

Featured Programs

Animal
Control

Air Quality
Program

Foster Care &
Adoption

Mental Health

Kawennì:ios



JOM Receives National Recognition

Animal Control Program

Compliance Program Feature

By Georgina Mitchell, Animal Control Officer

The animal control program is responsible for responding to domestic animal related calls set forth by the Animal Control Ordinance in the jurisdiction of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. The Animal Control Program was initiated in 2008 in response to community members who had issues with roaming dogs in Akwesasne. In 2009 the Animal Control Ordinance was enacted.

The Animal Control Program currently has one full-time officer, Georgina Mitchell, who began her duties September 2012 and one part-time officer, Brad Rickerl, who began in April 2012. Georgina has successfully completed levels one, two and three of training through the National Animal Control Association that conducts training and certifications for animal control officers. Brad has completed level one of the National Animal Control Association training.

The animal control officers investigate animal bites and ensure compliance with quarantine procedures are followed. Animal Control officers respond to domestic animal nuisance calls at schools, businesses and private residences through daily patrols. The Animal Control Program is committed to providing outreach to the community in various forums. Animal Control attends various community functions such as rabies clinics, St. Regis Mohawk School's Fall Festival, as well as visiting specific classrooms to educate children on the duties of an Animal Control officer and the responsibilities of a pet owner.

The Animal Control Program continues to offer the spay/neuter voucher program. This year, the program provides the funding for a tribal member to spay/neuter one pet. We currently utilize Red Fern Spay and Neuter Mobile Clinic. Applications can be picked up and filled out with a current tribal ID card at the Compliance office of the Tribal building.



Brad and Georgina Hold One of the Cats Available for Adoption

The Animal Control Program also continues to provide the ID tag pet registration. Owners must provide an up-to-date rabies vaccination certificate before receiving an ID tag. The cost of the tag is \$5.

In efforts to reach more community members, the Animal Control officers use the Tribe's facebook to post pictures and information of the animals we pick up as pets that are running off the leash, nuisance animals or strays. The animals are held for five days before they are forfeited to the North Country Animal Shelter in Malone N.Y. Unclaimed dogs, puppies, cats and kittens are often available for adoption through the Animal Control Program. Each pet that is adopted will be spayed or neutered with their first shots.

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Animal Control Program continues to educate, enforce the Animal Control Ordinance and provide Akwesasne with the service to help ensure a safe community and responsible pet ownership. ♦

Good Words of Welcome



Shé:kon Sewakwé:kon,

I am grateful to be writing the opening of this month's *Kawennì:ios*; it is my distinct honor to serve Akwesasne. In this role, I am privileged to have had the opportunity to attend the 32nd Annual Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Conference along with other members of council and staff. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, along with the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Oneida Indian Nation, were honored with the 2014 "NAFOA Deal of the Year Award, for our participation in the Three Tribal-State Agreements. The NAFOA Board of Directors selected our project among other notable deals completed by tribal nations. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the State of New York re-opened negotiations for the settlement of the Tribe's thirty-year land claims dispute after withholding revenue sharing payments as a result of Tribal-State Compact violations. Our project was recognized for its groundbreaking nature and for its "lasting positive effect on the overall economic status of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe." NAFOA recognizes that this project is beneficial to Indian Country as a whole. Hats off to Chiefs Monica Jacobs, Mark Garrow and Randy Hart for taking the initiative to withhold revenue sharing

payments in the fall of 2010. Without this concerted effort we may not be in continued negotiations today. For more information on the 2014 NAFOA Deal of the Year Award, please visit our newly enhanced/redesigned website at www.srmt-nsn.gov.

From Tribal Council's table, we continue working together to adopt and amend important tribal ordinances. Recently, we adopted the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Ordinance and the Police Commission Act. I encourage you to take a moment to view these ordinances, available on our website. Council continues to work on the Exclusion Act and amendments to the Election and Referendum Ordinance.

Finally, please remember May 11 is a day of celebration honoring mothers, motherhood, and maternal bonds and the influence of mothers in society. Take some time to spend with mom; cards, candy and gifts are a nice part of the day but time spent with mom is priceless. *Ka'nibsténhsen Awenhnísera* / Happy Mother's Day!

Shelley Jacobs, Tribal Sub-Chief

On the Cover: JOM Staff L-R: Brandi Benedict, Samantha Phillips, Ashley Cumming, Rebecca Smoke, Jordan Thompson & Chanel Cook.

