



# Nashauonk Mittark™



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September 2016

DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Citizens,

Last month Council made two very critical votes. One was to engage in the federal litigation regarding our trust land. To stand up for ourselves in a way that the Department of the Interior cannot, as indigenous people fighting for our land as we have done so since the earliest days of colonization. The second was to ratify a resolution in accord with other United Southern and Eastern Tribes to stand with the Standing Rock Sioux against the Dakota Pipeline project that threatens their treaty land, water and their very way of life.

Both of these votes were unanimous because while Indian Country may be vast and tribes are distanced by many miles we are bridged by the common determination to stand strong in the face of injustice.

For that I am proud to stand with my brother, Standing Rock Sioux Chairman David Archambault, and to commit to the solidarity of the Mashpee Wampanoag to the protest against the Dakota Pipeline. The Standing Rock Sioux have voiced opposition to the proposed 1,200 mile underground channel of oil from Texas to Southern Illinois since 2014. But only as excavation equipment approached the banks of the Cannonball River where thousands of protesters are camped, have they been successful in halting construction from proceeding through their trust land, ancient burial grounds and under the Missouri River - a vital source of drinking water and irrigation for the Standing Rock as well as millions of Americans downstream. Water is life!

The protest has been peaceful but for the tensions that arose over the supposed pipe bombs being made as the Standing Rock med-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## United States Backs Tribe's Land in Trust

**M**ashpee Wampanoag Tribal leaders are applauding the August 24<sup>th</sup> decision by the U.S. Justice Department's to push for reconsideration of a historic court decision that threatens to take away their recently designated Indian reservation.

"We applaud the Justice Department's decision. We've been on our land for thousands of years and all we seek is the right to exist here as a sovereign people. It was promised to us soon after the first Pilgrims arrived and it's a promise we hope the courts will honor," said Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell.

A lawsuit financed by Chicago-based casino developer, Neil Bluhm, earlier this year challenged the authority of the U.S. Department of Interior to classify tribal lands as a res-

ervation for any tribe who was granted federal recognition after the Indian Re-Organization Act (IRA) of 1934. The lawsuit was filed on the heels of a U.S. Interior Department decision last September to designate 150 acres of land in Taunton and 170 acres of land in Mashpee as an Indian reservation.

On July 28, 2016, Federal District Court Judge William Young ruled in favor of the plaintiffs, citing a 2009 Supreme Court decision that limited the Interior Department's authority to hold Land-In-Trust on behalf of tribes federally recognized after 1934.

Judge Young remanded the case back to the Department of Interior because, in his view, the Tribe could not have been under "federal jurisdiction" in 1934 because it was not "federally recognized"

*(Continued on page 7)*

**"...our goal is to protect the sovereignty of our people."**

**- Chairman Cromwell**

## Tribal Citizens Make the Trip to Support Standing Rock Sioux



*Talia Landry, Allyssa Hathaway and Ani Brown (Shinecock) standing outside the federal court building in Washington D.C.*

On Wednesday, August 24 tribal citizens Talia Landry and Allyssa Hathaway took the 10-hour drive to join Brad Lopes, Jr., Steven Costa, Vanessa McCall and Nata-

lie Wakanabo along with a crowd of some 350 other people that gathered outside the United States federal court building in Washington D.C. to support the Standing

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Events Calendar

### New Events

**September 10 - 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
Medicare Update, MWTCGC

**September 11- 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

**September 17 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
Peacemaking Training, MWTCGC

**September 24 - 11:00 a.m.**  
Ancestor's Day, *Old Indian Meeting House*

**October 1 - 6:00 p.m.**  
20<sup>th</sup> Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Ball,  
*Resort & Conference Center of Hyannis*

**October 9- 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

**October 15 - 6:00 p.m.**  
Alice Lopez Clambake, MWTCGC  
*Powwow Grounds*

**October 19**  
EPA Evening Potluck Social, MWTCGC

### Weekly Events

**Mondays - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**  
Youth Boys Basketball, MWTCGC

**Mondays - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Craft Night, MWTCGC

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

**Tuesdays - 5:30 p.m.**  
Enrollment Committee, MWTCGC

**Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Coed Volleyball, MWTCGC

**Wednesdays - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**  
& **5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**  
Tribal Health Yoga with Virginia and  
Kimma, MWTCGC

**Thursdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
Elders Lunch & Learn, MWTCGC

**Thursdays - 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
Youth Dance & Drum Class, MWTCGC

**Fridays - 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.**  
Pre School Language Hour, 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

## To the Wampanoag People and My Home of Mashpee

I left Mashpee 24 years ago to fulfill a promise to my wife to take her home to her reserve in Eskasoni, NS.

We returned home to Mashpee whenever we could and i stayed in touch and informed of all the great achievements the tribe has accomplished. I have wanted to return for some time, to see all the progress and especailly the new tribal council. I am unable to at this time. My wife and i never did the proper paper work and since 9/11 the laws have changed.

Today if i left Canada i would not be able to return once i cross the border. I am still active with my grandchildren and great grandchild. I have been welcomed by the Mi'kmaq community but am still wampanoag at heart. As much as i wish to go home to Mashpee to be among my people and rejoice with you over the many accomplishments i cannot risk crossing the border. My son, Squanto is helping me with the necessary paperwork, it is a long process. Hopefully things will be straightened out shortly and I can come home for a visit



You are always in my thoughts and prayers

Drifting Goose  
Kwan Ta Ka Shanoagin  
Ellsworth Oakley Jr.

## Tribe Hosts IHS

**I**ndian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area Director and senior staff along with Tribal Leadership and Health Representatives were at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center on Monday, August 8 and Tuesday, Aug 9 for a two-day session to discuss healthcare topics in all areas. In addition to IHS and Mashpee Wampanoag leadership, the following tribes were also in attendance for the meeting Shinnecock, Onadonga, Catawba, Aroostic Band of Micmac, and Pumunky's.



