

*Featured Programs*

Records  
Department

Higher  
Education

Intensive  
Preventive  
Program

Grant  
Development

# Kawenni:ios



## Kids 4 Fishing



# The Tribe's Treasures: An Inside Look at the Records Department

## *Program Feature*

*By Lillian B. Barton, Records Officer, Archivist*

The mission of the records department is to preserve the past to share with generations to come. Currently I am the only person in my department. I oversee the physical records storage areas and our electronic records management program, OnBase®. I also train employees, write policies, develop handbooks and materials for the department along with numerous other tasks.

The department is responsible for storing records each department creates. Depending on the retention period for these documents, they must be stored in a safe environment sometimes up to 10 years. Our archives contain many records kept permanently in fireproof safes.

At this time, I am concentrating on our electronic records. Departments at the administration building will be the first to use OnBase®. This system allows for scanning, storage and retrieval of paper and electronic documents. Each department identifies the documents it wishes to store and the keywords to retrieve them. Benefits include cost savings as well as efficiency.

In the fall of 2010, the New York Association of Local Government Records Officers (NYALGRO) recognized me as a Records Officer. I had the pleasure of working with Gina Doty from Plattsburg State

University. She currently serves as the secretary for NYALGRO. I visited the campus to learn of their ideas for records storage and came back with new hopes for ours.

For the past year, I have been working on a project called "Tribal Leadership History." Accomplishments so far include conversations with elders in the

community about our previous Tribal Council leaders. They shared some wonderful stories of their childhood in Akwesasne. Research has led me to find exact dates of historical events as well as infrastructure data. I also work with antique photos and postcards to identify dates, locations and the people pictured in them. This is one aspect I enjoy the most in my job.

The records department is available to employees Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with the exception of holidays. The Records Department does not provide any direct services to the community at this time.

The Records Department is a vital component to the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's mission, "Helping Build a Better Tomorrow." Our commitment to safeguarding vital documents is imperative for prosperity, history, education as well as fulfilling community expectations.

◇



*Lillian catalogs hundred of boxes containing thousands of records*

# Good Words of Welcome



*She:kon sewakwe:kon Akwesashró:non.*

On May 8, 2012 I attended the New York State Senior Citizens' Day recognition ceremonies held in Albany. It was an honor to attend since one of our community elders was recognized. The New York State Office for the Aging recognized and honored Grace LaFrance Day for helping others and making her community a better place for citizens of all ages. Senior Citizens were recognized from all over New York State. It was wonderful to see so many elders who have given back to their communities with such pride and commitment and many continue to do so. We can all learn from their fine examples.

I also attended Salmon River School's May 3rd Award Ceremony for grades nine through 12. I congratulate all the award winners, who are listed and acknowledged inside this issue of the newsletter on page 8. It was very gratifying to see all the students who received scholarships and awards and who were recognized for their hard work and achievements. Just as important, I also acknowledge and congratulate the parents and

families of the recipients on a job well done. Assisting and supporting your child in their education efforts is one of the most important keys to being successful. The teachers and staff also deserve credit for their efforts, for both organizing the event and helping the students to reach their educational aspirations.

Graduation is upon us and we have many graduates in the community again this year. Many of our youth will be following their dreams and moving on to bigger and better things. I wish you all good luck in whatever path you choose to follow. Please make the most of your opportunities and remember to work hard, but don't forget to have fun, too. These are the best years of your lives and the sky is the limit for you all.

Please be safe this summer and enjoy the nice weather.

Sub-Chief Stacy A. Skidders

**On the Cover:** Blade LaFrance and Rahniehtenhawi Benedict display the their catch from the Kids 4 Fishing event held on May 12, 2012. *(Photo by Kyrie Ransom)*

*Kawennì:ios* "Good Words" is published monthly by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, Public Information Office, 412 State Route 37, Akwesasne, NY 13655 (518) 358-2272  
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# IHS Business Office

## Program Feature

*By Lori Thompson, Business Office Supervisor*

### **N***ew York State's Health Insurance Programs for Children and Adults*

#### **What is Facilitated Enrollment?**

Facilitated Enrollment is application assistance and eligibility screening for children and adults seeking health insurance through one of the three NYS health insurance programs - all of which are based on income and NYS residency.

Enrollment specialists meet with individuals and families to complete the application process and help become enrolled in a program (if eligible). Enrollers can assist families with the selection of a medical provider (obtain an appointment with a specialist) or access prescription medication. Staff also provides education on all possible health care options for individuals and families.

Children under the age of 19 may be eligible for either Medicaid (for children) or Child Health Plus. Adults between the ages of 19-64 may be eligible for either Medicaid or Family Health Plus.

#### **What is Family Health Plus?**

Family Health Plus is New York State's health insurance program for adults who do not have health insurance - either on their own or through their employer - but have incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid. Family Health Plus is available to single adults, couples without children, and parents with low income, who live in New York State and are United States citizens or fall under certain immigration categories. Further information about Family Health Plus can be obtained on the New York Department of Health website.

#### **What is Medicaid for Children?**

Medicaid for Children is a free health insurance program for children under the age of 19

that offers complete coverage for all of their health care needs. Eligibility is based on income, family size, and immigration status. Further information about Medicaid can be obtained on the New York Department of Health website.

#### **What is Child Health Plus?**

Child Health Plus is a New York State insurance program for children under age 19 who are not eligible for Medicaid and who have limited or no health insurance. Even if your income is fairly high, you may be eligible for Child Health Plus. Depending on your income the coverage may be free or you may have a monthly contribution. Further information about Child Health Plus can be obtained on the New York Department of Health website.

#### **What Services will I receive with Family Health Plus, Child Health Plus, or Medicaid?**

Inpatient hospitalizations, emergency care, out patient care, lab tests and x-rays, primary and preventive health care, vision, speech, and hearing services, durable medical equipment, prescription drugs, dental care, diabetic supplies, mental health, alcohol and substance abuse treatment (some limits apply), well child care, immunizations, physical exams, and more.

#### **Do I Qualify?**

The Facilitated Enrollment Program through Adirondack Health Institute/ Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services is available to residents of Franklin County. Income guidelines for Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus are available on the DOH website.