JOM Staff display their award from the National Johnson O'Malley Association (NJOMA). The award was presented to Rebecca on March 27, 2014 during the NJOMA Conference.

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412 State Route 37, Akwesasne, NY 13655
(518) 358-2272

Allyson Doctor - Director of Communications
Aimée Benedict-Debo, Publications Manager
Alyson Cole - Production Assistant

public.information@srmt-nsn.gov
www.srmt-nsn.gov

Better Air, Better Tomorrow

Environment Division Program Feature

By Angela Benedict, Air Quality Program Manager

It's been a year since I wrote about the air quality program and here are the highlights. We are still monitoring the air quality in Akwesasne and collecting precipitation samples through the National Atmospheric Deposition Program. Since we started the program, tests have shown a steady increase in the pH (acidity) and the conductivity has gone down. Both of these are good signs. The conductivity means that there is less "stuff" or particles in the air, meaning it is cleaner.

We completed the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Akwesasne. It is available on our website, in the Environment Office and on the US Environmental Protection Agency's website. This plan will be used as a model for other tribal nations that would like to develop plans. Our plan caught the eye of one environmentalist in a Swiss community. The gentleman stated he would like to share it with the *Swiss Gouvernement, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources*. How cool is that?

The air program started a new one-year project with the community on cleaning up indoor air. On average, people spend about 65% of their time in their homes, 25% at their jobs and the rest of time in various places, indoor and outdoor. Because so much time is spent indoors, it is important to create a clean air environment to maintain healthy lives. All homes contain sources that can contaminate their air. Learning how to minimize these sources is the key to preventing unhealthful exposures to family and friends.

To date, the project has monitored 10 homes. The initial monitoring period is 12 days where the occupants of the home keep a journal of activities in the home, i.e. cleaning, cooking and keep track of when nobody is home or they are sleeping. After the 12 days, Air Program personnel and the family meet to discuss what may be impacting the household and how to minimize it. After another 12 days, the air program checks back in to see if the recommendations are helping. The feedback from the project has been very positive. Below are a couple of charts showing the initial results.

One of the most common recommendations is to use the fan over the stove. From all of the homes completed so far, the most non-used item is the fan over the stove. I believe it also makes a difference whether it exhausts to the outside or if it just circulates the air back into the home. Little changes can have a big impact on your indoor air quality; opening a window to allow fresh air in or making sure the exhaust fan is on when taking a shower.

You don't have to have asthma or a diagnosed respiratory illness to participate. If you are interested in checking the quality of your indoor air and making changes to improve it, we still have approximately 15 spots left for the fall study. Please call Julia Jacobs at 518-358-5937, ext. 126.

So for now and the next seven generations, let's improve our indoor air for our health and well being. ♦

Initial Study Results - Houses Completed

Home	Particle Pollution	Chemical Pollutants	Carbon Dioxide	Temperature	Relative Humidity	Carbon Monoxide
1	improvable	acceptable	acceptable	too warm	too dry	acceptable
2	high	improvable	acceptable	too cool	too dry	acceptable
3	improvable	improvable	stale air	too cool	moist	acceptable
4	acceptable	acceptable	acceptable	too cool	too dry	acceptable
5	high	acceptable	acceptable	too warm	too dry	acceptable
6	high	improvable	stale air	too cool	moist	improvable

Home Improvement Program

Program Feature

By Rod Garrow, Program Director

The HIP program and Tribal Council developed the HIP Emergency Home Repair Assistance Program that is funded by the Tribal General Fund (TGF). Our mission is to provide assistance for emergency home repairs to Tribal Members residing on the Southern portion of the Mohawk Territory. Some of the services that we provide are repairing or replacing roofs, replacing drafty windows and doors, fixing leaky plumbing and faulty electrical wiring, and servicing or replacing furnaces. We also re-insulate homes and install handicap ramps and handicap accessible bathrooms. This year applications will be accepted for the 2015 construction season starting in May.

Applicants are selected according to a point system created by the Tribe. Priority is given to seniors (55 and over), families with children and individuals with a disability. Applicants must be enrolled members of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and reside on the southern portion of the territory. They must own and live in the house that requires repairs and provide proof of land ownership. Applicants also need to provide income verification for all adults living in the household and provide a doctor's certification of a handicap or a health problem if applicable.

