



# Nashauonk Mittark™

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September 2014



DRUM BEAT

IN THE NEWS

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY

## Chairman's Column



Greetings Tribal Community,

In just a few weeks the seasons will change. We also have a lot of positive changes and growth that's taking place within our strong Tribal nation. We recently appointed a new district court judge, made several new hires to support our growing programs, continue to stock our food pantry and have a Summer Turtle Program that keeps our kids connected to our traditional ways. We are thriving and progressing each month and making history in the process.

Thanks to a dedicated group of Tribal Members and the Tribal Coordinating Committee led by Katie Greene and Vice Chairwoman jessie little doe baird, we continue to make progress on the Pawôkamuq, Dream Center to support Tribal Members and their families battling the disease of addiction. This group is taking a truly holistic approach to the support model needed to address the issues within our community, but they need all of our input. That's why they have included a survey with the Mittark. Please take a few minutes to complete it and send it back and help us fight back against the disease of addiction.

We also welcomed a new member to our judicial system. Our Tribal Supreme Court Judge Robert Mills presided over the swearing in of our new District Court Judge Jeffrey Madison. Our judges are the pillar of our entire justice system and Judge Madison will without doubt uphold our laws with fair and open-minded decisions. The growth of our judicial system is a testament to our growth and strength as a sovereign people.

I encourage you to take just a few minutes to read the Mittark and learn more

*(Continued on page 3)*

## District Court Judge Sworn In

**T**ribal Court welcomed Attorney Jeffrey Madison on August 6, 2014 who was sworn in as a District Court Judge to hear civil cases in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Court. Members of the Mashpee Wampanoag Elders Judiciary Committee and Tribal Council were on hand for the swearing-in ceremony. Tribal Supreme Court Judge Robert Mills presided over the ceremony.

Jeffrey L. Madison is an enrolled member of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and is currently an associate with the law firm of Wynn & Wynn, P.C.



in Hyannis, where he maintains a general practice of law. He served for 15 years on the Board of Selectmen in the Town of Aquinnah on Martha's Vineyard. He is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Martha's Vineyard Hospital and a

founding member of the Board of Trustees at Windemere Long Term Care Facility in Oak Bluffs, MA. He is a former member of the Board of Corporators of the Dukes County Savings Bank and a former member of the Board of Trustees of Proctor Academy.

Attorney Madison has served on the Tribal Council of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and as its Director of Economic Development led negotiations which resulted in the Tribe signing a gaming compact with Governor William Weld. He is a graduate of Cambridge College and Massachusetts School of Law at Andover. He is a member of the Massachusetts and Dukes County Bar Associations.



## Weetumuw Wôpanâak Charter School

The Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Language Department have submitted a 150 page Prospectus to the State Charter School Office. WLRP and the founding board of trustees for the Weetumuw Wôpanâak Charter School (WWCS) are proposing to open a publicly funded Wôpanâak immersion school next Aug. with 35-40 students in Kindergarten (age 5) and Grade 1 (age 6).

Students and their guardians may reside in the majority of school districts across a four county region (Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth). A school location has not been identified, but two potential sites in Falmouth are under review for lease as

adequate classroom space is not available in the local Mashpee Public Schools. WWCS founding trustees and WLRP staff are continuing to develop comprehensive WWCS policy documents (e.g., bullying prevention and intervention plan, code of professional conduct, recruitment and retention plan, school wellness and nutrition plan, etc.) in expectation of receiving an invitation this fall to submit a full 500+ page proposal to the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education in early November. The Commissioner then hosts public hearings in late November, inviting all community and family members to speak on the record about the charter school proposals.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Events Calendar

### New Events

**September 14 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**September 20 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
Ancestor's Day (Potluck),  
*Old Indian Meeting House*

**October 12 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
General Body Meeting,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

### Weekly Events

**Mondays - 5:30 p.m.**

Recovery Group, *Old Indian Burial Grounds*

**Mondays - 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Tribal Health Zumba with Natara,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**Tuesdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Elders Lunch & Learn,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**Tuesdays - 5:30 p.m.**

Enrollment Committee,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Coed Volleyball,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**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,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**Thursdays - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Elders Lunch & Learn,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*

**NEW Thursdays - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Adult Math and Writing Workshops,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*  
starting September 11

**Monthly - 6:00 p.m.**

Housing Commission,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*,  
It is held the first Thursday and  
third Monday of each month.

