

# OH↑ND↑AN↑HO T↑ME

A VOICE FROM THE EASTERN DOOR

Volume 10, Number 22

June 12, 1992

Price 50 cents

## Tribal Election Winners John Loran - Chief, Doug Smoke - Sub-Chief

Members of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe went to the polls on Saturday, June 6, 1992 to elect one Tribal Council Chief and one Sub-Chief.

A total of 906 enrolled Mohawks voted in the annual Tribal Election. The voter turnout was somewhat less than the 967 people who turned out for the 1991 ballot.

Although three candidates' names appeared on the ballot for the Tribal Council Chief position, one candidate, Russell Lazore, announced that he was withdrawing from the race. His decision came too late to allow for the ballots to be changed.

John Loran and James Ransom were the other two candidates

vying for the position of Chief.

Loran was elected to the three-year term of office being vacated by Head Chief Lincoln C. White, who did not seek re-election. Loran collected 468 votes, while Ransom garnered 405 votes. Lazore received 22 votes. Eleven ballots were invalid.

Three candidates were vying for one Sub-Chief position. This three-year term was held by John Loran until he resigned in May in order to enter the race for Chief.

Douglas Smoke was elected Sub-Chief with 435 votes. He was followed by Gerald Laughing who received 363 votes and Bernard White who collected 93 votes. Fifteen ballots were invalid.

Chief - elect Loran and Sub-Chief - elect Smoke will begin serving their three year terms on July 1.

Head Chief White and Chief Norman J. Tarbell and L. David Jacobs thanked the Mohawk people who participated in the orderly election. They congratulated all winners and pointed out that the significant number of voters participating in the Tribal Election is a good indication of the community's support for the Tribal Council's elective form of government.

Tribal Clerk Carol T. Herne also thanked the voters who participated, and expressed special gratitude to the members of the community who served as election workers and observers.

## Richard Shinnock Selected as Tribal Police Force's First Chief



L-R: Tribal Chiefs Dave Jacobs, Lincoln White, and Richard Shinnock. Shinnock is reciting his oath as he is sworn in as Chief of Police at the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council.

by Derrick Paul/Staff.

On Thursday June 11, The St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council announced the appointment of the new Chief of Police.

Head Chief Lincoln C. White was the first to speak. He said the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Community members have been working for the past three years to form a Tribal Police Force.

"With the communities advice and consent, we have mapped a strategy which will one day in the not too distant future lead to a top notch St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Force," says Lincoln White.

He also thanked New York State Governor Mario Cuomo, State Police Superintendent Thomas Constantine and all of the Troopers who served Akwesasne for the past forty years.

The establishment of a Police department will not mark the end of State Police presence on the reservation. They will still be there to lend assistance when needed.

This was evident by the number of Guests from New York State who congratulated the Tribe on their appointment.

Colonel Wayne Bennet is from Division Headquarters in Albany New York and he offered his departments help when the local tribal police force needs it.

"We will be there to assist you," he added, "small police departments cannot exist anymore without some kind of services offered to them."

The assistance offered is for forensics and anthropology. Bennet told of problems that small towns face with manpower and the State Troopers are called upon to act.

"We can't abandon our presence, our cars will be patrolling depending on the demand and once the Police department is set up, our presence can change," says Bennet.

Major Kenneth Cook of the State Police in Massena also recognized the Tribe in the work they have done.

"I congratulate the Tribal Chiefs in taking this tremendous first step toward the future of establishment of a Police Department in St. Regis and I look forward to assisting the Chiefs and the community, stated Major Cook.

Another invited guest at the Tribal Council Press Conference was Sheriff Mel Nemier from Franklin County.

He, like the other representatives, offered their help when needed.

"I am sure that you will continue to serve in your capacity, the same dedication that you showed when you served the state of New York," says Sheriff Nemier, "and when you need assistance, you only have to ask."

Although this help from outside police agencies will be available at all times, the new Police Chief is not planning to rely on it.

"Our goal is to be self-sufficient to a certain point," says Shinnock, "when we need their assistance and we will make contact with them as it as been offered. Our goal is to provide law enforcement for the community without the continuous physical presence of other law enforcement agencies."

The next step in the proceeding at the Tribal Council was the swearing in of Shinnock. He recited his oath of office and all Chiefs signed the form.

