



Nashauonk Mittark™



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mashpeewampanoagtribe.com July 2012

DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY

Chairman's Message



Wuneekeesuq Nutawâm (Greetings to my Tribal Community),

We achieved an overwhelming victory on Saturday, June 9, for our Mashpee Wampanoag destination resort casino in Taunton. By approving the referendum by a margin of 63% to 37%, the voters in Taunton sent a clear message that they want the jobs and revenue that will be created by our first class destination resort.

There was a lot of focused, dedicated and hard work that went into winning this referendum in the City of Taunton. I want to recognize the 80-plus Tribal Members who came out and worked the neighborhoods of Taunton from house to house, the polls at all 15 voting locations and the Together For Taunton campaign office to ensure we "got out the vote" in the City of Taunton. We see the results....success!

Members of every Tribal family, Tribal Council members, Elders Council members, and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe staff came out and worked hard side by side with volunteers from Taunton and the Together for Taunton campaign staff on this effort.

(Continued on page 3)

Taunton Overwhelmingly Approves Mashpee Wampanoag Destination Resort Casino

By a vote of 7,693 to 4,571, Taunton voters gave their stamp of approval to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's plans for a destination resort casino in the Liberty and Union Industrial Park. The referendum, held Saturday, June 9th, was a huge step in the process for the Tribe to receive a gaming license under the gaming law passed in Massachusetts late last year.

A coalition of Taunton residents and Tribal members worked tirelessly to speak with Taunton voters about the jobs and revenue this project will bring to the City and the Tribe. Ultimately, Taunton voters came out overwhelm



"this is not just a victory for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, this is a victory for the future of this city [Taunton]..."

ingly in support of the plan, unlike the crushing defeats of gaming seen in other neighboring towns in the past few months.

"We thank the people of the great City of Taunton for their support. We are overwhelmed by this resounding victory in Taunton, especially in comparison to the recent rejection of gaming in Foxboro and other neighboring communities. But let's be clear, this is not just a victory for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, this is a victory for the future of this city, for every person looking for a good job, and for the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts," Chairman Cedric Cromwell said after hearing the results.

"We'll enjoy this victory tonight, but our work isn't done. First thing Monday morning, we'll be back at it, working to finalize a compact with Governor Patrick so we can create thousands of jobs and millions in revenue as soon as possible."



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*

Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.

Prayer, *Old Indian Meeting House*

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*

Sundays - 6:30 p.m.

Evening Worship, *Old Indian Meeting House*

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

June 29 - July 1

Powwow, *Barnstable Fair Grounds*

July 8 - 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

July 17 - July 20

VIP Kids Summer Camp, *Old Indian Meeting House*

August 12 - 2:00 p.m.

General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*



* Congratulations to **Jordan Keli'inui**, son of Councilwoman Trish Keli'inui, for his acceptance to Williston Northampton Academy in Easthampton, MA. Jordan was recruited into the Post Graduate program at Williston as a football player. Following his year at Williston, Jordan plans to continue his path onto the collegiate level, playing football at the highest division possible, while studying International Business. Jordan and his 2012 Mashpee High School classmates graduated at the June 9 commencement ceremony.



* Congratulations to the Mashpee High School Spring Track 4X100 relay team for winning the MIAA Division IV Eastern Mass. competition on May 26, finishing with a time of 43.44. The team went on to secure a 3rd place finish at the MIAA All State Track and Field Outdoor Championships which qualified them for the MIAA All-New England competition, however the team declined the invitation due to the conflict with teammate Jordan Keli'inui's graduation ceremony on the same day. Congratulations to Tribal members, the stand-out freshman **Vernon Pocknett** and senior **Jordan Keli'inui** and their junior teammates **Jared Taylor** and **Romeo Grey** for their amazing season!



* Congratulations to Melanie T. Mulvey who received her Bachelor's Degree with an individual concentration from UMass Amherst. She graduated summa cum laude; she is pictured here with her proud dad Freddie Gray.

