or centuries, the remains of Wampanoag Massasoit 8sâmeeqan (pronounced oosa-meek-kwan) had been scattered far and wide.

The Wampanoag leader 8sâmeeqan who signed the first treaty with the Mayflower’s Puritan pilgrims in 1621 and who was reinterred to his original burial site on Burrs Hill Park overlooking Narragansett Bay will be commemorated during a private, sacred ceremony open only to the Wampanoag people on May 13, 2017. Wampanoag descendants who are planning to attend are asked to wear their finest traditional regalia for the ceremony.

An important distinction to make as you read about the reinterment of our Massasoit 8sâmeeqan and how the Wampanoag Confederacy worked for the past 20 years with various museums to repatriate the funerary artifacts and remains is the difference between reinterment and repatriate. Repatriate is the act of returning the artifacts and remains back to the Wampanoag. Reinterment is the act of returning our ancestors and their funerary items back to their resting place.

Through painstaking historical detective work, the Confederation was able to recoup the remains of the Massasoit through the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, with the cooperation of the following museums: National Museum of the American Indian (Smithsonian); Museum of the City of New York; The Haffenraffer Museum; Rhode Island Historic Society; Roger Williams Park Museum and Planetarium; Robert Peabody Museum; and the George Hail Free Library/Charles Whipple Museum.

Over the years, the Confederation has successfully repatriated the grave contents of 42 burials with 658 funerary objects removed from the burial ground on a hill at the edge of 8sâmeeqan’s village of Sowams, now known as the Town of Warren.

Below and continued on page 4 are a few of the funerary artifacts that were repatriated back to the Wampanoag and that will be reinterred during a sacred ceremony.

Greetings Tribal Family,

Like many of you, I’m flooded with a mix of emotions as we get ready to commemorate the ceremonial homecoming of our Massasoit 8sâmeeqan later this month in Warren, Rhode Island. On one hand, I’m relieved that the Wampanoag Confederacy persevered for the past 20 years and refused to allow this grave site to remain scattered across various museum collections like pieces of art. I’m also incensed and saddened that the grave site was looted to begin with - treated like a sideshow instead of a sacred burial site of human remains that deserved the respect and decency afforded to Europeans.

Massasoit 8sâmeeqan was a great leader of our people who welcomed the settlers and allowed them to live on this land. And yes, he also signed the first treaty with the Mayflower’s Puritan pilgrims in 1621 but his legacy is so much greater than this one act. Under the leadership of 8sâmeeqan our people enjoyed 50 years of peace. He understood how to work peacefully with our neighbors and how to work with the Grand Council.

In fact, our traditional government worked so well that it served as the foundation for the democracy used to govern this country. Benjamin Franklin came to a long house to better understand how our ancestors along with the ancestors of other Eastern Tribes were able to govern in such an efficient manner. It’s a manner of governing that our current Tribal Council continues to aspire to. 8sâmeeqan was a powerful leader and there’s still so much we can all learn from his legacy.

What’s truly unfortunate is that such a great leader who was welcoming to the early settlers could have his final resting place des-
Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell Honored During Women’s History Month

In recognition of Women’s History Month, the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area office selected three women to honor for their leadership and contributions to Indian Country. Among the three women selected for this honor was Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell who has a long track record of improving health services for her own tribe and across the country.

Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell saw this as a platform to share her professional and personal perspectives about being a leader. “For me, this was more than just being recognized for my work. I really wanted to give something back to my peers and the up and coming leaders,” said Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell. “It’s my hope that through recognizing strong, traditional women in our communities that are doing good work and by sharing that knowledge we can increase opportunities and strengthen Indian Country.”

The event, which was called “Women in Long-Term Leadership,” was designed to strengthen tribal communities and its future leaders.

Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell along with Verna Thompson, Head Start Director from the Cherokee Nation; and Dr. Lynn Malerba, Chief of the Mohegan Tribe were honored at the event and each received an IHS medallion to recognize and thank them for their leadership and commitment to improving healthcare for Native Americans. Congratulations Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell on this well deserved honor.

The Nashville Area office is the most geographically and culturally diverse area within IHS. The office works to raise the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.

Youth Sobriety Powwow on May 21

This year’s Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Youth Sobriety Powwow will be held on Sunday, May 21 at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Powwow Grounds located next to the Community and Government Center on Great Neck Road, South in Mashpee.