#### **How Can I Apply?**

Contact our patient registration clerk Lyndie Brann at 358-3141 ext 129 to schedule an appointment with one of the facilitated enrollers from Adirondack Health Institute. They are available on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services. ◇



# Public Computer Centers Grand Opening

*By David T. Staddon, Editor*

On Tuesday May 1, 2012, the Akwesasne Senior's Center was the site of the official grand opening and ribbon cutting for one of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's five computer centers. The computer centers are part of the tribe's broadband project which will bring high-speed computer services to the Akwesasne community. The other computer center sites are at the Akwesasne Boy's and Girl's Club, the Akwesasne Museum and Library, the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Administration Building and at the Akwesasne Employment Resource Center (AERC). The centers will deploy up to 60 new computer workstations and each center is equipped with a smart-board.

Jason Hall, Broadband Project Manager, gave a smart-board presentation on the development of the five computer centers and their potential capabilities. Tribal Chief Mark Garrow welcomed the attendees, noted the technological progress the tribe has made in the past few years and the potential for

the future. He also gave credit to former Tribal Chiefs James Ransom and Monica Jacobs for their commitment in the development of the broadband system and the lengthy application process.

These upgrades will provide community members with broadband access and training, workforce skills and business development. The centers will provide opportunities for distance learning and videoconferencing for inter-governmental and public safety applications. The tribe plans on partnering with the National Education Foundation to offer online digital literacy courses. These will consist of basic computing, computer applications and internet applications. In addition, the National Education Foundation plans to donate over 17,000 online courses for use in the computer centers. These courses will offer certifications in courses such as information technology, business skills and project management. ◇



*Present and Former Tribal Council  
at Ribbon Cutting*



*Jason Hall, Broadband  
Project Manager*



*Tabby Bearshield Won  
the Kindle Fire*

# Grant Funding - Supplementing Necessity

## *Program Feature*

*By LC Swamp, Grants Researcher*

As the renowned Economist/Ecologist Barry Commoner stated, "There's no such thing as a free lunch." So goes this adage in the world of grant-making. The perception there is free money out there to support everything from mortgages to car payments to buying a fishing boat is misguided and simply untrue. In the same vein, program grants supporting vital community services aren't given free reign over funding uses either and must adhere to the work plan, reporting requirements, budget and other rules set forth by the funding agency. But as long as organizations have the capacity to manage federal grant programs, then the support funding goes far in addressing issues and problem areas found in many communities. Grant funding is intended to initiate change; change in behaviors, change in outcomes, and change in knowledge.

The ability to plan effectively can be the difference in whether or not a grant is awarded. Successful grant applications demonstrate a clear vision on what is to be accomplished, when it will be completed and who is responsible for completing the work. Seemingly straightforward, developing a long-range work plan, budget and accompanying documentation requires attention to detail but also a lot of lead time. Planning should really begin six to 24 months ahead of the grant writing process. Typically, the same federal grant programs remain available from year to year, so tribal programs can use the previous years' grant announcement as guidance to complete a current funding opportunity. When a grant announcement is made, the window to

apply is usually between four to six weeks. Starting an application at this stage, program staff position themselves, in addition to their regular workload, to completing a myriad of application components including the project narrative, budget, budget narrative, memorandum of understanding, tribal council resolution, job descriptions, and all required federal forms. The importance of planning in the grant writing process cannot be understated. Attempting to navigate through a complex application within six weeks can be daunting and stressful. However, by having the insight to approach the grant-writing process with a plan should help alleviate those feelings (and help free up your weekends too!).



*Lornie Swamp, Grants Researcher*

In the last two years, the Tribe's Grant Development office has assisted with and otherwise successfully processed and submitted 64 new grant applications totaling \$22 million on behalf of the Tribal programs. Between 2010 and 2011, Tribal programs were awarded project grants to support Vocational Rehabilitation Service Projects with Indians with Disabilities, Workforce Investment, Akwesasne Resolving Loan Fund, Diabetes Center for Excellence, Three Sisters Law Enforcement and Prosecutor Training Program, Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), Tribal Courts Assistance Program, AOC Sturgeon Project and Home-Based Falls Intervention Project. Although just a partial list of projects awarded federal funding, the list demonstrates the solid level of commitment and obligation Tribal programs maintain in meeting the needs of the Akwesasne community. ◇

# Pre-College Freshman



*By Rod Cook, Higher Education*

This is a new program this year and it is expected that all incoming college freshmen will attend the boot camp, (you could get a little something at the end). There is no charge for this workshop. It will be held at Fire Station #1 on Route 37 from July 9 to July 13, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for those five days. The object of this program is to provide insight into the first semester and the first year in college. The intent of this program is to give the incoming college freshman an inside peek and maybe a positive advantage to entering college.

We will provide information about why you should maintain contact with the financial aid office, why the student services/business office is important, what should you do about your roommate with whom you do not get along with or why do I need to see my advisor and will present host of other subjects.

There will be panel discussions with your peers and others, who have been there, done that and or should have done that. I am planning on having college personnel there also to answer your many questions.

**Deadlines.** It is that time of the year; July 15 is the deadline for a lot of financial aid applications, so please do NOT wait until then, because July 15 is a Sunday. So you may need to get those applications in on Friday 13, 2012. I also have other applications here, NYSIA and AMBE. Is your FAFSA and TAP done? If no, then, why not?

**Eligibility.** To apply for assistance for financial aid at the Saint Regis Mohawk Higher Education Program:

- You need to be an enrolled member of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
- You need to be a matriculated-full time student
- You need to have a completed application
- You need to be accepted to a college or university
- Submit by the deadline

**Thinking about college.** If you are thinking about the possibility of going to college in the fall, the time to do it is now. Waiting until July or August will be too late. Why? Remember the date July 15? The deadlines will have come and gone for much of the supplemental aid that has been mentioned and your options will be few: loans, Pell and TAP. If you have questions, give a call or stop by between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or by appointment and I will answer them for you or get you an answer.

