Chairman’s Column

Wunee keesuq Tribal family,

As a tribal family, we share a special connection to our ancestral homeland. It’s a bond that cannot be broken. Last month we strengthened that bond between our people and our land at our annual homecoming. Our 98th Annual Powwow was by all accounts a tremendous success held right here on our ancestral homeland. We danced hard, connected with our culture, passed on traditions to our youth and enjoyed great food from our local chefs. It was a dose of good medicine that we all needed.

It’s good medicine that I’ve continued to carry with me even after the ceremonies ended. I’ve carried it with me as we continued the important work at our council table of protecting what is most sacred to our people, including the protection of our land. Our land is sacred and we will never stop fighting for it.

I also carry this good medicine with me as we continue to work through our disagreements. And I say work through because I know that we will come out on the other side of this challenging time as a unified tribal nation. Disagreements can and should be a natural process within a healthy government. It’s our responsibility – both at council and as citizens of our great nation – to disagree in a respectful way that protects the connections we all share as a tribal body and doesn’t

Recall Hearing/Election Notice

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Election Committee extends NOTICE to all Enrolled Tribal Members who will turn 18 years of age on or before Sunday, September 15, 2019, that they are required to complete a Voter Registration form in order to vote at the Recall Election scheduled for Sunday, September 15, 2019 (the “Recall Election Day”) if not already registered to vote. A federal, State or Mashpee Tribal government-issued photo identification card is required.

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

A hearing will be conducted before the Recall Election. A sufficient number of Tribal Registered voters must be present at the beginning of the hearing or the Recall Election will be cancelled per requirement of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

Recall Election Day:
Sunday, September 15, 2019

Voter Registration Hours:
Enrolled, Registered Voters with Valid ID: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Recall Hearing Hours:
All Enrolled, Registered to Vote Tribal Members May Attend: 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (ET)

Recall Election Voting Hours:
Enrolled, Registered to Vote Tribal Members: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (ET)

Location:
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Community & Government Center
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

Wôpanâәk Language Reclamation Project Receives Grants to Expand Immersion School

WLRP has been awarded a $299,519 Esther Martinez Initiative grant from the Administration for Native Americans for its proposal, “The Mukayuhsak Weekuw (Children’s House) Expansion Project.” Project funding, which started July 1st, will be followed by similar awards over the next two years as WLPR adds new school staff and grade levels to offer language immersion instruction from preschool through Grade 4 by the 2021-2022 academic year.

During the 2019-2020 school year, up to 30 students will attend preschool through Grade 2, with incoming federal funds supporting the training and hiring of a new full-time teacher assistant, as well as a part-time school wellness counselor, and a part-time Head of School or principal. WLPR’s current team identified these pressing needs during spring grant planning sessions, and with the support of its board of directors. In addition, nearly all Mukayuhsak Weekuw families have re-enrolled their children for the fall, with many expressing the desire for their students to stay at the tribally operated private school for future grade levels. Last year, Mukayuhsak Weekuw served 25 total students ages 2-7 in its preschool through first
In response to the community demand for student slots, WLRP is now adding a brand new dedicated lower elementary classroom this fall to accommodate students in first and second grade. The new Wôpessori, or Wôpanâak language Montessori classroom, will be led by language teacher Siobhan Brown who is completing her Montessori elementary teacher training at the Montessori Education Teacher Training Center in Lexington, MA. The new classroom will be housed in a 700 square foot all-weather yurt, currently under construction by White Mountain Yurts of New Hampshire. Private foundation grants from the Bloomfield Foundation and Keepers of the Earth Fund at Cultural Survival, as well as private donations, have made classroom construction possible. WLRP was also awarded training funds in the amount of $48,176 in December 2018 by the First Nations Development Institute to support language teacher training, literacy materials, and school expansion planning throughout the 2019-2020 academic year, and a new 2019 grant was also just awarded on July 15th, to supplement the Mukayuhsak Weekuw school expansion project and to support family immersion camps. First Nation funding also supports college preparation for language teacher Tia Pocknett who will be enrolling in Goddard College in Vermont this fall, as she prepares to offer future Wôpessori instruction at the school beyond fourth grade.

