

Local News

Urgent Notice **Motorists Warned About condition Of Detour Route**

Akwasasne -- The wear and tear of being a construction detour route is taking its toll on McGee Road here and motorists are being warned to reduce their speed and travel with caution, according to the Director of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Planning Division.

Pat Thomas, who oversees road construction on the reservation, said the combination of increased traffic and spring weather are deteriorating McGee Road, which is being used as a detour route during the reconstruction of St. Regis Road.

"The weather conditions and the volume of re-routed traffic

have caused a severe deterioration to the road and shoulders," Thomas pointed out.

The Planning Division has been informed that the New York State Department of Transportation will begin repairs as soon as possible when local quarries begin making asphalt.

In addition, new, slower speeds have been posted and Tribal Police have been asked to step up patrols along the McGee Road area for speed enforcement. Tickets will be issued to anyone caught speeding or failing to yield the right of way to emergency vehicles.

Niagara Mohawk and Lost Bills

Some Niagara Mohawk customers did not receive bills for the early months of this year, others have received bills which include late charges for the bills they never received.

NIMO has mailed out corrected bills without late charges to the nearly 1,500 area customers affected. If you have already paid a late charge for a bill that you never received call their customer service office at 1-800-932-0301.

Federal Charges con't from front pg. on the black market in avoidance of Canadian taxes, the Canadian currency was illegally carried back into the United States by the defendants or by individuals directed by the defendants.

Once in the United States, the money had to be exchanged for U.S. currency so the conspirators could spend it in the United States. Presumably this took place at a Hogansburg business owned by former New York State Trooper John "Chic" Fountain, Northern Currency Exchange, which was recently raided by federal investigators.

According to search warrants issued by U.S. Magistrate Judge

Gustave DiBianco at the time of the raid, agents were seeking evidence of Fountain's knowledge of the defendants' illegal activities. Fountain, however, is not named in the current indictment.

The seven named defendants are scheduled for trial on June 25, 1996 in Syracuse before U.S. District Judge Rosemary S. Pooler.

While U.S. Attorney Thomas Maroney would give no details regarding any further indictments, due to the prevalence of smuggling operations in the area, it is likely that others will be named in the coming weeks.

MCA General Meeting Discussions

Grand Chief Russell Roundpoint would like to advise the community that discussions at the General Meetings are for community wide concerns only. Topics regarding individual concerns will not be addressed. The reason being that discussions will not take place that will publicly embarrass any individual.

If you have an individual concern that needs to be addressed by Chief and Council you are requested to make an appointment with a Chief to discuss whether or not your topic can be addressed at the next scheduled General Meeting. The General Meeting is not a forum to air dirty laundry. This rule has always been part of the General Meeting rules and will continue for the protection of community members who may or may not be present at the meeting to voice their opinion or answer charges made against them.



Pictured: Coyote (Bozo Jr.) Benedict and Chris (Rock) Cook hold up a Muskie they caught which they estimate weighs about 45 pounds. "The pole was bending so I knew it was a big fish," says Benedict. Regular night crawlers were used to catch the fish. "I guess we'll cook it or stuff it," said Benedict.

Akwasasne Mohawk Police Service Blotter

On Friday, April 19, 1996, the Akwasasne Mohawk Police and the Hogansburg Volunteer Fire Department responded to a structure fire at the residence of **William Adams**. The residence is located on School Road in the District of Snye, Quebec. At this time, the structure fire is being regarded as being suspicious. The investigation into this fire continues.

Residents of Akwasasne are being warned against recent phone solicitations. Local residents have reported they have been contacted about prizes they have won if they answer skill testing questions correctly and pay a nominal fee. Residents are advised that legitimate companies do not request a fee to be paid in order to claim prizes.

On Saturday, April 20, 1996, the Akwasasne Mohawk Police attended the residence of **Elizabeth Thompson**, on the east end of Cornwall Island, in regards to a break & entry. Stolen from the residence was a small amount of money, a VCR and a small gold chain with a cross. Several items were dusted for fingerprints by the Ontario Provincial Police Identifications Unit. If anyone has information on this incident, they are asked to contact the Akwasasne Police.

On Monday, April 22, 1996, the Akwasasne Mohawk Police conducted a Seat Belt Campaign on Cornwall Island. 75 vehicles were stopped; two of which were issued warnings to buckle up for safety.

During the Seat Belt Campaign, Akwasasne Police issued Uniform Traffic Tickets to **Jason Hartman of Gaylord, Michigan**. A computer check on Mr. Hartman revealed that he was a suspended driver. He was issued tickets for Fail to Carry Drivers License, Fail to Carry Vehicle Registration and Driving a Motor Vehicle While License Under Suspension.

Saturday, April 21, 1996, Akwasasne Police were called to the Canada Customs in regards to a Prohibited Driver attempting to gain entry into Canada. Computer check revealed that **Michael Austin, Michigan, U.S.A.** had an expired Drivers License. Mr. Austin was issued a traffic ticket for Driving a Motor Vehicle with No Drivers License.