Contact information. Roderick Cook, Higher Education Program, 412 State Route 37 Akwesasne, NY 13655. Phone: 518-358-2272 x 215, fax: 518-358-3337, email: rcook@srmt-nsn.gov. ◇

# Salmon River Central School High School Awards Ceremony

*By David T. Staddon, Editor*

On May 3, 2012, teachers, students and parents gathered for the Salmon River Awards ceremony. The audience was welcomed by Anna Kelly, Class President, and Superintendent Jane Collins. Sandy Cook served as the Master of Ceremonies.

The top academic seniors were Valedictorian Sean Godard and Salutatorian Anna Kelly. The following seniors received High Honors: Noah Bero, Allison Boots, Errolynn Bradley, Kara Grant, Matthew Healy, Heather Jock, Leslee Loran, Jessica Mc Cray, Teesha Mitchell, Emma Phillips and Zoe Thompson.

Perfect Attendance Certificates went to Ciera Jock, Chance Monette, Connor Walrath, Cody Boardway, Katrina Martin, Justin Jarvis, Matthew Wyble and Sean Godard.

The Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology went to Robert Gray. He will be considered for the University of Rochester's scholarship program -- \$7,500 per year toward tuition.

Samantha Monette received the Bausch and Lomb Science Award. She will be considered for a \$7,500 per year scholarship to the University of Rochester.

Wells College presented the 21st Century Leadership Awards to junior Cole Adams. Recipients are granted

a \$40,000 scholarship for four years of study. The John Philip Sousa Band Award went to Tanner Beaudin with the Senior Library Art Award going to Jerrad John.

The University at Albany sponsors the Multicultural High School Achievers Award program. This year's recipients were Cole Adams, Tewsherake Barnes, Nolan Cooke, Teiohsontathe Herne and Nicole Smoke. Breana Griffin was is selected as Salmon River's Outstanding Earth Science Student, with the John and Ann Jock Memorial Scholarship awarded to Noah Bero and Errolynn Bradley.

The following students achieved the Honor Roll three consecutive times this year:

Ken'taratiron Arquette, Brandon Burdash, Jenna Clute, Tatyana Figueroa- Rosa, Breana Griffin, John Harvey,

Ciera Jock, Marc Mainville, Chance Monette, Zach Morey, Kiera Pyke, Ienatsotha Thompson, Theresa Aaron, Cody Boardway, Brandan Healey, Dominique Jacobs, Abigail Kelly, Becca Leroux, Jocelynn Martin, Katrina Martin, Jesse Odorowski, Kason Tarbell, Ryan Thomas and Tyler Thomas. Other recipients were Cole Adams, Tewasherake Barnes, Kiera Brill-Oakes, Cassady Bryington, Cory Garrow, Robert Gray, Teiohsontathe Herne, Taylor Hynes, Rylie Mainville, Brady Mitchell- Lazore, Samantha Monette, Elizabeth



*High Honors Recipients*

Morrow, Morgan Oakes, Kaitlyn Pickering, Nicole Riopel, Tyler Rule, Augustina Vasquez, Daniel Alfieri, Karennotakies Barnes, Noah Bero, Jeremy Bombard, Allison Boots, Errolynn Bradley, Kiesha Cook, Kelli Cook, Jenna David, Sean Godard, Kara Grant, Brittany Grenon, Matthew Healy, Heather Jock, Anna Kelly, Marlee King- Jacobs, Leslee Loran, Jessica Mc Cray, Seth Mc Cray, Teesha Mitchell, Kimberly Morey, Kassandra Phelps, Emma Phillips, Brandon Rockhill, Katsitsiaroroks Smoke, Kolby Smoke, Zoe Thompson, and Kara Marshall- Wylie.

The Fred Chase Memorial Athletic Spirit Award is given to the outstanding athletes. This year, they were Karyss Terrance and Oakley Thomas.

Tewasherake Barnes received the George Eastman Young Leaders Award. She will be considered for a University of Rochester scholarship. Award winners selected will receive \$7,500 per year toward tuition. The All- Night Graduation Founders' Scholarship went to Kara Grant along with a \$250 scholarship.

The Nihanawate Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution awarded the American History Certificate and Bronze Medal to Anna Kelly. The Fort Covington American Legion Post presented an award to Karyss Terrance. American Legion Post #1479 awarded scholarships to seniors Anna Kelly and Leslee Loran. The Hawley-Miller Native American Scholarship of \$175 was earned by to Emma Phillips.

The Shirley Treptow Memorial Scholarship was presented to Tanner Beaudin, with the Title VII Award of Excellence going to Jerrad "Tekahnawarake" John for excellence in the Kanien'keha:ka Language and Culture.

The George D. Bero Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Oakley Thomas. Cory Garrow, Kara Grant, Teioshontathe Herne, Justin Jarvis, Jocelynn Martin and Kaienkwinehtha Ransom participated in the 2012 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

Kaitlyn Pickering won the Clarkson University Leadership and Achievement Awards. She is eligible for an \$11,000 per year tuition scholarship, should she enroll at Clarkson. The Clarkson University Achievement qualified recipient Teioshontathe Herne for a \$9,000 per year scholarship, should she enroll at Clarkson.

Malone Office Products presented awards to two students: Allison Boots and Kiesha Cook. The Sandy Cook Citizenship Award went

to Tanner Beaudin and Leslee Loran. The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute awarded Rylie Mainville the Rensselaer medal. He is eligible for a \$15,000 per year merit scholarship if he enrolls at Rensselaer.

The following students received athletic awards: Salmon River Outstanding Male Athlete: Matthew Healy; Outstanding Female Athlete: Anna Kelly; Athletic Director's Award: Adam Bomberry- Davis.



*Fred Chase Memorial Athletic Spirit*



*Junior Honor Roll*

The SRCS Senior Student/ Athlete Awards were presented to Shawn Avery, Tanner Beaudin, Adam Bomberry-Davis, Errolynn Bradley, Karley Cree, Jenna David, Matthew Healy, Anna Kelly, Colby King- Jacobs, Marlee King- Jacobs, Kaitlyn Lauzon, Katsitsiaroroks Smoke, Karyss Terrance, Oakley Thomas and Zoe Thompson. The Thomas Ghostlaw Memorial Scholarship was earned by senior Matthew Healy.