* Congratulations to **Edward Avant** on achieving 5 years of service in the U.S. Army 4th Infantry Division. A personal letter from Joseph Anderson, Major General, U.S. Army, was presented to Ed on April 23 to officially recognize his superb performance at Fort Carson, CO.



* **Shawna Elaine Newcomb** of Weymouth, MA, daughter of Errol F Newcomb and Donna Shannon graduated in June from Weymouth High School. Shawna was the captain of varsity cheerleading, president of several clubs such as Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and an honors student. This fall, Shawna will be attending Suffolk University in Boston, MA where she will be majoring in broadcast journalism. Congratulations Shawna!

Chairman's Message *(continued)*

I would like to give a special thanks to Councilwoman Trish Keliinui for serving as the Tribal liaison and public relations representative to Together for Taunton and Vice-Chairman Aaron Tobey for his efforts in negotiating the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Taunton. In addition, Tribal member Stephanie Sfiridis worked full time on campaign communications and did a great job.

I want to thank our Tribal Council for pushing forward on this incredible economic opportunity for our Tribe, and for our entire Tribe for believing in us and supporting us as we have worked to advance our people.

I want to thank Taunton Mayor Tom Hoye, City Solicitor Jason Buffington, and the Taunton Municipal Council. In addition, I thank the

local building trades for their help and strong show of support.

I want to thank our ancestors for having us, for giving us the medicine and the strength we needed to persevere against all odds and raise our Tribal Nation to the highest of all highs; to shine bright like the sun and soar high like the eagle with "Wun-ee-shkeety." Good Medicine!

Thank you Creator! We give thanks and we give praise!

There is still much work to be done, but we have great momentum and we will continue to succeed!

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell Qaqemasq
(Running Bear)

On the Drum Beat *(continued)*



variety of entities including the prestigious John D. and Catherine T. MacCarther Foundation Fellowship - so called "genius grant" - given by the Foundation to individuals "working across a broad spectrum of endeavors...selected for their creativity, originality, and potential to make important contributions in the future." Congratulations on an honor well deserved.

* Congratulations to **Jade Galvin** and **Peco Barber** who gave birth to a baby girl, Inez Red Moon, on May 25, 2012. Inez weighed 6lbs 2oz and was 20.5 in.



ACN Business Owner



Elder Tribal Member Milton Hendricks is an ACN Independent Business Owner (IBO). He has been an IBO since November 2011 and is interested in obtaining two business partners. Milt would like Tribal members to acquire their essential home services that they are currently using each and everyday through his online store. Milt looks forward to seeing everybody at the Powwow.

For more information about ACN, please contact Milt at (240) 429-9841 or his assistant Maurita at (301) 904-2288.

Services provided include natural gas and electricity, local and long distance, internet, wireless, cable and satellite television, home security and automation, computer support and digital phone service. In addition, Milt offers business services.

To order services, please visit the online store at www.miltonhendricks.acndirect.com.

Change of Addresses Help Keep Our Mailing List Current



Tribal members, please be aware of the importance of maintaining a valid mailing and street address with the Enrollment department. Anytime the main office does a mailing we get returned mail undeliverable which is money wasted, we are trying to prevent this.

You may not be aware that the Mittark and some other mailings are only mailed to the head of house, sometimes we do have the opportunity to mail to everyone. If you know of family members who do not get the Mittark or any other mailings from us and have moved please ask them to call the Enrollment office to provide us with an up to date mailing and street address, telephone number and email addresses, at 508-477-6160. We want to keep everyone informed regarding our tribe.

