

# Nashauonk Mittark™

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DRUM BEAT

DEPARTMENTS

POWWOW

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Column



Wuneekeesuq Nutawâm (*Greetings to my Tribal Community*),

I think it's important that we take the time to celebrate our accomplishments - in life and in work - so I'd like to take a moment to share our accomplishments. And I say "our" because we would not have come this far without the support of a strong, unified Tribal Community. The accomplishments of our Tribal Leaders, our Tribal Youth, our economic development and community projects, and the many personal accomplishments we achieve are the reasons our Nation is strong today and will be stronger tomorrow... accomplishments we should all take a moment to celebrate.

As you read this month's lead article about the federal changes to land-in trust applications and our progress with a destination resort casino in Taunton, know that your voices were heard in Washington. Your Tribal Council has been and continues to work diligently on moving our lands into Trust. As your Chairman, I understand the positive impact our economic development projects will have on our Tribe and have remained focused on getting a final record of decision for our land into trust within the next 6 to 12 months.

We also made great strides on the construction of our Community and Government Center and I'm pleased to report that the project is on schedule to be

(Continued on page 3)

## Tribe Supports Federal Proposal to Change Land-In Trust Process

Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn finalized a federal proposal on May 24 to change procedures for processing land-in trust applications. The rule changes would allow the federal government to take the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's land in trust without a waiting period; changes that would accelerate the approval of the Tribe's application and Project First Light.

The proposed change specifically, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, addresses the Supreme Court's 2012 Patchak decision. That court ruling expanded who has

legal standing to challenge American Indian land decisions in court and effectively gave opponents a statute of limitations to file a lawsuit.

According to Washburn, "the principal purpose of this proposed rule is to provide greater certainty to tribes in their ability to develop lands acquired in trust for purposes such as housing, schools and economic development." Washburn also added, "for such acquisitions, the proposed rule will create a 'speak now or forever hold your peace moment' in the land-into-trust process."

(Continued on page 5)



Design of destination resort casino made public in May

## Tribe Featured on WGBH

On May 24, The Tribe had the opportunity to appear on "Greater Boston" a television news program on WGBH. We spoke about the amazing progress our Tribe has made on our plans for a destination resort casino in Taunton, including the exciting new design, the recent hearing on our Tribal-State Compact, and the road ahead as we continue to move forward on bringing good jobs and economic development to our Tribe, Taunton, and the entire Southeastern Massachusetts region.

You can watch the segment online at [www.mwtribe.exstream.tv/news](http://www.mwtribe.exstream.tv/news)



# DRUM BEAT

## Events Calendar

### New Events

**June 9 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting, *Mashpee High School*

**June 15 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
Graduation Brunch, *Quashnet Valley Country Club*

**June 29 – 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**  
Day of Wellness, *Cape Cod Canal*

**July 5 to July 7 – 10:00 a.m.**  
Powwow, *Barnstable County Fair Grounds*

**July 13 – 10:00 a.m.**  
Basketball Tournament, *Heritage Park*

**July 21 – 11:00 a.m.**  
Blind Joe Amos Sunday, *Old Indian Meeting House*

### Weekly Events

**Thursdays – 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Wamp Support Group, *Old Indian Meeting House*

**Biweekly – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
Mashpee Food Pantry, *Monday and Wednesday every other week*

**Biweekly – 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
New Bedford Food Pantry, *Tuesday and Thursday every other week*

**Monthly – 7:00 p.m.**  
Chiefs Circle, *Old Indian Meeting House.*  
*It is held the first Tuesday of the month.*

### Language Classes

Watch [WLRP.org](http://WLRP.org) for upcoming new language classes as well as our annual 3-day family immersion camp!



## Tribal Announcements

» **Elissa Joyce Lopez** graduated from Bridgewater State University on Saturday, May 18 with a degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. Elissa plans on pursuing a Master's degree after completing a one-year sabbatical where she will be applying her paramedic experience as a training instructor. She met strenuous personal goals; supporting herself, working full time and a full college load and graduating with complete A's during her last semester. It is with gratitude for all of the Tribal of the Tribal family support and direction to assist her in this great achievement. Elissa's proud parents are Mark "Flying Crane" Lopez and Donnajean Lopez and proud grandmother Carol A. Lopez. Congratulations Elissa!