**Monthly - 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Monthly - 6:00 p.m.**

Public Safety Commission,  
*Tribal Community and Government Center*,  
It is held the third Tuesday of the month.

### Language Classes

Visit [WLRP.org](http://WLRP.org) for Language Classes  
beginning September 2<sup>nd</sup>

## New ICWA Caseworker Hired

**T**he Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Program recently hired a new Caseworker, Hana Doe Bernadett. Hana will be working hard on behalf of our Native children and families. Her passion and dedication to youth and family services will be a great asset to the ICWA department and our Tribe.

Hana brings several years of experience working with youth across the Nation. She was previously employed by The Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps (a residential group home) where she was a Supervisor working in Trauma Informed Care for youth between the ages of 12 and 17. Hana also sat on the board for the Future Generation Collaborative; an organization that helps to promote healthy pregnancies within Native American Communities affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

Hana was raised in the Wampanoag community by her Grandfather Russell Peters "Fast Turtle," Grandmother Shirley Peters, Father Russell Peters, Jr. and Mother Kathleen Bernadett.

She obtained a Bachelor's degree of Science in Psychology from Portland State University focusing on counseling, early



childhood development, education, child and family studies, small group discussions, positive psychology, and gender studies. She is looking forward to working with our team to further the empowerment of our youth and to protect our community as the new ICWA Case Worker.

It is the ICWA Program's mission to ensure every Native child and family should have access to community-based, culturally appropriate services that help them grow up safe health, spiritually strong, and free from abuse (physical, verbal, and/or sexual) and neglect. The department functions with a commitment to preserve and strengthen Mashpee Wampanoag families, to prevent out of home placement, to maintain family ties and responsibilities, to reunify families and to provide kinship permanency plans for children who cannot return home.

## RN Nancy Falleur Joins Team

Nancy Falleur, BS, RN is honored to join the Mashpee Wampanoag Health Service Unit/ Indian Health Services as Supervisory Clinical Nurse.

She was born in Massachusetts, earned her Associates Degree in nursing from Quincy College and her Bachelor of Science in Human Development with a concentration in gerontology from University of Massachusetts. After graduation she was employed at Mass General Hospital prior to moving "Out West"

After traveling cross country, she landed in Southwest Colorado and worked for a small rural hospital where she developed her skills in emergency medicine and trauma. After a few years of ER nursing, she was promoted to Trauma Nurse Coordinator and helped develop a Level III Trauma Center. From there she was recruited to build a regionalized EMS and Trauma System; one of eleven in the State of Colorado.

She has been a nurse for over 20 years and possesses 12+ years of experience in administration and systems development. For the past two years, she's been working as a Nurse Care manager in the greater Boston area. She has had the pleasure of working with both the Navajo and



Ute Tribes (Ute Mountain and Southern Ute) while in SW Colorado as well as the Choctaw Tribe in Southeast Oklahoma. She has a passion for health

promotion and wellness, injury prevention and geriatrics.

She moved back to Massachusetts to be closer to family and comes to Cape Cod with her husband Philip, and 3 children (Eliana, Krystian and Isabella). She is looking forward to serving you and continuing to improve the health of the community.

## Election Committee

The Election Committee is looking for volunteer/monitors to assist with the 2015 Election process. If you would like more information or to help, please contact Kim Frye at (774) 238-2129.



## Free Math and Writing Skills Workshops

**W**hen was the last time you attended a math or writing class? If you're like most adults it has been a while and you could probably benefit from a refresher course to sharpen your skills. That's why the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Employment and Training Department will be hosting a series of free Build Your Skills Workshops at the MWT Government and Community Center. The workshops will be held weekly from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning Thursday, September 11 and will continue each Thursday for 13 weeks in the Youth Craft Room.