Chyla Inducted into Honor Society

Congratulations to Chyla Bingham-Hendricks who was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Chyla is a junior at Mashpee High School and serves on the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Youth Council as the Co-Secretary. She is the daughter of Missy (Bingham) Hendricks and Carlton Hendricks, Jr. and is the granddaughter of George G. Bingham III and Beverly Bingham as well as Carlton Hendricks, Sr. and Catherine Hendricks. Chyla is the great-granddaughter of Tribal Elders Amelia Peters Bingham and Ellen Hendricks. Congratulations Chyla on your academic achievements. We are all so very proud of you.
You Are Invited To The Album Release Party
For The GroovaLottos

Soul Keepers of Native America Cordially invites you to a concert, dance, and celebration of the release of “Ask Yo’ Mama”, the debut album by The GroovaLottos. Saturday, May 13 at 8:00 p.m. (doors open at 7:30p), The Cultural Center of Cape Cod, 307 Old Main Street in South Yarmouth. Tickets are $15 and $12 for cultural center members.

The GroovaLottos are a powerhouse soul-funk-blues trio, who are said to play with their souls instead of their hands. Heralding from the Choctaw and Wampanoag communities, they are known as the “Soul-Funk Song Keepers of Native America.” Comprised of Eddie Ray Johnson on drums and vocals, Mwalim “Daphne Professor” on keyboards and vocals, and Melvin “Melo” Coombs, Jr. on bass.

Their incredible music and wild sensibilities of humor make them one of the most entertaining bands around. They came to international attention when their debut single, “Do You Mind (IFWeDanceWithYoDates)” spent 41 weeks in the top ten of the Americana/In- die Blues charts in 2016. They were selected to open the 2017 Gathering Of Nations Powwow, performing in front of 100,000 people.

For tickets and more information, call (508) 394-7100. You can also visit them online at www.TheGroovaLottos.com for more information about the band, upcoming events, and to check out their music.
IN THE NEWS

Photos of Funerary Artifacts

courtesy of the Wampanoag Confederacy

Transportation to 8sâêmeeqan Homecoming

Transportation to the Massasoit 8sâêmeeqan Homecoming event at Burr’s Hill Park in Warren, RI, on Saturday, May 13 will be provided for tribal members with tribal IDs. The motor coach holds up to 47 seats and will begin loading promptly at 12:30 p.m. and departing for Burr’s Hill Park by 1:00 p.m.

Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis so please be on time! Departure back to Mashpee from RI will be at or around 6:00 p.m. when the event ends.

Any questions, please call Love Williams at (508) 477-0208, ext. 174.

Brian Running for Mashpee School Committee

Brian Weeden is running for one of the two open seats on the Mashpee School Committee. While only 24, Brian has committed the better part of the past decade to the growth and development of youth in the community and hopes to bring a fresh perspective to the committee.

Brian is a 2011 graduate of Mashpee High School and has achieved an impressive list of accomplishments over the past decade.

In 2009, he founded the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Youth Council and served as its chairman until he “aged out” at 21.

Since 2010, Brian has been heavily involved with the United Nations Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) organization, and has traveled throughout the country representing Mashpee at meetings and conferences. Brian also served as the UNITY male co-president.

NAGPRA Investigation

Last month Dave Barland-Lilas a United States National Park Service Special Agent visited the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Historic Preservation Office to further investigate civil penalty allegations against the Charles Whipple Museum/George Hail Library for failure to turn over human remains and funerary items of Wampanoag affiliation, specifically associated with the Burr’s Hill collection. This visit marked the first time a USNPS Special Agent has visited a federally recognized Tribe.

Ramona Peters, who serves many roles for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe including NAGPRA Director, submitted the initial allegation of failure to repatriate to the National Park and Service Director Jonathan Jarvis back in May of 2013. Ramona submitted the allegation on behalf of the Wampanoag Confederation while acting as the Coordinator for the Confederation. Prior to sending the allegation letter, the Wampanoag Confederation sent 8 letters and numerous emails plus countless calls between 1999 and 2014 to the Charles Whipple Museum/George Hail Library asking them to repatriate the Burr’s Hill Collection.

In the allegation letter Ramona pointed out that the Wampanoag Confederation does have knowledge that written materials exist pertaining to the museum’s possession of Native American cultural items and that the museum has failed to comply with the NAGPRA law. When the museum did finally repatriate as a result of the allegations, they did not return all the items on the inventory. Ramona reports that David’s investigation resulted in locating where the missing items were last seen which are still being carefully tracked down.

Town of Mashpee Election on May 16

The Annual Town of Mashpee Elections will be held on Tuesday, May 16 at the Quashnet School. Town residents will be able to place a vote for the following positions:

- **Housing Authority**
  - Vote for One for a 5-Year Term

- **Library Trustee**
  - Vote for Three for a 3-Year Term

- **Planning Board**
  - Vote for One for a 3-Year Term

- **Selectman**
  - Vote for Two for a 3-Year Term

- **School Committee**
  - Vote for One for a 3-Year Term

- **Town Clerk**
  - Vote for One for a 3-Year Term

- **Water Commissioner**
  - Vote for One for a 3-Year Term
Governor Baker Appoints Mike Maxim to Cape Cod Commission

On March 29 Gov. Charlie Baker added a second tribal representative to the Cape Cod Commission at a swearing-in ceremony at the State House.