*Elissa Joyce Lopez and her sister Megan*

» Congratulations to **Lillianna Marie Frye** for receiving her Bachelors of Science degree in Physical Therapy with a concentration in Motor Development Therapy from Bridgewater State University. Commencement exercises were held on May 18. Lilli is the daughter of Lisa and Curtis Frye, Sr., and the granddaughter of the late Ethel and Harrison Frye, Sr. Job well done Lilli!



*Cameron Philip Cash*

» Congratulations to **Philip Cash** and **Jessica Rapoza** on the birth of their baby boy, Cameron Philip Cash. Cameron was born at Falmouth Hospital April 27. He was a healthy 8lbs 14 oz. and 20.75 inches in length. Welcome to the Tribe Cameron!

Featuring **MC Big Shot**

**WAMP PRIDE DAY**  
SAT JULY 13th  
(RAIN DATE: SUN JULY 14th)  
Rt. 130, Heritage Park  
Mashpee, MA 02549

**3on3**  
Basketball Tournament  
and Dunk Contest

\$60 per team  
4 per team Max  
18 and over

Fun Family Day  
12 NOON - Start on Time  
\$600 - 1st PLACE  
\$200 - 2ND PLACE

Sign up early **774-238-1075** or  
e-mail [Chendricks@mwtribe.com](mailto:Chendricks@mwtribe.com)

Proceeds to benefit  
Tribal Kids with Back to School Products

## Cash Prizes at Basketball Tournament

Now is the time to get your team ready for this year's Wamp Pride Day 3 on 3 basketball tournament being held on Saturday, July 13 at Heritage Park in Mashpee. First place is \$600 and second place is \$200.

Teams can have a maximum of four players and registration is \$60 per team

and is from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. All proceeds will go to support Tribal Youth with back-to-school products. The rain date for the tournament is Sunday, July 14.

Please contact Councilman Carlton Hendricks at (774) 238-1075 or email [chendricks@mwtribe.com](mailto:chendricks@mwtribe.com).

## Danna Jackson Receives National Honors

**D**anna “Dee Dee” Jackson (Little Storm) is an extremely ambitious 16-year old Tribal Youth that has received national recognition for her outstanding accomplishments. In addition to having one of the highest grade point averages among her peers at the Native American Youth Conference last summer, she was recognized by President Obama with an award for academic excellence.

The award Danna received for academic excellence from President Obama is given annually to students with the highest grades nation-wide. Danna’s achievements continued through the summer of 2012 attending the Youth Conference in Arizona where she was included in the top 5% for the highest grades in the Nation. Her accomplishment’s continued as Governor Duval Patrick later recognized her talent and asked Danna to run for the Massachusetts Youth Leaders where she finished as runner up. This year Danna was asked to attend Global Youth Leaders where she was chosen to visit China, Europe, New York and Washington, DC.

Danna is a shining example of the tremendous potential of leadership we have developing among the young adults in our Tribe...strong, dedicated and proud. Danna maintains a job at Plymouth Plantation and is very active in the Tribal government, serving on the Youth Council for the past four years and is current the Youth Council Secretary. Congratulations, Danna on your outstanding achievements!

Danna is the great-granddaughter of Beatrice Tobey Jackson and Warren Hicks; the granddaughter of Eleanor Jackson and the daughter of Laverne Jackson Floyd.



## Chairman *(continued)*

completed by the end of October – just a few months away. We continue to employ highly skilled Tribal Members for the project and I thank them for the hard work they have put in each day on this project. It’s rare that a construction project of any size remains on schedule and our progress is a testament to having a dedicated team and a sound building plan.

Even as we continue to achieve, I know there are opportunities to improve on the path we take to accomplish our goals. Your Tribal Council understands this as well and I’d like to applaud them for attending a communication, relationship management and team building training program. The program allowed your Tribal Leaders to strengthen the Tribal Council and further develop skills to accomplishing our work effectively and efficiently as a team. I think the training went very well. It’s through programs like this and our future leaders succeeding in the community and the classroom that we have and will continue to build a Nation that works for the good of all our people.

As we welcome the summer season in just a few weeks, please take a few minutes to enjoy all that we have accomplished in the spring. I could not be more proud of the huge amount of progress we have and continue to make each month.

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell Qaqemasq (*Running Bear*)

## Falmouth Road Race Numbers

A limited number of numbers for the Falmouth Road Race are available for Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal members committed to running in the Falmouth Road Race on Sunday, August 11, 2013. Runners will be responsible for paying the race entry fee. Also a team will be assembled from tribal members who run the Falmouth Road Race to participate in a sacred message relay in the Cape Cod Marathon, Sunday October 27th.

