Notice of Election and Availability of Candidate Packets

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Election Committee extends notice to all Enrolled Tribal Members who will turn 18 years of age on or before Sunday, February 8, 2015, that they are required to complete a Voter Registration form in order to vote at the general election on Sunday, February 8, 2015 (the "Election Day").

The Voter Registration form can be obtained at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center, located at 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649 during regular business hours. All enrolled and eligible-to-vote Tribal members are allowed to register on or before the Election Day.

The results of the Election will be posted at: (1) the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center, 483 Great Neck Road South, Mashpee, MA 02649; and (2) on the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe official website on Monday, February 9, 2015.

The Tribal Election will be held to fill six (6) seats on the Tribal Council for current members of Tribal Council whose terms end on the Election Day.

Chairman’s Column

Dear Tribal Family,

As you know, each November our people are faced with a challenging question: Is Thanksgiving a time of celebration or mourning?

I’ve come to realize that this is not an either/or question. It’s both. Historically, Thanksgiving represents our first encounter with the eventual erosion of our sovereignty and there is nothing wrong with mourning that loss. In fact, as long as we don’t wallow in regret and resentment, it’s healthy to mourn. It is a necessary part of the healing process.

Still, though our sovereign nation may not be exactly where we would like to see it today, we are still here - striving for something better for our people. To see the wheel of history begin to slowly turn in our favor is something to be thankful for, and celebrate. And, I believe we are in the midst of a renaissance.

Our new Government Center is a far cry from the trailers we used to cram ourselves into. Today, we have plenty of space, all the modern amenities, and more importantly, committed individuals filling the offices, working hard to serve our membership every day.

And for that, I am thankful.

With the help of our dedicated workers, Dr. Benjamin Warren, Katie Bennett, Rita Gonsalves, our health systems administrator, and Tribal Health Liaison Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, we recently celebrated the one year anniversary of the opening of our family health and dental clinic, which is now providing services to close to 400 tribal members (362).

Thanksgiving Turkeys at Food Pantry

To help families supplement their rising grocery bills through the holidays, the Food Pantry at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center will be distributing turkeys Monday, November 17 through Friday, November 21 during special hours.

The Food Pantry is funded by contributions from members of the community, and a Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant. The block grant for 2014 was approximately $90,000 and is expected to recur on an annual basis. In addition, some food items are obtained through The Greater Boston Food Bank and Roche Bros. supermarket delivers bread products to the pantry on a weekly basis. The funds and donations help support the nearly 200 families currently being serviced by the MWT Food Pantry.

The MWT Food Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday evening from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Turkey Distribution Schedule

- **Monday, November 17**
  - 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, November 18**
  - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, November 19**
  - 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, November 20**
  - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Friday, November 21**
  - 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Events Calendar

New Events

November 9 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Body Meeting,
Community and Government Center (MWTCGC)

November 15 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
WIA Information Session, MWTCGC

November 22 – 11:00 a.m.
Native American Thanks Giving,
Old Indian Meeting House

November 29 – 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Annual Potluck Social, MWTCGC

December 6 – 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Kids Shopping Spree, MWTCGC

December 13 – Time TBA
Children’s Christmas Party,
Location TBA

December 13 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Christmas Craft Fair, MWTCGC

December 14 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
General Body Meeting, MWTCGC

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, MWTCGC

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

Tuesdays – 5:30 p.m.
Enrollment Committee, MWTCGC

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

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

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

Thursdays – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Adult Math and Writing Workshops, MWTCGC

Monthly – 6:00 p.m.
Housing Commission, MWTCGC,
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, MWTCGC,
It is held the third Tuesday of the month.

Drum Beat

Volleyball Nights

Tribal Health is hosting Volleyball Night every Tuesday at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. This is a health promotion activity to increase social, physical, spiritual, and mental well-being so come join the already geared up participants. Everyone is welcome to participate. Stop by Tuesday night and join in the fun!

Kids Shopping Spree on December 6

The annual Kids Shopping Spree will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. During the event Tribal youth will have the opportunity to do some holiday shopping for family members. Each gift will be priced at 50 cents and kids will be allowed to purchase up to six gifts. The event is being hosted by our Elders Department.

