



Chairman's Column



Wunee keesuq Tribal family,

We are a strong, resilient and intelligent people. You can't walk through our land, visit our homes or our Community and Government Center without seeing just how correct that statement is. We are strong. We are resilient. We are intelligent. These are facts that cannot be changed.

Yes, we have differences of opinion. That's a sign of a healthy community. We can have disagreements and work through them in a healthy way. It's only when these disagreements are weaponized for public consumption that it begins to tear at the fabric of our great nation and weaken our position as a people. We have too much positive work taking place day in and day out to continue to be side-tracked by a continuous pattern of bad behavior. That's why we have a strong, independent judicial system.

We have a language program and immersion school that's a model for all of Turtle Island. Our next generation of leaders are receiving a quality education that's grounded in the strength of our culture and traditions. They are doing amazing work at Mukayuhsak Weekuw and with additional grant funding and support that's come in over the past few months, it will continue to flourish.

Our housing project continues to move forward on schedule. That's 42 units of affordable housing for tribal

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Tribe Support Mass Gaming Commission Decision on Region C

On Thursday, September 12, 2019, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, by a vote of 3-1 issued their second public rejection of the project proposed by Massachusetts Gaming and Entertainment (MG&E), and its chairman Neil Bluhm. MG&E, a subsidiary of Bluhm's Rush Street Gaming, had previously proposed a \$677 million resort casino at the Brockton Fairgrounds, but was soundly rejected by the Commission in 2016 by a vote of 4-1. The Commission's vote on Thursday effectively doubled down on its prior rejection of Bluhm's proposal by dismissing MG&E's demand for an automatic casino license contrary to existing law. The Commission confirmed that it had the authority to reconsider Bluhm's project, but made it clear there are not "sufficient grounds" to grant any such reconsideration for Bluhm. In response to his second public rejection, Bluhm erupted to proclaim he was walking away from Brockton. "I can't hang around. I've been doing this for more than five years", spouted Bluhm.

Chairman Cedric Cromwell of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe,

who was quick to point out the irony in Bluhm's frustration, states "With two flat out rejections of Neil Bluhm by the Commission the reality is pretty clear that Bluhm has not been honest with the people of Brockton and has no real ties to our Commonwealth. Steve Crosby, the former Chairman of the Commission had it right back in 2016 when he said Bluhm's proposal for a casino in a school parking lot had "a downside of actually undercutting economic development rather than lifting economic development."

"From the moment Bluhm arrived in Massachusetts he has done nothing but subject Southeastern Massachusetts to constant delay preventing Region C from benefitting from the economic and job creation that the Tribe's reservation in Taunton would otherwise already be bringing to the area", added Chairman Cromwell. Neil Bluhm has single-handedly forced great hardships upon tribal members by causing layoffs of over 100 Tribal members and the shuttering of key

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University of Minnesota College Tour Rescheduled to April

The NYCP organized trip to the University of Minnesota that was originally scheduled for October 24-27 has been rescheduled to April vacation. To register or for more information, please contact NYCP Program Manager Cameron Greendeer at Cameron.greendeer@mwtribe-nsn.gov or at (508) 477-0208 ext. 178

Native American Thanks Giving to be Held on November 23

Tribal Citizens along with family and friends from the community are invited to attend the 10th Annual Native American Thanks Giving on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Indian Meeting House. Following the service, a potluck luncheon will be held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center.

New Events

October 13 - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting,
MWTCGC

October 14 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Indigenous Peoples' Day, *Mashpee
Community Park*

November 23 - 11:00 a.m.
Native American Thanks Giving, *Old
Indian Meeting House*

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*

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

Open Positions

There are several open positions at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

Please visit the Human Resource section of the Tribe's website for a complete list of open positions and complete position details.

Education Department Now Providing Before School Care

Children in grades PreK - 6, in the Coombs and Quashnet Schools can now receive before school care. The service is sponsored by the Tribe's Education Department. A parent letter and registration form are available in the Education Department.

Parents that enroll in the program will be able to drop their child off between 7:45 and 8:25 AM, at the Community and Government Center,

when Mashpee Public Schools are in session. The Before School Care started on the first days of school (September 3 for grades 1-6 and September 4 for grades PK & K). Bus #1 stops at 8:30 AM at Old Dock Road and Great Neck Rd. South, for pick up.

If you have additional questions, please contact Education Department Director Roxanne Mills Brown at (508) 477-0208 ext. 149.

Sign your child up for Wôpanâak language after school!

The Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) is pleased to offer the 2019-2020 "Our Children Speak Two Languages: Numukayuhsunônak" program at Mashpee Public Schools (MPS). This program is free.

The after school program will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from October 1, 2019 through June 4, 2020 at both Coombs and Quashnet Schools from 3:35 - 4:20 pm.

Visit www.mittark.com to enroll today.

Housing Program Applications Now Being Accepted

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Department is currently accepting applications and has an ongoing waitlist which will open 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.