Mr. George Spivey will be the instructor for the math and writing workshops. George is a life-long educator with a passion for sharing his knowledge with others. He currently serves as the Equity and Affirmative Action Officer for the town of Falmouth and retired last year as principal of East Falmouth Elementary School. He's also been involved in



a number of outreach programs, including the NAACP and No Place for Hate and with the mentoring organization Concerned Black Men. George is a graduate of Dartmouth College and since then has devoted his life to giving back.

The free workshops will cover basic math and writing skills and are open to all Tribal Members 18 years of age and older. If you are interested in attending the workshops or have any questions, please contact Yvonne Tobey at (508) 477-0208 x161. Workshops are limited to 15 participants.

## Chairman's Column *(continued)*

about all of the great work taking place in our community and the variety of events coming up that we hope you will attend. I also encourage you to exercise and eat right, as these are the keys to healthy living. Stay strong and I hope to see you soon.

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell, Qaqemasq  
(Running Bear)

## Free Access to Cape Cod National Seashore

In an effort to preserve and protect resources and traditions that are of importance to Native Americans, The National Park Service (NPS) has developed a policy that allows Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Members free access to National Seashore Beaches for spiritual or religious purposes. Gate attendants at the Cape Cod National Seashore have been updated on this policy during their seasonal training program. Tribal Members are required to identify themselves as a tribal member, present their

Tribal ID and inform the attendant that you are there for spiritual or religious purposes. Tribal Members may be required to pay for parking if they are not visiting the beach for a religious or spiritual reason.

The National Historic and Preservation Act as amended in 1992 directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Tribal Preservation Program. Administered by the NPS, the program is dedicated to working with Native American Tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.



*From left to right are Chief Vernon "Silent Drum" Lopez; Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin K. Washburn, Powwow Princess Sassamin Weeden and Chairman Cedric "Running Bear" Cromwell during the Department of Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs Visit on July 29.*

## Correction: Daycia Frye Takes 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**L**ast month in the Mittark there was an error in the listing of Mashpee Powwow winners. Daycia Frye

should have been listed as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner in the Girl's Traditional category. Congratulations Daycia. We are all very proud of your accomplishment and thank you for competing in this year's powwow.



## Participate in Seashore Study

**T**he Tribal Historic Preservation Office is looking for Tribal Members that are knowledgeable of and available to participate in a study of Native uses of the Cape Cod National Seashore both land and water. We are seeking interviewees with knowledge of the park for interviews to be conducted in late September at the Tribal Government Center or another location of your choice. These interviews can be anonymous or share name if you like. You will be paid for your time. If you are interested in participating in the study, please contact Tribal Historic Preservation (508) 477-0208 ext. 101 for further information or you may contact Professor Katherine Bragdon at [KJBragdon@gmail.com](mailto:KJBragdon@gmail.com).

## Charter School *(continued)*

New state charters are granted annually in February. WWCS is one of seven applicant groups proposing to open a new charter school. For more information, to review the documents submitted to the state, or if you are a potential parent or guardian interested in enrolling your student in WWCS next fall, please contact Charter Developer/Interim Language Dept. Director Jennifer Weston at [JWeston@mwtribe.com](mailto:JWeston@mwtribe.com) or call (508) 477-0208 x168. You can also visit [wlrp.org](http://wlrp.org) for charter school project media coverage, frequently asked questions (FAQ's), and founding trustee/advisor bios. To read the State Department of Education Press Release regarding charter school prospectus submissions visit [www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=11384](http://www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=11384)

## P8nashkeehyâeenun and Pawâeenun Honored for Service

**O**n Wednesday, August 6 Dr. George Silva was honored by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe for his 30 years of health care service he has provided to the Tribal Members and the Cape Cod Community. Below is a copy of the speech given by Vice Chairwoman Jessie Little Doe Baird during the ceremony. Thank you Dr. Silva for your continued support.