For more information about how to participate in these running events contact Paula Peters at 508-965-5140 or by email, [paula@smokesygnals.com](mailto:paula@smokesygnals.com).

## Tribal Safety Commission Formed

On Wednesday, May 22, 2013 the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council passed 2013-RES-021 “Establishment of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Public Safety Commission”.

In part, the “Commission” will serve as an advisory body to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council and Mashpee Wampanoag Gaming Authority with the purpose of protecting the members of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal community, general public and Tribal assets.

The Commission will be responsible for, but not limited to gathering information and making recommendations

regarding: Police, Fire, Emergency Medical, Emergency Preparedness and general security matters at the Tribal, Federal (Bureau of Indian Affairs) and State level.

Additionally, the Commission shall conduct a comprehensive review of required law enforcement and fire needs of the Tribe and assess current available resources of area agencies, including Mashpee Police/Fire, Taunton Police/Fire, Barnstable County Sheriff’s Department, Plymouth County Sheriff’s Department, Massachusetts State Police, New Bedford Police as well as any surrounding municipality geographically located near Tribal properties.

The Tribal Council is seeking interested enrolled Tribal members over the age of twenty-one (21) years of age that will serve as Commissioners for staggered term lengths of three (3) years initially.

The Commission will consist of 3 to 5 members.

Please submit letters of interest to Executive Administrator Francie Dottin at [fdottin@mwtribe.com](mailto:fdottin@mwtribe.com) in order to be considered for appointment to this Commission by the Tribal Council. Please call Francie with any additional questions at (508) 539-1026.

## Tickets for Housing Raffle Available through July 5

The Housing Department is hosting an art raffle to raise money to further assist Tribal Members that fall outside of our guidelines but are still in need of housing assistance. Tickets for the Housing Assistance Art Raffle are available now through the first day of the Mashpee Powwow on Friday, July 5 at Noon.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00. The artwork is currently on display in the Housing Department if you would like to

view the three pieces of art. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Danita Payne at (508) 477-0208 ext. 226 or stop by the Housing Department located at 766 Falmouth RD. A-3 in Mashpee. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please note that the office is closed daily from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department provides safe, affordable, housing to all Native Americans residing in the tribes'

service area. We provide assistance and opportunities specific to the needs of Native Americans living within the Wampanoag community by offering the choice to remain in existing housing or return to quality housing provided on ancestral lands, a place appointed to us by the creator and encourage the self-determination and economic independence for all Native American Indians.



## NRD Reminder: Carry Your Tribal ID

An important reminder from the Natural Resources Commission, please ensure that you have your current Tribal ID on you at all times when fishing, hunting, or gathering. Your aboriginal rights are priceless but you must be able to show any official questioning you that you are in fact a person with an aboriginal right. If asked by a town or state official for identification, please show your Tribal ID. It's also important that you check your ID and make sure it has not expired. Current Tribal IDs will have an expiration date on it. If you're ID doesn't have an expiration date or the date has expired, please stop by the Enrollment Department to obtain a new ID.

Interested in learning more about the Natural Resources Commission? The Commission meets every other Thursday evening at 6:30. The meetings are open and Tribal Members are welcomed to come to any meeting and learn about the initiatives and policies of the Commission. Please email Dave Greene (DGreene@mwtribe.com) with any questions about location or dates.

## Walk for Wellness and Volleyball Match

Save the date for a fun, healthy day of events to support wellness all hosted by our Tribal Health Office. There will be a 4-mile Walk/Run for Wellness along the beautiful Cape Cod Canal and a Volleyball Tournament on Saturday June 29 with a rain date Sunday June 30. The day of events will begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. More details about the wellness events will be coming soon, but we promise drumming, raffles, lunch and lots of fun. Through events like this and other health initiatives, we continue to make strides towards our goal of eliminating the health disparities in our community.

To sign up for the Volleyball Tournament, please call Kim or Wendy in the Tribal Health Office at (508) 477-6912.



## Diabetes Education and Awareness Training

According to the American Diabetes Association, Native Americans have a 2.2 times higher chance of developing diabetes and they estimate 30% of tribal members has pre-diabetes. These are staggering statistics that present a major health challenge for our Tribal Members. The Tribal Health Office is working hard to stay in front of this issue and would like to host a training session on Diabetes Education and Awareness.