SHINE Counselor Available

Tribal Health will have a SHINE Counselor available to assist our members in providing unbiased health insurance information and assistance with:

- Medicare Part D and other prescription drug programs
- Compare Medigaps to Medicare Advantage plans and their costs and benefits
- Assist with billing problems and appeals
- Prevent consumers from buying unnecessary or duplicate coverage
- Help prepare enrollment forms and applications for assistance

For more information please contact Donald Peters, Nutritionist Program Director Title VI- Elders "Lunch & Learn" 508-477-0208 Ext 117 or Dpeters@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

Dental Clinic Opens Under Dr. Tempestt Evans

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Service Dental Clinic reopened last month under the new direction of Dr. Tempestt Evans. With the gap between Dr. Warren's departure and Dr. Evans' arrival the clinic had to temporarily close for a few weeks. The clinic is now open and scheduling appointments. Improving oral health in her community is a top priority for Dr. Evans.

Dr. Evans grew up in Connecticut and completed her dental school training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill. She recently completed an Advanced Education in

General Dentistry residency program at Winslow Indian Health Care Center in Arizona.

As a citizen of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, she is looking forward to giving back and advancing the oral health of the Mashpee Wampanoag as well as that of other federally recognized tribal members.

To make an appointment, please call (508) 477-6967. The clinic also has emergency care hours on Monday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30 AM or 1 PM and on Tuesday and Wednesday at 1 PM.

Language Department Immersion School is Growing

The Immersion School that provides our next generation of leaders with a solid educational foundation have made several new hires. Please join the Language Department and Immersion School in welcoming the new staff.

Nitana Greendeer is the new Head of School, or principal, for both our Mukayuhsak Weekuw primary classrooms and for our lower elementary classroom in the yurt.

Phillip Wynne is a new primary language teacher assistant. Phillip joins Autumn Jackson who is also working as a language teacher assistant.

Also, Alex Pocknett is the new School Wellness Counselor.

Returning language teachers are Vonnie Brown and Jennifer Harding in Lower Elementary; Tia Pocknett, Stefani Lopez and Camille Madison in Mukayuhsak Weekuw.

Toodie Coombs works in all 3 classrooms as a language teacher and leads our after school programs. Melanie Roderick teaches Wôpanâak

Take Part in an International Community Theatre Production in Plymouth, UK

In June 2020 the UK's largest regional producing theatre, Theatre Royal Plymouth, will create a major new work of community theatre.

Theatre Royal Plymouth, UK are looking for Wampanoag and other people from the Tribal Nations of Southern New England, who are interested in the historical events regarding the impact of the landing of the Mayflower in Wampanoag Territory, and to ensure their appropriate representation, as well as aspiring singers, dancers, musicians and actors from these communities. No experi-

ence is necessary and involvement will include an all-expenses paid trip to the UK in summer 2020 (June).

A series of workshops for the production will be held on October 5 to October 8 at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center.

For further information and to receive regular updates about the project please contact Wampanoag Advisory Committee Linda Coombs at bornagainpatuxet@yahoo.com or Kitty Hendricks-Miller at kit.4wamp@gmail.com.

Committee Involvement Benefits the Tribe

Each month vacant committee seats are posted. Volunteering on a Commission or a Committee is an important part of being involved and helping the tribal community. Everyone needs to be involved.

Currently there are open seats on the following commissions and committees.

- **2 Open Seats on the Housing Commission**
- **Open Seats on Enrollment Committee**
- **Open Seats on the Powwow Committee**

To serve, send your letter of interest to Francie Dottin, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Chairman, at Francie.Dottin@mwtribe-NSN.gov or mail to 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649

Mashpee Celebrates Inaugural Indigenous Peoples' Day

On Monday, October 14 the Town of Mashpee will officially celebrate indigenous culture rather than an explorer whose name has become synonymous with the exploitation of natives. From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on October 14 the town will celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day and the 50th Anniversary of the Mashpee Historical Commission. The joint event will include tours of the town archives, the one-room schoolhouse a roundtable discussion and a cultural event in the Mashpee Community Park.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Shellfish Farm is Growing and Looking for Volunteers

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recently received a \$40,000 grant from the First Nations Development Institute of Longmont, Colorado. This award will support the efforts of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Shellfish Farm Expansion Project.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Shellfish Expansion Project will be looking to for volunteers 18+yrs. to learn basic aquaculture techniques and participate in the shellfish density monitoring program this fall. This program involves volunteers getting hands on experience and education for our future workforce. The Project will provide a much larger crop that will cause a demand for a larger workforce on the Shellfish Farm in 2020.

Volunteers 18+ will be involved in the planting of seed, rotation of crop, and harvesting activities. Participants will learn to use the \$14,000 oyster sorting machine at the Mashoup Farm and replant crop on both our Goose-

berry Island and 8 acre sites. With over 600,000 oysters and over 200,000 Quahogs to be planted before 2020, all volunteers 18+ are welcome to come join the farm and help expand our tribal shellfish industry.