Nutus8ees Jessie quneeqâees. Nutômâs Mâseepeeut kah wôk y8 nutâyun. I met Dr. Silva in 1982. I was looking for a family doctor close to home and found him at Deer Crossing. I was expecting my daughter Tracy at the time and going through difficult relocation from George Air Force Base in California. Having recently moved back home, and having to move back in with my grandmother, the idea of needing to begin a relationship with a new doctor who was likely not going to be another Indian person, was cause for much angst. Nevertheless, I needed a family doctor so I went to see Dr. Silva.

Upon our first meeting, I learned that he was a person of integrity and respect. I learned that he had, in fact, already worked with other Indian people and this gave me great comfort. Much of the Mashpee Wampanoag community, and most other indigenous communities, seek out individuals that will accept the community as it comes. Our ways are not always the ways of those who live among us, but are our traditions and have served to ensure our survival on this land. Our health needs are, in many respects, unique as well as

our interpersonal reactions with each other, from clan to clan and with the outside community.

Dr. Silva has, for all of the years that I have known him, provided a place of excellence in health care for my family as well as respect, tolerance, and a genuine interest in the wellbeing of my entire tribe. I have watched him help those in need who do not always have the resources to cover care. I have witnessed him travel to Washington, DC to advocate for the needs of the Mashpee Wampanoag's Tribe's healthcare and as a result of those first meetings laying the groundwork for future working relationships, we now have a medical and dental clinic. He has also dealt with my community in a caring and compassionate way during political events in the community from time to time that have had effect on the peace of mind of tribal citizens. Always when people speak of him during their times of need and sickness it has been with words of praise for his competence, his bedside manner and his understanding of Wampanoag culture and the challenges we face.

For these reasons, I call him now, both P8nashkeehyâeenun and Pawâeenun. Both of these terms are 'healer'. P8nashkeehyâeen is 'one who places herbs on or in the body of another; a doctor of physical healing'. Pawâeenun is, 'healer by means of dreams and vision, a healer using spiritual understanding and foresight'. Dr. George Silva has earned both of these titles and I am

so honored to say that my community has had the benefit of these gifts given to him by Creator. Kutâputush Teddy Marsh for sharing your partner with the rest of us and Kutâputôtamawush P8nashkeehyâeenun kah Pawâeenun Silva. Kuwâmônunum kah wun-ahyâsh neeyunee unây8ok peepeen.



## Whaling-Two Tribes of the North East Sharing Whaling History

I remember when I was in grade school I used crayons to paint the picture of whales of different sizes, not knowing that my Wampanoag relatives had a close relationship with all types of whales. There may be a historic cultural divide between Native American and the Europeans writings of the 19th century. Why did it take 70 years for me to learn the truth? I guess it's better late than never! Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum had a full house on June 5th with both Native and non-natives who came to listen to a Marine Science and Native Material Culture scholar of the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe.

Elizabeth James-Perry shared our ancestor's experiences and practices relating to traditional business of whaling. While traveling the 5 oceans of the world Wampanoag men held such positions on the ships as Captains and holding lessor positions sometimes by choice. Elizabeth mentioned, Jacob A. Pells, 18 years of age, Dives Quippish, 25, James Pells 25, Golish Squib 29, Peter Quip-

ish, and Charles A. Peters and others during her presentation.

"I had to go to Europe to find scale fish hooks." Elizabeth found Wampanoag cultral material in England collections that were from the North East including a hand crafted stone whale effigy hand. She showed photographs of 17<sup>th</sup> Century harpoons made of Caribou horn. Question from the audience "Were there Caribou around here? Yes, responded Elizabeth,

Excerpts from journals mention about the "Guardians Indians", after King Philips war. "We are lucky to still have Natives here".

Elizabeth also explained a 17th century map of ponds in Aquinnah that held many vats of whale fish and oil. The English used our dugout canoes to go and get whales. Wamp's still today can get beached whales...

That said the audience was riveted with questions and comments.

Chief Vernon Lopez, "Lecture was very interesting and she contributed a lot of history which makes me blessed and honored to learn more about our Wampanoag whaling men. They endured a lot, including their families and relatives.