Save the Date: Rumble on the Rez August 31

Rumble on the Rez, a substance abuse awareness fundraiser and boxing exhibition, will return on August 31 at 5 PM. The charity boxing event is organized by tribal citizen Stanley Dutra.

All Nations Back to School on August 28

The North American Indian Center of Boston will be hosting an All Nations Back to School event on August 28 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 105 S. Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plain, MA. Food and drinks will be provided but please feel free to bring a dish to share.

For more information, contact NAICOB at (617) 277-4804.

Quakers Invite Tribe to Picnic on September 15

The Quakers would like to invite Wamps to a picnic on September 15, starting at noon at East Sandwich Quaker Meetinghouse, 6 Quaker Rd, East Sandwich, Ma. If you have any questions call Gail Melix at (508) 221-0832.
At the July General Membership Meeting Chairman Cromwell provided tribal members with an update on the preservation of land in trust. At the meeting he informed the community that a “Scheduling Order” for the pending case in Washington, D.C. had been set. The “Scheduling Order” established important deadlines for the case in the D.C. District Court, naming the Department of Interior as the defendant as well as the Littlefields as “Intervenor Defendants.”

In June United States District Judge Rosemary Collyer denied the Littlefield’s attempt to move the case to Massachusetts.

Chairman Cromwell is confident that with the timeline set by the “Scheduling Order” we are now one step closer to forever protecting our homeland.

“Our team is working diligently and will continue throughout this aggressive schedule,” said Chairman Cromwell. “I will provide updates to our community as frequently as possible as litigation can often be complex,” added Chairman Cromwell. “I along with Tribal Council feel It’s extremely imperative to keep communication with our Tribal Members as fluid as possible on these matters—all in an effort to protect our reservation lands and sovereignty.”

Chairmans Column (continued)

Chairman Cedric Cromwell

Qaqeemasq (Running Bear)

fracture the bond that unifies us as Mashpee Wampanoag. Unity within our tribe and the love that we all share is sacred.

It’s the unity that results from Powwow that energizes us and I want to thank our Powwow Committee for organizing a successful homecoming. I want to thank them for reminding us that we are stronger together. That we are weaker when splintered and that we share a common bond that cannot be broken.

So much of the connections that I’ve been sharing in this month’s column can be found in our new Powwow Princess and Little Miss Wampanoag. These two young women are perfect examples of why Mashpee will shine tonight. Our Powwow Princess Alana Helme and Little Miss Wampanoag Sade’ Jackson will represent our culture and our land with honor over the next year. I’m so proud of what they’ve accomplished and look forward to all that they will do to further connect our people over the coming year.

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

Kutăputunumuw;

Chairman Cedric Cromwell

Qaqemasq (Running Bear)
Money Management Workshop on August 7

The Education Department NYCP Summer Program is hosting a Money Management Workshop on Wednesday, August 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center.

The Money Management Workshop is funded in part by the NYCP Building Pathways for Tribal Youth Program and grant funding. For more information about the program, please contact John Hanlon at 508-237-0041, john.hanlon@mwtribe-nsn.gov or Cameron Greendeer at 508-477-0208, Cameron.greendeer@mwtribe-nsn.gov in the Education Department.

It Takes a Tribe to Raise Our Future Generations

The new Child & Family Services Department is now open for business at the Tribal Government Center.

Keeping families together is our goal. We strive towards supporting families to be the best they can be by offering supportive services to address challenges on a day to day basis.

We are offering new supportive services for our Tribal families. Please contact our department with any and all questions regarding services that are available.

We are also in need of resource families to assist in supporting our Tribal families. If you wish to become a foster parent or respite provider please contact our office.

There is always a way to work through anything you may be going through with your Tribe by your side to assist you. Our goal is to keep families together and strong.