There will also be a special group of elves on hand to help kids with their purchases and to wrap their gifts. This is a special event for youth only with plenty of support from our elves and parents are kindly asked to not enter the shopping area (no peeking). There will also be snacks, drinks and special activities for our kids.

Volunteers, donations or food dishes are being accepted...help us make this a truly special event for our youth. For more information about providing support, please contact Joanne Frye, Laverne or Latoya at (508) 477-0208 x140 or x182 or stop by the Elders Department.
Alice May Lopez Memorial Fund

The Alice May Lopez Memorial Fundraising Committee would like to thank all of the people that participated in the Wampum Jewelry Raffle and that attended the benefit dinner on October 11. Every dollar raised brings us one step closer to reaching our goal of $100,000 to create a life-sized bronze statue in memorial of Alice May Lopez. The statue will be set up in the foyer of the MWT Community and Government Center.

Alice May Lopez passed away unexpectedly at the age of 49 in 2011. Alice was the founder and director of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s Housing Department. She worked tirelessly for her people in her role and was passionate about providing safe, affordable housing to Tribal Members...nobody should be homeless in their homeland.

The raffle for the wampum jewelry was held on Wednesday, September 24 in the Community and Government Center. Congratulations to the winners Mary Mitchell, Terry Douglas, Chris Rezendes, Jim Peters, Patricia Defalco, Joyce Dias, Tanya Rezendes and Brice Hicks, Sr. The committee was happy to award jewelry to each winner.

To continue raising money for the memorial fund, the Committee has launched a raffle for a 17” x 31” wall art created with wampum and donated by Carol Lopez. A monetary donation of $30 or more to the Alice May Lopez Memorial Fund will get you entry into the drawing. Donations for the raffle are being accepted now through Saturday, November 29 and are available by calling Carol Lopez at (509) 505-6693.

Sincerely,
Committee members:
Carol Lopez
Vanessa Mendes
Marcia Lopez
Wendy Roberts

DRUM BEAT

Chairman’s Column (continued)

For that, I am thankful.

The Wôpanâàk Language Reclamation Project, which began in 1993 under the direction of Tribal Council Vice Chairwoman Jessie “Little Doe” Baird, is flourishing. We now have nearly two dozen certified language teachers, a dictionary with over 11,000 words, community language classes held in Mashpee, Aquinnah, Plymouth, New Bedford and Boston, a language-immersion curriculum we hope will one day lead to our own charter school. And, on Tuesdays and Thursdays in our tribal headquarters, there’s a language class for Elder’s followed by a luncheon, bringing generations together around what our Creator has given us as a birthright.

For that, I am thankful.

We continue to forge mutually beneficial relationships with other communities, both tribal and non-tribal. A few weeks ago, we hosted a “Business After Hours” meet and greet with the Mashpee Chamber of Commerce. It was the first time we hosted such an event and I am thankful to say, it was a success.

Despite the heavy rain and the Patriots game being aired on that same night, Mashpee Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Mary Lou Polumbo told us “it was one of the best ever, and highest attendance at our monthly After Hours.”

Not only did members of the Mashpee business community get a chance to meet with department heads and officers - including Ramona Peters and David Weeden who provided a visual presentation of historic images and important local tribal landmarks - they were also introduced to Tony Perry from First Light Oysters, who shucked and provided us with 100 oysters from our very own oyster farm.

For that, I am thankful.

I was recently invited to give the prayer at a Harvard University dinner hosted by the Provost’s Advisory Council on Native American and Indigenous Issues. This council works to identify, increase, and enhance opportunities for American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Indigenous students, faculty, and staff at Harvard. It was an honor to be invited to represent our tribe.

For that, I am thankful.

We were invited to participate in the City of Taunton’s 375th Anniversary parade last month. A group of Elders were warmly received and rode on a float in the parade. Parade-goers were treated to our traditional song and dance along the parade route, followed by a presentation from our Algonkian Singers and Dancers at the conclusion of the parade.

For that, I am thankful.