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Facilities Director Mike Maxim will join the Tribe’s deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Tribal Council member David Weeden on the regional land-use regulatory agency.

Weeden was appointed as a tribal representative by the Tribal Council last year for a one-year term. Maxim will serve as governor’s appointee for the remainder of the governor’s term. Maxim was recommended to the governor’s office by the town of Mashpee Cape Cod Commission representative Ernie Virgilio, a 22-year member of the Commission.

Commission members are tasked with reviewing proposed Developments of Regional Impact and other land-use regulatory issues on Cape Cod, such as transportation and waste-water management, balancing economic development needs with the necessity of protecting and preserving the Cape’s natural environment.

“I am honored to serve on the Commission and lend my voice to such an important decision-making body,” Maxim said. “Our tribe has lived on this land for 12,000 years and has always been committed to balance – balancing the need for people to make a living while ensuring the land and resources that sustain it all are protected for future generations.”

Darla DeGrace Appointed to Black Advisory Commission

On March 29 Governor Charlie Baker launched the Black Advisory Commission, signing an executive order and swearing-in several members of the commission who will advise on issues relating to the economic prosperity and well being of the black community living in Massachusetts. One of the people sworn in to serve on this commission and advise the Governor and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito was tribal citizen Darla DeGrace.

“Our priority will continue to be the fostering of economic inclusion and equality for all citizens of the Commonwealth, and we recognize the challenges to advancement many in Massachusetts’ black community still face,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “The Commonwealth continues to be a diverse and global community, and through this Commission, we look forward to the opportunity for additional engagement and dialogue with leaders and experts in the black community and re-affirm our commitment to addressing their concerns and ensuring we promote their strength statewide.”

Members of the Commission include gubernatorial appointees with varying roles in many community, professional and non-profit organizations and represent a group diverse in gender, race, industry, region, age and education. The Commission will also include the involvement of the secretariats for Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Economic Development, Public Safety and Security and Labor and Workforce Development. Appointees serve for a term of four years.

Darla is the Director of National Diversity Recruitment and Strategic Partnerships, City Year President and a member of the Boston Chapter of the National MBA Association.

Stephanie Sfiridis Passes Massachusetts Bar Exam

After breezing through law school at the Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law in just two years – a program that is designed to take at least three years to complete – tribal citizen Stephanie Sfiridis was recently notified that she had passed the Massachusetts State Bar exam that she took in February of this year.

The Massachusetts State Bar exam is notoriously difficult to pass with only a 47.8% pass rate for February 2017, but it’s no surprise that Stephanie was able to pass the exam. In addition to expediting the legal program at Arizona State University, she also received the CALI Award for the highest grade (A+) in both the Federal Indian Law I and Federal Indian Law II courses. Stephanie was named a Pedrick Scholar in the spring of 2016 and served on the Native American Law Student Association and served as Vice President of the Business Legal Assistance Program while at Arizona State University.

Having successfully completed the bar exam, along with having a strong background in Indian Law and several years of experience working with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Gaming Authority, Stephanie was tapped by the Tribe to serve as the new Associate Counsel to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Gaming Authority.

Congratulations Stephanie on this tremendous accomplishment and for bringing your talent and services back to this community as counsel. Your leadership and firm grasp of Indian Law is a welcome addition to tribe.
Jordan Keliinui Reflects on Avimco

I would like to thank Avimco for the opportunity to fulfill an Information Technology internship with their company. I would like to send a special thank you to Tj Thomas, working with him over the past two years has been an incredible experience and an amazing opportunity that has given me invaluable skills. Working at the Mashpee Wampanoag Community and Government Center has been a unique experience because not only has it given me the hands-on experience in a field of my interest but I was also able to directly help members within our tribal community. This internship was extremely important to me because it allowed me to work in an area that I am passionate about and truly enjoy. Furthermore, this experience allowed me to compete in this highly-competitive industry. Statistically, minorities experience allowed me to compete in this highly-competitive industry. Statistically, minorities experience and truly enjoy. Furthermore, this experience allowed me to compete in this highly-competitive industry.

Because of my internship with Avimco, I was approved 4-credits to count towards my Information Technology Minor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

In April, I accepted a job at Raytheon, as a computer systems technologists. I am eager to learn how to design, implement, and manage enterprise network infrastructure. I am excited to work with top-of-line technologies to help make people’s lives more efficient.