Application for assistance does not guarantee selection. Applicants must re-apply every summer and start the application process again each year. We are able to help the top 35 to 40 applicants. Our budget is then based on the needs of the

successful applicants. The budget is approved in January of each year and the work begins in that fiscal year. Due to steady budget increases from the TGF funding, the program operates all year long. Emergency applications can be made at any time.



The money allotted to each project is based on the necessary repairs and renovations to bring the home up to standards. Jobs are prioritized on how much the needed repairs affect the life, health and safety of the homeowner. Some examples of repairs are replacing a leaky roof to prevent moisture damage, repairing faulty wiring and repairing an unsafe furnace.



The HIP Emergency Home Repair Assistance Program will only make the necessary repairs to make a house habitable; they do not make cosmetic improvements to a home. The HIP Program also helps the community by answering up to 150 emergency and non-emergency calls ranging from frozen water pipes, leaking water heaters, broken doors and windows, furnace parts and repairs, patching and tarring leaky roofs, and an assortment of other repairs.



The Program has ten employees: the program director, Rod Garrow, one foreman, seven carpenters, and an assistant to the director. We welcomed our new assistant to the director, Sandra Benedict, last summer. She brings with her a wealth of experience working in the housing area. ♦

Expanding Horizons

JOM Students Get Scientific

By *Chanel Cook, JOM Education Specialist*

The Johnson O'Malley Program was recently selected to participate in the Cornell University's "Expanding Your Horizons" Program. The conference started at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 12, 2014. Each of the seven girls from both J.W. Leary and Salmon River Middle School were to select from 30 workshops. Each of the workshops allowed for the girls to get a hands-on experience of what it was like to participate in college classes and to look at different careers involving science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). They were able to meet women who are physicists, astronomers, chemists, biologists, computer scientists and more. They were addressed by keynote speakers who were involved in the STEM fields. Each participant was accompanied by an adult, or was given a volunteer Cornell University student as a "Buddy" to navigate and participate in the workshops with.

The Conference was designed for female students in grades seven through nine. The seventh and eighth graders were on their own three workshop track, where they were to choose from the 30 workshops and explore the Cornell University campus. Each workshop was held in a building that housed the field of study involved and taught by graduate students and professors of Cornell University. The ninth graders were on a two

workshop track as well as an afternoon that allowed them to attend a longer session of workshops that explored electricity, earthquakes, genetics and Cornell University's collection of invertebrates.

Our JOM participants decided to explore Marine Biology, where they were able to look at local fish and the sensory along with invertebrates and crustacean. Brains! was a workshop where they were able to dissect a sheep brain and see what the different parts of the brain actually control, behavior and functioning. In Colorful Crystal Explosives they explored specimens such as potato starch, TNT, etc. to explore their crystallization structure and their colors through microscopes and take pictures to bring home. Designing Social Networks was a workshop where students created their own facebook page and crafted a website using Microsoft Notepad. Exploring Math looked at patterns and strategies

mathematically. Play or Get Played and the Psychology of Teams allowed the participant to look at the theory of competitive behavior, team play and the prevalence of winning!

The group had a fun time, enjoyed the variety of workshops and was able to see what it was like stepping foot on a large University

campus! "I would go back!" said one of the students, as we drove back home. ◇



Kaylee Smoke Examines a Human Skull



What Did the Fish Say to Aleesha Smoke?



Chrissy Benedict Getting Ready to Dissect A Sheep Brain

Mental Health Services

Health Services Program Feature

By Christine Venery, Mental Health Director

The Saint Regis Mohawk Mental Health (SRMMH) Program, which is also known as *Kanikonri:iohne* is located in the Saint Regis Mohawk Health facility. The purpose of *Kanikonri:iohne* is to ensure that members of Akwesasne – children and adults- who are having emotional troubles get the treatment they need to feel better. Many times people need a place to talk about their concerns and problems in private with the assurance that what they say will remain confidential and not end up in the community. *Kanikonri:iohne* is such a place. Our program offers individual, family, couples and play therapy; as well as assessments and psychiatric evaluation and medication therapy if needed.

