

Tribe Wins
Water Award

HAVFD
Annual
Awards

Tribal
Gaming
Commission

Footprints
Program

SRMT Kawennì:ios

REGISTRATION
Job Seeker To

Job Seekers Connect in
Akwesasne



Award Winning Water

Second Annual Tribal Utility Summit Is Huge Success

*By Scott Williams,
USET Technical Assistance Specialist*

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians hosted the 2nd Annual Tribal Utility Summit at the Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, on April 5-7, 2011. The Tribal Utility Summit, a collaborative effort between United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., (USET), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Nashville Area Indian Health Services (IHS), is an annual training and networking opportunity for Tribal water, wastewater, and solid waste professionals.

More than 120 Tribal professionals, vendors, and federal agency representatives attended the three day event. Training and continuing education units were provided in areas including chlorine safety, confined space entry, SCADA systems and controls, lift stations and pumps, asset management, and transfer station operation. In addition, several attendees tested for 608 Certification.



Michael Bolt, Chair of the USET Certification Board Presents Award to Tracey Billhardt and Barry Herne

During the Summit, the USET Certification Board for Water and Wastewater Operators and Laboratory Analysts hosted the first Tribal Drinking Water Contest for USET member facilities. First place was awarded to the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Second and third place was awarded to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, respectively. Water samples were ranked on a scale of 1-10 by a panel of judges based on clarity, odor and taste. The winning sample provided by the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) scored a 9.7.

USET is dedicated to promoting Indian leadership, improving the quality of life for American Indians, and protecting Indian rights and resources on Tribal lands. Although its guiding principle is unity, USET plays a major role in the self-determination of all member Tribes by working to improve the capabilities of Tribal governments. Established in 1969, United South and Eastern Tribes Inc., is a non-profit, intertribal organization that collectively represents its member Tribes at the regional and national level. To learn more about USET, please visit www.usetinc.org. ♦

Good Words of Welcome



She:kon sewakew:kon, tewatate:kon Hello everyone

At this time I want to share with you my personal thoughts. Together we must work to protect our home. Maintaining good health is a full time job. Proper management of your money ensures happiness. Following our laws and taking time to learn and speak our language contributes to spiritual wellness. These are principles I live by, and I firmly believe working in conjunction with good principles will make Ahkwesashne a better place.

I also want to mention two items: first, Tribal Council has put into place a work session policy whereby leadership will conduct Tribal business at a weekly meeting where transparency and oversight is in practice. This new process is going to help make our government work better and more efficiently. Secondly, the Sub-Chiefs have been given a directive, through a Tribal Council Resolution (TCR), in our attempt to improve Tribal Administration. The Tribal employees will have an evaluation process with the Sub-Chiefs providing oversight. This new directive is needed and required at the work place to oversee the growing staff which is the third largest in the North Country.

On the Cover: Volunteers greet job seekers at Akwesasne International Job Fair.

I would also like to thank my forty-two community members who volunteer for committee work. We have a Membership Committee meeting on Mondays and this committee meets to research enrollment. The Governance Committee meets on Tuesdays, and is working to update the Procedure Act of 1994. These improvements will ensure a better understanding of how our government operates. We have Finance Committee meetings on Wednesdays; the committee is busy working on bringing a financial report that is easy to understand and trust. Lastly, on Thursday nights, our Off-Reservation Gaming Committee talks over our gaming issues. I have learned a lot and it's nice to see just how far we have traveled concerning our knowledge in gaming. Tribal gaming is an economic opportunity and the Tribe must choose the right path. To all boards, commissions, volunteers and other groups helping to make the tribe a place to live, I say thank you and keep up the good work.

I have one more request: that all Tribal members must stay involved, keep informed and participate in your government.

Niawenhko:wa, Onenkiwahe

Randy Hart, *Tehatsitsientons*

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Akwesasne International Job Fair

A Great Success

By David Staddon, Editor

More than 1,100 people participated in the 2011 Akwesasne International Job Fair. The event was held at the Mohawk Bingo Palace on Monday, March 21, 2011. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the Akwesasne Area Management Board, the Mohawk Bingo Palace, the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and the Akwesasne Employment Resource Center co-sponsored the Job Fair.

Bea Johnson coordinated the event and was the chairperson of the planning committee. "The Job Fair was open to anybody in the New York North Country as well as people from southern Ontario and Quebec provinces," noted Johnson. "This event did not strictly target members of our Native communities, but was open to everybody. We recognize the need to put applicants and employers together." Colleen Nolan, Akwesasne Employment Resource Center Facilitator, also played a key role in coordinating the Job Fair.

Job seekers were also able to get advice on preparing for job interviews and the first 500 attendees received a free Job Seeker Toolkit. In addition to taking in applications and resumes, some firms conducted on-site job interviews.

Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Monica Jacobs and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Grand Chief Mike Mitchell provided

words of welcome, along with New York State Department of Labor Rep. David Sickler, St. Lawrence County Legislative Chairperson the Honorable Sallie Brothers, and the Honorable Tony Arquiett, SLC Legislature for Canton, NY and John MacClain, General Manager and CEO of the Mohawk Bingo Palace. Forty-seven businesses and corporations from both Canada and the U.S. attended to collect resumes and recruit candidates, some as far away as Ottawa and Plattsburgh, NY.

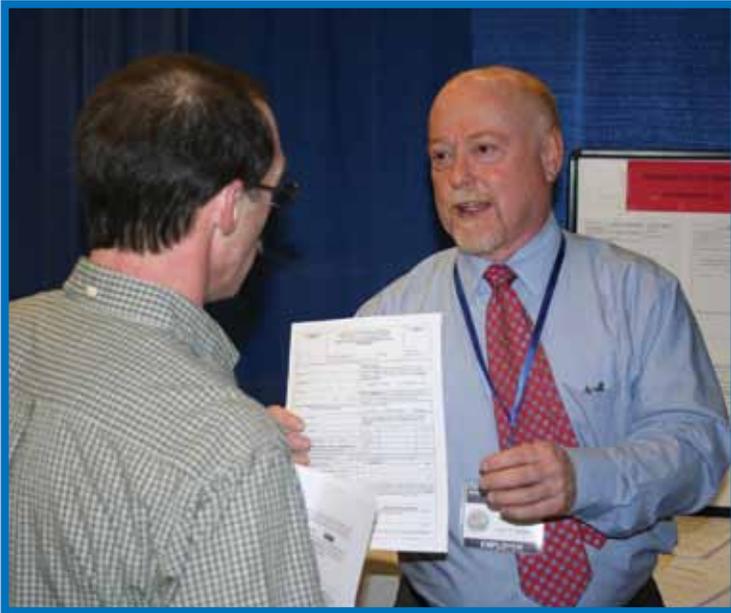
"Not only does the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe support and contribute to local and regional economies, we support employers and job seekers," remarked Chief Jacobs. "This is another way that we practice being a good neighbor."

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Human Resource Department collected almost 100 applications and resumes for 11 open positions in Tribal Operations. The Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and the Mohawk

Bingo Palace also had representatives on hand to greet applicants looking for work in the gaming industry. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe employs about 1,400 with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne employing about 1,000. In addition, the Akwesasne Territory is home to a strong private business sector, with more than 300 private businesses in operation.



Job Seekers and Event Organizers Interact



Taking Applications

“The response to the Job Fair was overwhelming,” reported Job Fair Coordinator Johnson. “We were expecting around 500 job seekers to attend the event and we hit that number within three hours.” The event kicked off at 10:00 am on Monday and a long line of people were waiting for the doors to open so they could explore potential employment opportunities. Attendees had the chance to win door prizes, including a new laptop computer. The Job Fair wrapped up at 6:00 pm.

The planning committee will conduct a follow-up meeting to discuss any improvements for possible future events. Although no new plans have yet been confirmed, the committee is considering another similar event in the future. ♦

“It was amazing, can’t wait for another”

“It was a great experience”

“Thank you for offering this service”



Networking



Collecting Resumés



Awards to Organizations

Radiation Testing

The National Atmospheric Deposition Program currently has over 200 sites spanning the continental United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The purpose of the network is to collect data on the chemistry of precipitation for monitoring of geographical and temporal long-term trends. The precipitation at each station is collected weekly according to strict clean-handling procedures. It is then sent to the Central Analytical Laboratory where it is analyzed for hydrogen (acidity as pH), sulfate, nitrate, ammonium, chloride and base cations (such as calcium, magnesium, potassium and sodium).

Since August 1999, the Environment Division air program has maintained a site located in Ft. Covington Center. Rain samples have been collected to monitor acid rain across the nation. All participants in the program visit their site every Tuesday at 9:00 am to collect the precipitation sample. As part of the NADP

*By Angela Benedict
Air Quality Program Manager*

national program, the samples are mailed to a laboratory in Illinois for analysis on pH, conductivity as well as other parameters.