Lastly, I extend a “heartfelt” thank you to Alicia Imhof for always pushing me to strive for greatness and giving me your expertise to succeed as a professional. Avimco has given me valuable tools that will benefit me greatly not only in the workforce but in life as a whole. I strive to wake up every morning with a smile on and a can-do attitude to resolve issues and build a great environment. Remember, “If you’re not making someone else’s life better, then you’re wasting your time”. I share my Grandfather’s “Ancient Hawaiian” quote “Ahuwale ka po’okela i kau hana ia ha i’..... It is through the excellent way you serve others that your greatness will be felt.”

Thanks,

Jordan Keliinui

Patricia Keliinui

Cedric Cromwell. “The challenges to the Department’s decision to place land into trust for the Cowlitz Tribe are now over.” The Supreme Court decision is seen as a positive development for the $1 billion First Light Resort & Casino, which has faced similar challenges.

“The time to cut the red tape is here,” Chairman Cromwell said. “We are ready to deliver thousands of jobs, tens of millions of dollars in critical traffic infrastructure improvements, and hundreds of millions of dollars toward urban renewal.”

Tribe Applauds Cowlitz Case (continued)
Transcending Historical Trauma

We will now continue with our series on Historical Trauma which impacts Indian people today across this vast land. Judy Bluehorse Skelton, Adjunct Professor at Portland State University’s Graduate School of Education is one of the many who are helping to heal historical trauma by educating her community, Native and non-native. Wisdom of the Elders, Inc. (WISE-DOM) recently recorded her for the Discovering Our Story Project: Thanks to the Wisdom of the Elders, we are able to present what was stated in the recording.

Transcending Historical Trauma

Yakama elder and educator, Lavina Wilkins: Lavina Wilkins, an elder, educator and counselor from Washington State’s Yakama Nation, speaks of suffering as a child from early school experiences. Because she was raised and protected by traditional grandparents, she didn’t know how to speak English when she first started school.

“Now being raised the way I was raised not speaking English, I started school not speaking English…You talk about trauma. That was really traumatic, because I didn’t know what they would be talking about in the classroom.

And then I was being poked fun of because of how I dressed and because of how my hair was combed and because of the shoes I wore and all that…And then they would laugh, you know. The kids would be laughing and I’d be laughing right along with them.” My brother finally told me. He understood.

Lavina began drinking alcohol at an early age.

“And at that time I didn’t realize it, but then I start getting kind of hot headed…I loved to dance modern dance, so I started going to dances. My grandma said no, but yet I sneak out anyways and started drinking. I ended up addicted to alcohol and I traveled a lot, getting out of my family’s sight so they couldn’t see me and what I’m doing.

And during that time too, my sisters both met death because of alcoholism. One of my sisters got crushed between two cars. When she was crushed she left three children, who I inherited because I didn’t have any and I was available…to take care of them. So I had three children at a very young age. Then my other sister had four or five and she drowned down in the Yakima River. She left hers who became mine. In the end, I had eleven children as my own, and I’m addicted to alcohol. But all week long I worked two jobs to take care of my Children.”

Despite her alcoholism, after overcoming a severe bout of depression following the loss of another close relative, Lavina continued raising her children, and went on to college where she received a Master’s degree in education and counseling.” (To be Continued in the Next Issue)

Tribal Child Welfare Jurisdiction - Paternity

We will now continue with our article on Paternity from the “Tribal Child Welfare Codes as Sovereignty in Action” Developed by the Native Nations Institute and NICWA.

Making paternity easy to establish not only protects parental rights but also makes it easier for a government to hold a father financially responsible and accountable for caregiving. Making paternity difficult to establish may limit the ability of a government to hold a father responsible and accountable and may make it particularly difficult for those who are not biologically related to a child but are responsible for caregiving to secure the legal right to determine what happens to the child.

Because of such complexities, many state child welfare codes define grounds for presumptions of paternity - that is, for the presumption of who a child’s legal father is - and processes for establishing and acknowledging paternity. Many tribal child welfare codes, facing the same challenges, include such provisions as well. Forty percent of the reviewed codes specified grounds for the presumption of paternity, and 30% included processes for establishing and acknowledging paternity.

In general, states are making paternity – legal fatherhood - more and more difficult to establish, particularly if a child is to be adopted. Tribal child welfare codes that provide clear grounds and processes for presuming or establishing paternity can strengthen paternity claims in state courts.

Paternity also is an area where it may be important to take customary tribal practices into account in tribal child welfare codes. Tribal customs - for example, those involving the role of extended kin in child care - may depart significantly from state provisions. Including customary practices in tribal child welfare codes may help clarify paternal rights in state courts and better protect Native children from culturally inappropriate court determinations.

Courts, Mediation, and Peacemaking

Below is a summary of Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community by Kay Pranis, Barry Stuart, and Mark Wedge (2003). We will now explore the Guidelines for Peacemaking.