Nolan Cooke and Rylie Mainville received the Salmon River Central School Administrators' Association Award. They earned a 100 on a New York State Regents exam. Noah Bero, Sean Godard, Chance Monette, Samantha Monette, Kaitlyn Pickering, Katsitsiaroroks Smoke, Chanel Strable, Augustina Vasquez and Connor Walrath were recognized for their participation in Clarkson University's Project Challenge.

The Sage Colleges presented the 2012 Student Sage Recognition Nomination to juniors Kiera Brill-Oakes and Augustina Vasquez. The nomination guarantees eligibility for \$15,000 per year scholarships, if they attend either Sage College of Albany or Russell Sage College.

The Foreign Language Awards went to the following students: Cody Boardway, Breana Griffin and Jesse Odorowski; Mohawk- Kentaration Arquette, Tahothaharaki Gray, Tsiotenhari:Io Herne, Shonenri:Io Jock and

Katsi'tsiahwai Lazore; Dominique Jacobs and Chance Monette. Other recipients were Sara Francis, Jocelynn Martin, Katrina Martin, Tewasherake Barnes Zaagaate Jock, Elijah Benedict, Becca Leroux, Courtney Oakes, Augustina Vasquez, Cassidy Bryington, Rylie Mainville, Jessica McCray, Marlee King- Jacobs, Seth Mc Cray and Kaitlyn Pickering



*Level III Mohawk Award*

The RIT Computing Medal and Scholarship Program was awarded to Robert Gray and Rylie Mainville. Each will receive a \$3,000 per year scholarship if they enroll at RIT.

Nicole Smoke received the RIT Innovation and Creativity Award. She will be eligible for a \$6,000 per year scholarship, if she enrolls at RIT. The Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award went to Rylie Mainville.

The scholarship is worth at least \$7,500 per year.

The U.S. Air Force Math and Science Award was presented to Breana Griffin and Jesse



*Senior Student / Athlete Award*

Odorowski, with the U.S. Air Force Technology Award going to Jacy Chubb and Seth McCray. Noah Bero and Errolynn Bradley received the U.S. Air Force Scholar/Athlete of the Year Award. Molly Brockway, Taylor Francis, Abby Kelly, Becca Leroux and Vanna Thompson participated in the St. Lawrence University Scholars Enrichment Program.



*American Legion Post 1479 Award*

# Electronic Waste Recycling

*By Larry Thompson, Recycling Coordinator*

The solid waste program is proud to announce that we now accept electronic waste for recycling. You can bring all e-waste to the transfer station during regular business hours. The SRMT transfer station is located at 179 County Route 43, Ft. Covington. Hours of operations are 7:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Monday through Saturday. We offer high security standards for data destruction so you can feel comfortable recycling them at the transfer station. E-Waste will be accepted this year during our spring clean up. Place all items at the road and our spring clean up team will pick up the items for you. Please call Larry Thompson, Recycling Coordinator, with all your questions. He's been working for the solid program for many years and recently was given this new opportunity. We are currently working on many new projects that we will be sharing with you in the future. We have two new employees: Andrew Person and Justin Peters. They are our new scale house attendants.



efficient to recycle and to do our part to keep the environment green.

Acceptable materials: computers and accessories, printers, ink/toner cartridges, all TVs, microwave ovens, copy/fax machines, typewriters, telephones, cell phones and chargers, GPS units, pagers, pdas, tablets, answering machines, MP3 players, scanners, radios, storage devices, audio equipment, video equipment, communication equipment, medical testing equipment, laboratory equipment, circuit boards, cables, wires, power cords, power strips, most home appliances (no refrigerators), rechargeable dry cell batteries with nickel cadmium (nicad), nickel metal hydride (nimh), lithium ion (li-ion) or anything else with a circuit board.



*Welcome Andrew Person,  
New Scale House Attendant*

Recycling raw material from end-of-life electronics is the most effective solution to the growing e-waste problem. Most electronics devices contain a variety of materials, including metals that can be recovered for future uses. By dismantling and providing re-use possibilities, intact natural resources are conserved and air and water pollution caused by hazardous disposal are avoided. Additionally, recycling reduces the amount of green house gas emissions caused by the manufacturing of new products. It simply makes good sense and is

fluid, radioactive materials, pcb-containing material, large appliances, dry cell batteries (absolyte, alkaline, mercury, zinc air with mercury, lithium primary, lithium thionyl chloride, button cells, lead acid gel) wet cell batteries (zinc air, zinc air with mercury, nickel iron, nickel cadmium). For questions contact Larry Thompson, Recycling Coordinator, at 518-358-5937 or [larry.thompson@srmt-nsn.gov](mailto:larry.thompson@srmt-nsn.gov). ◇

# HAVFD Annual Banquet

*By Jason McDonald, HAVFD Treasurer and David Staddon, Editor*

The Hogansburg-Akwasasne Volunteer Fire Department (HAVFD) held their annual banquet at the Brass Horse on Saturday April 28, 2012. Approximately 100 people attended the banquet to recognize and honor firemen and other individuals who work for the fire department and support it. Jason McDonald ably served as the master of ceremonies for the event, which started with a welcome from him. Current Fire Chief Derek Comins and Captain Phillip Gray Jr. assisted Jason with his duties. A video of the past year's trainings and emergency responses was presented by Adrian McDonald. The video was enjoyed by all.

Tribal Chief Ron LaFrance attended and provided words of welcome to the attendees. On behalf of Tribal Council and the Akwasasne community, Chief LaFrance also expressed appreciation to the firefighters for their hard work and dedication.

Several awards were presented to firefighters. The Rookie of the Year award was presented to Ryan "Bigz"

McDonald and the "Firefighter of the Year" award was presented to Stan Cook. Norman Peters received the "Special Appreciation" award for assisting in two truck committees that resulted in the purchase of the new engine 92, and the eventual purchase of engine L-94. The firefighting community also recognized non-

member Ian Seymour with a "Special Appreciation" award for his contributions in the areas of mechanical expertise to station two. Ian was always available to fix the boats Marine two and three if something came up either mechanical or something that needed to be welded. Chief Comins stated, "It's the nature of the beast to run the fan boats for three hours and to be fixing it for 10. Ian could be called upon at anytime to make a repair."