(508) 477-0208 ext. 171 - Unique Lopes Forde
(757) 281-9146 - Sarah Spruill

Powwow Draws Hundreds of Visitors to Tribal Grounds

Hundreds attended the 98th Annual Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow from July 5 to July 7 at the Tribe’s ancestral homeland. On the final day of powwow a new Mashpee Wampanoag Powwow Princess and Little Miss Wampanoag were announced. Alana Helme will serve as the 2019-2020 Powwow Princess and Sade Jackson is the 2019-2020 Little Miss Wampanoag. Both young women represented their Tribe well throughout the homecoming and will continue to serve the community well over the coming year.

Election Monitors

The Election Committee is seeking monitors for the upcoming Recall Hearing and Election on Sunday, September 15, 2019. If interested, please email Rita Lopez at Rita.lopez@mwtribe-nsn.gov.
The Education Department NYCP Summer Program is hosting a Time Management Workshop followed by a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament on Wednesday, August 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Community and Government Center. Raffle items and lunch will be provided.

The basketball tournament is open to all participants.

The Workshop is funded in part by the NYCP Building Pathways for Tribal Youth Program and grant funding. For more information about the program, please contact John Hanlon at 508-237-0041, john.hanlon@mwtribe-nsn.gov or Cameron Greender at 508-477-0208, Cameron.greender@mwtribe-nsn.gov in the Education Department.

Time Management Workshop and Basketball Tournament

Volleyball Returns to Mashpee Pond

A Co-Ed exercise initiated and hosted by the MWT Tribal Health Department back in 2012, indoor volleyball has been a standing activity for the community. During the summer of 2016, efforts took shape to offer the activity at the Mashpee Pond. Coordination between the Town of Mashpee and enthused Tribal volleyball players established Tuesday evenings as volleyball night.

Emergency Management Director Presents at National Conference

On June, 18th 2019 Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Director, Nelson Andrews Jr conducted a presentation at the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency All Hazards Preparedness Conference as invitational speaker. Nelson’s presentation was titled “Navigating the complexities of Tribal Emergency Management.” Nelson spoke to an audience of Federal, State and Local emergency managers and addressed Tribal All-Hazards Preparedness and the interlacing dynamics between Tribal, State and Local Emergency Management. Director Andrews said “although there are many differences between Tribal, State and Local emergency management practices there are even more similarities and a common goal approach that helps to enable the whole community in being more ready and prepared for the potential hazards that are equally endured”

Dominique Frye Graduates from Curry College

Congratulations to Dominique Frye on graduating Curry College with a Bachelors of Science Degree majoring in Community Health and Wellness and minor in Fine Arts/Dance. Prior to graduation Dominique accepted a teacher assistant position at May Institute Center School in Randolph, MA. Dominique will work with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental disabilities such as brain injury, and neurobehavioral disorders. Dominique has also accepted a dance teacher position at The Dance Factory Studio in Attleboro where she danced since the age of five. Her future plans are to continue her education in receiving her masters in Applied Behavior Analytics and Business Administration while pursuing her dream to open her own Dance studio. Congrats Dom we are so proud of all your accomplishments.

Tribal Elder, Martin “Bruzy” Hendricks took on the responsibility of maintaining the regulation sand-court, netting, and the volleyball.

Co-Ed Volleyball is open to anyone who wishes to participate. The games will take place on Tuesday’s from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mashpee/Wakeby Pond through the summer.

Families and spectators are welcome to watch the action from the sidelines.
Tribal Students Succeed in Internship Opportunities

The education department is offering paid internship opportunities. Internships pay $750 for 50 hours of work and are a great way for youth ages 14-19 to explore fields they may be interested in pursuing. Funding for the internship is provided through the NYCP Building Pathways for Tribal Youth grant. Contact Cameron Greendeer (cameron.greendeer@mwtribe-nsn.gov/608-566-7907) or John Hanlon (john.hanlon@mwtribe-nsn.gov/508-237-0041) if you are interested in an internship this summer.

MWT Emergency Management Shares Some Extreme Heat Preparedness Tips

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Emergency Management Department would like to share some heat preparedness info and tips during these hot summer days. Heat is the number one weather-related killer. Heat kills by pushing the human body beyond its limits. In extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation is slowed and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature.

Most heat disorders occur because the victim has been overexposed to heat or has over-exercised for his or her age and physical condition. Older adults, young children and those who are sick or overweight are more likely to succumb to extreme heat.

Conditions that can induce heat-related illnesses include stagnant atmospheric conditions and poor air quality. Consequently, people living in urban areas may be at greater risk from the effects of a prolonged heat wave than those living in rural areas. Asphalt and concrete also store heat longer and gradually release heat at night, which can produce higher nighttime temperatures known as the "urban heat island effect."

A heat wave is an extended period of extreme heat, and is often accompanied by high humidity. These conditions can be dangerous and even life-threatening for people who don’t take the proper precautions.

Extreme Heat Preparedness Checklist

- Build a disaster supply kit and make a family emergency plan
- If installing window air conditioners, install them snugly and insulate if necessary
- Check air-conditioning ducts for proper insulation
- Install temporary window reflectors (for use between windows and drapes), such as aluminum foil-covered cardboard, to reflect heat back outside
- Weather-strip doors and sills to keep cool air in
- Cover windows that receive morning or afternoon sun with drapes, shades, awnings or louvers — outdoor awnings or louvers can reduce the heat that enters a home by up to 80%  
- Keep storm windows up all year
- Listen to local weather forecasts and stay aware of upcoming temperature changes
- Be aware that people living in urban areas may be at greater risk from the effects of a prolonged heat wave than are people living in rural areas
- Get trained in first aid to learn how to treat heat-related emergencies
- Stay Safe During the Heat

The Red Cross recommends taking these steps to stay safe during the heat:

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio for critical updates from the National Weather Service
- Never leave children or pets alone in enclosed vehicles
- Eat small meals and eat more often
- Avoid extreme temperature changes
- Limit intake of alcoholic beverages
- Drink plenty of water, even if you do not feel thirsty, and avoid drinks with caffeine
- Stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine if air conditioning is not available

Nathan Mills is working on an oyster grant in Barnstable Harbor, as well as on the tribe’s grant in Mashpee
Chief Meets Turkey Warrior

Our distinguished Mashpee Wampanoag Chief Silent Drum (Vernon Lopez) thought he was dreaming as he was walking down his hallway mid-morning to make his bed.

Oh well, that was not happening because all of a sudden, he heard glass breaking. He froze in his tracks. The chief has done years of traveling around the world, including during World War II. Now at 97 years old, he has lived in his house for 50 years and heard spirits often, but no broken windows – ever.

The man of wisdom turned around and softly walked to the den, meeting not a human being who he thought might have broken in, but a 30-pound, real live turkey, a male now named Turkey Warrior.

As Silent Drum tried to make him leave, Turkey Warrior looked up, blinked his eyes and, in his gobble grunt, said, “Go make your bed as you started. I’m going to your couch and, he did, walked slowly across the living room twitching his tail feathers as if he owned the house. Up on the couch he flew. Walked all over, looked out the window and said, “gobble-gobble,” again.

Chief tried to make him move off the couch. Finally he did so, strutting across the floor as slow as he could. Arriving in the kitchen Turkey Warrior stopped, looked up, and winked with his beady eyes. Silent Drum opened the door. Turkey Warrior gobbled, “hell no!” Up on the chair he flew, then, looking around like a lightening he flew out another window, breaking the glass into small pieces.

Silent Drum said to himself, “what do I do now?” He felt vulnerable. He decided to call his daughter, Marlene, Rabbit Clan Mother who lives near him. She walked down to his house. He told the story. She was in awe. Glass was everywhere and Turkey Warrior was still walking around the yard looking for his princess girlfriend.

I found out later that it was mating time of year.

Oh, yes! Turkey warrior saw his reflection in the window.

Now it is two months later and he has not finished his journey. He still comes back to visit and has found his way to Marlene’s house, where he struts his stuff also. In the mean time here comes the Chief with his drum. He says to Turkey Warrior and Princess start dancing. They hug, looking like a feather bag. It was obvious they were addicted to the beat of the drum. Turkeys have fed the People of the First Light for many centuries.

Chief Silent Drum looks out his repaired window into the bluest of skies and says, “oh, well, I do believe that this two-legged creature with wings teaches humans about persistence, the flight of faith and how to have some fun dancing in the circle of life.”