Guidelines reflect the Circle’s values and principles. During the opening phase of a Circle, PeaceKeepers explain how guidelines and values are connected. The community creates the Circle’s guidelines in the beginning of the Circle. There are many guidelines the community can agree upon. But, there are also some core guidelines that are essential to the process:

- Respect for the talking stick: Not talking when someone else is holding the talking stick shows respect not only for the talking stick, but also for the contributions and perspectives of others. It demonstrates that we value inclusivity.
- Speaking from the heart: This draws on many of our values such as honesty, trust, sharing, courage, and humility. It also encourages others to speak from the heart, too.
- Speaking with respect: We may need to say difficult things in a Circle – especially as they relate to others in the Circle. But, still we strive to say them in a respectful way. We call on our values such as humility and empathy to accomplish this.
- Listening with respect: Respectful listening can be demonstrated externally through our body language, focus, and expressions. Internally, we accomplish it by keeping our values in mind, revisiting our reactions, and honoring the different perspectives we have.
- Remaining in the Circle: All participants are expected to remain in the Circle until it is over unless a Peacekeeper excuses them. This is critical to ensure that everyone feels respected and heard. Otherwise, whether or not offense is intended, leaving might create the impression that the leaver wasn’t interested in what was being said. Of course, Peacekeepers can encourage people to remain in the Circle by taking regular, timely breaks.
- Honoring confidentiality: What is said in the Circle, stays in the Circle. There are certain exceptions that apply – usually prearranged – but, in general confidentiality is to be strictly observed.
Free Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Department has an ongoing partnership with the American Red Cross and are delivering and installing free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of tribal citizens. The campaign launched in January and there are still new smoke and carbon monoxide detectors available.

It’s so important that you and your family have properly working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. On average seven people die every day from a home fire with another 36 people suffering injuries every day. These fires cost over $7 billion in property damage every year. Fires happen and they happen quickly. Can your family escape in just two minutes after a fire starts? The alert from your smoke or carbon monoxide detector can make all the difference.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that inhibits the body’s ability to absorb oxygen, a condition that can cause serious health problems, and even death, within a matter of minutes. The first symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning usually include headache, light-headedness, dizziness and unexplained sleepiness. Having a properly functioning carbon monoxide detector could potentially help to save the life of you and your loved ones.

The Emergency Management Department is committed to keeping your family prepared for all types of emergencies. That’s why the department is providing and installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in tribal households at no cost. If you are in need of this free service, please contact Emergency Management Director Nelson Andrews Jr. at (508) 477-5800 x15 or Emergency Preparedness Specialist Allyssa Hathaway at (508) 477-5800 x13.

Train to be a Recovery Coach

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Indian Health Services (IHS) will be hosting a special recovery coach training program. The five-day training program, called “Train to be a Recovery Coach,” will be held Monday, June 5 to Friday, June 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. The training is open to all federally recognized tribes and you must preregister for the program at least two weeks prior to the start. To register, contact Nadine Phillips at (508) 477-6967 ext. 6965.

The five-day program will explore recovery coach roles and functions, the different components to being a recovery coach, core values and guiding principles of recovery, the stages of recovery, the stages of change, dimensions of recovery, enhanced relationships, increased awareness of culture, power and privilege.

Prize Winners at Dental Clinic

Congratulations to Alishanee DeBarros the Mashpee Wampanoag Family Dental Clinic February Incentive Prize winner and to Savanna Honan the March Incentive Prize winner.

Save the Date for Annual Tribal Health Fair on July 22

The date for the annual Tribal Health Fair has been set for Saturday, July 22 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Tribe’s Community and Government Center. In past years, the annual event has brought in a wide range of health care organizations from Cape Cod and Boston to share health and prevention tips and programs with the community. The Tribal Health Fair is organized and hosted by the Tribal Health Services Department.

For further information, contact Kim Frye at (508) 477-0208 ext. 103 or Wendy Pocknett at (508) 477.0208 ext. 166.

Mental Health First Aid Training – Adult

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Indian Health Services (IHS) will be hosting a Mental Health First Aid Training – Adult. The one-day training course will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23. Tribal citizens interested in attending must pre-register for the training by contacting PumukQien Collins at (508) 477-6967 ext. 2562.

The one-day course will give participants the tools to identify when a youth may be struggling with mental health or substance abuse problems or crisis, and how to connect them with appropriate support and resources.

Participants will learn the risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental health problems and will become a “Certified Mental Health First Aid-Youth” responder at the completion of the course.

Mental Health First Aid Training – Youth

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Indian Health Services (IHS) will be hosting a Mental Health First Aid Training – Youth course. The one-day training course will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23. Tribal citizens interested in attending must pre-register for the training by contacting PumukQien Collins at (508) 477-6967 ext. 2562.

The one-day course will give participants the tools to identify when a youth may be struggling with mental health or substance abuse problems or crisis, and how to connect them with appropriate support and resources.

Participants will learn the risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental health problems and will become a “Certified Mental Health First Aid-Youth” responder at the completion of the course.
Tribal Youth Summer Camp Application
Deadline May 12

The popular Neekan (Our House), Preserving Our Homeland (POH), and Summer Turtle youth programs are merging this summer and will hold a six-week camp (July 10 - August 18) for tribal youth between the ages of 5 and 13. Applications are available for download at www.wlrp.org and www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov or in person in the Community and Government Center lobby kiosk.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, May 12. The program is open to 40 students, and will cost $25 weekly. Parents are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, and financial assistance may be requested as well.

Applications must be mailed to Education Department Director Nitana Hicks-Greendeer, 483 Great Neck Road S., Mashpee, MA 02649. Slots will be filled on a first come, first served basis - and sorted by postmark. Please do not drop off completed applications in person, as the postmark enrollment process is deemed the most fair to all tribal families, many of whom do not live or work in Mashpee.

This year’s summer youth camp is a collaboration among the Education Department, the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP)/Language Department, Natural Resources Department, and Youth Department. The six-week long summer camp will also include a Native Youth in Science - POH track for older students (ages 10-13) that will run three days per week for four weeks. In addition to POH, all students will be immersed in a range of cultural, outdoor, and language activities that will promote positive youth development.

Wampanoag New Year Celebration

The Old Indian Meeting House Committee is extending an invitation to all tribal citizens, family, friends and guests to join them at the Old Indian Meeting House on Saturday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m. for the annual Wampanoag New Year Celebration. Guests should wear traditional regalia.

Following the service everyone is invited to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center for a potluck luncheon.

6th Annual Graduation Brunch on June 25

The Education Department will be hosting the 6th Annual Graduation Brunch on Sunday, June 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. The annual brunch is a celebration of the academic achievements of our high school and college graduates from the past year. The brunch is open to all graduates and their immediate family members.

If you are a graduate and are planning to attend, you must RSVP with the number of family members that will be attending by Friday, May 5. To RSVP, contact Education Assistant Director Scott Shepherd at (508) 477-0208 x178 or send him an email at scott.shepherd@mwtribe-nsn.gov.

The Education Department is committed to providing the support programs that nurture the positive social and academic development of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe members.

Opportunities can open and be filled in a relatively quick and efficient manner. If you would like to see the most current list of job opportunities at the Tribe and the full position description, please visit www.mashpeewampanoagtribe-NSN.gov and click on the “Jobs” tab on the right column of the home page.

Food Pantry Coordinator - This is a full-time, non-exempt position with benefits with a beginning salary of $18.27 - $23.20 per hour. Under the direction of the Elder Services Director, the Food Pantry Coordinator oversees the operations of the food pantry.

Human Services/ICWA Caseworker - This is a full-time position with benefits with a beginning salary of $23.01 - $29.22 per hour. The ICWA caseworker provides assistance to tribal families to improve their social and economic home environment; to protect children and their families so as to maximize the family’s well-being.

Procurement Specialist - This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits with a beginning salary of $70,234. The Procurement Specialist supervises, assigns, reviews and participates in the work of staff responsible for volume purchasing services.

Powwow Director - This is a contractor position with a contract rate of $6,500. Plans and manages the Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow in collaboration with the Powwow Committee.

Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 472) and the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO).

Yard Sale to Benefit Alice May Lopez

The Alice May Lopez Memorial Statue Fundraising Committee will be hosting a yard sale at the home of Marcia Lopez located at 86 Lovell’s Lane in Mashpee. The yard sale will be held on Sunday, May 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Habitat for Humanity Dedicates Latoya’s Home

Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod is pleased to announce the dedication of a new home built for tribal citizen Latoya Green. Over 100 community volunteers worked alongside future homeowner, Latoya, in many phases of construction from raising walls and interior framing and trim, through sidewall shingling, laying floors and painting of the home. The ceremony, which was open to the public, took place on Saturday, April 22.

The ceremony honored community contributors and volunteers, as well as the hard work and determination of the family purchasing the home. Also, a home blessing was given by the Wampanoag Tribe’s Medicine Man, Guy “Soaring Eagle” Cash. Attendees were also given the opportunity to view the completed home and enjoy light refreshments following the ceremony.

Latoya shared a few thoughts anticipating her new home’s completion: “To have my own home in the same town my Tribe calls home, is a dream come true. I can’t thank Habitat for Humanity and all the volunteers enough for making this possible. I’m excited to start this new chapter in my life and will never forget how this community helped make that happen. I will pay it forward.”

The land for this home was donated by the Town of Mashpee. In May, Habitat volunteers will complete the 18th Habitat home in the Town of Mashpee on Quinaquisset Ave. Both homes will be sold at an affordable price and deed restricted to be affordable in perpetuity, upon any future resale.