In response to the Fukushima Nuclear Facility Accident and the release of radionuclides into the environment, the NADP is saving and sending samples of the precipitation collected to be tested for radioactive elements. Because the NADP has over 250 sites for acid rain collection and over 100 sites for mercury monitoring within the US and Canada they will be able to track the movement, if any, of the radioactive elements. The data from this testing is not available yet but when it does become available it will be shared with the community. ♦

Prom & Binge Drinking



Prom Should be Breathtaking. But Not This Way!

With the approaching season of Prom upon us, the Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services Alcoholism/Chemical Dependency Prevention Program wants you to know the dangers of binge drinking.

What is binge drinking? Binge drinking is the consumption of five or more drinks in a row by men or four or more drinks in a row by women- at least once in

By Tiffany Leabo, Prevention Educator

the previous two weeks. Heavy binge drinking includes three or more such episodes in two weeks.

Why do people binge drink? People binge drink for many reasons. One of the biggest reasons for binge drinking among high school students is peer pressure. Other reasons people binge drink include curiosity, the thought that it will make their problems go away, or as a way to reduce stress.

What are the risks? There are many risks associated with binge drinking. These include memory lapses, mood changes, alcohol poisoning, impaired judgment as well as damage to your physical health. Students who binge drink have a harder time in school and are more likely to drop out. Studies show that heavy binge drinking can lead to alcoholism.

Where is help available? If you or someone you know has a drinking problem, get help as soon as possible. Call the Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services Alcoholism/Chemical Dependency Outpatient Program at 518-358-3141. ♦

No Fleas For Me, Please!

By Jennifer Herne, Animal Control Officer

If your dog or cat could speak, that is what he would be saying. Flea season is upon us. Most of us who have pets are familiar with fleas, but do you really understand how to handle a flea infestation? Fleas are small, brown, wingless insects, measuring only about 1/8 of an inch long. Their bodies are flat from side to side, allowing for quick movement through hair. Flea legs are made for leaping. A flea can jump up to 36 inches! This is equal to a human jumping over the Washington monument. Adult fleas feed on blood from many species of animals. Fleas have been known to bite humans but prefer the taste of other animals. To properly control fleas you must understand their life cycle.

There are four stages to the life of a flea; this is a continuous cycle. We will start with an adult flea who lays eggs. Two to 14 days later the eggs hatch into larvae. These larvae live and crawl around in your carpeting and bedding! How disgusting is that? Nine to 15 days later the larvae will cocoon and then five days to five weeks later they hatch into adult fleas who continue producing eggs. The adult flea can live up to nine



“In just 30 days, 25 adult female fleas can multiply to as many as a quarter of a million fleas!”



months. In times of dry or cold conditions the cycle will temporarily slow down or stop in the egg or cocoon stages. The entire cycle can produce a new generation of adult fleas in as little as 16 days!

Fleas can cause more problems than you realize. The most irritating being the constant movement on your pet and of course biting him/her! This can cause severe scratching. Some animals can also develop allergies to flea bites, which make the itching even worse. Some of your pets may have had this condition called, Flea Allergy Dermatitis. The constant irritation to the skin often leads to skin infections. Fleas can also carry tapeworm cysts, which will develop into an intestinal parasite in your pet called tapeworms. Gross!

What you need to know is: fleas can be prevented. There are many products available from your veterinarian that work great. I recommend the prescribed flea treatments; they are of a higher quality and work much better than over-the-counter cheaper products. The prescribed treatments are on the more expensive side, but it is cheaper to prevent a flea infestation on your pets and in your home. The products are usually a once a month application you put directly on your pet. Also, contrary to what most people think you CAN have a flea problem year round if you don't treat your house properly. You must treat your entire house, including; carpeting, pet bedding, and any other high traffic area for your pet.

The best flea control is ALWAYS prevention. If you would like more information please contact your friendly neighborhood Animal Control Officer at 518-358-2272 ext 287. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. ♦

HAVFD Annual Awards

By Aimee Benedict and David T. Staddon

The Akwesasne/Hogansburg Volunteer Fire Department held its annual banquet on Saturday March 12, 2011 at the Wolf Clan banquet facility. One hundred and ten people attended the banquet,

including Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Monica Jacobs and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Chief Billy Sunday. One of the purposes of the banquet was to recognize firefighters and volunteers for their services.

Rookie of the Year:
Ernie Cree



Ernie made 260 of 354 calls, took charge in completing the chicken BBQ pit, the "Smoke Pit" and a chicken BBQ event. He completed his Fire Fighter 1 training, ice rescue training and vehicle extrication.

Officer of the Year:
Kevin "Sturge" Lazore



Sturge has been the Captain of Station 3 for close to twenty years. He oversees the training needs of Station 3 members and works well with the treasurer with financial aspects of the department.