## Traditional Clambake and Fundraiser



Make sure to bring your appetite to the Alice Lopez Traditional Clambake. The clambake will be held on Saturday, October 15 at 2:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center powwow grounds. The event is being held rain or shine and children 12 and under will get a free hot dog and drink. The fundraiser is open to the public...so please invite all your family and friends to attend.

Tickets for the clambake are \$35 and there are only a limited number of tickets being sold. To purchase your tickets, please contact Carol Lopez at (508) 505-6693.

The Alice May Lopez Memorial Fund Statue Committee is sponsoring the event. All funds raised from the event will benefit the fund and its goal of raising \$100,000 to create a life-sized bronze statue in memorial of Alice who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 49 in 2011. Alice was the founder and first director of the Tribe's Housing Department.

## Do You Have News to Share in the Mittark?

Do you have Tribal news to share? We want to hear from you. All Tribal Members are encouraged to submit news to be included in the Nashaonk Mittark. Please contact Trish Keliinui at [trish.keliinui@mwtribe.com](mailto:trish.keliinui@mwtribe.com).

## RFP for Temporary Contractor

The Natural Resources Department (NRD) of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (MWT) is seeking a contractor to assist NRD staff to gather relevant information on radon issues to be mailed to tribal members. This will include but not be limited to health statistics on radon and human health. The Contractor will then assist NRD staff with a survey to determine the health of tribal homes and to mail these surveys along with the radon information to tribal households. The Contractor will work with NRD staff to prioritize all returned surveys and identify home-locations for the placement of radon testing equipment.

Phase two of the project will consist of home visits to tribal homes that asked to participate to install long term test kits. After 6 months to a year data will be retrieved and a report will be created and shared with the EPA and be used to acquire remediation funding.

### Qualifications:

- High School Graduate
- GED
- Writing skills
- Good communication skills
- Good organizational skills

### Details:

- Grant-funded: \$5,434 for 388 hours of

work (@\$14/hr)

- Project-contract ends December 31, 2016
- Contractor will be paid by project milestones achieved
- Contractor will submit itemized invoices for payment
- Contractor will not have any FICA taxes taken out and will receive a 1099

More Information can be requested at the NRD office at 483 Great Neck South Mashpee MA 02649. Our direct line is (508)477-0208 extension #131 for NRD Director, Casey Thornbrugh and extension #138 for NRD Assistant Director, Chuckie Green.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Practices Native American Preference. Applicants must submit a proposal by October 1, 2016 and be willing to submit to a C.O.R.I. (e.g. background check) and pass a drug screen test.

## Chairman's Column *(continued)*

icine people were overheard to be "loading their pipes" for ceremony to cleanse their spirit.

While many of us would like to have been on the front lines, we could not have been more proud when tribal members Talia Landry and Allyssa Hathaway drove for 10 hours to represent Mashpee and present a Mashpee Wampanoag flag to the Standing Rock tribe who promised it would be posted on the banks of the Cannonball River. While there they found several other tribal members including Brad Lopes Jr., Steven Costa, Vanessa McCall, and Natalie Wakanabo who were among more than 4,000 protesting the pipeline.

Here at home we are standing strong in our defense of our sovereignty as the original stewards of Mashpee, our land and waterways and our cultural heritage and historic and contemporary landmarks from the Museum to the Meetinghouse to our thriving tribal government center. We will continue our stand to challenge Judge William Young's decision that questions

the Interior Department's authority to hold our land in trust. While the July ruling in the lawsuit filed by a Chicago based casino developer aimed at preventing the development of our Taunton land was disappointing, it in no way deters us from our goal of self-determination and preservation of our ancestral land in Mashpee and Taunton. Judge Young's decision, which was almost immediately contradicted by that of another federal ruling in favor of the Cowlitz tribe in California, threatens the sovereignty of many historic tribes across the nation and must be overturned. To that end we welcome the backing of many other tribes as well as a recent motion to reconsider Judge Young's ruling filed by the U.S. Justice Department. We are encouraged by this support, as we remain confident in the integrity of our history.

We too are loading our pipes.

Kutâputunumuw,  
Cedric Cromwell  
Qaqemashq (Running Bear)

## Walking in Line with Standing Rock *(continued)*

Rock Sioux and their fight against a huge pipeline that would cross four states. The Standing Rock Sioux had filed a preliminary injunction against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Dakota Access, LLC that was being heard before a district judge while Talia and Allyssa protested outside the court building.

"I'm so thankful that we had the opportunity to make the trip and for everyone that tuned in for their support and good medicine - It was a successful trip," said Talia. "We were able to gift the Standing Rock Sioux with our Mashpee Wampanoag tribal flag through a nice Cheyenne River Sioux fellow, Joseph White Eyes, who has been with Standing Rock since day one of all of this. We know he will get the flag back safe and sound to North Dakota and hopefully raise it up at the front line with the rest of the protestors."

Along with Talia and Allyssa who were representing Mashpee, there were several busloads of American Indians that journeyed from the Great Plains to the nation's capital to voice their concerns over the Dakota Access pipeline. They have brought their message of #NODAPL to the nation's capital from Cannon Ball, North Dakota.

Thousands of protectors looking to protect the land and water have staged prayer at the Dakota Access construction site near Cannon Ball for several weeks. As of August 25, 29 people have been arrested, including Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Chairman Dave Archambault.

Among the speakers outside the federal court was Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Chairman Harold Fraizer, who went to Capitol Hill with several of his tribal citizens earlier on Wednesday. The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe has joined the lawsuit with Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to stop the Dakota Access pipeline.

"I went up to the Senate and told them people don't understand the power of water. They don't understand the meaning of

life," commented Chairman Fraizer Wednesday afternoon.

Fraizer has called for American Indians and supporters to pray for that the federal district judge makes the right decision to stop the construction of the pipeline.

U.S. District court Judge James Boasberg said on Wednesday, August 24 that he will make a decision on the issue by September 9.

Many believe the transportation of up to 570,000 barrels of crude oil a day through ancient grounds and waterways is a recipe for disaster.