It was pointed out that the St. Regis Mohawk Tribes Police Department will enforce the laws of New York State and in time, the laws of the Mohawk Nation. This also applied to the Courts System: New York for now and Mohawk Nation Courts when they are developed, and these are in the process.

The forming of the police department will start almost immediately. This week Chief Shinnock will put out notice that they are accepting applicants for second supervisors position.

He also said he hopes these supervisors come from the Mohawk Nation. Continued on page 7. See Police.

## Canada's Only Native-Run Probation Service To Die

Canada's only native-run probation service will die Friday, June 12, if the federal Solicitor-General does not renew its funding. New Democrat aboriginal affairs critic Bob Skelly, MP (Comox-Alberni) told the House of Commons.

Skelly has written Solicitor-General Doug Lewis to ask him to save the Dakota-Ojibway Probation Service (DOPS), operated out of Brandon, Manitoba. This native-run probation service has a recorded success rate of five to ten percent better than the provincial average according to a University of Manitoba study.

Federal funding runs out on June 22, and DOPS will be forced to had over 724 case files to

Manitoba Corrections officials this Friday, June 12.

Lewis claimed in an April 27 letter to the Tribal Council that Treasury Board would not permit further funding of this successful 7 year project "without explicit direction from the federal Cabinet on the jurisdictional and policy issues relating to provision of administration of justice services on reserves".

But Skelly thinks constitutional disputes are getting in the way of providing an important service.

"This federal-provincial shell-game has been used for years to avoid taking action on crucial matters affecting aboriginal people," he said. "The federal government has clear jurisdiction

in aboriginal affairs and lands reserved for first nation people under the Constitution Act of 1982," Skelly wrote Lewis.

"Letting this program die over a manufactured "jurisdictional dispute" demonstrates that the government ranks the Constitution over the provision of crucial services, and has its priorities greatly out of line," Skelly wrote.

"It's particularly ludicrous when the money spent on one day of those ministerial meetings probably comprises the annual budget of the Dakota-Ojibway Probation Service (\$180,000)," Skelly wrote.

## Minor Lacrosse League



Photo: Derrick Paul.

Andrew Francis, (left) of the Cornwall Island peanuts and a team mate try to stop Corey Lazore, (right) of Snyc. This game was played at the Snyc Recreation Field on Monday June 9th. On this play, Lazore broke through the line and scored. He scored both Snyc goals as they lost to the Island 4-2. (More photos on pages 8 & 9)

## Partridge House A Success

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's ongoing success with its inpatient treatment center for alcoholism, the Partridge House, was recently reaffirmed when the Tribe's Health Services received its State Operating Certificate.

Ms. Marguerite T. Saunders, Director of the State Division of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse said "the awarding of the Operating Certificate indicates that Partridge House meets the regulatory, structural and program requirements for providing quality care to alcoholic persons and their families."

The Partridge House is open for treatment to all adult native men and women. Approximately 60 clients per year are treated in this well-designed, 10-bed facility.

The Partridge House also enjoys a distinguished reputation as being only one of two adult rehabilitation centers east of the Mississippi River.

As a result, clients at Partridge House are referred from local

programs as well as from other treatment centers and out-patient programs from Florida to Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York City and Canada.

Under the direction of Mr. David Bowen, M.S.W. / C.S.W. and Program Coordinator Ms. Jackie McDonald, C.A.C., the center employs 15 full-time staff members that include 2 counselors in-training, several resident assistants, security, a cook and a secretary. This is in addition to the support services offered by the Tribe which range from nutrition, medical, dental and other human service topics such as communication skills, anger management, communicable diseases, fetal alcohol syndrome, etc.

The specialized treatment approach embodies the 12 step program of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Native American Culture Awareness Program as well as a holistic method of treatment which takes

into consideration the "whole" person. This holistic approach includes the physical, cultural, spiritual, emotional, psychological and mental functioning of the client.

Treatment is broken down into components, such as "Educating the patient on Alcohol Dependency." This involves the provision of information on alcoholism/chemical dependency as a disease, alcohol effects, other drug effects, personality characteristics, attitudes, etc.

Within the "Life Skills" component, patients learn tools for alcohol-free living. This is accomplished through a series of structured activities that involve self-awareness, self-esteem, ego developing, assertiveness, communication and problem solving.

A third component involves individual and group counseling. This assists the patient in laying Continued on page 7. See Partridge house.