Special Appreciation to a Non-member:
Isabel McDonald



Isabel started volunteering in 1970s. She fed the men for work details and started the first "Fish Feed" benefit. Isabel still calls the station during Halloween standby or during big work details to offer up her famous fried bread or biscuits.

Station 1 Captain's Award:
Jody David



Jody helped out at the station before he became an official member. His expertise as a welder, millwright and his strong back are all assets to the department. He has become a member and will graduate Fire Fighter 1 very soon.

Team Award:
Marine 1 crew

Rescued two people out of the water in the St. Lawrence by the Stanley Island area in 27 below zero weather.



Randy "Tweety Bird" Mitchell, Mike "Nega" Laffin, Christopher "Goofy" Adams, and Phillip Lazore

Former Chiefs received a badge saying "Past Chief," with badge number Car 90, the number designated to the chief from the county:

- Jack Treptow: 1973-1975, 1981
- Charlie Jacobs: 1976-1978
- Donnie Comins: 1979-1980
- Frank Lacarenza: 1982-2005
- John Lazore: 2005-2007
- Norman Peters: 2007-2010



A "Special Appreciation" award went to Issac McDonald who stepped up as captain to Station 1 and to Vice President when replacements were needed. He handled funeral arrangements for a founding member in 2009 and for an active member in 2010.



Dennis Phillips received the "Exempt Member of the Year" award. Even as an exempt member he still comes to the station and helps out with projects. Dennis plows the parking lot and more importantly, shares his winter catch of walleye with the rest of the guys as an Easter feast. He also helps cook meals for Station 3 on meeting nights.

Randy "Tweety Bird" Mitchell received the "Firefighter of the Year" award. He was the 2009 "Rookie of the Year" and took on the role of incident commander for the racetrack crew. Randy also took command of the fireworks and mixed martial arts event and Thoroughgood concert. He attended 250 of the 354 calls.



Howard Jock won the "Captain's Award" for Station 2. Howard to keep up the station; when projects need to be done at station he is always there and many times with his own equipment.

The "Captain's Award" for Station 3 went to Kevin W. Lazore. He is still in his probationary years and jumps right in to wash trucks or regular station clean up. He has his own way of saying we need this and that and does his share of plowing the driveway. Kevin is also handy at the BBQ pit.

Certificates went to people who made 25% of the calls each month the entire year of 2010:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Phillip Gray | Clinton Jacobs |
| Kevin M. Lazore | Kevin W. Lazore |
| Matthew Lazore | Philip Lazore |
| Issac McDonald | Jason McDonald |
| Randy Mitchell ♦ | |

Cancer Prevention Day

By Erin Barnes, Outreach

May is National Skin Cancer and Melanoma Month. The Seniors Center and Chronic Nursing Care Department at the Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services are co-sponsoring a screening and educational event.

During the Senior Games week Thursday May 12, 2011 at the Seniors Center from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, staff will distribute information about skin, breast, colon and prostate cancer. We are also pleased to have two guest speakers with presentations starting at 9:30 am. Dr. Suhail Daye, a surgeon from Massena Memorial Hospital, will do a presentation on the prevention of skin cancer. Dr. Daye will also be offering

free skin cancer screenings to patients of all ages from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Dr. Benson Kelly, Medical Director at SRMHS will be presenting on breast, colon and prostate cancer.

Cancer has affected many family members in our community. The information that you receive could save lives! Enter to win some great door prizes. Please direct any questions to the Chronic Care Nursing Department 518-358-3141 ext 127 Lynelle Phillips RN or Seniors Center 518-358-2963 Mary Grow RN.



Sun Safety

- *Do Not Sunburn*
- *Cover Up*
- *Seek Shade*
- *Wear A Hat*
- *Limit Time In The Sun Between 10 am & 4 pm*
- *Always Use Sunscreen With SPF 15+*
- *Conduct Monthly Skin Exams*

Workforce Investment

By Marie Benedict, WIA

Beginning May 23, 2011, we will be advertising for applications for the Summer Youth Program. The following criteria for the program must be met: 14-21 years of age (inclusive), family must meet WIA Income guidelines, working cards required for ages 14-15 and 16-17. The cards and applications may be picked-up at Salmon River or Massena Central High

Schools' Guidance Departments. Students meeting the criteria will then be required to submit to and pass a drug test. Some positions may require background checks, dependent on placements. ◆



Be Safe, Not Sorry!

By Lillian Benedict Barton, Records Management

June 30, 1856 – “Its path was narrow, but within that limit it wrought awful havoc.....from the Constable line to Burke Center.” The general store and the school house roofs were blown off, sadly one person was killed.