Back home in Mashpee, tribal citizens rallied behind Talia and Allyssa and expressed gratitude that they represented the Tribe so well.

Tribal Citizen Bernadine Pocknett summed up her feelings with a post she shared over social media. "You don't know how happy it makes me to see and hear that a part of the Wampanoag nation went to the court in DC. Thank you so much my children. Those words are for you and are from the bottom of my heart," said Bernadine.



## Tribe Stands in Solidarity with Standing Rock Sioux



Right around the time that Talia Landry and Allyssa Hathaway were presenting the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Flag to a Cheyenne River Sioux in Washington DC to bring back to the front lines of the protest in North Dakota, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council were taking formal action to stand in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux. Tribal Council passed a resolution on Wednesday, August 24 to officially oppose the Dakota Access Pipeline and support the Standing Rock Sioux in their fight to protect the land and water.

Vice Chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Jessie "little doe" Baird sees this as an attack on the land and the rights of Native Americans. "This is a fight against sovereignty that all tribes have faced time and time again and certainly one we are faced with in our community today," said Jessie. "It's important that the Standing Rock Sioux know we are willing to walk together on this journey as Native people. We are here to win this fight and protect our land for our future generations."

The resolution and letter was sent to the Chairman of the Standing Rock Dave Archambault. In addition, Tribal Council sent a monetary contribution to help support the over 2,000 natives from across the country and Canada that are protesting on the front lines.

## Tribe to Discuss Future of New Bedford Office at Membership Meeting

At the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Monthly General Membership Meeting tribal council will host a discussion regarding the future status of the Tribe's New Bedford Satellite Office. The general membership meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Tribe's Community and Government Center located at 483 Great Neck Road South. Please share this notice with other enrolled tribal members.



## Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction

National Indian Child Welfare Association and the Native Nations Institute recently published a study entitled "Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action". This publication is timely for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe as we improve our Tribal Court to hear child welfare cases thanks to the Health and Human Services Tribal Court Improvement Program (HHS TCIP). A series of articles taken from this publication will be presented monthly to provide knowledge and understanding regarding child welfare cases.

The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA) recognized Native nations' authority to govern child welfare matters and provide support for tribal self-determination over child welfare. ICWA's passage also re-established tribal laws to govern the protection and care of Indian children and families. Tribes have responded to this opportunity and have developed Codes and strengthened laws to reflect tribal culture and tradition to meet the needs of their communities. When a child welfare case is brought to Tribal court, the first question asked is, does the court have jurisdiction, or the authority to hear the case. If it does not, it will have to dismiss the case. If it does have jurisdiction, it can hear the case, make findings, and issue orders and decisions when necessary and required by law. Federal Law (ICWA) recognizes three types of tribal jurisdiction.

**Exclusive jurisdiction:** When an Indian child resides on a reservation or has been a ward of tribal court. The tribe has exclusive jurisdiction and tribal court is the only court with authority to hear the case.

**Concurrent jurisdiction:** When an Indian child resides on a reservation and federal law recognizes state jurisdiction (P.L. 83-280). In this case the State and Tribe would have concurrent jurisdiction and each would have the authority to hear the case.

**Transfer jurisdiction:** The Indian child does not reside on a reservation, the State and tribe have concurrent jurisdiction, but ICWA empowers the tribe to transfer jurisdiction back to its own court. These jurisdictional rules apply to all tribes regardless of their child welfare codes.

## Eagle's Nest: Mashpee Pond or Jordan



**W**hen the earth was young and the water and air was fresh and clean we played with innocent hearts. With the hitchhikers on our cloths, with dandelions and cloves between our toes, we played joyfully throughout Mashpee.

The pond being our place of solace a place where we give thanks to all. Great Mashpee Pond with all your stories to be told, we thank you for the teachings, nurturing and the bringing together you have given us for generations.

Your calmness of glass you display early in the moon. With the mist in the air and the dew on the leaves. As you are touched and watched as a ripple finds its way to the shore of the canaument, a place where we used to play.

You have blessed many of our babies' feet and touched even more souls.

Great Mashpee Pond from the time when the Chief "Silent Drum" was with his mother as a little boy they saw a strange looking object in the sky, they ran to under cover of the trees.

Only to later find out it was the one and only Hindenburg, which had come from far away, so many stories to tell.

From Mashpee will shine tonight, as the fire reflections dance on your face, as the full moon plays second to the starry sky.

There are those who call you Great Mashpee Pond but we know you as Jordan

Mashpee Medicine Man  
"Soaring Eagle"

## A Comparison Between Courts, Mediation and Peacemaking

Below is a summary of Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community by Kay Pranis, Barry Stuart, and Mark Wedge (2003). This article speaks to Peacemaking Circles and the importance of the Peacemaking Circles. We will now examine the Guiding Principles regarding Peacemaking Circles that have been identified in the article we have been citing.

Peacemaking Circles call us to act on our personal values: This principle encourages us to recall and rely on our values in all phases of the Peacemaking Circle - from designing the process to engaging in it.

Peacemaking Circles include all interests: Everyone affected by the issue has a moral right to participate.

Peacemaking is easily accessible to all: Arranging meeting times and places should be convenient for all participants.

Peacemaking offers everyone an equal opportunity to participate: Peacemaking has no hierarchy. Anyone has an opportunity to participate as anyone else.

Involvement in Peacemaking is voluntary: The first empowering choice in a Peacemaking Circle is the decision to be involved at all. Once in the Circle, no one should feel obligated or pressured to speak.

In Peacemaking Circles everyone participates directly as themselves: Everyone should speak for themselves. Then, they have more ownership over what they say and do. They are also more likely to feel responsibility for solutions if they had a say in making them.

Peacemaking Circles are guided by a shared vision: Having a shared vision makes it possible for some to move the process forward when energy wanes for others. Peacemaking Circles maintain respect for all: Respect for all reinforces the idea that there is no hierarchy in the circle.

