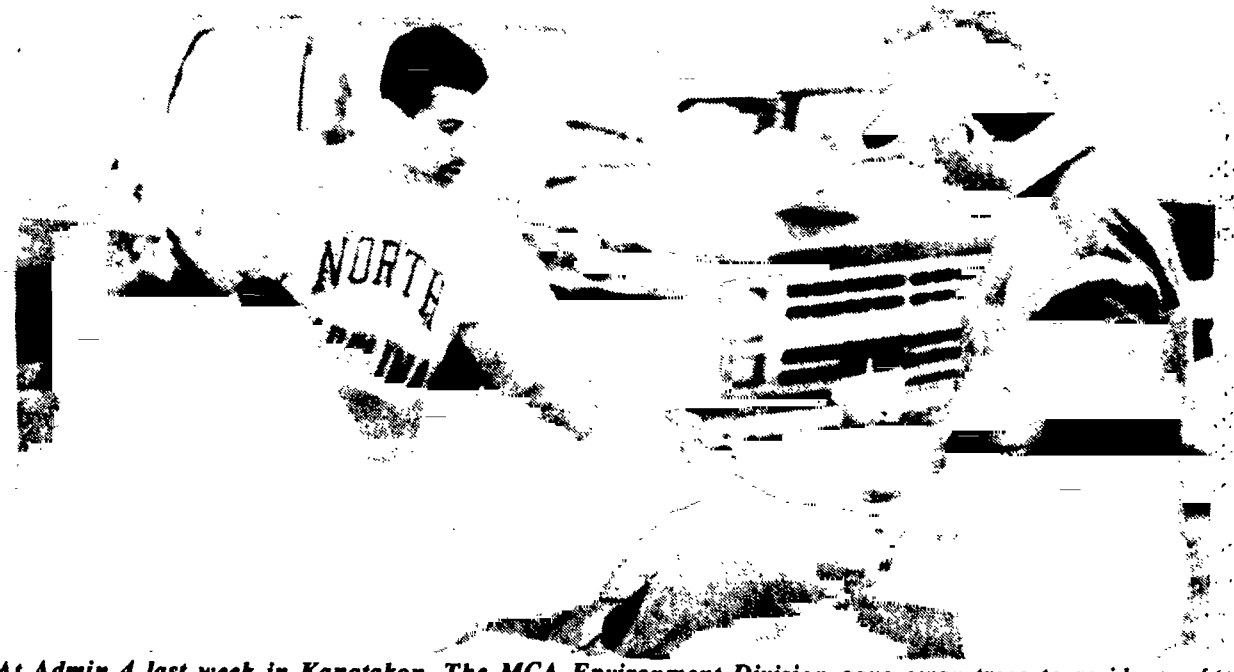


## Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Tree Giveaway



At Admin 4 last week in Kanatakon. The MCA Environment Division gave away trees to residents. At right is Frank Thompson who placed an order for a tree. At left are Marita Skidders, Agricultural Manager and Mark Martin.

## St. Regis Parish News



**Pre Confirmation Retreat:** Retreat this coming week for All candidates in our program. Bus will be departing from Kateri Hall at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27th and return by 5 p.m. on Thursday May 28th. It will be held at Shalom House at St. Raphael. Retreat leaders will be Hank Oset, Director of Rose Hill Center in Massena and Larry Anderson, Youth Director, Diocese of Ogdensburg. Parents are reminded of the \$25 offering requested per candidate to help defray retreat and other program expenses. Niawen.

**Confirmation Program:** Thanks to all the parents, sponsors and candidates who took time out to attend our last large group session Thursday, May 21 and thanks also to Sr. Monique Couture our guest speaker for coming from Plattsburg to be with us. Need to hear from those that missed -- class numbers are dwindling. Program checklist for candidates: Have you written and turned in your letter to Bishop Lebel? Are you caught upon your three hours of volunteer community service per month? Have you selected your saints' name and chosen your sponsor? Have you made up any and all work from confirmation classes and those that you missed? If you're not sure, contact Kateri Hall, if you have any questions. **Program dates remaining:** Practice for Confirmation at St. Regis Church Friday, June 12th at 7 p.m. for all candidates and sponsors. Celebration of Confirmation will be Saturday, June 13th at 4 p.m. with a special mass celebration at the Church.