If you are interested in participating in The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Shellfish Farm Expansion project and want to be a volunteer please contact Shellfish Farm Director/Manager Corey Hendricks via email corey.hendricks@mwtribe-nsn.gov or by phone 774 236 0434 to schedule hours.



NYCP Fall Programs

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department has organized several education and culture based programs for the fall of 2019 for tribal students. These events are made possible thanks to the NYCP Grant funding.

- **October 2** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.: SAT prep with pizza
- **October 7**: UMass Dartmouth college tour
- **October 30** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.: SAT prep with pizza
- **November 9** from 9:00 a.m. to Noon: Outdoor skills and lunch with Chiefy
- **December 4** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.: SAT prep with pizza
- Two Saturdays in October/November: Outdoor skills
- Date TBA: Visit to Cape Cod Community College
- **November 17**: Eastham 400 Youth Forum

Tribe Support Mass Gaming Commission Decision on Region C (continued)

tribal programs with his funding of constant legal challenges. He has also halted literally thousands of good paying construction jobs and careers that were underway in 2017, caused the Commonwealth to lose \$1 million dollars per day in taxable revenue for two years now, and caused the City of Taunton and the surrounding region to lose over \$30 million in critical traffic infrastructure and public safety improvements.

Mayor Thomas C. Hoye of the City of Taunton made his own observations about yesterday's vote and its implications: "I might not put it in the same terms as Chairman Cromwell, but I do understand and share the Tribe's concerns. The Tribe is an important part of our community and our history, and they deserve our respect.

I'm glad to see the Commis-

sion rightfully reject MG&E's bid for a second time. Bluhm claims to have spent millions of dollars for his failed bid, but I doubt any residents of our region saw one dime of that money. The Tribe, on the other hand, has given over \$2 million dollars to our community under their IGA with Taunton, voluntarily paved our roads, and were extremely generous to the businesses that they had to relocate. Instead of letting outsiders stall real economic development in our region and pitting local towns and cities against one another, we should all be having productive conversations about how the Tribe can help the entire region. Bluhm is ready to head for the hills after five years, but imagine how the Tribe feels?"

"For us this is not about casinos, it's about our Tribe having the

federally-reserved ancestral homelands it deserves and which is so unconscionably long overdue", states the Tribe's Vice-Chairwoman Jessie Little Doe Baird.

"Enough with the falsehoods that have characterized Bluhm's PR campaign and attempts by his hired guns to make us "disappear" from America's inconvenient history. Bluhm and the Rhode Island casinos who all keep trying to find ways around the Commission and the Tribe's Compact with the Commonwealth will all come and go. But we have been here, and we will always be here. The best interests of Massachusetts and the Tribe are intertwined. We are fighting the good fight, and we hope Massachusetts will keep fighting with us", Vice-Chairwoman Baird said.

Chairman's Column (continued)

members on our reservation land. That's an amazing accomplishment that will make sure our people will never be homeless on their homeland. Our Education Department continues to open paths of opportunity for our young adults with tutoring and support. Just last month tribal students were able to connect directly with UMASS Dartmouth and Tufts University and attend the Native Food Sovereignty Summit in Green Bay. These are the type of opportunities our youth did not have 15 years ago. We've come a long way.

We have an amazing health support network with Tribal Health Services and Indian Health Services. That network continued to grow last month with the addition of our new dentist, Dr. Tempestt Evans. She's the first Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal member to hold this position. Her commitment to serving her people is real.

We also continue to strengthen our government to government relations on the federal, state and local level. David Weeden ran a solid campaign to bring needed balance

to the Mashpee Board of Selectman. He focused on the issues that are important to all of us – clean water, housing and jobs – and the voters of Mashpee responded. He was elected as the newest Selectman in Mashpee on October 1. There hasn't been a tribal member on the board since Chuckie Green held a seat from 2000 – 2009. David's appointment will further connect the town and our Tribe support networks.

There's a never-ending list of amazing work that's being accomplished right here in the land of the Mashpee Wampanoag. I point this out because it's important to understand what we are collectively working towards. It's important that we continue to be a productive nation that ensures our Tribe will continue to thrive for the next seven generations.

Our land is sacred. Our unity is sacred. Mashpee above everything else.

Kutâputunumuw;
Chairman Cedric Cromwell
Qaqeemasq (Running Bear)

David Weeden Elected as Mashpee Selectman



With 804 votes, David Weeden was elected to the Mashpee Board of Selectman to finish an 8-month term during a special election held on October 1. David brings much needed balance to the town of board and is the first Mashpee Wampanoag to hold a seat since since Chuckie Green held a seat from 2000-2009.

The unofficial special town election results that were released on October 1 are:

Michael Richardson 571
Elana Doyle 428
David Weeden 804
Robert Bono 70

Housing Department Accepting Applications for Waitlist

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Housing Department is currently accepting applications for waitlists for the following programs:

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