Last, I should mention, we continue to make progress in the development of Project First Light in Taunton. Very soon, we expect to publish our Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). And despite some of the rumbles in the press recently, questioning the finances behind this massive effort, those who attended our monthly tribal membership meeting in October now know our children and grandchildren are not saddled with debt; that tribal assets are safe, and all of legal and financial arrangements we have entered into are reviewed by the National Indian Gaming Commission, which is charged with ensuring that tribe’s aren’t subjected to predatory lending.

For the progress we are making toward economic self-sufficiency, I am thankful.

Yes, there is a place for mourning certain aspects of the past. But for us, it is a new morning, a time to celebrate and be thankful for the future we are now creating for ourselves.

I hope you will join me for our Thanks Giving celebration at the Meetinghouse on Nov. 22, which will be followed by food and fellowship at our tribal headquarters. Also, don’t forget our potluck social on Nov 29. Let us all come together in thanks.

Kutâputunumuw;

Cedric Cromwell Qaqemasq
(Running Bear)
Councilwoman Frye-Cromwell Welcomes new Health and Human Services Secretary

During the most recent U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee meeting in DC, Councilwoman Cheryl Frye-Cromwell along with other Tribal leaders who serve on the STAC committee formally welcomed the newly appointed Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell. Cheryl has served on the advisory committee since its inception in 2010 and was recently appointed to be the primary representative for the Nashville Area (29 tribes east of the Mississippi River).

The Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee’s (STAC’s) primary purpose is to seek consensus, exchange views, share information, provide advice and/or recommendations; or facilitate any other interaction related to intergovernmental responsibilities or administration of HHS programs, including those that arise explicitly or implicitly under statute, regulation or Executive Order. This purpose will be accomplished through forums, meetings and conversations between Federal officials and elected Tribal leaders in their official capacity.

The continuation of partnership between the tribes and the federal government has proven to be effective in tribal communities through the services and program established to address social economic needs.

“I’m looking forward to working closely with Secretary Burwell and working together to improve my community and the communities of the 29 Tribes that I represent,” said Cheryl. “We’ve accomplished a lot of good work on the advisory committee for Indian Country and I think Secretary Burwell is a good fit for supporting our mission as we move forward.”

U.S. Health and Human Service agency is a cabinet-level department of the U.S. federal government with the goal of protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services. HHS administers 115 programs across its 11 operating divisions. Some highlights include:

- Health and social science research
- Preventing disease, including immunization services
- Assuring food and drug safety
- Medicare (health insurance for elderly and disabled Americans) and Medicaid (health insurance for low-income people)
- Health information technology
- Financial assistance and services for low-income families
- Improving maternal and infant health, including a Nurse Home Visitation to support first-time mothers.
- Head Start (pre-school education and services)
- Faith-based and community initiatives
- Preventing child abuse and domestic violence
- Substance abuse treatment and prevention
- Services for older Americans, including home-delivered meals
- Comprehensive health services for Native Americans
- Medical preparedness for emergencies, including potential terrorism.
- Child support enforcement

We thank Cheryl for her advocacy and commitment toward improving government health policies, partnership, services and lives of all Indian people, and in her community.

Open Seat on Health Committee

The Health Committee is looking for a new committee member. Tribal Members interested in serving on the Health Committee may submit a letter of interest to Council Liaison Cheryl Frye-Cromwell at cfrye-cromwell@mwtribe.com.

Tribal Court awarded ANA grant

Tribal Court has been awarded a two-year Administration for Native Americans (ANA) grant to fully develop and implement Peacemaking Court. Peacemaking Court will offer a traditional and culturally specific hearing process. It will be designed by a planning team consisting of spiritual leaders, EJC, Suffolk University, a Mashpee Wampanoag language representative and Judge Mills. The team will work to meets the needs of our Tribal Community.

A Peacemaking Court will bring back our traditional methods of dealing with conflicts and ways of healing that rely on the values of our ancestors. Our children will grow and mature with the understanding that, throughout life, we all make mistakes but with the help of our Elders and Peacemakers, we can bring back a sense of nurturing, love, support, unity, community and healing thru restorative, traditional, peaceful justice. When cultural, holistic approaches of recovery and resolutions are applied, a spiritual healing that restores and revives communities emerges and tribal members make healthier life choices.