Peacemaking Circles invite spiritual presence: Bringing all dimensions of ourselves means opening ourselves to sharing our own spirituality and being open to the spirituality of others. When we are able to do this, the process can truly become sacred.

Peacemaking Circles foster accountability to others and to the process: The nature of creating the circle process through consensus engenders a feeling of accountability in participants. Having been an indispensable part of creating the circle, participants have a greater sense of responsibility for the outcome of the process.

## Fun, Sun and Culture at Turtle Camp

**T**he 2016 Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) Summer Turtle Camp wrapped up last month with a series of capstone projects by the children and a traditional clambake. The 7th Annual Summer Turtle Camp had cultural and language components integrated into all of the activities – and there were a lot of activities the kids completed over just a few short weeks.

During the capstone presentations that were held on the last day of camp the summer turtles showed off the many projects they completed over the course of the 3-week camp to their family. As family and friends browsed the collection of work it was clear each project had a strong connection to the kids’ traditions, culture and language as Mashpee Wampanoag.

ag.

WLRP Summer Turtle Camp is almost entirely funded by grants secured by WLRP Project Administrator Judi Urquhart. Thanks to her good work parents are only responsible for a small tuition that covers the cost of food.

For more information about WLRP, the Language Department or Summer Turtle Camp, please contact Language Department Director Jennifer Weston at [jweston@mwtribe.com](mailto:jweston@mwtribe.com) or visit [www.wlrp.org](http://www.wlrp.org).



## 7th Annual Ancestors’ Day on September 24



Over seven years ago Tribal Citizen Stanley Dutra launched a new event, Ancestors’ Day, as a way to remember, celebrate and honor our family and friends that have passed on to the spirit world. The Old Indian Meeting House Committee is honored to continue the event with the 7th Annual Ancestors’ Day that will be held on Saturday, September 24. The day will start at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House.

The day will open with a service at 11:00 a.m. Immediately following the service there will be a potluck at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. Tribal Citizens and family will also have plenty of time to spend with their ancestors, cleaning up gravesites and sharing stories.

The Old Indian Meeting House Committee will have a variety of bulbs available for planting in honor of our ancestors.



## You’re Invited: Evening Potluck Social

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe would like to invite our Tribal Community to come out and share in our rich history, food, and culture for an Evening Potluck Social on Wednesday, October 19. The Tribe will be hosting the 2016 EPA Region One “Tribal Leaders Summit and Environmental Conference” October 18-20; and on the evening of Wednesday, October 19 we would like to invite our guests to come out and meet our Tribal Community. Conference attendees and guest to our homelands will include tribal leaders and environmental direc-

tors from the 10 Tribal Nations within EPA Region One, EPA administrators, and representatives from U.S. federal agencies. Let’s welcome our conference guests with a taste of Mashpee!

For further inquiries on this event please contact our Natural Resources Director, Casey Thornbrugh ([Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe.com](mailto:Casey.Thornbrugh@mwtribe.com) 508-477-0208 Ext. 131) or the Assistant Director, George “Chuckie” Green ([cgreen@mwtribe.com](mailto:cgreen@mwtribe.com) 508-477-0208 Ext. 138).

## United States Backs Tribe *(continued)*

at that time.

The “motion to reconsider” filed by the Justice Department challenges the judge’s decision insofar as it addressed whether the Tribe was under federal jurisdiction. It does not challenge the Judge’s construction of the second category of eligibility for acquiring land. The motion seeks to clarify why the judge ruled on an aspect of the IRA that was not part of the Interior Department Record-Of-Decision, and why the judge’s ruling equated “federal jurisdiction” with “federal recognition.”

The motion also comes after a higher court – the District of Columbia (DC) Court of Appeals – reached a much different conclusion in a case involving the Cowlitz tribe in California.

In that case, the court ruled that there is indeed a distinction between “federal recognition” and “federal jurisdiction.” The appellate court decision, which was handed down the day after Judge Young’s ruling, upheld the Interior Department’s authority to hold Land-In-Trust on behalf of tribes who can show they were under “federal jurisdiction” before 1934 – even if they weren’t “federally recognized” until years later.

“We respectfully but strongly disagree with Judge Young’s ruling. We are encouraged that the appellate justices affirmed the Interior Department’s interpretation of the law. There is indeed a very clear distinction between ‘federal jurisdiction’ and formal ‘federal recognition’ – a process that didn’t even exist at the time IRA was passed by Congress,” Chairman Cedric Cromwell said.

“It’s re-assuring because we have always argued that our Land-In-Trust application qualifies under ‘federal jurisdiction’ as well as the fact that our people were indeed residing on a reservation before 1934,” Cromwell said.

As the case moves forward, Mashpee tribal leaders look to play a more direct role in defending the status of their ancestral homelands as tribal attorneys last week filed a motion to intervene.

“Nobody can explain the importance of our ancestral homeland and its significance to our survival better than we can. While those who are financing this suit are principally interested in protecting their casino interests, our goal is to protect the sovereignty of our people. We look forward to working together with federal officials in our long struggle for justice,” Chairman Cromwell said.

**“It [our land] was promised to us soon after the first Pilgrims arrived and it’s a promise we hope the courts will honor.”**

**- Chairman Cromwell**

## Tribal Council Unanimously Votes to “Intervene” in Pending Case

A little over a week before the U.S. Justice Department’s push for reconsideration of the historic decision by the District Court on July 28, 2016 which ruled in favor of the plaintiffs (David Littlefield, et al., v United States Department of Interior, Civil Action No. 16-10184-WGY), the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council took steps to ensure the Tribe’s voice is heard.

On Friday, August 12 the Tribal Council unanimously voted to approve “Intervention” in the case named above.

“While the Tribe is not named in the matter, the court ruling did remand the Department’s Record of Decision to the Secretary of the Interior, and we feel now it is in our best interest to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Department of Interior as we move forward,” said Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council Chairman Cedric Cromwell.

