

OH T I N D O T A N O H O T I M E

Voice From The Eastern

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Akwesasne Youth Participate in MS Walk "Our Voice Counts"

On April 9, 2000 Akwesasne Youth were putting their best foot forward when they successfully participated in the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's annual MS walk in Watertown. Despite the weather conditions these youth were determined to accomplish their task, Leslie Fountain, Kevin "Bigz" Lazore, Lindsay Mitchell, Brooke Mitchell and Will Sunday. Participated youths also represent the youth group Ionkwawenna Tewahsetas meaning "Our voice Counts". I would like to take this time to thank these youth for their dedication, and to all of the community members for their support for such a great cause.

Tracey Seymour, Community Support Worker Akwesasne Child & Family Services

What is MS?

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. Symptoms may be mild such as numbness in the limbs, or severe, such as paralysis or loss of vision. Most people with physical and emotional effects can be life long. The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS in any one person can't be predicted. There are currently 300,000 people with MS in the United States and every hour someone new is diagnosed with the disease.

For further information you can call toll free 877-869-6677, 800-733-5385 or 800-640-7232.



Back row: Lindsay Mitchell and Kevin "Bigz" Lazore
Middle row: Will Sunday, Leslie Fountain and Tracey Seymour
Front: Brooke Mitchell

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe negotiates separately with New York State for Land Claim/Casino tradeoff and agrees to Waive Sovereign Immunity

In a late breaking news story and unable to reach any tribal officials during noon hour on Thursday, two separate incidents have developed.

Over the news wire, the Tribe is negotiating with the Pataki Administration separately from the Mohawks at Akwesasne for Land Claims. The report indicates Pataki will press for a settlement to the Akwesasne Land Claims in return for a cut in the Monticello Casino deal. Fellow Mohawks willing to trade off Akwesasne's right to more land in return for joint ventures with New York State? A Mohawk Faithkeeper is to look out for seven generations into the future. Will the Casino last seven generations into the future? Will our children be proud of the deal to get rich fast in return for State Taxation? All without the permission of Tribal constituents?

As well, there are two other parties to the claim: Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. If Barnhart Island is the

See **Tradeoff** on page 4

Akwesasne Grand Chief Calls for Border Patrol

Mike Mitchell wants smuggling summit with U.S. & Canada in May

By Neil Drew

For many years, the Territory occupied by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, along the waters of the St. Lawrence River at Hogansburg, has been a major smuggling arterial for the movement of contraband cigarettes, liquor and most everything else.

In fact, the region has been a source of great embarrassment to both the U.S. and Canadian governments for their seeming inability to stem the tide of illicit trade between the two countries. The majority of Mohawks hate the notoriety too.

The Akwesasne Reserve is a unique geographical problem unto itself and to both countries on either side. First, there is the location. Half of the Territory lies within Canada and half in the United States.

The southern edge sits in the U.S. at the very top of New York State in Franklin County. Three governments here.

Moving across the border, part of the Reserve is just a short boat ride over the St. Lawrence River from Cornwall, Ontario. And, portions to the east are in the Province of Quebec. Of course, all of that is within Canada. Keep

See **Border** on page 3

Area and Surrounding Communities participate in Career Fair 2000 at the A'nowara'kowa Career Fair 2000



Every two years, local educators at Akwesasne plan the Career Fair to promote and education students of various career opportunities. This gives students an opportunity to participate during two events while attending high school.

"This year, the Akwesasne Career Fair 2000, was extremely successful," said Vincenette Cook, Program Manager of Iohahiiio, Akwesasne Adult Education Center. She is very pleased with the turnout, estimating around 1,100 participants.

See **Fair** on page 4

Big Shake-Up at Akwesasne Mohawk Casino

By Neil Drew

Only last week, we told you that all seemed quiet and business growing at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino in Hogansburg after the gambling complex celebrated its first anniversary on April 11th.

That calm was apparently the quiet before a huge firestorm.

On April 17th, a bomb shell. Most of top management was fired from the casino in a joint decision by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council, the National Indian Gaming Commission and the New York State Racing and Wagering Board.

The gaming licenses issued to Tom Boshinski, the general manager of the casino and Ivan Kaufman, President of Riverboat Casino, the outside management firm that has been running the facility, were revoked by the National Indian Gaming Commission with the approval of New York State's Racing and Wagering Board and the Tribe's Gaming Commission.

A spokesperson for the Tribal Council

See **Shake-up** on page 4