Brewster Parish Tour

Councilwoman Yvonne Avant provided a tour of our Tribal land to several members of the Brewster Parish from Brewster MA. The group arrived in Mashpee bearing good news – the Parish had a \$2000 donation for our Housing Department in the name of Alice Lopez. The group is a steadfast supporter of the housing efforts that Alice started many years ago. The members of the Parish remain close friends with many Tribal members and provide

a lot of support to the Tribe. They are sincere, energetic, and joyful people. I can see why Alice and others have fallen in love with the people of the Brewster Parish. The \$2000 donation was from the proceeds of the “Spring Concert-Common Voices Women’s Chorus” with matching funds from the church. Thank you to all of the members of the Brewster Parish.

by Yvonne Avant



Reminder from the Natural Resources Department

Tribal Members, This is a reminder to call the NRD Office at (508) 477-5800 ext. 10 to report herring harvests for 2012. Please leave the amount of herring harvested, what river they were harvested from, and the day or month they were harvest-

ed. If no answer, please leave a message with the information. This information is a required part of our MOU with the MA Division of Marine Fisheries during the harvest moratorium for non-tribal members. Remember that herring are for TRIBAL USE ONLY.



What's To Come in Tribal Court

Thanks to ANA SEDS TG grant funding, Tribal Court has been able to develop an infrastructure that will enable tribal members who would like to represent themselves and all tribal members seeking to use Tribal Court understand the processes that rule the legal path from the filing of a complaint to the ruling of the Judge sitting on the case.

The first task was the development of Rules of Civil Procedure that were easy to understand, direct, embraced timely process, and was Mashpee Wampanoag oriented. We have been operating under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure whose sheer volume was daunting. Getting through a court process was nightmarish at best. It also delayed the process and allowed cases to linger rather than be disposed of in a timely fashion. In a survey submitted to our Tribal Members, getting results in a timely fashion was one issue that received a majority of votes. While developing the Rules of Civil Procedure, it was obvious that we also needed an Appellate Rules of Civil Procedure for cases that were appealed to a higher court. Rules of Evidence soon followed as



needed to provide even more guidance for cases that come before Tribal Court.

While developing the Peacemaker Court, it was noted that a Code of Ethics was needed to guide the Peacemakers in our more traditional path of restorative justice. The Chief Judge had already developed a Code of Ethics for Judges and Attorneys, but to ensure that Peacemaker cases were held in confidence a new set of Ethics was needed for this more traditional way of resolving conflict within our community.

To make the Court itself more efficient and accountable, Policy and Procedure are to be developed which will provide criteria on the operation of the

Administration of the Court itself. Rules regarding how it will operate will provide a frame work for the day to day operation of the Tribal Court and be a guide for future generations to come in the operations of Tribal Court.

To inform the Mashpee Wampanoag Community of what the Court is doing or developing a web site with a link from the Main Tribal Website for easy access is to be developed. This web-site will provide all information pertaining to Tribal Court and its operation as well as legal forms, court news, Judicial Ordinance and its amendments, Orders issued by the Chief Judge, information on the judges, court clerk and the EJC.

The most important piece will be the guidebook for tribal membership. The guidebook will walk the tribal member through the court process from beginning to end. It will contain a glossary of legal terms and words to help tribal members understand some of the legalities of the process. It is our hope that Tribal Court will be reflective of our traditions and culture providing Harmony, Non-Coercion, Community Health, and Sacred Restorative Justice.

Tribal Makes Several New Hires

Please join us in welcoming this month's new hires:

Elon Banks and Edwina Johnson-Graham both have accepted positions as Health Technicians at the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit. They have joined our team of professionals and we look forward to working with them as we continue to grow and service the community.

The Finance Department welcomes Barbara Jonas as our newest employee. She will be working in accounts payable. Barbara comes from Arbella Insurance (formerly Kemper Insurance) where she provided 26 years of service. Barbara decided to

bring her expertise to the Tribe. We are excited and pleased to have her abilities and dedication.

The ICWA department welcomes Shirley Ghale as our new Administrative Assistant. Shirley brings great organizational skills and efficiency to the department. In her short time of employment she has been a great asset to the entire team. We are so very glad to have her.

The Education Department welcomes Gertrude "Kitty" Hendricks to the team. Kitty lives in Falmouth where she raised her sons Jonathon and Alexander. She attended Cape Cod Community College and studied Early Childhood Education. For many years Kitty worked in

the Falmouth Public School system as a substitute teacher. Kitty taught Pre-K at the Friendship Garden Nursery School. Kitty also worked at the Boston Children's Museum as an Indian Education Specialist and for the Indian Education Program in the Mashpee Public Schools.