We are made up of a trained staff of Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) and Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC), a Psychiatrist and Traditional Medicine Liaison. Our staff are: Christine Venery, LCSW, Mental Health Director; Jill Conrad, LMHC; Alison Herne, LCSW; Anita Plann, LMHC; Everett “Hakie” Cook, and our part-time staff psychiatrist is Dr. Robert Wolff. Together we offer direct services for issues such as depression, anxiety, mood swings, anger management, suicidal thoughts, relationship issues, grief/loss, sexual problems, and trauma and sexual/physical/emotional abuse concerns (both past and present).

We also offer Early Recognition and Screening and school-based mental health therapy at the Saint Regis Mohawk School and Salmon River Central School. For those who wish to take a more traditional approach toward healing our Traditional Medicine Worker is Everett “Hakie” Cook. Our office support staff includes Anastasia Benedict and Lyndie Brann who assist with office management, reception and scheduling. We also have two case managers who assist with client outreach services including referrals, parenting skills and advocacy. Our case managers are Melissa Conners-Chamberlain and Dana Henhawk. Melissa also has office hours at Salmon River Central with the Teen and Women Health Education Program.

Services are available to all registered members of a federally recognized tribe and Akwesasne. The SRMT Mental Health Program is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Walk in or call 518-358-3141 extension 160 or our toll free number which is 1-800-647-7839 for services. Crises are seen immediately. All services are confidential. We also offer an anonymous on-line screening tool; www.mentalhealthscreening.org/STREGIS, where you can see if you may be in need of mental health services. Hope, help and recovery from emotional difficulties is available and possible. ◇



Past Mental Health Campaign Themes

Promising Futures

High School Students Attend Program at Cornell University

By Samantha Phillips, Administrative Assistant

Since 1975, the American Indian Program (AIP) at Cornell University has welcomed Native students from across the country and helped them reach their higher educational goals. A unique program, the American Indian Program also coordinates the Akwe:kon House located on the university's campus. In 1991, Akwe:kon was constructed as a residential program house. It is home to thirty-five Native and non-Native residents who all share a passion for Native American culture, values and issues. Prospective students from Crow, Northern Cheyenne, Choctaw and Zuni Nations joined Mohawk, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora students from Akwesasne, Allegany, Onondaga and Tuscarora territories. The 44 students were accompanied by their parents, chaperones and community college Native liaisons.

On March 21, Rod Cook and Samantha Phillips of the Education Division brought four high school students from Akwesasne to Cornell to learn more about the American Indian Program and the university. On Friday, the students attended a presentation by Tom Porter, as well as a faculty panel that included Jane Mt. Pleasant, PhD, Associate Professor of the Department of

Horticulture, and Jolene Richard, PhD, Director of AIP and Associate Professor in the Departments of History of Art and Visual Studies and Art, American Indian Studies. Dinner at Akwe:kon followed and allowed the students of Akwe:kon to mingle with our Akwesasne students.

On Saturday, the students were also exposed to admission and application tips and strategies, financial aid opportunities and a campus tour. As



Sage Herne, Kyla Thompson, Abraham Francis, Marli Connors and Mesa Cole Have Promising Futures

the director of admissions pointed out, "the school needs to be a good fit for you" and the tour allowed the students to see the size of the campus. An interactive student panel that included former

Massena Central student Abraham Francis (Class of 2014), gave the students an insider's view of the academic rigors of college. It also emphasized the bonds that are created between classmates and professors. The day concluded with student give-aways and a chaperone give-away. Samantha Phillips won a Kindle-Fire.

The students who attended the Promising Futures Program not only discovered a possible college to attend, but also learned that the American Indian Program is an opportunity to be at home away from home. It is for students with a promising future that promises a future. ♦

National Recognition for JOM

Education Program Feature

By Stephanie Cook, Executive Director of Education

The National Johnson O'Malley Association (NJOMA) Conference was held March 25-27, 2014 in Denver Colorado. Rebecca Smoke, Samantha Phillips and Stephanie Cook from the Tribe's Education Division were in attendance.

The NJOMA Conference celebrated its 20th Anniversary this year. The association recognizes the "specialized and unique educational needs" of our Native American students.

A highlight of this year's conference was the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's JOM Program receiving the Exemplary Award for Region 4! This region consists of Tribal JOM programs located in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Iowa, Michigan, Vermont and New Jersey. The program's Director, Rebecca Smoke was nominated by Executive Director of Education, Stephanie Cook.