Peacemakers will be guiding our people back to balance. They will be using tribal cultural values and tradition to help our people communicate in a good way.

Open Seat on Fish and Wildlife

The Fish and Wildlife Commission is looking for a new committee member to fill one open seat. Tribal Members interested in serving on the Fish and Wildlife Commission may submit a letter of interest to Commission Vice Chair jessie baird at JBaird@mwtribe.com.
The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Gaming Commission seeks a full-time Tribal Gaming Associate. This position requires a person who demonstrates a skill set bridging a background in business or government finance, experience in public relations, public speaking and/or public communications, with an IT background, understands legal concepts of civil and criminal law and assist the MWT Gaming Commission as needed with conducting audits of revenue and procedural compliance, background investigations and oversight of the Gaming Commission’s regulations. Additional responsibilities of the Gaming Commission associate is to ensure that all activities of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Casino comply with the MWT Tribal Gaming Ordinance, NIGC, Tribal-State Compact, internal control standards and policies and procedures.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to interacting with high-level internal/external points of contact; demonstrating the ability to perform responsibilities in a professional manner and maintain confidences within the agency; managing the MWTGC daily itinerary for the agency including meetings, conference calls and other commitments; office organization; internal and external communications; retaining pertinent records; understands generally accepted accounting principles, basic clerical practices and use of computerized accounting programs; maintaining service contracts, legal agreements and internal databases; monitors and maintains approvals, disbursement requisitions and budgeting for the agency; understands basic professional investigative techniques, understands legal concepts of civil and criminal law, general court processes, becomes familiar with tribal, state and federal gaming statutes and a general understanding of casino operations, manages community relations and serves as a main point of contact for Taunton residents and officials.

All Commission employees are subject to a comprehensive background investigation and the applicant must qualify for and receive a gaming license as a condition of employment. Indian preference applies. Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act of 1934 (Title 25, U.S.C., Section 472)

A full position description can be obtained at www.mashpeewampanoagtribe.com
Submit cover letter and resumes to:
MWTGC
PO Box 1161
Taunton, MA 02780
Email: mwtgc.org@gmail.com

For questions contact Philip Cash at (508) 822-2230

Children’s Christmas Party
Saturday, December 13

Come celebrate the holidays with Santa Claus; make Christmas crafts, play games and have dinner (potluck style) while waiting for the arrival of Santa Claus! Party invitations will be sent out in early November. Please watch for it in the mail and be sure to return the RSVP card to Joanne or drop off at the office by November 28, 2014.

Volunteers, donations and/or a food dish are welcome. Please contact Joanne, Latoya or Laverne at (508) 477-0208 x140 or x180.

RFP for Snow Removal

The Mashpee Wampanoag Public Works Department, in conjunction with Emergency Preparedness, is currently soliciting bids for snow removal services for the 2014/2015 season. The job entails plowing and shoveling for approximately fifty (50) elder Tribal Members in Mashpee, Falmouth and Sandwich. Responsibilities include: plowing of driveways, shoveling of steps, walkways and mailboxes, and de-icing. For more information, or to submit a proposal, please contact Jason Steiding at jsteiding@mwtribe.com, or (508) 477-5800 x10. Applicants must possess a valid driver’s license, and carry liability insurance. The deadline to submit a bid is Friday, December 5, 2014.

Unique Job Opportunity as Live-In Caregiver

Caregiver Homes is seeking a mature individual to serve as a live-in caregiver for a consumer on Martha’s Vineyard. Consumer is a very active and engaging 41 year old woman with Developmental Disabilities – Care Giver will receive free housing and a tax-free daily stipend for caregiver responsibilities. For information please call Wendy Pocknett (508) 477-0208 x166 or Saran Craig, Care Giver Homes (508) 768-7685
WIA Informational Session on November 15

he Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Work Force Investment Act (WIA) will be hosting an informational session on Saturday, November 15 at the MWT Community and Government Center from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The informational session is a great opportunity for Tribal Members to learn more about the many upcoming programs and training sessions WIA will be offering. If you are currently unemployed, underemployed or thinking about a career change save the date and be sure to attend.