Kitty, Museum Cultural Program Developer, "we now have our Native perspective which is long overdue; this is what is missing in school textbooks. I've been aspiring to do this for a long time! Mother Bear remarks that "I didn't realize there were so many types of whales. I enjoyed seeing Wampanoag family pictures".

With amazement, Valerie Fernandez, "the presentation in regards to whaling by Wampanoag was excellent. I never knew our people were whalers. I recognized the family names and was amazed. It is a story I will convey to my children. I will also do more research. Victoria monasquit Oakes of Mashpee, "As an educator of Aquinnah Wampanoag Lifeway's, Elizabeth shared



# Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

483 Great Neck Road South

Mashpee, MA 02649

Phone (508) 477-0208 Fax (508) 477-1218

The TCC (Tribal Coordinating Committee) and the community members working toward the Pawôkamuq Dream Center sober living project need would like your input regarding facility, services, and prevention/education. Please take a minute to complete this questionnaire. Your input will help us to better serve you, the community. Please print out the survey and mail back or click on the link below to take the survey online.

Link to online version of the survey [www.surveymonkey.com/s/MWTDreamCenter](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MWTDreamCenter)

## Please Circle Answer:

|  |                |                |                 |                 |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Do you think addiction is a disease?.....  | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Does someone in your home have the disease of addiction to alcohol or other drugs?.....  | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Is there anyone in your home working active sobriety?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Is there anyone in your home that is abstinent from drugs or alcohol?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Does/did this disease effect the generation above you in your immediate family?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Does/did this disease effect the generation below you in your immediate family?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Has the lack of a bed in a treatment center ever prevented someone in your family from receiving treatment?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Has the cost of treatment ever prevented someone in your family from receiving treatment?.....   | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Should the tribe provide monies in the 2015 budget for a recovery program?.....  | Yes            | No             |                 |                 |
| Where would you want the Dream Center located? _____   |                |                |                 |                 |
| If a center were located in Mashpee, how likely would you be to access services there?<br><b>Not likely at all;            Somewhat likely;            Very likely</b>                     |                |                |                 |                 |
| How likely would you be to access services in a co-ed center that has separate quarters for men and women?<br><b>Not likely at all;            Somewhat likely;            Very likely</b> |                |                |                 |                 |
| How long should the maximum program run at the Dream Center?   | <b>60 days</b> | <b>90 days</b> | <b>120 days</b> | <b>180 days</b> |
| How long should the minimum program run at the Dream Center?   | <b>30 days</b> | <b>60 days</b> | <b>90 days</b>  |                 |

(Continued on page 6)



## Traditional Leaders Exhibit at the Museum

**T**he Leaders of the Wampanoag Nation and Mashpee Tribe is a new exhibit at the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum. The permanent exhibit provides a 96 year timeline of traditional leadership of each Pawâeenun (Healer/Medicine Man), Sôtyum (Sachem/Chief), Kuhchee Pawâeenun (National Spiritual Leader/Supreme Medicine Man), and Massasoit (Supreme Sachem) led the Tribe and Nation from 1918 to present. After King Philips War ended in 1676 the Wampanoag Nation leadership was forcedly disband until its revival in the early 1920's.

Local traditional leadership was held in relative secret until it was felt to be safe to reveal whom we honored as our chiefs and medicine men. The American Indian Religious Freedom Act was passed in 1978; prior to that date it was illegal to openly practice our traditional ceremonies and spiritual customs.



Photos of each individual, dates of

service, and Indian names in both Wôpanâak and English languages are highlights of the exhibit. We are planning an opportunity for tribal members to record their thoughts and feelings about these leaders to become the audio part of this exhibit along with biographical information about their lives.

The Museum is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Small groups, summer camps and school groups should call the Museum at (508) 477-9339 to arrange a special program or visit.



## Dream Center Survey Continued from Page 5

Should traditional ceremony be incorporated into the program at the Dream Center?.....**Yes No**

What type of services should the center provide?

**Housing search, transportation, parenting, budgeting, employment search, counseling, All of the above**

Should the center provide a parent/child space?.....**Yes No**

Should the center offer services to spouses/partners, in the household provided at least one adult member is Mashpee Wampanoag?.....**Yes No**

After detox and upon returning home, what do you see as you or your family member's immediate needs?