The Tribe's JOM Program is funded through a Federal JOM grant and is supplemented by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. It is through this collaborative funding that Rebecca is able to bring many special and unique educational opportunities to our students. She is a constant driving force and doesn't settle for "status quo". She recognizes the unique needs that our children possess and works diligently to provide them with opportunities for growth - socially, physically and educationally. Her team of Educational Specialists (Jordan Thompson, Ashley Cumming, Brandi Benedict and Chanel Cook) are the backbone of the program.

These fine individuals bring an enthusiasm and devotion to the program that is truly inspiring!

Below is the nomination that was submitted by, Stephanie Cook, Executive Director of Education:

"Rebecca Smoke is the Director of the Johnson O'Malley Program for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. I am nominating her for the National Johnson O'Malley Exemplary Award Program for Region Four. Rebecca consistently strives to have our JOM program be a model that sets a high standard for planning, developing and implementing educational activities. She and her team of educational specialists coordinate monthly educational enrichment activities such as college visits, career exploration, cultural experiences and theatrical

performances. In the summer, she runs a six-week program that serves children ages 6-12 years. The primary focus is on literacy, creativity, culture and science (STEM and Robotics programming). In 2013 her program served 2,300



AISES Members Aleesha Smoke, Kaeliana Smoke, Jarrod Jackson, Jonathan Barclay and Dayna Barclay with their KNEX Robotics

students from our territory. She has most recently formed a local AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society) Chapter for students in grades 7-12. Rebecca partners with our local school districts and educational programs within our territory. She is creative, energetic and determined to bring the best programming to our students. She believes in raising the bar in the delivery of our services and constantly looks for ways to keep our students engaged in their educational development. Akwesasne is proud to have Rebecca working for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Johnson O'Malley Program!" ◇

Foster Care

Social Services Division Program Feature

By Renee Massaro, Home Finder

May is Foster Care Awareness month and we are busy planning a series of community events to recruit and provide information on the positive aspects of becoming a certified foster home. We are planning an after school crafting session so that children will be able to make gifts for Mother's Day. A family trivia and family game night are also being planned for May. Event details will be advertised in Indian Times and on CKON radio.

If you are interested in doing Foster Care there are different options of care you can pursue:

1. Relative Foster Care
2. Respite Foster Care
3. Certified Foster Parents
4. KinGap

If you would really like to help families in the Akwesasne, whether you live on the northern or southern portion, we are able to certify you. You can choose to open your heart and your home to any child in our community or to certify for placements only for your relatives should they ever need foster care. You can also choose to be available in emergencies should a child need to be placed immediately or to provide respite care to give our foster parent a break.

The application process includes: State Central Registry (SCR) Criminal Check; Fingerprints (Massena/Malone); application packet asking about your family composition and experiences; a medical form (a basic physical – able to care for child and TB test results); a foster parent agreement ; and Volunteer Criminal Conviction Statement (shows honesty of intent, by admitting to arrest prior to results).

Please do not be discouraged from considering becoming a foster parent due to a past conviction. Many factors go into considering and providing a supportive,

positive foster home. While some convictions are a mandatory disqualification, others are discretionary based on the passage of time and the conviction.

There is currently a shortage of certified respite and relative foster homes, so please consider becoming a Foster Parent. We hope to begin a Relative Foster Parent training class aptly named, "Caring For Our Own: A Program for Kinship Caregivers" this Spring or Summer. However we need 12 interested individuals and couples to sign up to offer this class. The class will meet once a week for three hours over nine weeks.

It is a chance for people to decide whether they want to become relative foster parents or to help relatives learn more about the agency's expectations and role in their lives as relative foster parents. The program also gives relative foster parents the chance to examine possible changes to their own lifestyle/home life, their relationship with the child's birth parent or challenges with transitioning from a relative to a foster parent role. The class offers suggestions, solutions and understanding into what is behind these challenges and ideas on conflict resolution.

The Preventative Foster Care Unit's main goals are to prevent placement of children by helping to reduce risk with families. When placement is necessary, we explore relatives first, then certified foster homes until the goal of return to parent or another acceptable permanent option can be achieved. The process to become a certified relative foster parent does involve a bit of paperwork, so it is a good idea to become certified before the need arises.