If you are interested in participating in the training, please call Kim or Wendy in the Tribal Health Office at (508) 477-6912.

## Proposed Change to Land-In-Trust *(continued)*

As the Tribe continues to move forward with several economic development projects, including building a tribal casino in Taunton, accelerating the land-in-trust application for the BIA is a very encouraging step forward.

"We fully support the Obama administration's plan to help tribes acquire land without the threat of delays or frivolous lawsuits," said Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Chairman Cedric Cromwell. "This change, once it is adopted, will speed up our land acquisition process and keep the development of Project First Light in Taunton on a very brisk pace so that we can create thousands of jobs

for the southeastern Massachusetts region."

Washburn, who introduced the proposed changes, described the potential effects. "If parties do not appeal the decision within the administrative appeal period, tribes will have the peace of mind to begin development without fear that the decision will be later overturned," he said in a statement.

The proposed rules will be available in the federal register at [www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection](http://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection). Public comments may be submitted to the Department of the Interior for 60 days following the proposed rule's publication.



*Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs  
Kevin Washburn*

## Copy of First Light Oysters Article Featured in the Mashpee Chamber of Commerce Guide

First Light Oysters is named after our tribe, the Mashpee Wampanoag, which translates to "People of the First Light." We have been operating our shellfish farm since 2009, proudly growing oysters in Mashpee's Popponesset Bay on Cape Cod. We cultivate premier oysters for the half-shell market, honoring the cultural history of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribal members who depended upon shellfish, fish and wildlife for sustenance over four millennia. With acres of conservation land bordering the bay, our oysters reflect the clean, distinct taste of the sea unique to our area.

As part of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's EPA Environmental Merit Award winning Popponesset Bay Restoration Project— which has been funded for the past two years through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Tribal Wildlife grant program—one of the primary goals of the farm is to grow oysters to improve the water quality in Popponesset Bay. Like many bays in New England, Popponesset Bay receives excessive amounts of nutrients from groundwater and surface runoff and this leads to imbalance in the bay's ecosystem. According to Dr. Hauke Kite-Powell of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, in the right settings, "shellfish are by far the most cost-effective strategy to control excess nutrients in coastal waters." All shellfish filter impressive volumes of

water, with each oyster clearing about 25 gallons of seawater a day. We know that by maintaining a healthy and vigorous oyster population on our farm, we are improving the local environment—a healthful outcome that has been recognized by the local officials and many of our neighbors.

To sustain this effort, the sale of our oysters fund the labor-intensive work in the field and at our shop, providing jobs for tribal members. Since the Mashpee Wampanoag have had a long tradition of living off the land and sea, it's a natural fit for us to farm the subtidal lands of our permitted aquaculture leases.

We start with two-millimeter oyster seed purchased from a shellfish hatchery. We then culture our baby oysters, graduating them as they grow in size and weight. When they are three inches in length, they are candidates for the marketplace. We then evaluate each oyster for quality, making sure they are the classic teardrop shape and each shell is free of barnacles and slipper shells that would affect their presentation to customers in the half-shell market. Our First Light Oysters are harvested from waters that are ensured for public safety through a regime of regular testing by the state's Division of Marine Fisheries.

We strive for a premium oyster in quality; Mother Nature takes care of

the taste. Oysters take on a distinct flavor imparted by the area in which they are cultured. First Light Oysters have ranked high in the evaluations of experienced oyster tasters—not only our local oyster aficionados but also chefs and customers in New York City. We hear responses like: "... 2 thumbs up for appearance, quality, and taste. Spectacular!"

After the oysters are harvested, evaluated and cleaned, permitted wholesalers sell our oysters to choice seafood markets and fine restaurants in Boston and New York. Our First Light Oysters are the pride of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, bringing the taste of Mashpee to the table and a bright future to the People of the First Light.

For information, please contact Kris Clark at (508) 477-5800, ext. 14 or email at [kclark@mwtribe.com](mailto:kclark@mwtribe.com).

