



# Tribal Historic Preservation Office

## Passamaquoddy Tribe

June 7th, 2011

Volume 3, Issue 3

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### Special points of interest:

- Mother Earth Water Walk begins in Machias, Maine.
- Canoe Project Schedule, Update, and Passamaquoddy Words.
- Passamaquoddy Language Dictionary Project
- Pronunciation Guide
- Indian Day Celebration
- Basketmaker's Market
- Passamaquoddy Websites.

## Mother Earth Water Walk: The Eastern Door Opens in Machias for North America

The 2011 Water Walk united water from four directions. Water from the Pacific Ocean, from the Gulf of Mexico, from the Atlantic Ocean and from Hudson Bay was gathered in copper pails and carried by hand to the shores of Lake Superior.

The Western water walk began Sunday, April 10 in Aberdeen, Washington and traveled through the States of Washington and Montana, the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and the States of North Dakota and Minnesota before arriving in Wisconsin.

The Southern water walk began on Wednesday, April 20 in Gulfport, Mississippi and traveled through the States of Mississippi, Tennessee, Illinois, Iowa and into Wisconsin.

The Eastern water walk

began on Saturday, May 7 in Machias, Maine and traveled through the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario and into the States of Michigan and Wisconsin.

The Northern water walk began in Churchill Manitoba. Water walkers with water from Hudson bay traveled Saturday May 21 by train toward the south to Winnipeg. The walkers carried the sacred water through Manitoba, Ontario and into Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The walkers, journeyed over 10,400,000 steps and carried the healing and sacred salt water from the four directions. They will converge on June 12 in Bad River, Wisconsin. The water will then be united in Lake Superior, where the first Water Walk began.

All people are encouraged and welcomed to participate

and support the 2011 Water Walk as it passes through their Provinces, States and communities.

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## Passamaquoddy Thunder/Peskotomuhkati Petakihik

The latest Music CD released by the Tribal Historic Preservation Office is titled Passamaquoddy Thunder/Peskotomuhkati Petakihik and includes songs Honoring the Family. Rolfe Richter played the flute music throughout the entire CD.

Wayne Newell and Blanche Sockabasin were recognized for their singing abilities at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. two years ago and are also featured singers on the new CD. Other singers include a mother and daughter duet

by Joan Dana and Brenda Lozada, Aaron Dana, Esther Bear, Regina Nicholas & Pilsqehsisok (Indian Township Eighth Grade Girls, 2008). Proceeds benefit the Passamaquoddy Museum Fund at Indian Township by Star Route Recording.

## Canoe Project: Slide Show and Schedule

A Birch Bark Canoe Construction slide show was presented by David Moses Bridges, Steve Cayard, and sponsored by The Tribal Historic Preservation Office on Friday, April 29th, 2011 at Pleasant Point and on Saturday, April 30th, 2011 at Indian Township Tribal Offices.

During the project, it is the historic preservation officer's/Donald Sotomah's intention to utilize the language as much as possible. Tribal Elders and

speakers will help with the language utilization.

The Passamaquoddy canoe words are listed below.



Canoe Construction

### Construction Schedule

June 14- 21: Cedar gathering - cutting into planks

August 1-30: Continue canoe construction

August 30: Finished canoe

Everybody is welcomed to join the canoe building project!

*"Take good care of the language, make an effort to teach the next generation, think about how they too will need to have it."*

*Joseph "Cozy"*

*Nicholas,*

*Passamaquoddy*

*Elder*

## Passamaquoddy Canoe Words

Here are some Passamaquoddy words related to the canoe.

1. Canoe: Oqiton
2. Birch Bark Canoe: Masqewuloq
3. Paddle: Tahakan
4. Canoe ribs: Pik

5. Spruce root: Wotop

6. Spruce gum: Kawatoqipoku

7. Gunwale: Sqawoloss

8. Lands/Beaches canoe: Cicokehe

9. Old Canoe: 'Kanuloq

10. Canoe Pole: Kikhkamkahun

11. Canoe Maker: Nuci-Oqitonuhket

12. New Canoe: Piluwoq

13. Interior of Canoe: Tepuloq

14. His Canoe: 'Tul

## Passamaquoddy Dictionary Language Meeting

During the Passamaquoddy Dictionary Language meeting, the speakers and recorders went over the Passamaquoddy writing system. This included the vowel sounds, the vowel blends, and the consonant sounds.

Each vowel sound A, E, I, O, and U, had an English and Passamaquoddy word,

which demonstrated the correct pronunciation.

For the consonants, the letters H, L, M, N, W, and Y represent sounds much the same as those in English. The consonants, C, K, P, Q, S, T have a sound that varies between "tense" and "lax," or "unvoiced" and "voiced." The particular

sound depends on whether the letter occurs next to another consonant.

The next newsletter will continue with more information on the writing system.



## Passamaquoddy/Maliseet Pronunciation Guide

Vowels: A, E, I, O, U

A: Sounds like the “A” in Father.