If you are interested in making a difference in a child's life by becoming a foster parent, call the Foster Care program at 518-358-4516. ♦



Renee Massaro, Home Finder

Project Review Team

Planning & Infrastructure Program Feature

By Colleen Thomas, Capital Projects Manager

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Project Review Team (PRT) was created in April of 2013 to assist Tribal programs with the feasibility, scope of work, schedule and oversight for new buildings, additions, repairs and/or renovation projects no matter the funding source. Tribal Administration selected Tribal employees with experience in construction, contracts, planning, building codes, environmental regulations, estimating and budgeting to comprise the PRT.

The PRT meets on a monthly basis to discuss planning, design, construction documents, contracts, budgets and Tribal policies or procedures that impact ongoing construction projects, such as the SRMT Health and Safety Policy. In fact, several members of the PRT were instrumental in developing the Safety Policy and are members of both committees.

"Since the Project Review Team was established, the Tribe has successfully completed a number of projects," said Starr Thomas, Assistant Executive Director/Corporate Compliance Officer, who represents Administration at monthly PRT meetings. "Overall, these projects have had excellent oversight and have been completed on time and, with a couple of exceptions caused by unforeseen conditions, within budget."

Some of the Tribal projects completed through the PRT include reconstruction of clinic/Community Building parking lot, installation of storm drain system at clinic parking lot, reconstruction of ambulance ramp at clinic, waterproofing of foundation at Early Childhood Development Program (ECDP) building,

demolition of old Head Start building, asbestos testing, building condition surveys and construction of outdoor lacrosse/hockey box.

In 2014, the PRT is expected to complete design and construction for additions to the Family Support building and the Group Home; and design for an addition to the Health Services building. Also on the schedule for this year is reconstruction of parking lots at ECDP building and Partridge House; construction of a new bike path at ECDP; construction of a new maintenance garage at Generations Park; and demolition and de-commissioning plan of Hogansburg Dam.



Ernie Thompson, Starr Thomas, Elliott Lazore, Matthew Thompson, Derrick King and Colleen Thomas

PRT members include Starr Thomas - Administration, Rod Garrow - HIP, Nadine Jacobs - Grants & Contracts, Elliott Lazore - Compliance, Michael McFaddin - Facilities, Ernie Thompson -

Planning & Infrastructure, Matthew Thompson - Environment Division and Colleen Thomas - Planning & Infrastructure. Colleen also serves as the Chairperson for the Project Review Team.

"Every member of the Project Review Team strives to complete Tribal projects as effectively and efficiently as possible. They wouldn't accomplish so much without cooperation between programs and much valued assistance from our internal technical experts," said Tsiorasa Barreiro, Executive Director.

For more details on Project Review Team operations or procedures please contact the chairperson, Colleen Thomas at 518-358-4205. ♦

Education



Mohawk Student To Be Recognized for Outstanding Academic Achievement

The Education Division congratulates Noah Bero of SUNY Canton for his academic achievement. For the second consecutive year, he will be recognized with a College Academic Award based on having earned the highest cumulative grade point average of his Junior class in the Electrical Technology curriculum. He has also been selected to receive the Canino Prize for Academic Excellence which carries a \$1,000 award to be used toward tuition of the next academic year. Noah is the son of Gary and Melissa Bero and is a 2012 graduate of Salmon River.

Graduate Course Being Offered

Philosophy of Education - Ed Boyd
Start Date: May 20 - 5 week course
Days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Time: 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Location: Community Building

Course Description: Three semester hours. The background, nature and significance of various educational problems are considered from both the theoretical and practical viewpoints. Some contrasting viewpoints on educational goals, on solving educational problems and on evaluating educational outcomes are considered (St. Lawrence University Graduate Catalog 2013-14).

Our Children Need You

Vote! We are asking community members to vote on May 20, 2014 in the Salmon River Central School Board Election. Three seats are available that we hope to fill with the following community candidates, Sheila Marshall, Michael Connors and Jason McDonald.

On May 20, polls will open at noon and close at 8:00 p.m. Voting will occur in the auditorium of the High School.

The Special Election that was held on December 3, 2013 had a total of 613 votes that were cast. Of those, 206 were from Akwesasne/Hogansburg. That means that we had 34% of the votes. This is an increase from the previous election by 12%. This is good news, but we need to improve our numbers steadily with each and every election. We need to continue to maintain our voice on the school board and the only way to do so is by getting out and voting!

