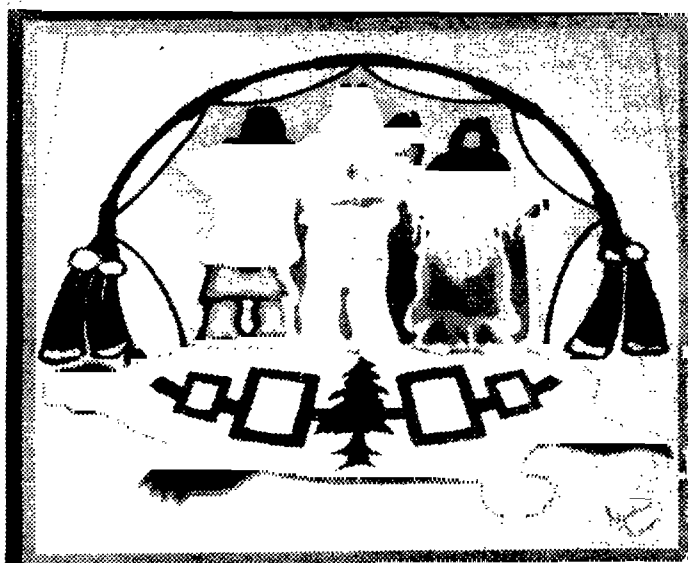


LOCAL NEWS



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Akwesasne Youth Council

HOGANSBURG By: Kawehnlhe

The Akwesasne Youth Council has been an organization for almost one year. The Council is open to Mohawk students age 13 to 20. The Council, when first organized, met weekly to develop their bylaws and select their leadership, president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Once the Youth Council members agreed on the rules and regulation, the Council meetings were changed to twice a month. The meetings were held at Konokwatsen:io, the Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program. The Youth Council's membership has increased to the extent that they outgrew the Prevention office. The meetings are now held at the Tribal Council building, upstairs across from the JOM office.

The Youth Council was organized to give the youth the opportunity to design their own programs and activities based on the needs and values of the community. The young people who are involved with the Youth Council learn to accept responsibility by developing leadership skills through activities and achievements. The members learn to work together such as their volunteering to package the seeds for the Akwesasne Environmental Task Force Seed Distribution program. Youth Council members volunteer for the different activities that are

both social and community based.

The Akwesasne Youth Council recently participated in a UNITY workshop at the Oneida Nation. The Youth Council have membership in the National UNITY Council and will be attending the Annual national Conference to be held in California this July.

The Youth Council are actively fundraising for their travel expenses to workshops and activities hosted by other Native Youth Councils. The Akwesasne Youth Council will be attending a video dance in Tyiendenaga. They will travel with the Kahnawake youth to Tiyendenaga. The members have also agreed to attend an AIDS workshop on May 6th and 7th in Syracuse. The two youth attending the workshop will help with the development of educational videos. The youth will receive training in acting and the videos will be produced with students as the actors.

The Youth Council has an Advisory Board composed of local parents and adults who are interested in this project. The Advisory Board members are Janine Rourke, Barbara Thompson, Leona Lafrance and Felicia Jacobs. Ms. Beverly Lazore is the Youth coordinator and the occasional chaperone.

According to Mrs. Lazore, "the Youth Council has taken off and

the students are interested in learning about themselves, working together for the common good and enjoying their teen years."

The Youth Council representatives to the UNITY workshop at the Oneida Nation had three members selected to assist with the organizing of the Statewide UNITY Network System to address the needs of the Native youth. Those selected to sit on this committee were Sheri Lazore, Jenilee Jacobs and Ryan M. King.

The Akwesasne Youth Council will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade. The Council will have a float carrying World War II Veterans. Another activity of the Council will be the selling of candy bars to raise money for their upcoming events. If one of the following ask you to buy a candy bar please do so knowing that our Youth are doing good things for Akwesasne and themselves. The members are Daron Bero, Jennifer Cook, Tara Jacobs, Jennilee Jacobs, Melissa Jock, Josh King, Ryan King, Ceily Lazore, Nathan Lazore, Sheri Lazore, Connie Oakes, Robyn Thompson and Tala Tootoosis. Congratulations to the Youth Council for their membership on the Organizing Committee for a Statewide UNITY Network System and for their work in our community.

Steak & Cornbread Breakfast Huge Success

KAHWEHNOKE By: Kawehnlhe

The Steak and Cornbread breakfast held at the Community Center on Sunday, April 23, 1995, had people lined up at 7:15 a.m. to partake of the delicious meal. The people never stopped coming even though the steak ran out about 10 o'clock. The latecomers were still able to have a full breakfast of pancakes, eggs, bacon, toast, juice

and coffee.

The Longhouse Building fund were the benefactors of this fundraising event. The Longhouse Building Fund Committee continue to raise funds for a cookhouse, the road and parking lot, and the varnishing of the interior and exterior logs. As soon as the weather warms up the road and parking lot work will begin. The varnishing of the logs, interior

and exterior, is scheduled for June and July.

The next fundraising event will be a prime rib dinner on Mother's Day, May 14th at the Kahwehnoke Community Center. The dinner will start at 2 pm and end at 6 pm. The meal includes prime rib, baked or mashed potato, salad bar, dessert and drinks all for \$15.00 and \$8.00. From past experience the meal is absolutely delicious.