It was the consensus of all Tribal Council members that there is not one entity that can speak of our history and significant spiritual ties to our Land better than we can. This action will allow the Tribe the ability to strengthen its voice in further land court proceedings whether district or appellate court levels, or both.

Chairman Cromwell added “I want to applaud all of my fellow Tribal Councilors for unanimously and vigorously supporting this action which in effect carries the strong message from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Nation that We Are Still Here.”

## A Message from Little Miss Wampanoag Ciara Diamond Hendricks

My name is Ciara Diamond Hendricks. I feel very honored and proud to have been chosen as the 2016 Little Miss Wampanoag. I am equally proud to be the daughter of two Wampanoag parents who are Missy Bingham Hendricks and Councilman Carlton Hendricks Jr. I am the granddaughter of George Bingham III and Carlton Hendricks Sr. and great granddaughter of Amelia Peters Bingham and Ellen Edwards Hendricks.

I am eight years old and attending third grade at the Quashnet Elementary School in Mashpee. I am the youngest child of six siblings. My interests include attending powwows, fancy dancing, ballet and hip hop dancing, shell fishing at the bay

with my family, camping and skiing. I am looking forward to representing our Tribe at powwows and various events. I couldn’t be more delighted to hold the title as this year’s Little Miss Wampanoag.



## Election Committee Seeking Volunteers

The Election Committee is currently seeking volunteers and monitors for the upcoming regular election in February, 2017. If interested, please email Latoya Green at [LGreen@mwtribe.com](mailto:LGreen@mwtribe.com).



## Tribe Makes Several New Hires

**M**ashpee Wampanoag Tribal Administrator Leslie Jonas and Human Resources Director Ellen Sharpe are pleased to announce several new hires at the Government and Community Center. The new employees will provide the additional support needed to serve the various needs of the community in areas that range from elders to ICWA and housing to the food pantry.

Ellen is pleased to have the new employees on board. "We had a lot of vacancies and new positions to fill. That's always a concern when you have an organization like our Tribe that's constantly striving to improve the services it provides and meeting the needs of the community," said Ellen. "Thankfully we have a great team at the government center. Everyone wants to make a positive impact on our Tribe. Having the right people in the right position is key to making that happen. It's such a pleasure to welcome so many new hires and I'm confident each of them will keep us moving in the right direction."

Please join Leslie and Ellen in welcoming the following new employees.

- **Robyn Stamps**, *Homeless Caseworker*
- **Diane Johnson**, *Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO)*
- **Denisha Tobey**, *ICWA Caseworker*
- **Carolyn Turner**, *Elder Outreach Worker*
- **Allyssa Hathaway**, *Floating Clerk*
- **Sharon Hendricks**, *Food Pantry Coordinator*

Even with all of the new hires, there are still several open positions at the Tribe. To see a current list of jobs, please visit [www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com/jobs](http://www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com/jobs). Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 427) and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO).

## LIHEAP Applications Open October 1

Starting November 1 (applications can be submitted starting October 1), home energy assistance will be available for eligible Tribal Families in need of assistance paying their home heating bill. If you are unable to pay your energy bill, your home may not be safe and you may be at risk of serious illness or injury. Please do not wait until you've run out of fuel or your heat has been turned off.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to help keep you and your family safe and healthy. Applications for LIHEAP are being accepted from October 1 to January 1.

**What is LIHEAP?** LIHEAP is a federally funded program that helps low-income households with their home heating bills. LIHEAP is here to help you stay warm in the winter and reducing the risk of health and safety problems, such as illness, fire and eviction.

### Who is Eligible?

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

### What Information do You Need?

- Recent copy of your primary heating/utility bill
- Recent payroll stub for everyone in household 18 years of age and over (income will be calculated on a yearly net income basis)
- Documentation showing Social Security, unemployment, pension fund, disability, self-employment (1099), businesses owned companies
- Final Utility Termination Notice (Shut-off notice)
- Proof of present address, mortgage bill/deed, lease, property tax bill
- Proof of total members living in your household (school records, tax records, etc.)
- Proof of citizenship (Green Card),
- Tribal ID for all household members

For more information or to apply, please contact Shakira Askew at (508) 477-0208 x159 or at [shakira.askew@mwtribe.com](mailto:shakira.askew@mwtribe.com).

## Robyn Stamps Joins Housing Department

The Housing Department is proud to introduce the newest member of their team -- Homeless Case Manager Robyn Stamps. Robyn was raised in a traditional home and has lived on Cape Cod - the ancestral homelands of her tribe - since 1958. She's a proud mother of two and grandmother of five. Having raised her oldest grandchild since the age of two (now 15 years old) she understands the challenges families are facing in these times and the rewards of living in a close-knit community.

With over thirty years of health care experience, Robyn entered the health care advocacy field as a Certified Home Health Aide and Care Team Coordinator at Gentiva Health Services. Following Robyn's work at Gentiva, she worked as a SHINE Counselor at the Yarmouth Senior

Center and then as the Elder's Outreach Coordinator at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Her continuing education and certifications include Naloxone Training, QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Certification, Medical Billing and Coding, Advanced Simplified Acquisition Procedures, Certified Shine Counselor, National Incident Management System and Income Tax Preparer.

Robyn is widely regarded as a top crisis treatment advocate and an experienced social welfare and human rights professional who is compassionate for all walks of life. She remains dedicated and driven to improve the lives of those around her by her life motto "we are family."

## Opening Powwow Committee Members

**T**he Powwow Committee is looking for dedicated Tribal citizens interested in helping to plan and oversee the Tribe's annual Powwow. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please send a letter of interest to Francie Dottin, executive administrative assistant to the chairman, at [fdottin@mwtribe.com](mailto:fdottin@mwtribe.com).