A few handmade housewarming gifts including bookcases built, painted and filled by students at Falmouth Academy and Camp Burgess in Sandwich were also presented to the homeowner and children during the ceremony.

For more information, visit www.habitatcapecod.org or call Tara Cronin Monday-Friday at 508-362-3559 ex. 16.

Ten Step Recovery Assistance by Gail Melix

If you or someone you love is struggling with addiction, my heart goes out to you. Too many of us know what this feels like.

Along with whatever treatment program you are considering or already engaged in there are day-to-day decisions you will have to make. Please consider these steps that may assist with your decisions and recovery.

1. Find someone you trust to hold you accountable so that when you get impulsive or have urges to use you call that person instead. You don’t have to think about it. Just do it.
2. Accept that both the commitment to recovery and the phone call for help will be hard for you. You won’t want to do either. The urge to self-medicate is huge. Your body is used to pushing anxiety and self-doubt deeper instead of dealing with them.
3. Know that with time and treatment you will learn how to deal with anxiety and insecurity. We all have these feelings. They are surmountable. In the meantime, move through every day knowing that your life depends on making real changes, because it really does.
4. Think of that negative voice in your head as a liar, that voice that tells you you are weak, no good, a loser, unlovable. You are not a loser. You are not beyond help. Stop beating yourself up. You are worthy of a good life.
5. When negativity fills your whole being, call a trusted friend, who might also be your sponsor. Ask them to give you a list of what they like about you.
6. Focus on an activity or goal. Take a walk. The natural world is healing. Keep busy. There is a place in recovery for distraction.
7. Stay hydrated. Eat well. Cut down on sugar and processed foods. When you feel hungry sometimes it is not for food. Connect with your Higher Power. Go to a meeting. Believe that we are all born with internal gifts that are worth unwrapping and using.
8. The more stress you have in your life the more compromised your recovery will be. Stay alert for the stress YOU create. Stop doing that. Pay less attention to outside stresses. Deflect them unless they are actively interfering with your recovery.
9. Avoid people, places and things that no longer serve your good health and recovery. No exceptions. Stay away from those things that reek of dishonesty, deception, and death. Read your daily affirmations. Keep a journal. Your true self is evolving.
10. Every success in your day, no matter how small, counts. Take a pause to congratulate yourself. Let a trusted friend know of this success. Allow the goodness you feel when succeeding flow through you from your head down to your toes. It only takes a few seconds. These successes will multiply.

Your body and mind need to be told every day that you are in the process of recovering your true self. Recovery is a promise you can make to yourself, right now, from wherever you are. Your reward will be more than you can possibly imagine. I know because I’ve witnessed it many times over.
n April 8, twenty-one men and nine women have joined the uniformed ranks of the Barnstable County Correctional Facility (BCCF) as part of its crucial and never-ending mission: Patrolling the institution and keeping it as safe as possible for those inside. Among those graduates was Tribal Citizen Kevin Frye, Jr., who received his badge from his father Kevin Frye, Sr. during the ceremony.

“Corrections is the toughest job in law enforcement,” county Sheriff Cummings told the correction officer graduates during ceremonies held last Friday inside the Wampanoag’s Tribal Community and Government Center. “And on top of they may be the least appreciated. But the veteran officers you’re joining will quickly come to appreciate what you do. So will your supervisors and the rest of the command staff. You can take comfort in that.”

The Sheriff’s implicit reference was to the time between the June, 2015 academy and tonight’s. Attrition had taken its toll, with uniformed staff frequently working double shifts, many of them on involuntary overtime. “So we’ll see less of that,” the Sheriff said. “It’s a stressful job in the best of circumstances, making this kind of replenishment welcomed and needed.”

Overseeing the Cape’s most dangerous criminals “is no longer an academic exercise,” he told the cadre of new officers. “It’s now a reality.”

The 11-week course was a mix of classroom, physical fitness, drill, and the practical skills officers employ daily inside BCCF. They learned, among numerous other things, to write reports, detect suicidal behavior, supervise and interact with inmates, defend themselves if need be, administer CPR, and be alert to inmate cons. They were also schooled in fire safety, ethics and professionalism, handcuffing and other restraint techniques, and the use of chemical agents (getting sprayed themselves, mandatory!).

Their new workplace is a 12½-year-old adult detention facility that was accredited in 2010 by the American Correctional Association. It has been re-accredited twice since then, in 2013 and again last year. Besides doubling as a training site, the 588-bed jail also houses the Sheriff’s front office and administrative staffs.

The class itself represents less than 15% of those who applied. Each had to surmount four hurdles: a written entrance exam, a fitness test (push-ups, sit-ups, and running), a thorough background investigation, and an interview with a hiring board of top BCCF managers. Graduates range in age from 21 to 46; ten are military veterans; and eighteen have either associate or bachelor degrees. They are from the on-Cape towns of Barnstable, Bourne, Chatham, Dennis, Falmouth, Harwich, and Mashpee; and off-Cape from Lakeville, Middleboro, Plymouth, Wareham, and Weymouth.