The captains of fire stations number one, two and three presented "Captain's

Awards" to Jason McDonald (station one), Corey Tarbell (station two) and to Andrew Lazore and Kevin Lazore (station three). Ben Benedict received the "Officer of the Year" award, with Charlie Jacobs



*Emcee Jason McDonald*



*Chief Ron LaFrance Jr.*



*Rookie of the Year Award Presented to Ryan "Bigz" McDonald*



*Special Appreciation Award to Norman Peters*



*John Thompson Receives Team Award*

receiving the “Exempt Member of the Year” award.

The crew of boat Marine 3, Mike Adams, Issac McDonald, Phillip Gray Jr. and John Thompson went to downstate New York to assist with flooding after Hurricane Irene. They received the “Team Award.” During their time assisting with emergency operations, they rescued of a man stuck on the roof of his house with his dog.



*Firefighter of the Year – Stan Cook*

Ex-Fire Chief Frank Lacerenza was awarded the “Appreciation for Years of Service Award.” He served with the Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department for 47 years, between 1964 through 2011. During that time he served 23 ½ years as Fire Chief.

After Jason concluded the awards ceremony, musical entertainment was provided by the band Slab City. ♦



*Issac McDonald – Team Award*



*HAVFD Station 3 Captain's Award  
Andrew and Kevin M. Lazore*



*Appreciation for Years of Service Award  
Frank Lacerenza*

# Monthly Tribal Meeting

*Onerahtohko:wa / May 12, 2012*  
*Chaired by Chief Ron LaFrance*

## *Agenda*

1. Introductions:
  - Welcome
  - Reading of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
2. New York State Tax Update
  - Ron/Mark/Michele
3. 2012 Voting Procedured
  - Election Board
4. Tiered Purchase Proposal
  - Sub-Chief Michael Connors
5. Swearing In Ceremony
6. New Business
7. Reading of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
8. Adjournment

## *Action Items from May Meeting*

- To look into TCR 95-258 to see if it has been rescinded
- To have a special meeting on membership to address issues raised at May's Tribal Monthly Meeting.
- Have Compliance check with local business on their hiring policy of Non-Natives.

## *Follow-up on Action Items from April Meeting*

- Have a special meeting with Debra Martin and Lori Thompson from I.H.S. to discuss various health issues raised during the April monthly

meeting.

*Follow-up:* Chief Garrow reported that a meeting was held with Debra Martin and further education will be provided to the community on what the costs of health care are to the Tribe.

- To have Debra Martin provide a report on the cost that Health Services has incurred since SRMT employee dropped their health coverage.

*Follow-up:* Debra was in attendance at the meeting and was notified of this item then. The CFO was also asked to provide an analysis of the cost to TGF of the self insured health plan since employee contribution began.

- To have Elliott Lazore from Compliance check into the number of females employed on site regarding the casino expansion project.

*Follow-up:* Chief LaFrance reported that Ron James of Encompass confirmed that were very few females working and the ones that are there are in clerical positions.

- To have Elliott Lazore set up a meeting to discuss the Tribal fee on cigarettes for small business.

*Follow-up:* Elliott indicated that the annual fee for retail tobacco license is \$50.00

- To have an update on the transformer issue.

*Follow-up:* Information will be presented at May's Monthly Meeting.

- To have Legal give a report on the history of 663323 and the usage of the tax exempt number.

*Follow-up:* Legal provided the case report to Tribal Council and will provide excerpts at the May's Monthly Meeting ◇

# Notice

## *From the Office of the Tribal Clerk*

We are pleased to announce that we are in the beginning stages of implementing a new scanning system which would allow us to produce Tribal ID cards for those members living out of town or out of state.

We hope to have this process in place within the next few weeks and we will keep you updated on our progress.

Once available, you may contact the Clerk's Office at 518-358-2272 to request an application.

Thank You, Corleen Jacco, Tribal Clerk ◇

# Correction

## *Correction to April Kawenni:ios article, Akwesasne Private Sector Benefits Tribe and Community*

On the list of businesses that support tribal programs through fees, Riverside Smokes should have read Smoke Stacks. ◇

# TWIC Cards

## *Mohawk Tribe Working to Help Workers Receive TWIC Cards*

### *TWICs Required for Employment in High Security Locations*

Individuals who are looking for work at U.S. ports of entries are required to have TWIC (Transportation Workers' Identification Credential) card in order to work at a high-security location. This may apply to ironworkers, longshoremen, journeymen and other tradesmen in the Akwesasne community. Applicants must travel to the Enrollment Center (nearest centers are in Oswego and Burlington VT) where they are required to pay a fee to have a background check conducted.

Native applicants born in Canada who experience any difficulties with obtaining a TWIC card can contact Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Sub-Chief Stacy Skidders at 518-358-2272 for assistance. She has been working directly with Transportation Safety Administration officials to expedite the process for Akwesasne community members. ◇

# Postcards from Hogansburg

*By Lillian B. Barton, Records Officer/Archivist*

Like all cities and towns everywhere, Hogansburg and Akwesasne have had their share of changes over the years. If it were not for people who took photographs and kept journals, we would have little idea of how interesting and different the old days were. It's important to record everything that has significance in our own lives and our hometowns because for many the recalling of events is difficult.

The mind can only imagine what or how events or landscapes looked, but an actual photograph is what really tells the story. One man knew this: Francis San Jule. Born in 1876, Mr. San Jule was the postmaster of Hogansburg for over 36 years and owned a jewelry shop. His hobby, or his passion, was photography and what a photographer he was. He captured the essence of a person and the naturalness of landscapes (his collections are at the Akwesasne Museum). He was born in North Lawrence and married Delphine Grow. He passed away May 27, 1943. His family members are now living throughout New York State and Pennsylvania.