The WIA program is working for many Tribal Members and the WIA staff look forward to seeing even more Tribal Members at the upcoming informational session. Recently WIA clients John Pells and Bryan Purdie completed the CDL program with New England Tractor Training School - a program that is co-sponsored by WIA department partner Rhode Island Indian Council.

“I’m very happy with the partnerships we’ve developed and the success our clients have had in our programs,” said WIA Director Yvonne Marie Tobey. “We’re now looking to raise awareness in the community of the different opportunities available and enroll clients in the programs that will help them succeed.”

In addition to the CDL program, WIA assists with entry requirements for admission to trade unions. At this time, WIA has successfully assisted Tribal members with admission to the Electrician’s, Laborer’s, Carpenter’s, and Ironworkers. The WIA department has also successfully launched a Work Experience program, whereby Tribal members can gain valuable on the job training. Six Tribal members have benefitted from this opportunity.

Tribal Members are eligible for WIA services if they are unemployed or underemployed; priority of services will be extended to veterans and new clients. WIA requires participants in its training programs to be 18 years or older, have a high school diploma or GED and a valid driver’s license.

The WIA staff and director Yvonne Marie Tobey are dedicated to providing its members with the tools they need to become self-sufficient and self-reliant through gainful employment. The department accomplishes this by partnering with the Cape and Islands Workforce Investment board and the Career Opportunities program. In addition, the Mashpee WIA department assists adults with obtaining basic skills instruction and GED preparation. For more information about WIA and its programs, please visit www.mashpee-wampanoagtribe.com or call the department at (508) 477-0208 x 170.

Upcoming WIA Opportunities

- CDL Training – New England Tractor Training School (in partnership with the Rhode Island Indian Council)
- Heavy Equipment Operator (Hoisting License)
- Electrician Apprenticeship Opportunities: Union and Private Sector
- Local Plumbers and Pipefitters Union
- OSHA 30 Construction Certification
- Entrepreneurial Skills Workshop
- WIA Informational Session, November 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Adult Basic Skills in math and writing, Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Please contact WIA to reserve a seat in the second half of this successful program.

6th Annual Tribal Health Fair

On Saturday, October 25 about 100 attendees and over 20 health professionals came together at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center for the 6th Annual Tribal Health Fair. The annual event provides a venue for a wide range of health care professionals to display important health care information and to directly provide health services to Tribal Members. The Tribal Health Fair is organized and hosted by the Tribal Health Services. By all accounts the event was a huge success.

Vendors at the annual health fair included the American Diabetes Association, New England Aids Education, Department of mental Health, Aflac, American Arthritis and the Visiting Nurses Association, Gosnold on Cape Cod, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Financial Literacy, Caregiver Homes, Health Imperatives of Cape Cod, Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone (S.H.I.N.E), Indian Child Welfare Act (I.C.W.A), Education Department, Language Department, Clan Mothers, Community Action Of Cape Cod, Yoga Neighborhood and Youth Suicide Prevention. A special thanks to our Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Health Service Unit for the information and onsite Dental services as well as Blood pressure screening they provided at the fair. Attendees also received dental fluoride and varnish treatments for children and adults from our Dental Clinic and Dr. Benjamin Warren.

Tribal Health Department provided information on health insurance, the affordable care act and health connectors’ open enrollment along with local resources and Emergency services. In addition to all of the vendors who provided their health services, there was plenty of tradition, good medicine from our clan Mothers, Tribal Members, Tribal Chairman and Tribal Council. A special appearance by our legendary Leonard the dancer, with help from Jamah “Blue Moon” Peters was one of the cultural highlights. We would also like to thank all of our Tribal Members that participated and attended this year’s successful event.

We also want to recognize Kim Frye for coordinating the annual event as well as Wendy Pocknett and Cassie Jackson for their commitment and dedication to providing health education and supportive services to our community at the fair.
WIA Hosts Recognition Brunch

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Work Force Investment Act (WIA) held its 3rd annual Participant Recognition Brunch on Sunday, September 28 at the MWT Community and Government Center. The annual event is held to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of the Tribal members working to better themselves through the many programs WIA offers.