**Religion Program:** This coming week of May 25th is the last full week of religion classes for the school year. Children will be rewarded for perfect attendance and in other areas. Each class will have their own mini-celebrations. (With one exception, the two Confirmation classes will continue through the week of June 8th)

**Spring Fund Raiser:** Congratulations to our week 4 winner Becky Papineau of \$100. Membership tickets are still available for the 6 weeks of \$100 drawings remaining for only \$12 Can. or Am. They can be purchased at Kateri Hall or the St. Regis Rectory.

**First Communion Videos** are available at Kateri Hall for (\$10) or to borrow for viewing. To place an order, call Kateri Hall at 358-2931. We commend the families who have been doing their best to get their youngsters to mass on the weekends following First Communion. Keep up the good work.

**Happy birthday** to Shirley Braman on May 30th. From all the Parish Staff.

And during this month of May we must not forget 2 of our favorite May gals: Wishing **Happy birthday** and a "Merry" May day to May Tarbell who celebrates her birthday on Sunday, the 24th and to "Little May" Beeters on Saturday the 30th. From all your friendly religion teachers at the Hall. We miss your smiling faces helping us out. **Happy birthday.**

## Sken nen kowa's Executive Director's Message

Sken nen kowa has been very busy this past year. In addition to providing mediation services to the community, we have offered Alternative Dispute Resolution training.

Over the past nineteen months, many community members have utilized the services, participated in the program, and more importantly, supported the Staff and Board in its efforts to give fair, just, and caring service to the whole of Akwesasne. Although the program continues to be successful in resolving the cases referred, we have grown more deeply concerned about the hatred, bitterness, revenge, back-stabbing, and rumors that continue to fester in our community.

In the year and a half with Sken nen kowa, I have listened to the concerns, hurts, and the pains of leaders, community members, and other interested parties from all walks of life. The pain is not just from 1990. In fact, it goes much deeper than that.

The year of external influences, oppression, and injustices now blind us. We have become an angry and hostile people. We have become our own worst enemy. Never in our history have we been so divided as a community. We are so wrapped up in our anger, we no longer can be objective as to what is best for the community. In as much as it appears hopeless, at times, we can make a difference.

We can change the negative into a positive through Alternative Dispute Resolution. Throughout the year, Sken nen kowa has been promoting dialogue among leadership and community members. We are very encouraged with the positive results. We need to listen and respect each other's views, acknowledge our mistakes, accept our responsibilities, stop blaming others for our

misfortunes; then collectively, we can reach our common goal of building a better future for the next generation. Presently, we dwell on the negative and we fail to see the positive developments happening around us. This is a sure recipe for self-destruction. Governments continually feed on our turmoil. We need to alter our behavior and attitude toward each other. This will only occur if we take a look at ourselves. As individuals, we need to ask ourselves, "What can I do to make a difference?" Our community is so fortunate to have so many knowledgeable and committed individuals. The potential for Akwesasne is unlimited.

Having studied the causes of violence, we have learned that violence is a behavior that is easily learned and very difficult to unlearn. However, if efforts are made to actively engage our youth in comprehensive decision-making and problem-solving training, we then prepare them with excellent leadership qualities.

Unfortunately, we must inform the community that Sken nen kowa must close its doors on May 29, 1992, due to lack of funding. So much progress has been achieved in the last two years. There is commitment and goodwill in the community and much more can be accomplished. Akwesasne now has fully trained mediators to assist in resolving the many issues dividing the Mohawks. I encourage everyone to utilize their skills. They are a great asset to this community.