Francis San Jule took the above photograph in the early 1900's and had it printed in Germany as a postcard, most likely to sell at his store, as he did with so many others. At that time photography still required special equipment and was not available to the average person. He probably took this picture from a hot-air balloon or

possibly an airplane, but it's still not certain. The clarity of the photograph is so perfect that people sitting on the street corner can be seen. In this photo, the old post office is on the northeast corner of the intersection, where the building still stands today. On the northwest side of the intersection a building still there today that once belonged to Art Yopps. The large building

to the right of the post office could possibly be the old hotel. In August of 1915 a great fire destroyed over 10 businesses and a few homes: the hotel, drug store, millinery, barbershop, shoe store, Catholic parish and others. Mr.

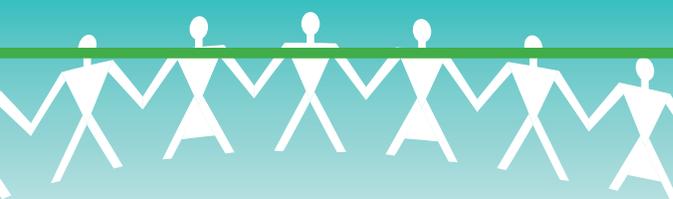


*Taken in 1910 Before the Fire*

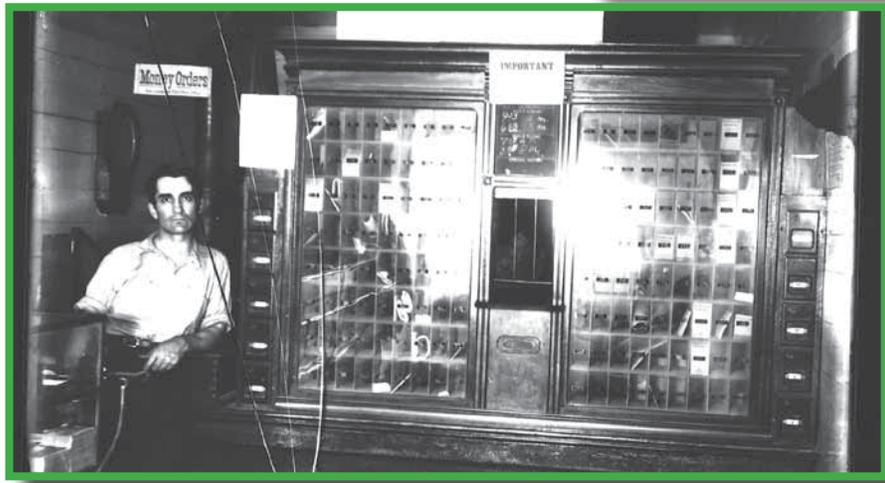
San Jule lost his jewelry store, but managed to save the government documents at the post office.

This post card was a gift from local resident Carol Lafrance who found it on EBay a few months ago. Carol reads the *Kawenni:ios* and has an interest in the old pictures and newsletter articles. She thought that the postcard would be appreciated and had it delivered here. Her generosity and thoughtfulness are truly appreciated.

If anyone has any old postcards or pictures they'd like to investigate, please bring them to the public information office. If anyone has further information regarding this postcard, please call or email the public information office.



*Northeast Corner of State Route 37 and St. Regis Road. Building on Left is the Post Office. In the Center is Jewelry Store and the Building on the Left is Believed to be the Hotel.*



*Postmaster Francis San Jule Inside Old Post Office*

*Corner View After Fire. Notice State Route 37 is Dirt and Wider Than Today*



*Postcard Documents Fire in 1915 That Destroyed Hogansburg Homes and Businesses*

*Information for this article was obtained from Northern New York Library, Fort Covington Sun 1800-1940, Indian Time newspaper 1970-1980 and the Potsdam Courier Freeman, 1861-1989. ♦*



# Individual Support Services (ISS)

## Program Feature

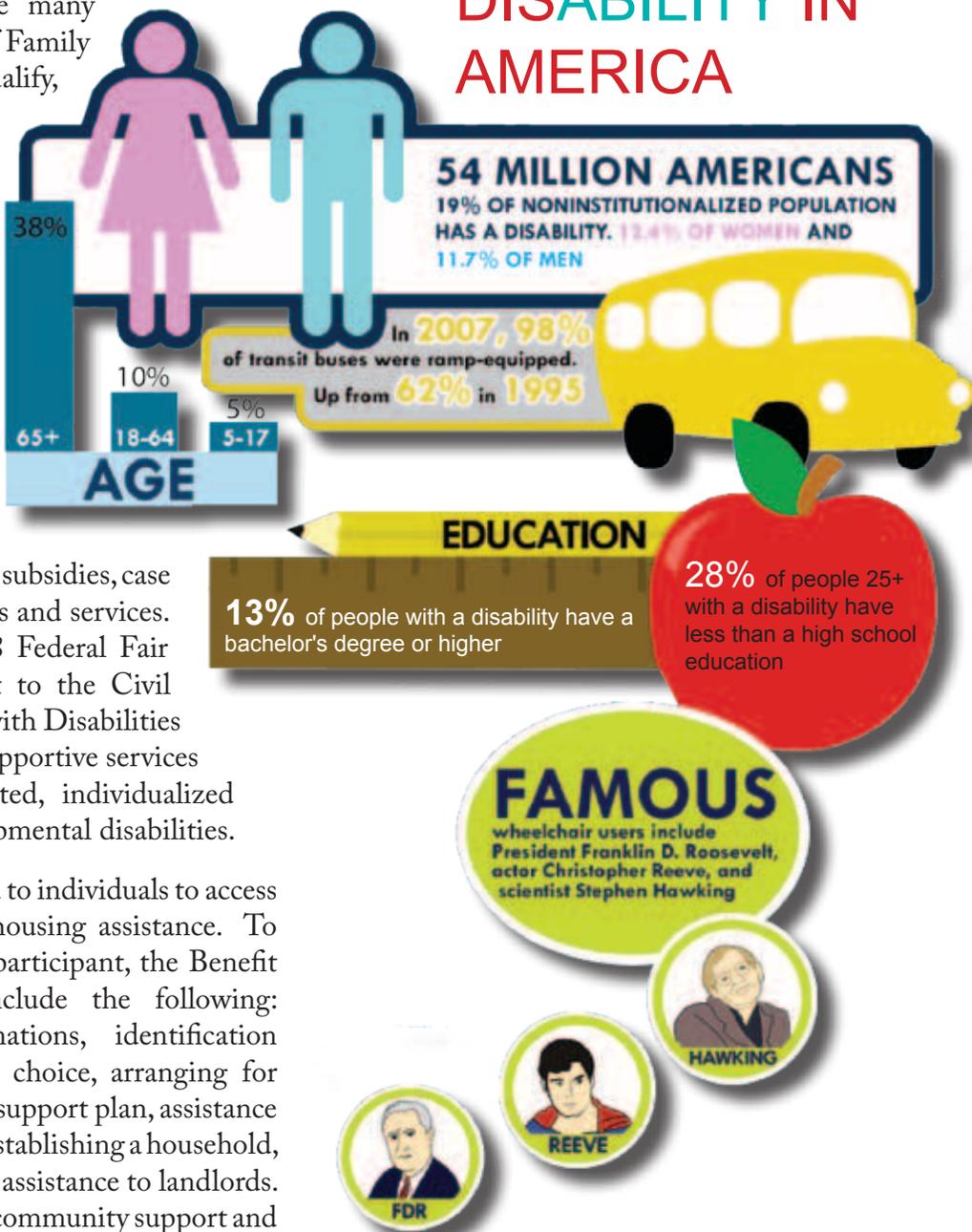
By Heather Durant, Benefit Services Manager

