

OHIO INDIANA TIME

A VOICE FROM THE EAST

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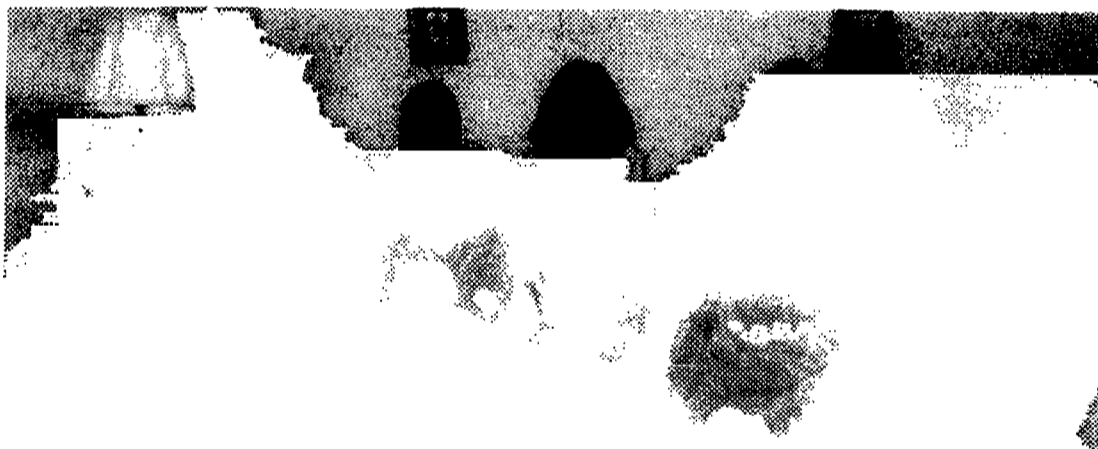
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GM Rod Changes Concern Mohawk Tribe



General Motors, Powertrain Division, Massena, NY. Location of hazardous waste remediation activities. Photo: Submitted.



Akwesasne Youth Council which was formed in September of 1994.

Photo: Janine Rourke

Akwesasne Youth Council Formed in Akwesasne

Question: Did you know Akwesasne has a group of committed and energized youth practicing drug-free and healthier lifestyles?

Answer: Well there is, they are called;
The Akwesasne Youth Council

In September 1994 a small group of youth were yearning for: "something to do", "someplace to go", "to meet people" and "to learn about youth in other reserves", especially in a non-sport environment. Five youth started to get

together. They met bi-monthly at the St. Regis Recreation Center then at the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe conference room. As the membership grew, it was decided to meet weekly. Since February 1995, the Youth Council

meetings have been held at the Akwesasne Addiction Awareness Program offices.

The first major task the group faced was the development of the Youth Council By-Laws.

Cont'd on Pg. 2, See YOUTH

Last year the General Motors Corporation requested that the USEPA reevaluate the treatment threshold in the Record of Decision for their National Priorities List (NPL) site at the Central Foundry Division, Massena, NY. The EPA responded to GM's request and developed a proposal which radically changes treatment thresholds from 10 parts-per-million (PPM) PCBs to 500 ppm PCBs.

EPA's proposal will allow GM to place all dredged and excavated materials with PCB concentrations above 10 ppm but less than 500 ppm on-site, rather than treat them. The ROD, signed in 1990, requires that the treatment of all sediments, sludges, soils and debris dredged and excavated from the site with PCB concentrations of above

10 ppm be treated.

The EPA believes that the proposed plan will still offer protection of human health and the environment, but will be more effective in the short term, and be cost-effective. EPA position is that because the proposed plans can be implemented more quickly, exposure and risk to humans will be reduced. They also mention that the proposed plan will cost about half the 1990 remedy, or \$43 million rather than \$80 million.

The 1990 ROD was issued by the USEPA, who is the lead agency, but also included concurrence by the New York State Department of Environment Conservation (NYSDEC) and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. This recent proposal deliberately excludes
Continued on Pg. 3, See GM

St. Regis Mohawk School 3rd Grade Class National Winners

Mrs. McCarthy's Third Grade class participated in the Scholastic Kids Care, good citizen challenge. This contest involved creating a community service project. Their project benefited the Women's Shelter on Cornwall Island.

Mrs. McCarthy's third grade class was notified on Wednesday that their project was the first place winner, from all third grade classes across the United States. There was one winning class for each

grade (grades 1 through 6). One grand prize winner was then chosen from among the six class winners.

Mrs. McCarthy's third grade class will receive a certificate for \$1,000.00 worth of Scholastic products. Plus, they will also receive a free subscription to Scholastic News.

Editor's Note: A picture will be printed along with a follow-up in 2 weeks, after Spring Break.