Narragansett Indian Tribe
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Chief Sachem's Office

12/27/2025

Dear Fellow Tribal Members,

As Chief Sachem of the Narragansett Indian Tribe, it is my honor and privilege to provide you with this year-end update covering the period of January 1, 2025-December 30, 2025.

2025 has been a challenging year for our Tribal government and administration. Despite reduced funding, we maintained many essential services throughout the year. Since August, we have mourned the passing of at least 16 loved ones. Each loss affects our entire Nation. We honor their memories and support their families.

Looking ahead, 2026 will also be difficult. With rising inflation, higher costs of living, and global uncertainty, it will take tremendous effort just to maintain our current level of services. The Tribal Government and administrative staff will continue to do our best based on the funding available through grants and contracts. I respectfully ask the Tribal Assembly for patience and partnership as we proceed.

I extend sincere appreciation to the Tribal Council, Tribal Prophet, War Chief, Medicine Man, Church Board, Tribal Directors and staff, and the committed members of the Tribal Assembly who continue to advance the Tribe's future.

Governance and Elections in 2026

- Six Council seats will be up for reelection: three for six-year terms and three for four-year terms. While the process may be complex, it will be completed.
- The Tribal Assembly and Tribal Government will also fill vacant seats on the Economic Development Board.
- Tribal Program Directors' 2025 Year-End Reports will be posted on the Tribal webpage in January.

Key Actions Since Last Year's Update

- Fulfilled traditional, ceremonial, and cultural obligations for our 350th Annual August Meeting.
- Held the Great Swamp Pilgrimage and our annual October Thanksgiving.

- Received a 15-page letter from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor, affirming that both tracts of the Niles Property are owned by the Narragansett Indian Tribe, not by individuals or families.
- All future disputes regarding Tribal properties will be resolved by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.
- Worked with Silver Cloud Senior Citizens for a successful Elder's Day.
- Continued pursuit of additional land acquisitions.
- Continued litigation regarding the Providence Viaduct Project, Salt Pond, and Camp Davis.
- Distributed over 1,800 food boxes in 2025.
- Provided a public radio interview clarifying "social club" or splinter groups versus the Narragansett Indian Tribe.
- Continued dialogue with Brown University and the University of Rhode Island.
- Advanced efforts to establish a fitness gym at Tribal Police Headquarters.
- Continued work on the Crandall Farm.
- Continued progress on Tribal Broadband Communications.
- Continued efforts to establish a Boys & Girls Club on Tribal land.
- Continued efforts to acquire full Tribal Reservation status.
- Awaiting a final response on the Trust Status package for two tracts of Tribal land.
- Continued efforts to secure funding for the Tribal Court.
- Began reviewing Tribal Housing Policies to make them more user-friendly.
- Continued assessment of the Tribal Health Center to increase usage by Tribal members.
- Supported the Education Department's successful Nikkomo Holiday event.
- Continued exploration of economic development plans.
- Continued work with state and local officials on a Law Enforcement MOU/MOA.
- Ongoing development of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Identified the need to reorganize and restructure the Annual August Meeting/Powwow.
- In process of acquiring a new Tribal ID camera with a federally approved barcode.
- Continued renovations at the Tribal Administration building.
- Continued efforts to secure funding for a Tribal Construction Company.

- Identified the need to create PowerPoint presentations for the Police Gym, Crandall Farm, and the Tribal Broadband Project.
- Identified the need to reestablish the Tribal Youth Group.

In closing, throughout these arduous times, we must remain strong, resilient, and supportive of one another. Our history shows we endure and overcome. We will be ready for better days.

I honor all Tribal members and extended family members who have passed on. Let us work together to make 2026 a better year for all. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully

Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton