



Nashauonk Mittark™



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DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Message



Wuneekeesuq Nutawâm (Greetings to my Tribal Community),

Our Finance Department and Tribal Council look forward to presenting an annual budget to you at the February 12, 2012 MWT General Membership meeting. This will be an excellent, positive opportunity for you to hear, understand, and ask questions regarding the implementation of the annual tribal budget, which is the first of its kind. The positive energy to provide an annual budget to the tribal membership was all due to many hours, days, nights, and weeks of focused expertise to deliver to you and make it a reality for our Tribal Nation! In addition, you will have an opportunity to vote on the annual budget.

Coming from a structured management and financial systems environment, I know how important it is to have a best-in-class finance department to serve our Tribe. I commend Treasurer Mark Harding for his leadership in ensuring our finance department supported the vision and mission of excellence and for making sure our comprehensive annual budget became a reality.

I want to give a very warm thank you to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Finance Department under the leadership of Finance Director Marjorie Seagraves, and recognize Marjorie for her excellent work ethic, professionalism,

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Gaming Update from the Chairman

I am writing to share updated information on our efforts to enhance our Tribe's economic opportunity through the development of a destination resort casino in south-eastern Massachusetts. This is a monumental time for our Tribe, and I want to make sure that every tribal member understands our plans and vision. It's important that we all have the opportunity to offer input on the decisions being made today that will shape our future for generations to come.



In this update, I will answer some questions about the gaming law, our Tribe's gaming ordinance, our plans, and what our economic strategy means to each and every Tribal member. I will continue to reach out to you with regular updates through letters, meetings, hearings, the Nashauonk Mittark, mashpeewampanoagtribe.com, Facebook and Twitter to make sure you are fully informed. I also encourage your feedback and thoughts as we move ahead. We have a real opportunity to move our Tribe forward by providing additional funding for housing, healthcare, education, economic development initiatives, and cultural programs that will continue to lift up our tribal nation. Together, we will create a vibrant economy with long-term economic benefits for all Tribal members!

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the Massachusetts Gaming law say about the Tribe?

The law, which authorizes three resort casinos and one slot parlor, designates southeastern Massachusetts as the dedicated region in which the Tribe can work with the state to build and operate our destination resort casino.

The law gives the Tribe and the

Governor until July 31, 2012 to reach a compact agreement, which must also be approved by the legislature. In addition, the host community will need to approve gaming in a referendum.

We have put together a team of experts to work with the Tribe to ensure a compact is negotiated that will be in the best interest of the Tribe and that all of our goals and timelines are met.

Where will our destination resort be located?

We are currently in the final stages of reviewing potential sites for our destination resort. We have made every effort to ensure that the location chosen will be the best possible site for the short and long-term success of the project. What is best for the Tribe has and will continue to guide every decision we make.

(Continued on page 6)

Fresh Salmon for Tribal Members



In December and January, members of the Natural Resources Department and the Fish, Wildlife & Natural Resources Commission travelled to Bethel, Vermont to process and deliver salmon from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's White River National Fish Hatchery as part of a program that made salmon available to tribes in the Northeast.

With help from federal fish and game workers, the Mashpee

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Calendar of Events

Weekly Events

Mondays - 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous, *Maushop Farm, 213 Sampson Mill Rd.*

Mondays - 5:30 p.m.

Youth Cultural Night, *Mashpee Rod and Gun Club*

Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m.

Noun Possession Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Beginner Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

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

Youth Cultural Night, *Rod and Gun Club*

Fridays - 6:00 p.m.

Transitive Inanimate Verb Language Class, *MWT Headquarters*

Fridays - 7:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry, *Mashpee Baptist Church*

Biweekly - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mashpee Food Pantry, *The food pantry is held on Monday and Wednesday every other week*

Biweekly - 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

New Bedford Food Pantry, *The food pantry is held on Tuesday and Thursday every other week*

Monthly - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Youth Dance Class at General Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

Monthly - 7:00 p.m.

Chiefs Circle, *Old Indian Meeting House. It is held the first Tuesday of the month.*

Additional Events

February 12 - 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

February 13 - 8:00 p.m.

NRD Meeting, *MWT Headquarters*

February 19 - 11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday Service, *Old Indian Meetinghouse*

February 25 - 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Wampanoag Indigenous Program Annual Winter Social, *Plimoth Plantation*

March 11 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

March 12 - 8:00 p.m.

NRD Meeting, *MWT Headquarters*

March 31

Wampanoag Ball, *Sea Crest Beach Hotel, North Falmouth*



* Congratulations to **Alyssa Harris**, daughter of Gordon Harris and Judi Urquhart, for earning her black belt in Taekwondo. Alyssa, we are so proud of you!