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Ahahs: Horse.

E: Sounds like the “E” in Bed.

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Epit: Sitting.

I: Sounds like the “I” in

Machine.

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Ipis: Whip.

O: Sounds like the “O” in

Apron.

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Opos: Tree/Stick.

U: Sounds like the “U” in

Dune.

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Uten: Town.

Vowel Blends:

AW: Sounds like the word “How.”

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet the word is Awt: Road.

EW: Sounds like the word “Europa.”

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet

The word is New: Four.

IW: Sounds like the word “Few.”

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet

The word is Lamiw: Within.

AY: Sounds like the word “Pie.”

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet

The word is Sepay: This morning.

EY: Sounds like the word “Grey.”

In Passamaquoddy/Maliseet

The word is Piksey: Pork.

## Native American Festival and Basketmaker’s Market

Save the date for the 2011 festival on Saturday, July 9th from 10:00 am to 4:00pm at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine.

The Abbe Museum and the Hudson Museum collaborate for this nationally renowned “Indian Market.”

Features include, exquisite hand crafted Wabanaki ash and sweetgrass baskets, wood and stone carvings, jewelry, beadwork, dolls, as well as other hand crafted items representing the beauty and culture of the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, Micmac, and Penobsot Peo-

ple of Maine and the Maritimes.

Many Passamaquoddy crafts people get recognized locally and nationally during the Basketmaker’s Market at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine.

## Ceremonial Days at Sipayik and Motahkomihkuk

The 46th annual Ceremonial Day celebration begins on August 12th to August 14th, 2011 at Pleasant Point/ Sipayik. Joseph “Cozy” Nicholas and friend Mary Moore made the event a permanent part of the Tribe’s activities more than 40 years ago.

The celebration begins as

warrior canoeists kick off the annual celebration with a blessing and departure from the Matahkomihkuk/ Indian Township bridge and one night of camping at Devil’s Head. They travel almost 60 miles by river and ocean to Pessikapskiyak/ Split Rock at Sipayik/ Pleasant Point. For more information on the canoe

trip, please contact Donald Soctomah.

At Indian Township/ Motahkomihkuk, the Ceremonial Day begins on August 20th and 21st. This year, the celebration is honoring Tomah Joseph, a former chief and well-known artist.

*“Kulankeyutomoniya  
laturwewakon,  
kwinpasultiniya  
ktokehkimaniya  
macekulticik,  
ktopitahomoniya  
elihc-ona nekom cuwi  
– ihihitit.”*  
*Joseph “Cozy”  
Nicholas,  
Passamaquoddy  
Elder*

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### *What are Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO)?*

*Tribal Historic Preservation Officers are officially designated by a federally-recognized Indian tribe to direct a program approved by the National Park Service and the THPO must have assumed some or all of the functions of State Historic Preservation Officers on Tribal lands. Tribal historic preservation has emphasized the importance of the oral tradition, as well as consulting Tribal elders and spiritual leaders with special knowledge of the Tribe's traditions. They also have given emphasis to the importance of protecting "traditional cultural properties," places that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places because of their association with cultural practices and beliefs that are rooted in the history of the community and are important in maintaining the continuity of that community's traditional beliefs and practices. Incorporating Tribal cultural values into the historic preservation program has been consistently cited as a priority. Finally, the need for assuming the responsibility for reviewing Federal undertakings that may affect historical properties and the importance of archaeological survey work was consistently mentioned as essential. Tribal Historic Preservation Officers advise Federal agencies on the management of Tribal historic properties and strive to preserve their Tribes' cultural heritage and preservation programs.*

*Donald Soctomah, THPO*

## Websites: Tribal Material

Language Keepers address a central dilemma in endangered language work: the decline and loss of public group discourse. When a language is no longer spoken in groups outside the family or in public, it cannot be effectively passed on or documented. The loss of public speaking is a serious symptom of language endangerment. Language Keepers is an innovative approach combining descriptive linguistics, documentary video, and community outreach to revive speaker groups to use heritage language in traditional and

contemporary activities while recording it for language learning, dictionary development, research, cultural transmission, and revival.

([www.languagekeepers.org](http://www.languagekeepers.org))

The Governing Body for the Passamaquoddy Tribe is the Tribal Council. The "Chief" administrator is the Tribal Governor (Sakom) and balanced and augmented by the Lieutenant Governor. Tribal Government is responsible for the administration of a variety of services and programs for the Passamaquoddy people. Examples are social services, general assistance

with food, personal, and necessary items, heating assistance, and a variety of other community concerns from marriages to vehicle registrations. The tribal office is open for business Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Sipayik /Pleasant Point-Website  
([www.wabanaki.com](http://www.wabanaki.com))

Matahkomihkuk/Indian Township Website  
([www.passamaquoddy.com](http://www.passamaquoddy.com))

Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
([www.wabanaki.com/thpo.htm](http://www.wabanaki.com/thpo.htm))