What is required to vote? You must be 18 years of age and reside in the Salmon River Central School District for a period of at least 30 days prior to the meeting/election. If you will be away on May 20, please pick up an "Application for Absentee Ballot" available at the Tribe. These applications are NOT the ballot and need to be returned to the Business Office at Salmon River before May 20.

In addition to the Board seats, there will be two propositions that you will be asked to vote on:

- The purchase of one 28 passenger bus, a 65 passenger bus and one 8 passenger bus.
- To repeal the "at large" election that was passed on May 19, 2009 and, commencing with the next annual school board election, vacancies on the SRCS Board of Education shall be considered separate and specific seats and nominating petitions are to describe the specific vacancy for which a candidate is nominated.

Please be on the lookout in the newspaper and on the radio for election events this month! As always, *Niawen:ko'wa* for your time and commitment to the education of our children. ♦

HCBS Waiver Services

Community & Family Services Division

By Melissa Jock, Acting Waiver Supervisor

The Home and Community Based (HCBS) Waiver Services is a tribal program within the Community and Family Services Division. This tribal program includes several programmed opportunities for developmentally disabled *Onhkwehon: we*. We work on person-centered planning for each individual's goals. We develop special activities to meet the various capabilities of consumers from different age groups. Through a number of services, individuals in family support are offered opportunities like:

The **Day Habilitation Program** serves adults in the community mainly throughout the week and occasionally on weekends and evenings. Our employees complete personal errands like bill paying, laundry and grocery shopping with each individual. Day Habilitation also provides recreational activities designed to promote healthy relationships in the community. We provide a number of activities including bowling, woodworking and cooking.

Hourly Respite provides relief to family members who take care of people with developmental disabilities. This program is also designed to for community based services.

The **Community Habilitation Program** allows staff to go into the homes and in the community with our participants to help with daily living skills. Staff assists with regular household chores, meal preparation and errands.

Family Support Kids' Recreation Program serves developmentally disabled children in our surrounding

school districts including Salmon River Central School, and St. Regis Mohawk School. Ours kids range in age from three to 21 years. The Kids' Recreation Program provides services after school, Monday through Fridays and occasional weekends. On days that school is not in session, we plan all day field trips for an extended experience with our children. Our surrounding areas have more to offer for special needs field trips. They participate in arts and crafts activities planned and coordinated by the Habilitation Aides. One of the favorite activities provided by Dori Adel is woodworking

class. Our children are able to create works of art from their own imagination.

Tsi Tekaiénon:ni also known as **Footprints** is another after school program operated by Family Support. Our staff within Footprints specializes in working with children on the Autism Spectrum. ABA (Applies Behavior Analysis) is known as systematic instruction and reinforcement procedures that teach functional life skills, communication skills or social skills. There are special techniques and drills that are

worked on every 15 minutes on given days. ABA focuses on the reliable measurement and objective evaluation of observable behavior.

The Home and Community Based Waiver Services is the most involved program within our division. As Acting Waiver Supervisor, I am pleased to have such great staff with compassion for our people. It takes a lot to be a specialized teacher. Keep up the great work. ◇



2014 Election & Referendum

By Mark Martin, Election Board

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Election Board has scheduled the annual Caucus for Saturday May 3, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Building. This year, the Election Board will be seeking nominations for one chief and one sub-chief. The Election and Referendum Ordinance, Section V, Eligibility of Candidates, states:

All Candidates must possess the following qualifications:

1. Have been nominated by two (2) eligible voters of the Tribe. Eligibility of nominators will be determined at the time of the nomination.
2. Not have been convicted of any serious crime as defined by this Ordinance and must sign a release authorizing a criminal background check within three (3) business days of caucus.
3. Individuals must be willing to sign an affidavit stating they not only meet the above listed requirements but they are also a person of good character and sound judgment.
4. Shall be subject to and must pass a drug test prior to being declared an eligible candidate. The drug test must take place within three (3) business days of caucus.
5. Candidates may only run for one (1) position in any given election.

Candidates for Tribal Chief and Sub-Chief must possess the following qualifications:

1. Be an enrolled member of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.
2. Be an eligible voter of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.
3. Be at least thirty (30) years of age at the time of Election.
4. Have resided on the Saint Regis Mohawk Reservation, as defined by the Treaty of 1796,

for at least one (1) year immediately prior to the annual tribal election.