During the Participant Recognition Brunch Brian Purdie, Jermaine Peters and Robin White were recognized as this year’s Outstanding Participants Award recipients. The award was given to Brian, Jermaine and Robin to recognize them for going above and beyond in their WIA programs.

In addition to the awards ceremony, the brunch included a keynote speech by Jason Turner, Director of Human Resources at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Jason congratulated participants in their commitment to constant improvement in themselves and their community. He also acknowledged their commitment to obtaining self-reliance and self-sufficiency and encouraged everyone to continue moving forward.

The WIA staff and director Yvonne Marie Tobey are dedicated to providing its members with the tools they need to become self-sufficient and self-reliant through gainful employment. The department accomplishes this by partnering with the Cape and Islands Workforce Investment board and the Career Opportunities program. In addition, The Mashpee WIA department assists adults with obtaining basic skills instruction and GED preparation. For more information about WIA and its programs, please visit www.mashpee-wampanoagtribe.com or call the department at (508) 477-0208 x 170.

Elders Committee Meetings

Elders Committee meets every first Saturday of the month, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. unless notice is sent out to elders with a cancellation. The elders are called the week of the meeting to remind everyone of the meeting.

The winter season is approaching us very quickly and we must be prepared for the snow, loss of electricity and or heat, please again make sure that the elders department has your contact and emergency information. We will be sending out another emergency card form to be completed and returned to us. We will be doing well checkups, needs check-up, and snow removal assistance.

As we all know we lost our beautiful, kind and caring Brenda Richerson, Tribal Member -E-Prep Assistant and we want to make sure that she did for the elders continues, until a new person is hired. So please let us know when you are in need of assistance during a snow storm or any major storm.

Message from New Director of Tribal Health Nutrition Services

Wunee Keesuq Nutahshayok (Good day my Family),

I am honored to now be serving my own family at the Government and Community Center as Director of Tribal Health Nutrition Services for the Title VI Elders Nutrition Program. This new initiative is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that offers optional language classes, caregiver supportive services and respite care services. Lunch and Learn as we all know it.

I am the proud son of Stacey and Gloria Peters; grandson to Jessie and Edward Cash and May and Charles Peters. My memories of growing up Mashpee include weekends with family and extended family all over Mashpee. At a young age I started to work at the Flume Restaurant for Earl Mills Sr., Chief Flying Eagle. This early job afforded me the opportunity to see so many of our family on a regular basis and get to know so many more.

With a Mashpee passion for food, I attended Johnson and Wales and Cape Cod Community College after I graduated from Falmouth High School. This started a long career in culinary arts. I was Director of Nutrition and Food Service for long term care for 25 years. Now, I bring this passion home to serve and work with my own People. I look forward to working with each one of you in the near future. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at (508) 477-0208 ext. 117 or dpeters@mwttribe.com if you have any nutritional concerns or questions. My hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wunahtyakunut, (In peace)

Donald E. Peters

Family Journal

The Elders Department is looking for 30 serious youth to fill out a Grandmother, Grandfather and Mother - family journal with information about their life, growing up and being Wampanoag. Each Journal has question in them and the youth only have to answer the questions that pertain to their experience as a Wampanoag and record them in the journals. We will give each youth and the grandparent/s and mother a stipend for completing the journals and returning to us by December 20, 2014. We would also allow the youth to borrow our cameras to take pictures related to the stories.

For more information we will be having a meeting on the project Nov 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Elders Office. If unable to attend but want to do the project please contact Joanne, Laverne or Latoya in the Elders Dept. (508) 477-0208 x 182. This is an important project and we want serious youth that want to help us with our history project and earn a few dollars before Christmas.
The 5th Annual Native American Thanks Giving Celebration will be held on Saturday, November 22 at the Old Indian Meeting House. The celebration will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a ceremony with regalia and cultural traditions and Prayers of Thanks Giving. All Tribal members, their families, friends and members of the community are invited to attend – our doors are open to anybody that would like to share in this celebration.

Our Native American Thanks Giving is being hosted by The Old Indian Meeting House Committee. Please join us as we gather together to give thanks.