

# OHIO INDIAN TIME

A VOICE FROM THE EASTERN

Volume 14 #13

April 4, 1996

MAY 96  
AKWESASNE LIBRARY CULTURAL CENTER  
ST. REGIS MOHAWK RESERVATION  
ROUTE 37 - RR1, BOX 14C  
HOGANSBURG NY 13655

## Grand Chief Furious Over Mayors Comments



AKWESASNE -- The Mayor of Cornwall has done it again. He has ruffled the feathers of the Grand Chief of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne with his derogatory comments about the Mohawk community.

When *Project Outreach* resulted in the arrest of a large number of smugglers, Cornwall Mayor Ron Martel began pointing his finger at the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

In an *Ottawa Sun* article on Friday, March 29, 1996, Martel said, "officials need to concentrate on activity on the Akwesasne Reserve. The laws apply to every person regardless of race, color or creed or where they live. The feds just don't want another Oka or Gustafsen Lake. And that's not right," Martel added.

Grand Chief Roundpoint responded to Martel's comments by asking if the Mayor was asking for another Oka. "I guarantee you the government doesn't want another Oka and neither do the people of Akwesasne or Cornwall," Roundpoint told the *Standard Freeholder*.

In a recent broadcast interview Martel suggested the government should send in the army to "clean up" Akwesasne. Roundpoint expressed his disappointment at Martel's suggestion.

"I'm not surprised by Martel's comments," said Roundpoint.

Most of the 37 individuals

arrested in Project Outreach were not from the Akwesasne reserve. Twenty-seven of those arrested were from various Ontario and Quebec communities such as: Ingleside, Baltimore, Missisauga, Cornwall, Montreal, Trois Riviere, Huntsville, Stouffville, Scarborough and Beaverton.

"Is Martel suggesting the army should invade these communities and clean them up of everybody involved in smuggling?" questioned the Grand Chief.

"If the mayor really thinks Akwesasne needs to be cleaned up so badly, he should hop in his Wyatt Earp mobile and come over and do it himself. We'll give him something to clean up," Roundpoint adds. "He can start by cleaning my shoes," Roundpoint said.

Over the past year Martel has made several derogatory remarks about the Mohawk community. In the backlash of Martel's comments about Akwesasne he has also tarnished the image of the city he represents (Cornwall). According to a *Standard Freeholder* article several parents from New Jersey and Japan refused to send their children to Cornwall's Huron Hockey School.

"We're all human beings," said Roundpoint. "Why not sit down and discuss reasonable solutions to this problem instead of going off the deep end?" he asks.

## Baby "Bigtree" Has Surgery



AKWESASNE -- Baby "Bigtree" has had his open heart surgery and is home doing well.

Yes, that's right. The six month old infant is recovering well after his open heart surgery on Monday, March 25, 1996 at University Health Science Center in Syracuse, N.Y.

Little William (Billy) George Bigtree, the son of Adam and Tee

Bigtree offered a big beautiful smile while getting his picture taken for this article. He looks like a healthy baby boy and one would never guess the ordeal he has just gone through.

Billy had a hole in his heart about the size of a nickel. A pretty good size hole for such a tiny heart. Billy's Mom Tee, said Billy was experiencing breathing pro-



## Local #440 Is Alive

Akwesasne -- The rally to save Ironworkers Union Local #440 have proved to be successful.

An emergency information meeting of Local #440 was held Friday night at the Community Building in Hogansburg with International Representatives from Washington, D.C. on hand to discuss the future of Local #440. The #440 Charter was in jeopardy of being merged with Local #60 out of Syracuse, New York.

Ironworkers out of Local #440 were concerned about the possibility of a merge with the Syracuse Charter. The main concern was that there would be no local representation and all work in the north country would be represented by the B.A. out of Syracuse, placing #440 workers in a tough position to secure good, steady work.

The meeting went well with tremendous support for the #440 Chapter.

Following the meeting a dance was held at the American Legion

in Hogansburg. A 50/50 raffle was held and the lucky winner was Leona Cook of Hogansburg. She won \$1,953. The dance and raffle raised approximately \$3,000.

The Ironworkers of Local #440 would like to thank everyone for their tremendous support.

A special thanks goes out to the following for their donations or assistance: The River Mohawk Band, American Legion Post #1479, CKON Radio, WMSA, WVNV, Indian Time, Peoples Voice, Pat Bradley, Angus Bonaparte, Cheryl Jacobs, Angela C. Thompson, Bruce Leaf, Neil Laughing, John "Bullets" White, Peter Jacobs, Wayne Mitchell, Frank Thompson, Dave and Susie Rourke, Jay Herne, Tracey David, Judy David, Linda Printup, Darlene Chubb, Margaret Thomas, Brenda Chubb, Shannon Purlee, Tricia Thompson, wives/girlfriend who sold raffle tickets, and anyone else they may have forgotten.