Chef Matt Harding Shines at Ohio Restaurant Group

Tribal member Matt Harding has turned his passion for culinary arts in to a successful career as BRAVO! Cucina Italiana Corporate Executive Chef. With over 25 years of culinary experience, Chef Harding has traveled across the country gaining experience at restaurants in Washington, D.C., San Francisco and Columbus, Ohio as well as internationally in Germany.

Chef Harding's first job after graduating from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York in 1986 was as a Chef Tourant at the Willard Room at Willard Inter-Continental Hotel in Washington D.C., where he worked for two years. In 1989, Chef Harding moved to San Francisco where he served as Line Chef at Campton Place Restaurant in Campton Place Hotel for a year. This is the same restaurant that spawned such culinary names as George Morrone, Michael Mina, Jan Birnbaun, Daniel Humm and Laurent Gras. After his time at Campton



Place Restaurant, Chef Harding became Executive Chef of Splendido, part of Bill Kimpton Restaurant Group, where he worked for five years before moving to Bavaria,

Germany, to work with his wife, Chef Gretchen Eiselt, at a 60 seat California cuisine Restaurant in Steigenberger Maximillian Hotel for a year. During this time, he and Chef Eiselt were responsible for all menu planning, menu translation, food quality, cost and execution. Chef Harding was awarded 16 points from Feinschmecker Magazine and was featured in National Fitness Magazine's "Fit For Fun" article.

Chef Harding moved to Columbus, Ohio in 1994, where he served as Chef at Lindey's German Village. In 1999, Chef Harding served a vital role in the conceptualization and opening of BRIO Tuscan Grille, which led him to become a Concept Partner of Lindey's and Bon Vie Bistro and later District Partner and Concept Chef before becoming Corporate Executive Chef of BRAVO! Cucina Italiana in 2005, a BRAVO BRIO Restaurant Group concept.

Matt is father to three daughters: Bryn, 13; Lili, 10 and Margaux, 10. He currently resides in Bexley, Ohio.



Meetinghouse News

The Old Indian Meetinghouse Committee is proud to announce a special "Third Sunday Service" to take place on Sunday, February 19th at the Old Indian Meetinghouse. Please join us!

Chairman's Message *(continued)*

and for Marjorie's outstanding finance management expertise. The Finance Department has worked tirelessly to implement the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's first financial management system, Sage, which is responsible for managing all of the Tribal Department grants, funding awards and appropriations, spending, payroll, revenue from investor loan allocations, checks and balances. This has helped us provide and perform a good track record of annual audits that our Tribal government has successfully passed over the last three years.

The Tribal Council, under Treasurer Mark Harding's leadership and recommendation, hired Milton Pratt as the Comptroller working in the Tribe's finance department. Marjorie weighed in positively on hiring Milton. Milton is now providing consulting services and oversight to the Tribal Finance department. Marjorie and Milton work closely together to provide the best financial capability, reporting, management and excellence to ensure that we can measure and manage our financial intake and spend allocation projections vs. financial actuals. The Tribal Finance department is a well-functioning and efficient department based on all standard workflow management and procedures put in place that never existed before in the history of our Tribal government. In fact, this was a huge and very important task to implement over the past three years and the team got it

done! Thank you again! Job well done!

The Tribal Finance department can now effectively and efficiently manage all of our Tribal department grant management, grant cycles, grant spending and investor dollars to provide the best in service delivery to you, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal membership and Tribal Operations workplace.

Our Interim Tribal Administrator Leon Jacobs worked with Marjorie and Milton in a series of Department/Director finance meetings to focus the Tribal department management team on creating their department budgets for fiscal year 2012. The management team provided many hours of diligent work on understanding department budget needs, creating department budgets, and submitting the budgets to Leon, Marjorie and Milton. The Tribal department budget submissions from all of the department directors were put together to create an annual Tribal Operations budget. Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Department budgets factor their grant money allocation towards goals and objectives for growth and best in-class Tribal membership service delivery for Housing, Education, Health, Development, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation, Indian Child Welfare Act, Elder services and Youth services. I am proud to tell you that this budget will provide for better program service delivery increases to our tribal membership.

The budget process has been

thorough, responsible, and inclusive. In addition to regular Tribal Council budget meetings, Tribal Council recently held two full-day review sessions to go through the entire budget with a fine tooth comb, ensuring a detailed review of the finance plan on your behalf.

