are also interested in the process would feel the same way. In the end, there's healing at different levels."

Peacemaking can work with any problem, said Yazzie. In the Western way, he said, "you divide up things, and you say that certain types of cases should go to peacemaking. That's what I'm hearing today. There's a distrust, since the Western legal system has control over everything. It doesn't leave room for anything. The judges are in there; the lawyers are in there. So the type of process we work with, we close the door on everybody and let the parties feel that they own the problem, let them choose who they want to facilitate the process."

In the criminal justice system of the Western world, said Yazzie, "there is a lot of emphasis and still a mindset today that when somebody does wrong the only justice there is to punish – penalty, jail mainly, some vendetta, even the death penalty. Make the law stiffer and that will do the job." The Navajo nation has become accustomed to those ways, he said. Even the Navajo government is U.S. government-imposed. "The traditional way of thinking has been left out, and the policy – how you set up and operate a government – has been heavily influenced by the Western world."

Gradually, however, there has been a movement back to the old ways, said Yazzie, adding, "Because the colonization has really done a number on us, it's hard to undo the mind-set. What I have been doing now is trying to find ways to decolonize a style of doing things the Western way. Trying to make some sense of how the traditional can be revived and incorporated into today's world."



Housing Department Rental Subsidy Lottery

2018-2019 "RENTAL SUBSIDY" LOTTERY!

Income eligibility requirements

15 SLOTS! Up to \$300.00/month for two years!
5 slots reserved for those 65 & older/Disabled group

NOTE: If you have had services from the housing department within the last two years you will not be able to receive this Rental Subsidy. A waiting list will be created in the event someone chosen does not qualify or drops out.

Complete the form below and drop it off in the locked box located at the front desk of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center

Apply by: Friday, September 29, 2017

- Applicants must be a member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe or a member of another Federally Recognized Tribe residing in the service area of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, which includes the following five (5) Massachusetts counties: Barnstable, Bristol, Plymouth, Norfolk, and Suffolk.
- Applicants must meet all income and eligibility requirements of HUD and the Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department. The family income cannot exceed 80 percent of the median income for the County,
- Financial assistance cannot be provided if a family is paying over 50% of the gross income for rent.
- All household members must provide a social security card and Tribal ID (if applicable).
- All household members 18 and over must provide current income documentation and sign a release of information form authorizing the Housing Department to speak and obtain information from any source necessary for the purpose of providing assistance.
- A copy of the lease must be provided to the Housing Department.
- The landlord is required to sign a W-9 before payment can be disbursed.
- If an applicant is currently receiving a rental subsidy from another source (i.e., Section 8), then the applicant is not eligible to receive an additional subsidy from the Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department.
- The maximum subsidy available is up to \$300 per month for twenty-four (24) months. The monthly subsidy cannot exceed 50% of the total rent. The applicant must demonstrate their ability to pay the balance of the rent, prior to approval.



Complete all questions so that your Rental Subsidy Lottery application is in the correct drawing box!

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Address: _____

Annual Income: _____ Household Member #: _____

Tribal ID: _____

65 or Older Disabled Age 18-64



Stay informed of Tribal updates and notices
facebook.com/mwtribe

COMMUNITY



Prayer Fires

The Chief's Circle would like to offer tribal members guidance about the Prayer Fires used in dedication to our departed family members. These fires are considered sacred spaces where the tribal community can make tobacco offerings that carry their prayers to the departed spirit. The place chosen on your property for the Prayer Fire is regarded as sacred ceremonial ground forever. It becomes a place for your family to return when spiritual guidance from within is needed.

The immediate family members are the only ones that decide whether or not to have a Prayer Fire at their home site. It is not a requirement of any kind that a Prayer Fire is lit. Families may instead, choose to have one dedicated at the Meeting House grounds the day of the funeral or not have one at all. We must honor the family wishes with support in whatever manner they choose to grieve. Grieving is a very important part of life. When grieving is done thoroughly, the family can accept the passing and take their place in the tribal circle with a healthy heart.

It is very important that the tribal community respectfully support the family during these tender days following their loss. It is not appropriate to impose ourselves on their decisions, enter their homes without invitation, nor take anything that isn't offered to you, or linger longer than necessary to make the tobacco offering. The Prayer Fires for traditionalists are usually lit the same day or night of the passing and kept burning until the burial rites are held. This fire can last for three days and nights and sometimes more, until the funeral day. No one other than the Fire Keeper should stay overnight. The entire time period from lighting the fire until it is put out, is a ceremony. People should make their prayer offering of tobacco in the fire and then leave. It is not appropriate to remain at the home of a grieving family socializing around the Prayer Fire. The fire itself should be small and tended by one person. Only the Fire Keepers are responsible for adding firewood unless they ask you to assist. You may bring fire wood as an offering to the family. Firewood should be cut and split before dropping

it off. Nothing but wood and tobacco should be put in a Prayer Fire.

Absolutely no drugs, alcohol, or intoxicated persons are allowed near a Prayer Fire. Do not tolerate anyone breaking this rule; gently teach them about protecting sacred space.

On Behalf Chief Silent Drum
 Ramona Nosapocket Peters 8.7.17

Quaker Picnic

Please join the Sandwich Quakers for potluck picnic on Sunday, September 17 at 11:30 a.m. The picnic is being held at the Quaker Meeting house in East Sandwich at 6 Quaker Road in Sandwich.

For more information, please contact Gail Melix at (508) 221-0832



On Wednesday, August 23, 2017 the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council moved to permanently close the MWT New Bedford Satellite office located at 1913 Purchase Street in New Bedford, MA.

The New Bedford office will close on **September 14, 2017**.

As of Monday, August 28, 2017 a “Soft Close” will be initiated for all Tribal member services received from the New Bedford office.

As a matter of transition, the New Bedford office will remain open on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, through September 14, 2017.

All requests for Tribal Transportation should continue to be directed to Transportation Coordinator, Latoya Green at the Transportation’s direct line is 508-477-5800 ext. 11

This decision was primarily based on cost efficiency.

The MWT New Bedford area satellite office initially opened in 2011, providing a variety of direct services to Tribal members in the Bristol County area.

With the development of a subsequent Tribal Transportation program, Tribal families were better able to receive services from the Tribal headquarters in Mashpee, resulting in less frequent visitation to the New Bedford office.

Resources dedicated to the satellite office will be re-assigned to the main offices in Mashpee.