The Individual Support Services Program is one of the many programs within the Division of Family and Community Services. To qualify, individuals must first be eligible for services and support under Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

Individual Support Services creates more independent housing opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities. This is done through the use of integrated housing options, housing related subsidies, case management, and other supports and services. With the passages of the 1988 Federal Fair Housing Amendment to the Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the focus of housing and supportive services delivery is to provide integrated, individualized settings for persons with developmental disabilities.

Case management is provided to individuals to access needed supports, services and housing assistance. To the extent agreed upon by the participant, the Benefit Services Manager's duties include the following: outreach, eligibility, determinations, identification of service providers, individual choice, arranging for assessments, implementation of support plan, assistance in housing negotiations, help in establishing a household, resource management, technical assistance to landlords. The duties also include access to community support and services (such as food stamps and heating assistance).

## DISABILITY IN AMERICA



The Benefit Services Manager assists the participants to develop an individual support plan to address the participant's needs in the following areas: rent, utilities/telephone, insurance, transportation, food, clothing, leisure/recreation, case management, health, staffing, employment/education, savings, and any others in the plan. Initial start-up costs may be included in the first year budget. The agency assures that the health, environmental and physical needs of the individual are met in a safe and decent manner. This includes appropriate medications to the housing unit as

agree to allow visits to his/her home for the purpose of assuring that reasonable standards of health, safety, and well-being are maintained.

The ISS Program serves persons with developmental disabilities ready to leave certified community residences, or living at home with parents and siblings, or who are homeless. This program provides financial support to developmentally disabled individuals who have the capacity to live independently or with limited staff support.

The ISS Program provides financial subsidy to assist in locating, renting or buying individualized living arrangements that are alternatives to traditional group living. Residential options include home sharing, independent living, HUD rental subsidy programs or other leasing and ownership initiatives.

Program individuals may have limited financial resources: Public Assistance, Food Stamps, and/or SSI as their major sources of income. Our ISS Contract covers items such as monthly rent, security deposits and household furnishing. Our monthly subsidy supplements the resources that each person may already have.

The ISS Program assists and provides services to twelve individuals including five single mothers and their small children. I am also very happy to announce that one of our individuals will soon own his own home through the USDA Section 502 Single Family Housing Direct Loan. This has been a five-year project that has been very difficult at times, time-consuming and challenging. So many obstacles had to be overcome. However, the outcome is unbelievable. He has opened the door for many. For the first time ever an individual with a developmental disability will own his own home through a USDA loan in Akwesasne! For more program information or questions, please call 518-358-9481. ♦

**1 million**  
unable to hear  
conversations

**1.8 million**  
unable to see  
printed words

**2.5 million**  
difficulty having  
their speech  
understood



necessary and that the individual has a support network sufficient to meet his/her needs for independent living. Contracts are developed with the agency to provide individual support services and are based upon the individual support service plans and budgets formulated for specific individuals. For each individual served, additional agreements are incorporated by reference into the contract outlining the budget, sources of funds, type and intensity of supports and services to be provided and the participants' responsibilities. These agreements are signed by the individuals and agency and form a written record of the service plan. The participants also



# Calendar

## *Obiari:ba / June*

2nd - Tribal Elections - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Community Building lobby

9th - Monthly Tribal Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - Community Building lobby

12th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Tribal Clerk's office

Tuesdays - Tribal Council Work Sessions - 9:00 a.m. - Tribal Council Boardroom

# New Faces

Kenkiokwine Barnes

Carly M. Benedict

Roberta M. Bigtree

Cherie M. Bisnett

Lesley Cook

Dana C. Hart

Brent Herne

Jocelyn A. Jackson

Joseph McDonald

Jessica L. Sargent

Rebecca Smoke

Habilitation Aide

Air Quality Technician

Home Health Aide

Diabetes Nurse Educator

Head Start Teacher

Business Office Clerk

Construction Manager

Outreach Driver

Outreach Driver

Office Manager

Program Manager

Family Support

Environment

Chronic Care Nursing

Let's Get Healthy

Early Childhood Development

Health Services Business Office

Planning & Infrastructure

Chronic Care Nursing

Chronic Care Nursing

Three Sisters Program

Family Support

# Giving Back

Sports - \$ 6,000

Funerals - \$ 1,500

Community Events - \$ 13,500

- Includes Senior Games, Community Activities, Wellness Day and Kateri Tekakwitha

# Jobs

Summer Camp Director - *JOM*

Summer Camp Counselors (10) - *JOM*

*Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: [www.srmt-nsn.gov](http://www.srmt-nsn.gov).*

# Intensive Preventive Program

## Dept. of Social Services

### Program Feature

*By Michele Barnes, Administrative Assistant*

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Department of Social Services Intensive Preventive Program mission statement is: To strengthen, support and protect Akwesasne Families in all stages of life for seven generations.