I am very proud of the measures that have been put in place to ensure best-in-class financial operations for our Tribe, and I am proud of the budget that has been produced for the fiscal year. I look forward to sharing information with you over the coming weeks about all the important programs and services that we will be maintaining and expanding as a result of this budget's funding creation and implementation.

I want to thank and recognize Finance Department employees Nancy Joseph, Trish Keliinui, Denise Hathaway and Thomas Doherty for the focus and commitment towards advancing the Tribal Finance Department.

Please join me in congratulating our finance team, Tribal Council, and Department Heads on a job well done, and encourage continued cooperation and quality performance as we move forward together in providing the very best to the Mashpee Wampanoag people!

Kutâputunumuw;
Cedric Cromwell
Qaqeemasq (Running Bear)

Four Volunteer Days for the MWT Shellfish Farm

In February, Natural Resources employees will welcome volunteers to assist in making wire trays for holding young oysters on our Farm. With shorter daylight hours, this is a good time to catch up on our shop tasks.

During the afternoons of Tuesday, February 7 and Wednesday, February 8, Tony Perry will direct volunteers building and assembling trays that will hold our farmed oysters from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., each day. Then two weeks later we'll do it again on Tuesday, February 21 and Wednesday, February 22, also working from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Working alongside our volun-



teers, we'll be happy to share the news about our two-year-old shellfish farm and give a direct update to interested folks about the sales of our First Light Oysters.

All volunteers are welcome - Tribal members or not. Young (over 15 years old) and old are welcome to join us at the Natural Resource Department, located at 213 Sampson's Mill Road, Mashpee (the Farm). Feel free to come late or leave early. We will be working those afternoons on the shellfish trays, rain or shine.

For more information, please call the office at (508) 477-5800 or email Quan Tobey qtobey@mwtribe.com, Chuckie Green cgreen@mwtribe.com or Kris Clark kclark@mwtribe.com. Tribal Member Tony Perry can be contacted directly on his cell phone at (774) 836-3263.



Tribal Member Takes Advantage of Loan Program

The Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department has successfully completed its first Section 184 Indian Home Loan closing. This is a success story for the Housing Team and for the Rossignol Family in bringing the Dream of Homeownership to Indian Country. The initiative will lend itself to all of our Tribal Members to reach for and achieve self-sufficiency.

The Section 184 Indian Home Loan Program is a mortgage product specifically for American Indian and Alaska Native Families, tribes, Alaska Villages or tribally designated housing entities. Congress established this program in 1992 to facilitate homeownership in Native American communities. With Section 184 financing you can get into a home with a low down payment, no mortgage insurance and flexible underwriting.



In 1992 Congress established the Section 184 Indian Home Loan Program. The program offers numerous options: Purchase of an existing home, single-close construction loans for stick built or a manufactured home on a permanent foundation; rehab loans and refinancing.

Congratulations to all, especially the Rossignol Family in gaining a slice of the American Dream.

Michele Fernandes Accepted into an MBA Program

Interim Housing Director Michelle M. Fernandes has been accepted into an MBA program for Community and Economic Development. Michelle began the application process while serving as a Housing Commissioner and working in her previous position in the Development Office. Michelle plans to use the skills and education gained through this program to benefit the Tribe.



Health News



Important Notice from Tribal MassHealth:

You must fill out your MassHealth Eligibility Review Forms as soon as you receive them. If you wait to respond, it will cause a backlog that may delay your application process. Any delays in this process could result in you having to go without health insurance for months with no way for the Health Service Department to expedite this process.

Forms are available at the health office if you need help filling them out. Also, MassHealth representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information or If you have any questions, please call the Tribal MassHealth team at (508) 477-6967.

Please do not wait until the last minute to take care of your health insurance forms. Take control of your health insurance!

Health Staff Update

Kristine Foster has joined the Indian Health Services clinic as an administrative assistant. In addition, Wampsikuk Mills has been named as the new IT Specialist. Congratulations to both Kristine and Wampsikuk!

IN THE NEWS

Fresh Salmon for Tribal Members *(continued)*

volunteers processed several thousand pounds of fresh salmon, brought it back to Mashpee, and distributed it to over 250 Tribal members. It was great to hear from the fish and game workers that the Mashpee Tribe was the Tribe that got dirty and helped the most.

Thanks to Chairman Cedric Cromwell, Vice Chairman Aaron Tobey, and Tribal Council for the financial support to make these trips possible.



New Positions Open on Finance Committee

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council is soliciting applications to fill the newly formed positions on the Mashpee Wampanoag Finance Committee. Citizens are sought to fill these vacancies on this board to assist in the oversight of the Tribes finance and budget preparation. The Finance Committee is charged with the fiscal oversight and review of Mashpee Wampanoag operations, the education of

residents and the role outlined within the Tribes Constitution.