## Museum Events

**Craft Night**  
Mondays  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
MWTCGC Elder's Kitchen (temporary)

**Pre School Language Hour**  
Fridays  
10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.  
MWTCGC Elder's Kitchen (temporary)



## Planning and Development Department Identifies Funding for Homeless Support Program

**H**omelessness is a pressing issue in our community and has affected over 80 tribal members within the past two years. Up to this point our Emergency Services Specialist has been working hard to provide temporary solutions to an issue that requires much more time and attention. To address such needs, the Planning and Development Department is excited to announce its success in leveraging \$221,167 in grant funding over a two-year period for the Mashpee Wampanoag Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program. This much needed program will assist chronically homeless individuals and families living in Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket Counties. Funded by HUD through the Cape and Islands Continuum of Care, the PSH Program gives the Tribe access to a network of services and the opportunity to work closely with other experienced homeless organizations and social services agencies.

Homeless Case Manager Robyn Stamps will work to place qualified Tribal members into permanent supportive housing

units and ensure they receive the necessary supportive services to help uplift them and get them back on their feet. She will utilize the wraparound services and work with other Tribal departments to ensure her clients' greatest needs are met.

The PSH Program will provide eligible individuals and families with rental assistance, case management and supportive services throughout their time in the program. There is no designated length of stay, clients stay until they become ready to exit the program and live independently. They will be placed in rental units that fit the need of the particular family and its size.

With this funding the PSH Program will be able to serve two individuals and four families who qualify under the HUD definition of "Chronically Homeless".

HUD defines Chronically Homeless as "A homeless individual with a disability", as defined in the act who:

(1) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or emergency

shelter; and has been Homeless continuously for at least 12 months or on at least 4 occasions in the last 3 years where the combined occasions must total at least 12 months. (Occasions separated by a break of at least seven night;

Stays in institution of fewer than 90 days does not constitute a break)

(2) An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility for fewer than 9 days and met all of the criteria in (1) of this definition or;

(3) A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria in paragraphs (1) or (2) of this definition, including a family whose compositions has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

The PSH Program is currently under development. The Housing Department anticipates the program to be up and running in October at which time Robyn will begin the assessment and intake process.

## MWT EPREP Offers Hurricane Preparedness Tips

As part of continued hurricane preparedness planning, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department (MWTEPREP) is urging tribal community residents who may live or work within our vast coastal community or near a river or other waterway that is connected to the ocean, to develop home and business evacuation plans and be prepared to evacuate areas that may be inundated with flood waters as a result of an approaching hurricane or tropical storm.

Storm surge and large battering waves generated by tropical storms and hurricanes often pose a greater threat during tropical storms and hurricanes. In areas at risk of storm surge flooding, evacuation to high ground in advance of a powerful storm making landfall may be the only way to avoid injury or death from storm surge.

"Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness working close with local, county, state and Federal public safety officials will constantly track these storms as they move towards the Northeast. The Tribal Community will be conducted with enough time before a hurricane makes landfall so that people are able to move to safety with the appropriate amount of time". Stated by MWT EPREP Director Nelson Andrews Jr.

**Plan Ahead for an Evacuation.** To

learn whether you live, work or will be vacationing in a designated hurricane evacuation zone, use the 'Know Your Evacuation Zone' interactive map which is located on MEMA's website at [www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/](http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/).

If you are located in a designated evacuation zone, you should be prepared to evacuate well before a hurricane or tropical storm makes landfall.

Know how to receive emergency information, including recommendations or orders to evacuate.

- Sign up for the MWTEPREP Health and Homeland Alert (HHAN) notification system.
- Follow MWTEPREP on Twitter or Facebook.
- Follow MEMA on Twitter or Facebook.

Make a Family Emergency Plan. If you must evacuate, know where you will go, how you will get there, what you will bring. Make sure that your plan includes provisions for children, seniors, and family members with disabilities or medical issues. Include your pets in your Family Emergency Plan. Go to MEMA's Pets and Animals in Emergencies webpage at [www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/be-prepared/pets](http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/be-prepared/pets) for additional tips.

If Asked to Evacuate

- Listen carefully to instructions and information from public safety officials.
- Gather only essential items and remember to take your emergency kit.
- If you go to a shelter, notify staff of any special needs you may have.
- If designated evacuation routes are established, follow the routes. If on Cape Cod utilize the Cape Cod Emergency traffic plan.

Visit [www.mass.gov/ready](http://www.mass.gov/ready) for comprehensive preparedness tips and information.

MWTEPREP is the tribal department responsible for ensuring the Tribe is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MWTEPREP ensures the tribes ability to quickly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats, vulnerabilities, hazards, enhancing preparedness, ensuring effective response, and working toward strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover on our own whenever possible.

Continue to follow MWT EPREP updates on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/MWTEmergPrep](http://www.twitter.com/MWTEmergPrep) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mwteprep](http://www.facebook.com/mwteprep).

## Tribe Seeks Input from Community on Transportation Safety Plan

**T**he Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe seeks to improve the wellness and safety of our community and the general public by decreasing traffic crashes, injuries and deaths on all roads, and by ensuring that citizens can safely use the transportation system in emergencies. We can help improve safety on our community's roads by producing a Transportation Safety Plan, following through on that plan, and revising the plan as conditions and priorities change.

What is a transportation safety plan? A transportation safety plan helps a community identify and understand transportation safety issues, makes plans to improve safety, and leads to projects and activities that improve transportation safety. For the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, transportation safety planning includes roadway, pedestrian, transit, and bicycle safety, as well as plans to ensure the area can be safely evacuated and victims transported in the event of natural- or human-caused disasters and emergencies.

The plan overlaps with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department and Transportation. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department developed and maintains an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which includes the Barnstable County Regional department and Tribal Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will coordinate with MWT transportation to ensure that tribal members living on Cape Cod and the Islands are able to evacuate to one of the regional shelters and/or evacuate over one of the bridges according to the emergency traffic management plan.

What is transportation safety planning? Transportation safety planning is a col-

laborative effort between community members, traffic safety experts, and responsible authorities. The planning team uses the collaboration, date and expertise to guide investments that reduce traffic fatalities and injuries. The collaborative process ensures that the right strategies and activities take place and priorities are set that meet community interests and resource capabilities.