On April 19 the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Education Department co-hosted the 2nd Annual Honoring Our Herring Event. The family-oriented event, which was held at the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum, feature culturally connected events including singing, dancing, fishing, crafts and food.

You can stay up to date on Museum activities and schedule by following the Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum on facebook.

**Photos from Honoring Our Herring Event**

Sponsored by Harwich Conservation Trust, Brewster Conservation Trust, and Yarmouth Conservation Trust, please join 12th generation Cape Codder Todd Kelley and native Nipmuc/Wampanoag Marcus Hendricks for a fascinating series of interpretive walks exploring the history of Cape Cod from the First People and early European settlers to the nature of Cape Cod today. This is an engaging three walk series that follows a progressive story line about human settlement near freshwater sources and coastal water embayments.

**WALK: Brewster, Saturday, May 6**  
10:00am - 12:00pm  
Join the First People at Saquatucket where the tidal waters meet the pure freshwater draining down through the Stony Brook valley.

**WALK: Yarmouth, Saturday, May 13**  
10:00am - 12:00pm  
Witness the barrier beach estuary at Nobsco set and come to understand the historic period migration of this community.

To register for a walk, please visit www.harwichconservationtrust.org.
n June 10, 2017, please participate in our Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Elders Recipe Workshop. We are now collecting recipes and suggestions for our new tribal cookbook. Please join Randy Netter, Vice-President of Food and Beverage of Resort World New York, and share your recipes that will benefit the MWT Elders Department.

The workshop starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community and Government Center. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP on the Sign-Up List located in the lobby of Community and Government Center. This workshop is open to both elders and non-elders. If you have any questions please call Councilwoman Yvonne Avant at (774) 238-8388 or email her at Yvonne.Avant@mwtribe-nsn.gov. The deadline for RSVP is June 7, 2017.

Weekly Story Hour at the Museum

The Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Museum will host a month-long story series in May. The weekly story hour is open to all children (native and non-native) and will be held each Thursday in May from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Wampanoag Indian Museum.

The story series is designed to introduce the youth and their family to native culture through stories of great Wampanoag leaders.

Drop by and listen to some wonderful stories and immerse yourself and your children in the Wampanoag culture. To learn more about the story hour, please contact Carol Wynne at the museum at (508) 477-9339 or email her at carol.wynne@mwtribe-nsn.gov.
Daughters of Tradition

A Prevention Education Program for Native American

June 19-21, 2017
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Mashpee Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club
215 South Sandwich Rd., Mashpee, MA 02649

Purpose: Trains Adult facilitators to implement this prevention education program that provides traditional knowledge to girls to prepare them to grow into healthy women. The girls will learn from elders, peers, and community members about ways to recognize, change, and get help for problems that they see or experience.

Registration Fee: $0 (Includes facilitator manual, participant workbook, DVD set, Implementation guide, 24 hours of continuing education through NAADAC, and ongoing support through white Bison) Light breakfast and lunch provided.

Please Contact Talia Landry to Register:
508-477-0208 (ext. 127) or Talia.Landry@mwtribe.com
Job Service: Catering – White Bison “Daughters of Tradition” Training
Location: Mashpee Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club
Reports To: Tribal Coordinating Committee
Department: Tribal Action Plan
Status: Contractual
Bid Range: $975-$1,125 ($13-$15 per person for lunch for 25 people for 3 days)

Summary: Contracted services are needed for the Daughters of Tradition White Bison Training hosted by the Tribal Action Plan’s Tribal Coordinating Committee. The event will be held June 19, 20, 21, 2017 at the Mashpee Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club. Catering services will have full access to the building’s kitchen.

The following MUST be included in the bid:

- Estimated invoice based off of 25 attendees for three days. Please include fixed pricing per person.
- Lunch Menu (traditional foods & drinks must be included)
- Serve Safe Certification
- Insurance information if applicable
- Contact information and references from 2 former clients (excluding work for MWT)

In addition, bidders will need to:

- Provide their own cooking supplies (i.e. pans, serving utensils and sterno’s/burners)
- Be available for a one-hour consultation, two weeks prior to the event
- Be available for a one hour follow up meeting within two weeks after the event
- Be responsible for the complete clean up (including floors) at the close of the event.
- Be physically on the premises for the entirety of meal preparation, serving, and cleanup.

BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING & COMPLETED BY 4PM ON May 15th, 2017

Confirmation of awarded bid will be established by May 19th, 2017. Half of the contracted funds will be paid one week prior to the event. Final payment will be available on Friday June 23rd, 2017

Ahapay,
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