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Nashauonk



Nov. 2019



Chairman's Column



Wunee keesuq Tribal family,

I have some important news to share in regard to our tribal operations, but first I want to thank Rita Lopez for stepping up to serve our Tribe as the Interim Tribal Administrator over the past few months. She has done an amazing job to keep our tribal operations and key services moving forward. All while continuing to manage our enrollment department. It was a tall task and Rita did it extremely well.

It was important for us to have an honest and comprehensive assessment of our needs and goals for the future as we assessed how we would proceed with our search for a Tribal Administrator. It was through this process that our Tribal Council reached the decision that the Tribal Council Chair would serve in this position.

Given my background in development and understanding of our organizational structure it was decided that this was the correct direction for us. I'm looking forward to the challenges ahead and have already begun working more closely with our departments to streamline our processes. This move will also provide a better channel of communication between operations and Tribal Council.

Also, since I will not be accepting any additional salary in this position, we will save a significant amount of funds. These savings will allow the Departments to better serve...

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Mashpee Schools and Tribe Partner Host 1st Upper Cape Cod "Hackathon" for MASS STEM Week

The Mashpee Public Schools in partnership with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe hosted the "Upper Cape Cod Hackathon" on Friday, October 25 at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community & Government Center.

The event was part of the Massachusetts STEM Week 2019 which took place from October 21st to 25th and was organized by the Executive Office of Education and the STEM Advisory Council in partnership with the state's 9 Regional STEM Networks. It is a statewide effort to boost the interest, awareness and ability for all learners to envision themselves in STEM education and employment opportunities, and compliment the formal instruction happening in the Commonwealth beyond STEM week.

During the "Hackathon" students worked as teams to create

projects using hacking and computer science skills. They used the opportunity to create their own APP, program a robot, design a website, and use AutoCad software. Each project provided a benefit to our Cape Cod community. As the end of the day presentations by each team were made to a panel of judges.

"This is an incredible opportunity for all students to explore technology and test their creativity with no bounds." said Chairman Cromwell. "We are very pleased to partner with Mashpee Schools in hosting such a cutting-edge STEM activity here on Cape Cod as part of the state-wide event." he said. "Just think the next Steve Jobs, or even Mary Ross, the first Native American woman aerospace engineer may be in our midst!" Cromwell added.

Native American Thanks Giving & Coat Drive

Tribal community is invited to attend the 10th Annual Native American Thanks Giving on Saturday, November 23. The annual event, which is coordinated by the Old Indian Meeting House Committee, will open at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House.

In addition, the OIMH Committee & Elders will host a Coat Drive in conjunction with this year's Thanks Giving Celebration. All attendees are welcome to contribute gently-worn coats, or any cold-weather clothing item. Elders will be happy to receive the donations at the MWT C&G building during the feast. Contact Pauline Peters with questions at 508.775.3026.

Annual Fall Social on November 30

On Saturday, November 30 the Tribe will be hosting its annual fall social at the Community and Government Center. The potluck social will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium and is open to all tribal citizens, family, friends and neighboring tribes.

In addition to the drumming and food, the annual social provides space for local vendors to sell their crafts. If you are interested in a vendor table, drumming or would just like more information, please contact Tribal Councilwoman Winnie Johnson-Graham at Edwina.graham@mwtribe-nsn.gov or at (508) 645-8365.

New Events

November 7 - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Cultural Gathering, *MWTCGC*

November 8 - 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Cultural Facilities Fund Info Session,
Old Indian Meeting House

November 9 - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

First Aid & CPR Training, *MWTCGC*

November 10 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Membership Meeting, *MWTCGC*

November 12 & 14 - 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
First Aid & CPR Training, *MWTCGC*

November 15 & 16

Language Symposium, *MWTCGC & Brown University*

November 23 - 11:00 a.m.