By Aunt Joan Tavares Avant

Native American Traditions showcased at Westport’s Handy House

Throughout the summer the Westport Historical Society celebrates local Native American heritage and traditional arts with a series of special events focusing on indigenous cooking, Native American dye techniques, quillwork, and Wampanoag language reclamation, and an exhibition at the Handy House, 202 Hix Bridge Road.

This programming is guided by Elizabeth James-Perry, a member of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head – Aquinnah. She is a multi-medium traditional and contemporary artist with a focus on early Northeastern Woodlands Native culture, including ancient wampum shell carvings and reviving natural dye techniques.

A series of events kicks off at the Westport Public Library on Thursday, Aug. 8 with a program on the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project. The Wampanoag language is one of more than three dozen languages classified as belonging to the Algonquian language family.

Through the processes of religious conversion, laws against the use of the language, mainstream education, and commerce, the Wampanoag language had ceased to be spoken by the mid-19th century. Through the joint collaborative efforts of members of the Assonet Band of Wampanoag, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, the Wampanoag Tribe of Aquinnah and the Herring Pond Band of Wampanoag, the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project aims to return fluency to the Wampanoag Nation as a principal means of expression.

Jennifer Weston, WLRP Director/Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Language Department Director, will provide an overview of the program. And there will be an opportunity to learn some common Wampanoag words. Seating is limited. Reserve a seat at www.wpthistory.org or https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wampanoag-language-reclamation-project-tickets-61693091698.

This will be followed by a Wampanoag art and adornment demonstration on Aug. 10 and an indigenous cooking demonstration on Sept. 14 showcasing Native American cooking techniques using clay pots, over an open fire. Learn about seasonal cuisine, feast celebrations, and Wampanoag recipes that have been adopted into modern New England foodways.

For details and updates please contact the Westport Historical Society or visit www.wpthistory.org.
Open Positions at the Tribe

There are several open positions at the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. As of the date of publication the following positions are open. Please visit the Human Resource section of the Tribe’s website for complete position descriptions and details for applicants.

**Child & Family Services, Program Manager**
- Status: Full-Time
- Salary Grade: MW-10, Exempt
- Range low $49,212., – Mid $65,611., High $82,009.

**Security Guard (essential employee)**
- Status: Full-Time
- Salary Range: $18.27 per hour

**Construction Project Manager**
- Status: Temporary Staff
- Salary: $45. - $60./per hour,

**Water Resources Technician**
- Status: Full-time, Non-Exempt
- Salary Range: $38,784/year

**Child & Family Caseworker (2)**
- Status: Full-Time
- Salary Grade: $23.01/hr. - $35.42

**Grant Manager**
- Status: Full-time, Non-Exempt
- Salary: $70,233.80/year

**Human Services/ICWA Caseworker**
- Status: Full-Time
- Salary Grade: $23.01/hr. - $35.42

**Tribal Operations Manager**
- Status: Full-time, Non-Exempt
- Salary Range**: Low - $54,217.80 | Mid - $72,290.40 | High - $90,360.00

NYCP Building Pathways for Tribal Youth Plans Summer and Fall 2019

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

**Summer programs include the following:**
- August 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.: Canoeing at Mashpee Pond
- August 1 – 4: Eastern Native Youth Food Sovereignty Summit, Presque Isle, Maine
- August 7 – 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at MWTCGC: Financial and Time Management Workshops and Basketball Tournament
- August 15 - 20: Canoe Trip to Passamaquoddy Land in Maine: St. Croix River

**INTERNSHIPS:** $750/50 hours - Tribal Natural Resource Dept. and Museum internships available

**Fall programs include the following:**
- September 10: Tufts University admissions director student and parent session on creating college lists, applications, essays, financial aid
- September 18: UMass Dartmouth student and parent session on College Now/START Admissions Program
- October 25 - 26: Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine campus visit and Upward Bound Program
- September 23 – 26: Food Sovereignty Summit, Green Bay, WI
- October 7: UMass Dartmouth college tour
- October 2 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.: SAT prep with pizza
- 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