IPP's mission is to provide cost-effective home and community-based alternatives for the care and protection of "at-risk" youth and families who are at risk of placement out of the home. The program operates on the premise that even the most troubled youth and families have strengths, capabilities, preferences and values that can and must be fully developed.

The major goal of the Intensive Preventive Program is to provide the SRMT Department of Social Services, Tribal Court and families of Akwesasne, cost-effective alternatives to residential care and out-of-home care. IPP achieves this through a mix of individualized in-home and community-based services developed around each family's unique circumstances: connecting families with resources that accommodate specific family needs.

The core features of our program are designed to guide the development of strengths and capabilities, so youth and their families can function positively in their homes and

community. Flexibility is a trademark of the Intensive Preventive program; the basic service delivery system is adaptable to the specific needs according to court orders and Service Plan recommendations.

Our services provide Family Visiting and Supervised Visits, Cultural, Individual and Group Youth Activities, Life Skills, Group and Individual Parenting, Transportation, Court Support, Mentoring, and School, Tutoring and School Visits.

The referral process for our program includes that a court may mandate a preventive referral. A parent or guardian can voluntarily open a preventive case or the Akwesasne Group Home residents can be assigned a Youth Advocate to assist with a transition home.

Unique and innovative aspects of our program include: a wrap-around model, strength based, traditional and nontraditional community supports, use of cultural competence, willingness to serve the youth and families with even the most complex of needs, the commitment to unconditional care and staff availability to assist youth and their families 24/7. Recent recognitions are the IPP and the Akwesasne Group Home placing 3rd in the Annual Roadside Clean-Up.



## Parent Advocates

*By Jean Laffin, Parent Advocate Coordinator*

Within the past four years the intensive preventive program expanded services to parents and children at risk who are referrals from the Department of Social Services. To accommodate the growing need for services to the referred families, an additional parent advocate and a supervised visit monitor couch were added to our program.

According to specific service plan recommendations and/or court orders, IPP provides assistance and support to referrals. When a DSS referral is made to IPP DSS, an initial meeting with the family is made to identify their individual needs. Based on the family's own set of strengths, capabilities and values, both the Parent Advocate and Youth Advocate assist the family using a wrap-around model. At the initial home visit the basic needs of shelter, food, health and finances are assessed and all resources that can and need to be accessed are determined. These include housing options, housing subsidies, Medicaid, food stamps, public assistance, family health care, fuel assistance, community hardship assistance and referrals to other programs.

An information packet was developed for parents to help with parenting concerns. The packet consists of emergency phone numbers, Safety Plan Tips, My Child's Friends Phone Number List, My Support Map (list of family and friends' phone numbers) and other parenting information. Continued home visits are made to assure all needs and service plan recommendations are effective. To meet the needs of the families, Parent and Youth Advocates flex their schedules to be available for service plan recommendations. When a crisis arises or service plan recommendations are needed, staff is available to assist youth and their families 24/7. Some services IPP provides for families include: home visits, one-an-one contemporary and traditional parenting sessions, family visits and supervised visits, individual and group youth activities, life skill training, transports to appointments, court support, mentoring, school tutoring, school visits, and cultural activities. To accommodate needs the community, every Monday night from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. from September to June, IPP holds Monday Night Parenting with various topics from a variety of materials.

## Youth Advocates

*By Leah Benedict, Youth Advocate*

As Youth Advocates we work with at-risk community children and teenagers. Some youth come from dysfunctional families, so we work intensively with them and their immediate family members to help strengthen, and rebuild these families. I like to build a strong relationship and bond with all clients, so we can trust one another. Setting goals with each individual is very important. We then have some positive change to strive for and achieve. We make sure they are doing well with their academics and provide tutoring services for those who struggle.

We offer and participate in many activities. At our program (IPP) we practice life-skills, culture teachings, craft nights and one-on-one and group activities. We hold a life-skill, "w8it - training" course, presented by Wanda Thompson, directed to young adults. The main focus is to teach the importance to wait until marriage to have sex. The group seems to enjoy the training. We built a sweat lodge in the backyard of our program site, now we can provide sweat teachings to anyone who is interested in participating in our weekly sweats. Every Tuesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., we have a craft night. During this time, we get together as a group and everyone participates in the current project.

As a group activity, we participated in the Annual Akwesasne Road-Side Clean Up. Joined with the Group Home, we came in third place. It was a great turn-out and everyone who participated did great. Our program will also participate in the Annual Memorial Day Parade. We are brain storming ideas for that, and are looking forward to that event.

We are role models and mentors for our youth; we encourage, and support them.

Our goal is to help them make the good choices in their lives; to be respectful and to shape them into well-rounded individuals! ◇



# Senior Citizens' Recognition Day

*By David T. Staddon, Editor*

On May 8, 2012 Tribal Sub-Chief Stacy Skidders and Grace LaFrance Day traveled to Albany where they participated in New York State's Senior Citizens' Day Ceremony. The theme of this year's ceremony was "Honoring Those Who Help Others and Make Their Communities Better for Citizens of All Ages." Grace was recognized and honored by the New York State Office for the Aging in Albany on as part of the event. The event was held in the Blue Room of the New York State Capital Building.



Grace was born in the Akwesasne Territory and grew up by the Raquette River. She has told her family many stories of her youth and how her family enjoyed each season and the holidays. They had high anticipation because they know they would be eating foods that were served only at those times in addition to seeing relatives from near and far. In 1981 she worked at the local Headstart Program as part of the Foster Grandparent Program as a *Tota*. She retired in 2005 at the age of 96. ◇

*Grace Day with Daughter Jann in Albany*



Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe  
412 State Route 37  
Akwesasne, NY 13655

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POSTAL PATRON