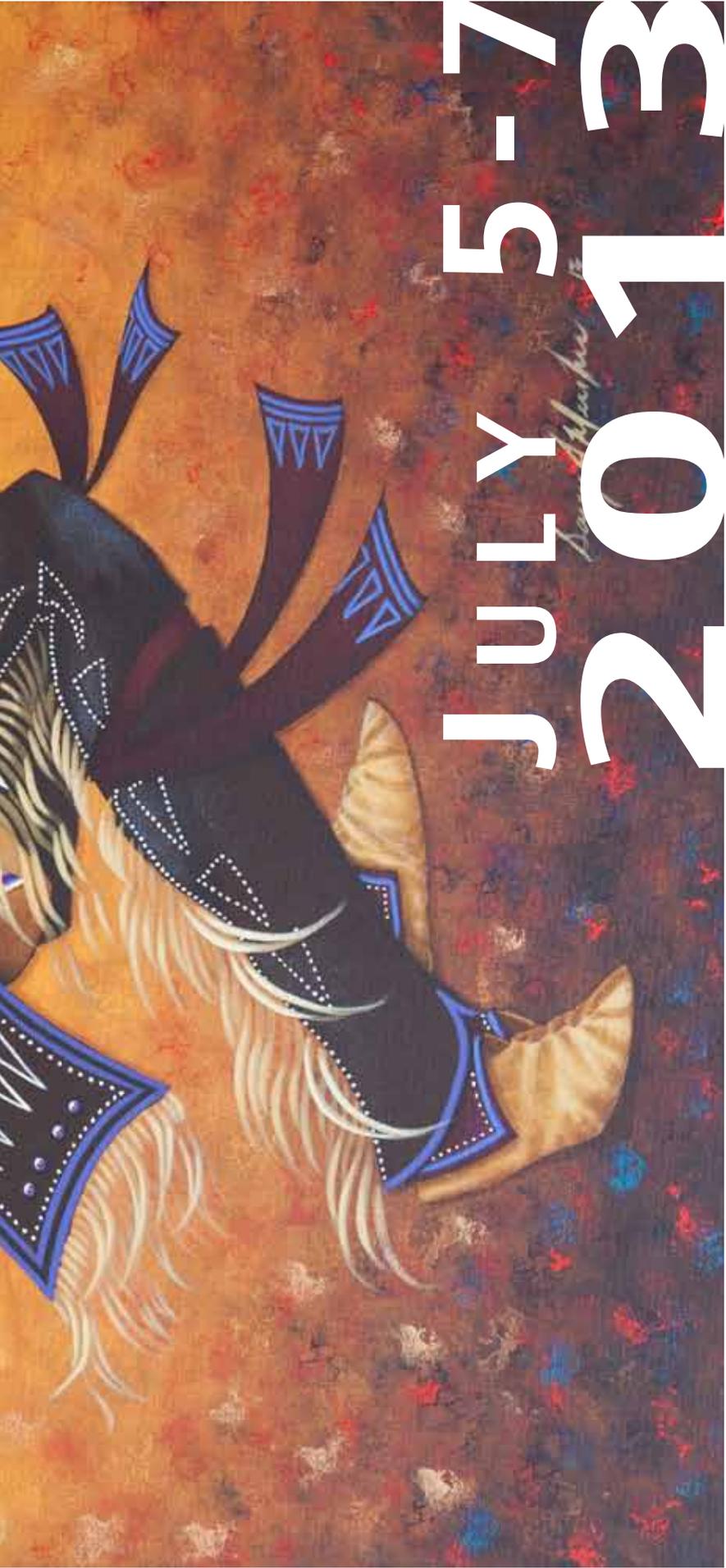


*(L-R) Chuckie Green, Kris Clark, Tony Perry and Quan Tobey unveiling Mashpee Chamber Guide cover featuring First Light Oysters*

92<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
**MASHPEE WAMPANOAG**

**P O W W O W**





# JULY 5-7 2013

## **BARNSTABLE COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS** 1220 NATHAN ELLIS HIGHWAY, EAST FALMOUTH

This year's theme is "Keepers  
Of The East" celebrating all  
eastern woodland tribes.

**\$35,000**  
**in prizes**

Host Drum - Nassau Nation  
Honorary Drum - Northern Wind  
Emcee - Sheldon Sundown  
Head Judge - Toni Weeden  
Head Drum Judge - Darryl Wixon  
Arena Director - Earl "Chieffie" Mills Jr.