In January 2007 Kitty became the Education Planner for the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe. Kitty is a competition Eastern Blanket Dancer and performs with The Wampanoag Nation Singers and Dancers.

Advocating for Tribal Children

One of the most pressing issues facing our Tribe is the education of our children. Too many times to count, parents and grandparents of Tribal children have found themselves challenged to navigate the public education system and get their kids the services and educational experience they will need to be productive, well-adjusted adults. Luckily, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe works with Toni Saunders to help advocate for our children.

Toni is the Executive Director and Educational Consultant for children with special needs for the Associated Advocacy Center-Visions for the Future, Inc (AAC). AAC has been contracted by the Tribe to provide educational advocacy, training and services to tribal parents whose children are having learning and/or behavioral challenges or have special needs. Toni is also working as the Senior Organizer for the Union of Minority Neighborhoods who has been contracted with the MA Teacher's Association, and is a key contributor in the planning and facilitation of an international conference on education in Germany coming in 2013.

Q: What do you feel is important for tribal parents to know about educational advocacy?

A: Educational Advocacy begins with the parent, and the school personnel know this. If you are knowledgeable and credible in what you understand your child's needs are, they will give your child what they need. If you are not, they will lie to you and not provide what your child needs. I have completed approximately 2000 records assessments over the past 11 years, and only once did the "Individual Education Program" (IEP) match the needs assessed in the evaluations and that was because the district was sued by the parents and the parents won. Remember, you have the power of the pen. If you don't sign for it, it doesn't happen. If you don't agree with it, don't sign for it. If they're taking something

out of the IEP that you don't agree with, don't allow it by not signing the IEP.

Q: How do parents know what to ask for?

A: They don't. A part of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA), a parent is supposed to be provided with all of the information they need to give consent to what will be done. If the parent is unsure of what they need because the school personnel doesn't tell them, they simply request more information, even if they have to request an independent evaluation. Independent evaluations can be requested at the district's expense within 16 months of the original evaluation.

Q: In working with the tribal parents and students over the past 2 years, are there any similarities in how the students have been treated that you've noticed when doing the records assessments?

A: Absolutely! I have found that the diagnoses' written on the IEP's of the tribal students is not supported by the evidence in the evaluations. For example, tribal students are disproportionately over-identified with intellectual and/or emotional impairment. Part of the problem is that there is no cultural competency in education, so our children are pigeonholed into programs that do not provide the appropriate services for the actual needs of the student. What every parent needs to know is when a child is truly intellectually impaired then all of their IQ scores will be in the borderline to deficient range, there will not be a communication impairment or Autism that keeps them from understanding the questions in the assessments. When a student is truly emotionally impaired, they will have a psychiatric diagnosis that impedes their ability to learn.

You need to understand that bipolar disorder is the latest ADHD, there are too many children being diagnosed with this psychiatric disorder and most of the students that I've reviewed who



are said to have it, really don't. It's the health care system's way of making money by giving powerful anti-psychotic medications to our children, and remember, none of them have been tested on children under the age of 18, over time. So you do not know what it is going to do to your child's lifespan or future.

Q: Behavioral IEP's seem to be rampant in our community and some of our children are being referred to juvenile court due to zero tolerance policies. Will you comment on what can be done?

A: This is very important. There is no such thing as a behavioral IEP. Typically, a student with behavioral difficulties is responding to how they are treated by teachers, administrators and/or peers, and this speaks to the lack of cultural competency in our public schools; or they have a disability that causes behavioral discord and are in need of supportive services and specially designed instruction in order to learn how to be in the world. A "Functional Behavioral Assessment" completed by a behavior specialist (BCBA or Psychologist) is the key because it determines what the function of a behavior is, and then a behavioral support plan is designed to help the student learn healthy behaviors. Also, if it is determined that the student's behavior is because of skills deficits that they are afraid for their peers to know, those are what the support plan and IEP should be designed to remediate.