Tribal Citizens wishing to serve on the Audit and Finance Committee should have experience or background in a leadership capacity, budget, accounting, auditing and/or finance.

Please forward a resume' to Treasurer Mark Harding, 483 Great Neck Rd., Mashpee, MA 02649 or fax to (508) 477-0508.

First Budget Meeting Pictures



Temptations Tickets Available

There will be a Tribal Elders trip to see the Temptations at the Zeitrion Theatre in New Bedford on Saturday, February 25, at 8:00 p.m.

There are 50 tickets available, and the Elders Committee has first preference to attend. If you would like to attend, please leave your name and telephone number with Nancy Martin at the front desk of the Tribal Office or call her at (508) 477-0208.

Tickets will be given out on a first come, first served basis after the Elders Committee members have been accommodated.



Powwow will be Held at the Barnstable County Fair Grounds

The The Annual Mashpee Wampanoag "People of the First Light" Powwow will be held Friday June 29th, Saturday June 30th and Sunday July 1st. The Powwow, the longest running on the East Coast, will be held at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds, 1220 Nathan Ellis Highway (Route 151) on the Falmouth / Mashpee, town line. More information to follow!



Gaming Update from the Chairman *(continued)*

The review of locations has been confidential for several reasons, including making sure that the price of the land does not become artificially high once rumors get out about us showing interest. We hope to bring news of the final site selection to the Tribe in the very near future.

Will the Tribe have a new gaming ordinance?

Yes. Tribal Council has hired a team of national experts in Indian Gaming Law, with extensive experience working with the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), to draft a new Tribal Gaming Ordinance. This is the law under which the Tribe authorizes gaming. Council members have the opportunity to provide feedback to the team, and a draft of the ordinance will be produced with their input. This draft will be available for review by any Tribal member, and multiple hearings will be scheduled for Tribal members to learn more about the ordinance and to provide their feedback to the Council.

Once the Tribal Council approves a Gaming Ordinance, it goes to the NIGC for final approval, and it becomes law.

How will revenue from a casino benefit the Tribe?

The Tribal Council will seek input from Tribal members about how revenue from a destination resort should be spent. In addition, Tribal Council plans to hire a financial analyst to create a financial model. This model will show what money the Tribe can expect to receive at different stages of the operation of this resort while paying down debt service and also determine when per capita distributions will become available.

As you know, the Tribe has great needs in providing funding for housing, health care, education, cultural and natural resources, economic development and other programs. The Tribal Council must approve any revenues to be spent on these government functions. Both the Tribal Council and the Department of Interior must approve per capita distribution plans.

What about job opportunities?

Yes! We plan to start holding job fairs in the very near future and hiring Tribal members who are interested in



these jobs as quickly as possible. As the project progresses, there will be additional opportunities in both the development stage: construction, planning, etc., as well as the operation stage: casino operations, accounting, marketing, hospitality, etc. We expect to employ thousands of local people – Tribal members and our neighbors.

As always, many thanks for your support, guidance, ideas, and hopes for our very bright and positive future. I will continue to communicate with you as more information becomes available, and I encourage you to attend the meetings and hearings about this and other issues so you can continue to provide the Tribal Council and me with guidance as we move forward together.

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell
Qaqemasq (Running Bear)

Museum Opening Soon



While the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum has been closed for the Christmas Season in order for the dedicated volunteers to spend time with family, it will re-open the week of February school vacation. The committee is planning another exciting season including a spring "Herring Festival"!

We would like to thank the Museum Committee for hosting the 3rd consecutive season since its Re-Opening and for welcoming the hundreds of visitors and students who walk through the doors all year-long.

- Putnam Peters – Chairman
- Jeanne Peters – Member/Spouse
- Ellen Hendricks - Member
- Angela Shwom – Secretary
- Paula Peters – Member
- Michele Forrester - Member

Election Schedule

According to the Mashpee Wampanoag Constitution there is no election for Tribal Council or Tribal Officers this year. The next regular election will be on Sunday, February 10, 2013 for the following seats:

Elected	Seat filled	Term Ends
2009	Chairman, Cedric Cromwell	2013
2009	Vice Chairman, Aaron Tobey	2013
2009	Treasurer, Mark Harding	2013
2009	Secretary, Marie Stone	2013
2009	Council Member, Selena Jonas	2013

There will be a general tribal body meeting on Sunday, February 12 at 2 pm at the Mashpee High School where upon there will be a hand vote of registered voters of the tribe to sanction the 2012 budget.

