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Obituary

Tony Barnes Sr.

Antoine H. "Tony" Barnes - Sakonihonriiostha, Wolf Clan, age 78 of Tony Barnes Road, Raquette Point, New York died on Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at the Alice Hyde Hospital in Malone, New York where he had been a patient since Saturday April 15, 2000.

Tony was born on December 1, 1921 in Hogansburg, New York, the son of the late Peter Barnes and Grace (Beaubien) Barnes. He was married to Ann Cook on October 24, 1942 at the St. Regis Catholic Church by Rev. Joseph Bourget. She died September 28, 1993.

He is survived by nine children; Barbara Barnes of Cornwall Island, Carolyn and Lawrence White of Raquette Point, James and Robin Barnes, Cornwall Island, Elaine and Wayne Castor of Raquette Point, Leona and Wesley Laughing of Racquette Point, Tony Jr. and Vicky Barnes of Las Vegas, Nevada, Margie and Brian Skidders of Cornwall Island, Floyd "Beaver" Barnes of Racquette Point and Brian and Amy Barnes of State Road, Bombay, New York.

Tony is also survived by a sister Felicia and Douglas Thompson of Cornwall Island, Ont. and two brothers; John and Pauline Barnes of Tonawanda, New York and Wilbur and Greta Barnes of Hogansburg, New York.

Tony Sr. predeceased by a son Richard Anthony Barnes in infancy in 1944, two brothers; William L. Barnes and Joseph Barnes and one sister Mary Cook. Tony had 17 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Antoine H. Barnes is resting at the home of his son, James (Jimmy) and Robin Barnes on Cornwall Island (McComber Road) until the Longhouse funeral service on Friday, April 21, 2000. Funeral services will be conducted at the Mohawk Nation Longhouse at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Barnes attended schools on the reservation and served in the Army during WWII, in the Pacific, returned home and worked as a construction worker for many years as a heavy equipment operator, worked at constructing the Seaway. He also was a trapper in the community as well as a fishing guide for many years and considered a Muskie and Walleye expert. He owned and operated his own fishing camp for 15 years.

Mr. Barnes worked in law enforcement for a period of 15 years as a Deputized Franklin County Sheriff and Chief of Police for the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe.

He was also Security for Salmon River Central School in the Town of Bombay.

Mr. Barnes then retired and worked with the environmental programs in the Territory and New York State. Mr. Tony was a knowledgeable elder about the traditional medicines and worked with the community, teaching others.

He was a Charter member of the Hogansburg Andrew W. Cook Post #1479 American Legion.

Hobbies included: Carving and watching his grandchildren and great grandchildren playing Lacrosse and Hockey. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Donations can be made to: The National World War II Memorial, ATTN: GR048, P.O. Box 96074, Washington, DC 20090-6074.

Arrangements with Donaldson Funeral Home, Massena, New York.

Casino's Ousted Management Company to Appeal

By Neil Drew

The bloody confrontation between the company that managed the new Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council which resulted in the firing of 6 top casino executives Monday will not be settled without a struggle.

The St. Regis Management Company, a.k.a. President RC, will appeal the revocation of the Class lll gaming licenses its managers lost this week when the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Gaming Commission threw them out of the Hogansburg casino.

The principal investor in President RC, Ivan Kaufman, said the company has diligently worked to address regulatory issues and believes that Monday's action by the Tribe, in conjunction with the State Racing and Wagering Board and the National Indian Gaming Commission was improper.

Even stronger language came yesterday from Walter Horn, General Counsel for President RC. Said Horn, "We are shocked and deeply disturbed by the actions of the Tribal Gaming Commission."

The attorney went on to say, "We have been dedicated to the Mohawk Tribe as well as the economic development of the St. Regis Reservation and the North Country for nearly four years."

The attorney stated his company has been good for the area and has paid $5 million in wages toward the region's economy. Not only that, said Horn, President R.C. has invested $10 million dollars more in the casino than the original commitment called for.

Apparently, one of the issues that led to Monday's casino confrontation concerned video slot machines. There is a requirement that mandates all of the slots have tracking devices. However, they were not equipped as required. Each of the tracking devices costs $1,200 and, according to a casino source, the management company didn't want to spend the necessary half-million dollars for the upgrade. That put the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino into noncompliance.

Whether all of this ends up in a courtroom someday soon is still up for speculation. One thing to bear in mind, President RC still has a five-year management contract with the Tribe and that agreement isn't due to run out until April of 2004.

Ceasar's Looks for Casino Partnership at Akwesasne

By Neil Drew

It almost passed unnoticed. But this week marks the first anniversary for the new Akweswasne Mohawk Casino at Hogansburg. It has been a year of growing pains for the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and RC St. Regis Management, the outsider firm that currently runs the Mohawk gambling complex for the Mohawks. The 365-day period was marked by attendance and income figures less than half of original projection. The casino started with a staff of 800. 200 have been laid off. And, during the first year, a major management shake-up replaced top executives.

But there are increasing signs that business is picking up as the casino ages. More bus tours, more cars in the parking lot and announced increases in staffing on the way later this spring. Gaming experts say much of the improved climate at the casino has been created by more imaginative market-

See **Ceasar's** on page 3

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