5. Have been nominated by two (2) eligible voters of the Tribe. Eligibility of nominators will be determined at the time of the nomination.
6. Not have been convicted of any serious crime as defined by this Ordinance and be willing to sign a release authorizing a criminal background check.

Nominators must be eligible voters, the Election and Referendum Ordinance, Section VII, Eligibility of Voters, states:

At the time of voting, an eligible voter must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Be an enrolled member of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.
- Reside in the United States for at least six months immediately prior to the election.
- Have their name on the most current eligible voters list. It is the responsibility of all Tribal members to ensure they are on the eligible voters list.

Mark Your Calendar

Tribal Elections will be held June 7, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Community Building. Absentee ballots can be requested through the Tribal Clerk's Office. Absentee ballots will be available once the Election Board certifies the candidates. The release date of absentee ballots, scheduling of walk-in and in-home voting are to be determined.

To verify your eligibility, request an absentee ballot, or if you have questions or concerns regarding the eligible voter's list contact the Tribal Clerk's Office at 518-358-2272. It is the responsibility of all Tribal members to ensure they are on the eligible voters list. ♦



Calendar

Onerahtohkó:wa / May 2014

- 3 - Annual Caucus - 10:00 a.m. - Community Building lobby
10 - Tribal Monthly Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - Community Building lobby
13 - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Tribal Clerk's office
14 - Police Commission Monthly Meeting - 3:00 p.m. - Executive Boardroom
19 to 22 - Spring Cleanup Area 1 - Raquette Point Area
26 - Memorial Day Holiday - All offices and programs closed. AERC and Transfer Station closed.
27 to 6/5 - Spring Cleanup Area 2 - Rooseveltown, Frogtown, Helena Road & Route 37 East of St. Regis River
Tuesdays - Tribal Council Work Sessions - 9:00 a.m. - Tribal Council Boardroom

New Faces

Robert Vaughn Adams	Master Teacher	Environment - Akwesasne Cultural Restoration
Katelyn Marie Bero	Activity Coordinator	Office for the Aging
Miranda L. Conners	Safe Home Advocate	Social Services - Three Sisters
Shirley Gambill	Teacher Aide / Bus Driver	Education - Early Childhood Development
Taylor A. John	Master Teacher	Environment - Akwesasne Cultural Restoration
Marco A. Montoya	Habilitation Aide	Community & Family Services - Family Support
Norman L. Peters	Master Teacher	Environment - Akwesasne Cultural Restoration
Michelle L. Rodriguez	Custodian	Facilities
Tanya L. Square	Administrative Assistant	Community & Family Services - Family Support
Brenda L. Stone	Custodian	Facilities
Calvin Owen Thomas	Custodian	Facilities
Tameka Thompson	Business Office Clerk	Health Services - Business Office

Donations

Sports - \$4,500	Community Events - \$4,000	Sports Associations - \$5,000
Community Development - \$1,100	Funeral Requests - \$4,000	

Jobs

Mid-Level Practitioner - Health Services
Pharmacy Clerk - Health Services
Director of Finance - Finance
Home Health Aide - Outreach

Current tribal job postings at www.srmt-nsn.gov
Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Resort positions are posted at www.mohawkcasino.com
Akwesasne and surrounding area positions are posted at www.myaerc.org

**For Youth Ages 10 to 17
Saturday May 31, 2014
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
at the St. Regis Recreation Centre**

Kids For Fishing



Sign up early. Only 40 spots are available plus 10 spots reserved for youths with special needs. Names will be collected and 40 selected lottery style.

The morning begins with guest speakers talking about boating safety, drug prevention and local environmental information and concerns. The SUNY Plattsburgh fishing team will talk about the how the sport of fishing enhances their education. Renegade Bass demonstrates how to use a rod and reel, basic fishing techniques and fish identification. Following lunch, youth will board boats mentored by experienced volunteer anglers to try out their new skills. Each participant will receive a rod and reel, life jacket, fishing lures, a water bottle and other items donated by Akwesasne departments.

The 4th Annual Kids for Fishing event is sponsored by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. All Akwesasne youth ages 10 to 17 are encouraged to submit their names. The program was developed by Officer PJ Burns who has fourteen years of service with Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police. Registrations will be accepted until May 12, 2014. To submit a name or for more information, contact Officer Burns by calling 518-521-8479 or email pj.burns@srmt-nsn.gov. ♦



Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
412 State Route 37
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