**Housing, Food, Legal, Transportation, Employment, Childcare, Healthcare, Mental Health Services, Meetings, Life Coaching, Education**

What do you see as you or your family member's biggest risk for relapse upon returning home from treatment or detox?

**People not abstinent, People not in Recovery, Lack of a community working on sobriety, Lack of Housing, Lack of transportation to services, Lack of daily structure, Lack of family support, Lack of employment, Lack of daily life support, Lack of access to meetings, Lack of support needed to meet mandated service plan requirements,**

Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe that the Mashpee Wampanoag community can be a healthy community?.....**Yes No**

What is the best way for you to receive information?

**Email, Facebook, Postcard/US Mail, other \_\_\_\_\_**

If you would like to assist with this project, please provide your name and contact information below.

*NOTE: You may fill this survey out anonymously and contact the Vice Chairwoman's office later in order to provide a contact address. Please mail to 483 Great Neck Rd. South Mashpee, MA 02649 or drop it off at our government center for the Vice Chairwoman's office.*

Contact Info.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Food Pantry Update

**T**he Food Pantry is going into its fourth month after our reopening and it has been a great success. We are now serving 154 Tribal family members in a month and it continues to grow; our first month we serviced 95 clients. We have hired three permanent employees and we have a part time worker from the Elders Services of Cape and Island assisting in the pantry. We are working with several companies and the Greater Boston Food Bank for our food supplies.

We will be sending out a survey this month (September) to see how we are doing, what improvements that we may be able to make, what you would like to see in the pantry for supplies, etc.

We will be having several classes in nourishing awareness and how to prepare

healthy meals (menus and recipes) and the storing, packing and expiration information on your food. As we continue to grow we may require an additional class that will be held once a month on Saturdays to help accommodate those unable to attend during the weekdays or evenings.

Just a reminder to our Tribal families we are opened Tuesday and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A client is able to come only once a month.

We do have emergency needs policy that is published in our Food Pantry Policy and Procedure book. If you did not receive a copy of the book in the mail, please feel free to contact either Joanne at (508) 477-0208 x 140 or Laverne at (508) 477-0208 x165 for a copy to

be mailed to you. If you need information on other pantries in your area, please let us know we have almost all the listing for pantries in the MA area.

We always welcome donations to our food pantry, it may be in the form of food, money or gift cards and as always your donations are tax deductible.





## Whaling-Two Tribes by Joan Avant *(continued)*

her inspirational knowledge into the world of Whales still existing in our oceans often unseen. Her spoken and photographic views of her personal ancestral and individual experiences with the Whaling communities were very intriguing and provided insights for education".

Dick Kendal of Falmouth says "wonderful and interesting discussion of this history-made far more special by the interacting with attendees. Frank Lord, Mashpee Historical Commission member," Have you ever found any Wampanoag making scrimshaw"? How many whales were killed while people were out? Keith Cooper, Mashpee "I enjoyed hearing about how whales were used by the native people -for example capes made from whale skin". Nancy Shoemaker author of "Living with Whales; Documents and Oral Histories of Native New England Whaling History" (2014) states that "the exhibit is won-

derful-so many objects never before collected in one place and individual stories about Wampanoag whale men. Great talk that combined science of whales with history and from a Native perspective.

Our Museum holds a fine Mashpee Wampanoag Whaling Exhibit. Elizebeth shared whaling stories from her family and her research documentation are beautifully connects the dots of two historically federally recognized tribes experiencing whaling adventures together .

What's most important is that now our youth, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and several generations following will learn their history about our men who became relatives with the whales by traveling after them around the world. Whaling has a long history among our people, for more information visit your Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum. You will be educated and

proud of your ancestor's, promised!

Furthermore, according to our traditional legends of Maushop the giant had an abnormal whale cooking technique with his giant pot that is very special. Moshup and Squanto were married and had twelve children, Maushop could see the whales from his great lodge doorway. He could see the whales migrating as we do now while they are passing through Vineyard Sound. While standing on large door-stones he would catch a whale by the tail and swing it into the witches' pot where fire was always kept underneath...