Use of Tribal Court Grant Outlined

The following outline developed by the Elders Judiciary Committee will explain the goals of the ANA SEDS TG grant that was awarded to Tribal Court on September 30, 2011.

1. Development of Mashpee Wampanoag Rules of Civil Procedure
 - A. Collaboration with Suffolk University Law School, Supreme Court Judges, Attorneys, Elders Judiciary Committee, Judicial Advisory Board, and Finance

The Court will offer appropriate and culturally sensitive legal processes that strengthen the Tribal government's court capacity and infrastructure to handle a variety of legal issues within the Tribe. (Federal Rules of Civil Procedure vs. Mashpee Wampanoag Rules of Civil Procedure)

Provide user friendly documents to help Tribal members negotiate and navigate the Tribal Court System.

2. Development of a Code of Ethics for Peacemakers and Judicial Advisory Board
 - A. Collaboration with Suffolk University Law School and the Elders Judiciary Committee

The Court will establish a Code of Ethics to set expectations of behavior for individuals involved in Tribal Court processes and business.

3. Development of Policy and Procedure
 - A. Collaboration with Attorney Mark Tilden, Suffolk University Law School, Elders Judiciary Committee, Judicial Advisory Board, Supreme Court Judges to research Policy and Procedure in other Tribal Courts and develop a policy and procedure that would eliminate inefficiency and confusion among Tribal members who want to utilize Tribal Court.

Policy and Procedure would improve operational capacity to a level that ensures easy and timely access for tribal members pursuing justice.

4. Provide Court staff with educational judicial training to ensure that the Judges and staff can conduct their court in a professional and just manner.

- A. The Chief Judge attended a Tribal Leaders Conference "Protecting Sovereignty: The Role of Tribal Courts"
- B. The Court Clerk attended an "Advanced Court Clerk/Administrator Training & Certification"
- C. The Court Administrator and Senior Grant Manager attended the "ANA Post-Award Training"

Educational training will continue for Court personnel throughout the 2 year grant period

5. Development of a Tribal Court Website
 - A. A link on the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe website to provide Tribal Court Activities and News, court information, and court processes
 - B. Tribal Court can now be found on Facebook and Twitter

Blast from the Past

Archives are courtesy of Joan Tavares-Avant (Granny Squannit)

Falmouth, Mass., Friday, March 7, 1980

Russell M. Peters, president of the Wampanoag tribal council for six years, is stepping down Sunday as president.

Those voting for tribal council officers at the 2 P.M. elections at the Baptist church won't see Mr. Peters's name on the ballot. They won't see any name in the presidential slot. Nominations will have to come from the floor.

Mr. Peters said yesterday, "I am tired. It's time to make room for someone else. I'm going to run for the board of directors, though, so that I can still have a hand in the council."

Falmouth, Mass., Tuesday, March 11, 1980

Hannah M. Averett, a member of the state Commission of Indian Affairs, is the new president of the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Tribal council.

Mrs. Averett, 62, plans to step down as chairman of the parents' committee that oversees the Indian Education program in Mashpee. Mrs. Averett said she was "very much surprised" at being chosen from among the six nominees.

Russell M. Peters, council president for the last six years, did not seek re-election. He said last week he was "tired," that it was time for someone new to take over the position.

Falmouth, Mass., Tuesday, February 12, 1980



A Feast Of Wild Game

Saturday night brought the annual wild-game dinner to the Wampanoag Rod and Gun club in Mashpee, and the affair was well attended. Guests waded into 50 pounds of raccoon meat, roasted venison, duck, goose, muskrat and eels. There were also chowder and baked beans. In the photos above, Curtis Hendricks, the club president, and Steve Weaver are serving up trays of fried eels as appetizers and



Ted Hendricks, Ralph Hendricks and Vernon Pocknett are working over venison and a pan filled with roasted



Nashauonk
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COMMUNITY

Wampanoag Ball Tickets Now On Sale

The 15th Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Ball will be held on Saturday March 31, 2012 at the Sea Crest Beach Hotel in North Falmouth. This year's theme will be "celebrating our women."

Tickets can now be purchased at Puritan's Clothing and at the Tribal Council Head Quarters. Tickets for our elders have been reduced to \$15 and general admission tickets are \$30.

Hotel rooms are available at a discounted rate of \$89 plus tax for the night. You may reserve a room by call-

ing 1-800-225-3110 or going to www.seacrestbeachhotel.com and use group code 'Mashpee' to get the discount.