Head Dancers:  
Day 1 - Darius and Eleanor "Tootie"  
Coombs (Mashpee Wampanoag)  
Day 2 - Norman Machado and  
Quaiapen Perry (Narragansett)  
Day 3 - John Boyd and Sunshine  
Gumbs (Shinnecock)

**Open to the public**

Adults \$13 | Children ages 6-12/elders 65+ \$8 | Children 5 and under free

**INFORMATION: [WWW.MASHPPEEWAMPANOAGTRIBE.COM](http://WWW.MASHPPEEWAMPANOAGTRIBE.COM) | 774.327.0662**

# WAMP'S NIGHT OUT

Old Mashpee Reunion Party

At The Navigator

55 Ashumet Rd, Falmouth, MA

Friday July 5th 8PM to 1AM



Doors Open at 8:00 PM

## Youth Powwow Rescheduled

Due to the bad weather on of May 25, the 2013 Youth Sobriety Powwow has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 12 at the Tribal Grounds on 483 Great Neck Road South. The gates will open at 10:00 a.m. and grand entry will be at noon. This year's schedule of events includes dancing, drumming, a two-step special, a hand-drum special, food and raffles.

The dancers for the 2013 sobriety powwow include head male dancer Douglas Pocknett Jr., and head female dancer Danna Jackson. Youth Emcees will be Brian Weeden and Ciara Oakley-Robbins and the Arena Directors are Brenda Price and Attaquin Weeden.

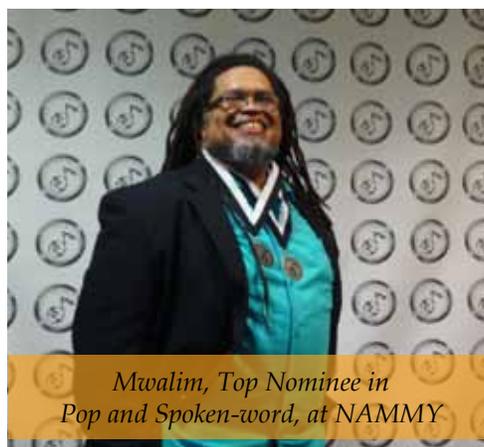
The powwow is open to the public. Our youth have worked very hard to put together another wonderful powwow and they look forward to seeing you in attendance. For more information, please contact Youth Council Chairman Brian Weeden at (774) 208-1696.

# COMMUNITY

## Mashpee Shines at 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Native American Music Awards

**M**ashpee musician, Mwalim, is a favored presenter, top five recording artist in the continent, and offered a record deal at the 14th Annual Native American Music Awards.

On Friday, May 10, at the Seneca Niagara Falls Casino, members of the music industry and fans gathered at the 14th Annual Native American Music Awards. During the evening, Mwalim DaPhunkeeProfessor (Morgan James Peters), a Mashpee Wampanoag singer/ songwriter and 'Best Pop Recording' nominee took to the stage, dreadlocks flowing, along with 'Best Instrumental Recording' nominee Joseph Strider to present the nominees and winner of the Best Male Artist. To the crowd of approximately 1,000 people and an estimated webcast audience of 725,000 people, Mwalim greeted and introduced his co-presenter and himself in Wampanoag. After a well-timed pause, he said, with a mischievous smile, "Don't worry, the Pilgrims looked just as confused when our ancestors greeted them with the same words." The auditorium roared with laughter, before moving



*Mwalim, Top Nominee in Pop and Spoken-word, at NAMMY*

into the rest of the presentation. "I love it when he presents," said NAMA executive producer Don Kelly, "You never know what's going to come out of his mouth, but it's gonna get the audience going."

As a top nominee, Mwalim's work was accepted as one of the top five pop recordings by a Native American artist in the music industry, by a panel of music industry

professionals who are members of the Native American Music Association in New York. "DEEP Soul Chants & Hollers" is an album that caught the attention of First Nations/ Native American radio stations throughout the USA and Canada, featuring driving house music tracks as well as the round dance "My NDN Relations". It also won the 'Best Jazz' category in the 2012 New England Urban Music Awards.

The ceremony was followed by an after-party at the Niagara Falls Hard Rock Cafe, where Mwalim has been offered a record deal by Spirit Wind Records, a label specializing in cross-genre Native American artists, formed by Cree musician and record producer, Donald Blackfox in 1999.

Mwalim was also a top nominee in the Native American Music Awards. In 2010, he was nominated in the 'Best Pop' and 'Best Word Music' recording categories for "Liberation Sessions" and the hit single 'DEM BIG GIRLS' which was also a top ten ringtone download for seven weeks.