On behalf of the Staff, we thank you for your support. For myself, I wish, each and everyone, my sincerest regards. The best is yet to come. Niawen kowa.

Joellene Adams  
Director of Sken nen kowa

## Message From the President of Board of Directors

The physical closing of the doors of Sken nen kowa is merely symbolic of the end of one stage of life and the beginning of a new one.

We express our gratitude to all those courageous individuals and community leaders for their support during these trying times. We, especially, want to thank Ernie Tannis, Joellene Adams, the Team members, and the Clerical Staff for their dedication and perseverance.

To the many people whose lives have been touched, we beg you to continue to light the world and

spread the good news of peace, justice and reconciliation.

We are living in very troubled times and each one of us by our free will and conscience can select which of two paths to follow. Either we choose the path of a full, happy life of equality, justice, and good will or choose to merely exist in the void of cold, fettered chains of immobility, hatred, revenge and destruction.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Sken nen kowa, we wish to thank all members of the community of Akwesasne.

Beatrice Lazore  
President

## TAXES

Cont'd from front page  
IPMNY goes to great lengths to hurt their non-native customers," the Chief said.

"It is also distressing to watch local gasoline wholesalers support this racist, unconstitutional effort when they come on our reservation each week in the winter and collect thousands and thousands of dollars from home heating oil sales. Mohawks need to find different sources for their heating oil."

"We encourage our non-native neighbors who enjoy buying gas and cigarettes on the reservation to contact their elected state representatives and voice their opposition to these bills," the Tribal Council added. "Not only is this legislation anti-Indian, it is anti-consumer."

**Becha didn't know:** Jeff Lazaro, of the Boston Bruins who will be hanging up their skates in a few days, is from Kahnawake. Maybe his name is Lazore and it did not look good on the back of a hockey jersey.



## Child Care in Your Home

You now have the opportunity to work in your own home, be your own boss, earn a good salary, and provide a much needed community service. As a private home child care provider, you can earn up to \$14.50 a day per child, or \$362.50 per week. You are also eligible to receive annual salary enhancement grants of up to \$1000. The service you provide will care for 1 to 5 children from the ages of newborn through 12 on a full or part time basis. You can decide how many children you want to care for, and what days and hours suit you and the parents best.

No special qualifications are necessary, but you must be over age 18. You should be willing to care for children in your own home; and work with the parents needing your service, and in partnership with the Akwesasne Child Care Program. Once a service agreement is reached, you will receive many of the benefits of an licensed agency supported program. This includes training in your own home and in groups with other providers, receiving toys, playpens, and other furnishings as necessary to fully equip your home for this service. Free consultation and advice is also available, along with placement assistance, educational materials and manuals, and the enjoyment of being self-employed. If you would like to share in the benefits of being self-employed and work in your own home, contact the Akwesasne Child Care Program, 575-2377.

## RAY

Cont'd from pg.2

"When the whale beaches himself on the upper St. Lawrence, which has been happening, and seals and walrus and turning belly up...from the ocean, that is serious. "People have more to fear from what they're doing to the environment than they do from the atomic bomb." Shaking his head, he says "There is so much I could say about the environment..." But, he has many things to do, he's got bird feeders to fill with cracked corn and sunflower seeds... over 300 hundred of them. We took enough of his time, we thank him for his interview. He tells us to come and visit him again.

## Did you know...?

**STAY IN SCHOOL**  
Dropouts face chronic unemployment problems and are more likely to become involved with alcohol, drug-abuse, prostitution and crime. NC

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**60's & 70's DANCE FRI MAY 22**  
Come dressed in 60's & 70's garb and get **FREE ADMISSION**  
"Iron and Brass" coming from Fulton Sat. May 23  
Music from the 60's to the present.  
9:00 pm to 1:00 am  
\$2.00 Adults \$1.00 Students  
F/X is returning Fri. May 29  
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