Native American Thanks Giving, *Old Indian Meeting House*

November 30 - 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Annual Fall Social, *MWTCGC*

Weekly Events

Mondays - 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Dancing Moon Yoga, *MWTCGC*

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

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

Wednesdays - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Tribal Health Yoga Classes with Yoga
Neighborhood, *MWTCGC*

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

Monthly Meetings

First Saturday of the Month - 11 a.m.
Elders Meeting, *MWTCGC*

First Tuesday of the Month - 6:00 p.m.
Chief's Circle, *Old Indian Meeting House*

Food Pantry Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Blood Drive

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe will host a community blood drive for the American Red Cross on Monday, November 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center Gymnasium.

Cultural Night Gathering on November 7

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department in partnership with CCDF, NYCP, and First Nations is hosting a Cultural Night Gathering Idea Swap and Taco Bar. The cultural event will be held on Thursday, November 7 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center Gymnasium.

This is an opportunity to bring the Tribe together and plan winter activities for tribal families. Are

there traditional games, cooking activities, basketing making of lint napping that you would like to see incorporated into the activity schedule?

For more information, please contact Eileen Miranda at (508) 477-0208 ext. 152 or email her at Eileen.Miranda@mwtribe-nsn.gov. You may also reach out to Kitty Hendricks-Miller at ext. 143 or at Gertrude.Hendricks@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

WLRP Language Symposium

On November 15 thru 16, 2019, the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) will be hosting a Language Symposium entitled Indigenous Languages & Educational Sovereignty.

First Aid & CPR Training

The Mashpee Wampanoag Child Care Development Fund is hosting a First Aid & CPR Training on three days - Nov 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Nov 12 and 14 from 5 to 9 p.m. - at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. RSVP to Kendall Scott at (508) 477-0208 ext. 164.

Housing Program Applications Now Being Accepted

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Department is currently accepting applications and has an ongoing waitlist which opened October 2019 for the following programs:

- 1. Rental Subsidy** - Financial assistance provided for 24 months up to \$300 per month.
- 2. Home Rehabilitation** - Financial assistance will be provided for code violations, health, safety or threat of loss for up to \$15,000.
- 3. First Light Wampanoag Homes Applications** - Providing safe and affordable housing for low income individuals.

Contact the Housing Department at (508) 477-0208 Ext. 104.

Opportunity to Reduce Energy Costs

The Mashpee Wampanoag Housing Department would like to share an opportunity that may help reduce the energy costs for some tribal families. Tribal members that are currently on the discounted R-2 rate that live on the Cape or on the South Shore may apply for a community shared solar program. There are currently a handful of openings in the program.

The discount participants receive is 20% on their bill. There is no long-term contract and it is a great way to benefit from having credits from solar applied to your electric bill and realize immediate savings.

If you have any questions about the program, please reach out to the Self-Reliance Corporation at (508) 563-6633.

Tribe Raises New Greenhouse at Farm



On Saturday October 19 Donald Peters, Chuckie Green Fred Spruill, Dale Oakley, Buddy Pocknett, Naomi Lopez Walker, Miles Peters, and Tony Perry constructed a new greenhouse at Maushop Farm.

New Language Classes Start November 14

The Wópanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) is offering two new language classes this fall. Both classes will begin on November 14 and will be held in the Summerfield Park office at 800 Falmouth Rd Unit 307 C Mashpee.

Introductory Conversation Skills

No experience needed! Instructor: jessie little doe baird (jessie.little.doe.baird@gmail.com or 508-317-2702). Classes held Thursdays from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Starting November 14, 2019

Intermediate Immersion Class

Instructor: jessie little doe baird (jessie.little.doe.baird@gmail.com or 508-317-2702) Classes held Thursdays from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Starting November 14, 2019

Co-Ed Volleyball Returns Tuesday Evenings

Co-Ed Volleyball has returned to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center Gymnasium. Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. you can join family and friends for spirited games.

Co-Ed Volleyball was initiated by the MWT Tribal Health Department in 2012 to provide a fun, healthy activity for community members of all ages. After many years of strong attendance, participation began to dwindle. Thankfully, the success of the beach volleyball has re-ignited interest and indoor volleyball has returned.