What's most important is that now or children, grandchildren, great grandchildren will learn this history before their seventy years old and can pass it on.

By Joan t. Avant/Granny Squannit

# DEPARTMENTS



## Elders Lunch and Learn Program Update

The Tribal Health, Elders and Language departments launched a new three-year federally funded language and nutrition program for elders aged 55+ on Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Government and Community Center. Each Tuesday and Thursday morning from 11:30-12:30 language specialist Tracy Kelley is offering a class tailored to elders' requests for new vocabulary and information in Wôpanâak. Tracy offers each attendee a short survey so they can list items they'd like to focus on learning, and she's also been offering flexible 30-minute instructional segments so that tribal employees or elders who can't come for the whole hour can stop in at noon, before attending lunch and social time together at 12:30. Class and lunch attendance has been steadily increasing each week. During the first week of August the 12:30 luncheon outgrew the Language Center classroom, and is now being held in the gym.

Elders are asked to RSVP in advance for the lunch to [JFrye@mwtribe.com](mailto:JFrye@mwtribe.com), [WPockett@mwtribe.com](mailto:WPockett@mwtribe.com), [KFrye@mwtribe.com](mailto:KFrye@mwtribe.com), or [JWeston@wlrp.org](mailto:JWeston@wlrp.org), so the caterers have an accurate count each week.

Lunch and Learn is funded by and operated according to guidelines set by the federal Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Aging Title VI grant program.



## RFP for Nutritionist

Tribal Health will soon be hiring a program coordinator/nutritionist to join the Title VI team soon to arrange catered meals targeted to each elder's health needs, and to advance the program to incorporate transportation and a year two meals on wheels service. Local tribal caterers with ServSafe food handler certificates may submit proposals to provide six weeks of Tuesday/Thursday meals to [CFrye-Cromwell@mwtribe.com](mailto:CFrye-Cromwell@mwtribe.com) and [JWeston@wlrp.org](mailto:JWeston@wlrp.org).

## Enrollment Committee

The Enrollment Committee is looking for new members. If you would like to join, please submit a letter of interest to the Enrollment Committee Liaison, Vice Chairwoman jessie little doe baird at [jbaird@mwtribe.com](mailto:jbaird@mwtribe.com) or mail to Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649 attn: jessie little doe baird.



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# DEPARTMENTS



## WLRP Summer Turtle Program

**W**ôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Language Department held the fifth annual Summer Turtle Program for Wampanoag youth June 14 - August 1, closing with youth language songs and traditional stories as puppet shows, followed by a clambake hosted by WLRP, and the Facilities and Natural Resources Departments.

This year's program was again held at Maushop Farm, but incorporated several changes: 1) Summer Turtle was held a month earlier (July vs. August) in anticipation of WLRP opening a K-1 charter school early in August 2015; 2) students as young as five were admitted this summer; 3) five high school and college age summer interns were recruited

and trained by WLRP staff beginning in June in order to train new youth language leaders and teachers - and to allow WLRP staff time to continue writing charter school curriculum; 4) The Aquinnah Tribal Summer Turtle Program visited Mashpee and participated in traditional food demonstrations and ceremonial activities once weekly; 5) Forty youth were admitted (vs. 30-35 in previous years) and all children were moved off the waitlist.

As always the program was offered to tribal families free of charge, with only a small weekly lunch fee assessed - but scholarships were available to offset all costs. WLRP and the Language Department thanks Facilities and NRD for hosting us at the farm, and our grant writer and business manager Judi

Urquhart for mobilizing the resources needed for a successful program. We also are grateful to the Tribal Public Safety Commission for providing first aid training and certification for all Summer Turtle staff and interns. Finally, we're especially grateful for our interns who were hugely popular with the youth and did a wonderful job helping lead and document this summer's fun: Kevin Frye, DeeDee Jackson, Keturah Peters, Doug Pocknett (media intern), all from Mashpee, and Andrew DeVido, from the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe.