Why is this important? American Indians and Alaska Natives are killed and injured on US roads at rates far exceeding the national average for all other census-defined racial groups: According to the Centers for Disease Control. American Indian people died at a rate three times greater than people in the white census category. Safety plans ensure that government and citizen resources are efficiently and effectively reducing deaths and injuries and improving overall traffic safety for those who are most affected.

Who is working on the plan? Jason Steiding, MWT public works director; Nelson Andrews, MWT emergency preparedness department director; Ann Marie Askew, MWT transportation coordinator; and Leslie Jonas, MWT Tribal Administrator, along with the Eastern Tribal Technical Assistance Program at Michigan Technological University, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Highway Administration, and state and local partners are working on different parts of the plan. The Tribe's lead for this plan is Tribal Administrator Leslie Jonas.

How can you participate? Feedback from community members combined with traffic, population, and crash data set safety plan priorities and emphasis areas. You can contribute by sharing concerns about traffic safety, and by collecting concerns from your

friends, family, and community members such as:

- What roads, intersections, sidewalks, trails, or other routes do you think are risky? Point out these places on a map, or describe them to us, and explain what you think the problems are.
- What behaviors do you think contribute to traffic safety problems, and what do you think the worst problems are? For example, do you think that drunk driving is a problem, and if so, is it worse than speeding, and who most affected?
- Who (not names, but age groups, types of drivers, pedestrians, etc.) is causing the most problems with their behavior, and what is that behavior?
- What do you think is the best thing we could do to improve transportation safety?
- What's the best way to improve problem behaviors?
- What will help improve your ability to evacuate in the event of a large emergency?

You can also participate by helping spread the message about safe driving and inviting tribal, state, local, and federal partners to help you improve safety.

Contact Leslie Jonas' assistant, Alyssa Hathaway at (508) 477-0208 x 122 or at [Alyssa.hathaway@mwtribe.com](mailto:Alyssa.hathaway@mwtribe.com). You may also mail a letter with your concerns and suggestions on what should be in the Tribe's safety plan to 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee 02649 attention Alyssa Hathaway.

### E-Prep Response to Neighbors

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department is currently reaching out to tribal members in Mashpee and the surrounding counties to establish additional Tribal Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. There will be certain factors which will prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. Tribal members may have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life-saving and life sustaining needs.

CERT members are trained to present tribal citizens the facts about what to expect following a major disaster in terms of immediate services, give the message about their responsibility for mitigation and preparedness. CERT members are trained in needed life-saving skills with emphasis on decision making skills, rescuer safety and doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

If you have an interest in becoming a certified Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member then please contact the Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews Jr at: 508-477-5800 x 15 [nelson.andrews@mwtribe.com](mailto:nelson.andrews@mwtribe.com)

### Sign Up for Alerts

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Preparedness Department has an emergency alert notification system through the Massachusetts Health and Homeland Alert Network (HHAN). The HHAN provides secure web-based communication and other information sharing capabilities throughout the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal community. Tribal members who choose to sign up may be notified of real-time emergency alerts.

If you would like to be added to the list then please contact the MWT Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews Jr at: (508) 477-5800 x 15 or at [nelson.andrews@mwtribe.com](mailto:nelson.andrews@mwtribe.com).

## The Clambake *by Aunt Joan Tavares Avant*

**L**et's get the invisible history and heritage of clambakes that I feel is ebbing traditionally. Recently I have been reading many newspaper and flyer announcements about it, for example, a New England Clambake, Ocean State Clambake, Cape Cod Clambake, detailing how people are preparing clambakes.

But never once have I read any words about a Wampanoag Clambake with a trace of its history or heritage of the original people who created this elaborate gathering of seafood and vegetables.

People come to Cape Cod from all over the world, and many have probably never heard of a clambake. Even folks who live here may not know the history. I have no issue with organizations or families preparing a clambake; however, people should know the centuries-old history that happened right off and on-the shores of Cape Cod by our indigenous ancestors.

Long attributed as a "traditional New England" method of steam-cooking seafood, the clambake actually derives from an ancient Wampanoag (and other coastal indigenous people) way of preparing shellfish and other accompanying foods.

In pre-contact times, bakes were done right on the beach. Everything needed for the bake was right there. Various types of shellfish or fish were readily available and the

rockweed and the stones were easily accessible. A pit would be dug and lined with stones. A fire was then lit, burning for two to three or more hours to heat the rocks to the point of being red-hot.

The ashes were then brushed away and the people worked quickly to maximize the heat of the stones. A layer of rockweed was placed on the stones. Rockweed is a type of seaweed whose fronds have bubbles; thus, the use of rockweed provides moisture and salt for flavoring. This is what creates the steam that cooks the food and gives it its wonderful flavor.

The fish, shellfish, corn on the cob, and other food was then placed on the rockweed and covered over with another layer of the same. This might then be covered with a mat to help hold in the steam and concentrate it to more quickly cook the food. When ready, the mat was removed, the rockweed raked away, and dinner was ready.

Cooking take approximately one hour, depending on the size of the bake. Also, let's not forget the homemade quahog chowder that is served.

Traditional indigenous cooking on the beach made cleanup easy, as the tides would reclaim the rocks and rockweed and fill the pit back in, leaving no evidence of the feast that took place.

In the present day, many Wampanoag people still practice this ancient way of cooking. A few changes have been made to the method, and some new foods added to the menu.

Today, a main ingredient of the clambake is lobster, in addition to the clams. Corn is also still part of the meal, with the newer additions of white potato, sweet potato, onion, a piece of fish such as cod and a piece of linguica (Portuguese sausage). All the vegetables, fish, and the two meats are wrapped up together in the cheesecloth bundle.

Brown bread completes the list of food to be steamed with sea flavor.

For more information, you could read "Indian New England Before the Mayflower" by Howard S. Russell (1980). Of "Cape Cod Wampanoag Cookbook: Wampanoag Indian Recipes, Images & Lore" by Earl Mills Sr. Chief Lying Eagle, Mashpee Wampanoag and Betty Breen (2001) and "Clambake: A Wampanoag Tradition" by Russell M. Peters Fast Turtle and John Madema (1992), as well as many more resources.