Weekly Legal Clinics

UMass Law has sponsored a free legal services clinic for tribal members. The legal clinic is held each Wednesday in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Court located at 483 Great Neck Road South from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information about the clinic, please contact Attorney Ray Yox at (508) 775-7020 ext 2011 or at (774) 488-5940.

Parenting Workshop

CCDF is having parenting classes starting November 6th 9:45am-11:45am every Wednesday for six weeks. The series will cover: Brain Development, Communication, Understanding Temperament, Positive Discipline, Healthy Anger, Handling Power Struggles, Co-Parenting Together and Apart, Building Resiliency in Children. Reserve space by calling Kendall Scott at (508) 477-0208 ext. 164.

Cultural Facilities Fund to Host Info Session at Meeting House

A special info session on the grant programs offered by the Cultural Facilities Fund will be held at the Old Indian Meeting House on Friday, November 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The info session will be lead by Mass Cultural Council staff Jay Paget and Miranda Cook. To RSVP, email Miranda Cook at miranda.cook@art.state.ma.us.

Tribe Mourns Loss of Honored Elder

Shirley L. "Misqua Wahan" Mills, 90, went peacefully to her final rest on Friday, October 4 surrounded by her loving family.

Misqua Wahan, meaning Red Dove, was given the pipe as a recognition of her strength and quiet leadership, during the Sun Dance Ceremonies, in which she participated at Crow Dog's Paradise in Rosebud, South Dakota; as a Sundancer and Pipe Carrier, she was a beloved and honored elder of the Native American communities

in National and International traditional circles. In or around 1957 Shirley was adopted by the Mashpee Wampanoag people, in a ceremony led by the Reverend Leroy Perry, Gay Head Wampanoag. She will be sadly missed and fondly remembered for her wisdom, kindness and smiling eyes.

Services will be held at the Old Indian Meeting House in Mashpee on November 9 from 11:00 - 12:30 with a reception to follow.

Weeden Wins Mashpee Selectman's Race

For the first time in a decade, a member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is serving on the town of Mashpee's Board of Selectmen.

David Weeden was the top vote-getter in the special election held on October 1, defeating three challengers. Michael Richardson, Elana Doyle and Robert Bono.



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Mashpee Parsonage Request For Proposals

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Historic Preservation Office is collaborating with the Mashpee Old Indian Meeting House Authority Inc. a registered non-profit; to preserve the Mashpee Parsonage (431 Main Street, Mashpee, MA).

Toward that end, the THPO requires a Historic Structure Report: Current Condition Assessment, Architectural Master Plans and a determination on a specific Plans of Action.

All inquiries concerning this

Request For Proposals shall be submitted in writing to: David.weeden@mwtribe-nsn.gov no later than November 15th, 2019.

Drop Box or other FTP sites are also acceptable with corresponding email.

Bids will be received in the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Community and Government Center, 483 Great Neck Rd, Mashpee MA Until 3:00pm Eastern Standard Time November 30th, 2019

Mashpee Wampanoag Food Pantry Increases Healthy & Traditional Food Options

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Food Pantry provides healthy food options for income-eligible Tribal members. The Food Pantry hosts "tastings" of recipes made with healthy Food Pantry items and when the Pantry receives an abundant donation of fruit and/or healthy snacks,

they are always shared with the Wôpanâak immersion school students. Through an innovative approach to increasing diversity of food provided through the pantry, local tribal hunters and fisherman are able to donate extra meat or catch.

Nantucket Historic Association Highlights Tribal Ancestor



Recently the Nantucket Historic Association shared a series of photos and details on tribal Ancestor Ruth (West) Coombs.

Ruth was a Wampanoag singer, who was born on Nantucket at the very end of the 19th century. She became well known on Nantucket and around New England for performing under her Native American title Princess Red Feather. Her concerts raised awareness about and promoted Wampanoag culture.