Q: Thank you so much for your time, Toni. How do our parents get in touch with you for more information or to request your services?

A: Toni Saunders (508) 420-4356. toni@aacvisions.org or tonisvision@aol.com website: aacvisions.org.

by Aaron Tobey

Congratulations Class of 2012

College

Madas Pocknett
Roscell Lopez-Pitts
Alicia Molokwu
Melanie Foxx
Raven Bartlett



High School

C.J. Oakley-Robbins
Jocelyn Gonsalves
Brittany Gonsalves
Brianna Fernandez
Shawna Newcomb
Shanera Lindsey
Jalen Bartlett
Melanie Mulvey
Cameron Frye
Anthony D. Jones
Christian Oakley
Tiana Lopes
Sareeda Grace
Tia Costa
Sassamin A. Weeden
Stephanie Plummer
Jordan Keliinui
Mariah Gunn
Amanda Frye
Attaquis Lopes-Pocknett
Derrick Gray
Anthony Grace
Brianna Pina
Zachary Shepherd
Karryssa Dickerson
Justin Wilson-Bordun

Certified Nursing Assistants

Bethany Lee Helme
Kerri Helme
Ashley Gonsalves
Felicia Peters
Alexandrea Moore
Melody Baptista

Certifications

Wendy Pocknett
Kimberly Frye
Brenda Fernandez
Shakira Askew
Stephanie Tobey-Roderick
Ann Marie Peters

Certificates Completed in Fiber Optics:

Ervin Edwards
Shelly Peters
Roscell Lopez-Pitts
Matthew Lopes
Daryl Green
Skye Soares
George Maddox
Jonathan Helme
Kyle Harding
Paul Rossignol
Russell Peters

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Mashpee Old Indian Meeting House

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Prizes Games

Calling ALL Kids
You're invited to join us...

V.I.P KIDS SUMMER CAMP

And Much More!

Food & Fun Absolutely Free! Bible Stories

WHEN: JULY 17TH - 20TH
WHERE: OLD INDIAN MEETING HOUSE
TIME: 9:00AM - 12:00PM DAILY
WHO: ALL KID'S GRADES 1ST - 6TH

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Pastor Chris or Peggy at: 508-330-5662 or 508-540-0124**



Nashauonk
Mittark™

483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

COMMUNITY

Summer Language Class Schedule

Note: You must attend and register at the first class unless other arrangements have been made with your instructor. Due to the limited number of weeks for each session, it is encouraged that you commit to attending every class in your session.

Quincy

Noun Possession Workbook

Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Starting July 10 ending Aug. 28

27 Bates Avenue Quincy MA 02169

This class has a prerequisite of
Beginner Class

Call Eva Blake with questions
(857) 204-6949

New Bedford

Beginner Workbook/Whole Language
Mashpee Wampanoag Satellite Office
1913 Purchase Street New Bedford
MA 02710

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Starting June 27 ending Aug. 22

This class has no prerequisite
Call Melanie Roderick with questions
(508) 524-0734

Aquinnah

TBD

Aquinnah Cultural Center may be offering classes taught by a team consisting of certified teachers on-island. Classes will take place at the Aquinnah Cultural Center. Please check often for this schedule at the WLRP website. We will post the notice as soon as details are available.

Mashpee

Level 2 Immersion Not Your Baby's Talk
800 Falmouth Road Mashpee MA 02649
(Summerfield Park)

Thursdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Starting July 5 ending Aug. 23

This class has no prerequisite.
Call jessie little doe with questions
(508) 527-4373

Mashpee

Conjunct Workbook Who? What? Why?
800 Falmouth Road Mashpee MA 02649
(Summerfield Park)

Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Starting July 5 ending Aug. 23

This class has a prerequisite of: AI, TI, II,
and TA verbs.
Call jessie little doe with questions
(508) 527-4373