Just remember: Wampanoag Clambake (Appanag) is older than all of us; our ancestors taught us and shared it with the European settlers. And you now know its origin.

We do not want to loose our indigenous history!

## Substance Abuse & Recovery Services

~Do you have a loved one that is currently using drugs or alcohol?

~Have they tried several times to get clean and sober, but are still relapsing?

~Are you exhausted, tired, frustrated – not knowing what to do?

~Do you feel like you have tried everything?

Addiction is an on-going process that happens in phases and in cycles. There are many factors to getting into recovery and sustaining recovery, as recovery is a life-long commitment. Family members are impacted in many ways when their loved one is addicted.

As a family member, supporting your loved one on their road to recovery can be exhausting, and sometimes you are faced to make difficult decisions in order to help them.

There is support is available. The Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit can offer:

- Individual therapy
- Consultation for family members on how to help their loved one access treatment.
- On-going support while their loved one is in early-recovery or sustained recovery
- Referrals for behavioral health community resources.

Call today and set up an appointment with the Behavioral Health Department to see a Clinical Therapist - PumukQien Collins or Nadine Phillips-Smart - for further help and assistance at (508) 477-6967.

## Food Pantry Hours

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Food pantry is here to ensure tribal citizens and their families always have food on their shelves. The food pantry is located on the ground floor of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center and is open Monday to Thursday each week (Please see below for a complete list of hours open).

The Food Pantry receives support from the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and Tribal Council along with contributions from members of the community and a Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant. In addition, some food items are obtained through The Greater Boston Food Bank and Roche Bros. Supermarket.

### Food Pantry Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Saturday, Sunday: Closed

## One Open Seat on Election Committee

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Election Committee is seeking a dedicated Tribal member to sit on the Election Committee. Presently there is one (1) open seat on the Election Committee with a 3-year term. Any enrolled Tribal member who would like to serve must submit a letter of interest for the Election Committee to Francie Dottin at fdottin@mwtribe.com. The Tribal Council will approve the Election Committee appointment.

# COMMUNITY



## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wampanoag Ball: Celebrating Our Sovereignty

**T**he 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wampanoag Ball will be held on Saturday, October 1 at the Resort & Conference Center of Hyannis located across the street from the Melody Tent. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with the formal ceremonies starting at 6:30 p.m. The Wampanoag Ball Committee has worked hard to organize this year's event and seeing our tribe, family and friends come together for a wonderful evening in the spirit of unity.

Tickets for the Ball may be purchased at Puritan Clothing in the Mashpee Commons and at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. Tickets are \$40 for general admission and \$30 for MWT elders and their spouses (MWT elders tickets may be purchased from Joanne Frye, Elder's Department Director).

In addition to being a celebration, the Ball is also a fundraiser. For the past several years the funds from the ball have gone towards the future construction of a playground. With the community still striving to reach its goal for the playground, the Ball Committee

has once again decided to donate all proceeds to this worthy cause.



## Aria Bella Copeland

Aria Bella Copeland was born July 28, 2016, at Sentara Leigh Hospital in Norfolk, VA, to the proud parents of Jazmine Eve Nevels and Kentrell Copeland to the ecstatic grandparents of Shelley (Bingham) Graham of Boston, MA and Derek Nevels of Hampton, VA and Bernard and Debra Joyner of Chesapeake, VA. Little Aria Bella is the first Great Granddaughter of Francie J. Dottin, now known as "GG". God Bless you little Aria, you are loved!!!





## *Celebrating Our Sovereignty*

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Ball 2016

Nominations for the 2016 Osamequen, Wampanoag Business and Leadership, "Alice May Lopez Award for Advocacy and Volunteerism" and the Lewis Gurwitz Spirit Awards are now being accepted.

The winners will be announced at the Mashpee Wampanoag Ball on Saturday October 1, 2016 at the Resort & Conference Center of Hyannis. Nominations may only be submitted by tribal members and may not be anonymous. A nomination will not be considered unless the nominator is identified.

All nominations must be received at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Office, Attn: Ball Committee: 483 Great Neck Road - South, Mashpee, MA 02649 no later than 4 p.m. on **September 19, 2016.**

#### **Nominator/submitter's information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Nominee information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

***\*\*Please see attached award descriptions\*\****



Please attach a detailed description of the reasons you feel the person nominated deserves the specified award. *Please submit a maximum of one (1) type written page.*

- ( ) Lewis Gurwitz Spirit Award
- ( ) Wampanoag Business and Professional Leadership Award
- ( ) Osamequen Award
- ( ) Alice May Lopez Award for Advocacy and Volunteerism

#### **Lewis Gurwitz Spirit Award**

This award is given to any non-tribal member who has displayed unselfish devotion and friendship to the Mashpee Wampanoag. The award is given in memory of our great friend Lew, a brilliant attorney who sacrificed a lucrative law practice to devote his life and career to defending native people. Recipients of this award may be members of other tribes.

#### **Wampanoag Business and Professional Leadership Award**

The award honors tribal members who exemplify a strong work ethic, professionalism and performance excellence, and leadership qualities. It is given to a tribal member who has been successful in launching a business or professional career while balancing the need to be successful and the need to retain our culture and traditions, and as such is a positive example for our youth.

#### **Alice May Lopez Award for Advocacy and Volunteerism**

This award will recognize a Tribal member who advocates and/or volunteers on behalf of a fellow Tribal member and/or the Tribal community at large.

“Alice really, really loved life...She helped everybody; mentored teens, took in homeless, helped get groceries...and she helped Wampanoag people keep a roof over their heads.”

~ *Jessie little doe Baird*

#### **Osamequen Award**

This award is given to a tribal member who has been dedicated to the preservation of the tribe, culture and history of the people in memory of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century Wampanoag Massasoit, Osamequen.