Mother Nature can run amok on occasion spewing out earthquakes, tornadoes, flash floods, ice storms, lightning strikes and other natural disasters. Here in the North Country we don't see as many disasters as other areas of the world do, but we do on occasion meet the fierceness of a blizzard, ice storm or tornado. Our area is also at risk for other disasters such as terrorism, fire, hazardous materials, and railway and road accidents. Although we may never see anything too catastrophic in our neck of the woods, we should plan for the worst because a disaster can strike quickly and without warning. Planning includes safeguarding important documents to help you recover from a disaster quicker and easier.

Assemble two files with your important documents: Place one in a safe place nearby where you can grab it and go. Send the other file to a very trusted relative or friend, lawyer or accountant or even place in safe deposit box or fire proof safe.

***Prepare For
the Worst and
Keep Your
Records Safe***

Include COPIES of the following items in each file:

- Driver's license; passport; birth, death and marriage certificates, adoption records, military records
- Debit and credit cards (both the front and the back) and a personal check
- One statement, issued within the past year from each of your bank or brokerage accounts
- Deed to your house, mortgage agreement, and any home-equity loan agreements, and photos of

your home and possessions

- Wills, trust, and power of attorney documents
- Key to (and locations of) safe deposit boxes
- Names and contact information for all executors, trustees, guardians and financial advisors
- Insurance policies and agency contact information
- A list of your user IDs and passwords for all online financial accounts
- A list of assets and liabilities

Update these files whenever you make any changes. Consider saving money in an emergency account or keep some cash in a secret hiding place that could be used in a crisis. Also don't forget your basic disaster supplies to help sustain you and your family as well as your pets. For more information on preparing for a disaster go to www.fema.gov.

To safeguard the Tribe's records I am working on a records emergency action plan. This plan will help us prepare, respond and recover from a record disaster. One of our tasks is to complete a risk analysis and vital records inventory of all records in each department of the Tribe. Some vital records include Tribal Council Resolutions, Tribal members land deeds and membership documents, as well as environment records, just to name a few. Our team knows how important these documents are and if a disaster occurred we will be prepared to recover them. We are hoping, with the cooperation of all departments to have it ready for distribution to all employees by the end of September of this year. ♦

Information obtained from Historical Sketches of Franklin County, 1918, Plattsburgh Housing Outlet and FEMA

Tribal Monthly Meeting

1. Introductions:
 - Welcome
 - Reading of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
2. Akwesasne Freedom School
3. New York State Education
4. Committee Reports
 - Membership Committee
 - Governance Committee
 - Finance Committee
 - Off-Reservation Gaming
5. New Business
 - Residential/Commercial Building Permit Fees
 - Financial Reports
6. Reading of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
7. Adjournment

Action Items from March Meeting

1. Hold a special meeting to address the Akwesasne Freedom School's request for funding on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 6 p.m.
2. Chief Hart request permission from Chief Judge Herne to copy the information he receive and make copies available to distribution to community members.
3. Sub-Chief Stacy Skidders will have copies of the New York State Education contracts available to community members.
4. Council will speak with Ernie Thompson, of Planning & Infrastructure about putting in a road on the 29 acres lot at the transfer station.
5. Council request a meeting with National Grid to discuss the arrears for Mohawk residents and businesses.
6. Post the Ethics Officer position and try to have it filled as soon as possible.
7. To hold a special meeting on amendments to the Ethics Ordinance on Saturday, April 16th at 10 a.m.

Onerabtókha / April 2, 2011
Chaired by Chief Mark Garrow

Follow-up from April Action Items:

1. Hold a special meeting on the proposed casino expansion on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at the Community Building at 10 a.m. Have Casino and Bingo Palace financial statements available that include a breakdown on expenditures not just balances. Also, include accounting for the \$70 million dollar loan from the previous casino expansion.

Follow-up: The meeting was held on March 12, 2011 as requested with financial handouts.

2. Meet with New York State to update regulations on the qualifications for a gaming license. Specifically look at reducing the number of years one has to wait after a felony conviction.

Follow-up: Council will add this item to an agenda when a meeting is scheduled with New York State Racing and Wagering Board.

3. Chief Hart to look into the demolition work of the former General Motors Plant to see if they are hiring on union workers.

Follow-up: Staff reached out to Ann Kelly, Director of EPA and she reported that not all workers on the General Motors Demolition Project will be union.

4. Minnie Garrow requested that Ken Kapplemier have a special meeting to present his information on land claims and taxation.

Follow-up: Tribal Council requested Mr. Kapplemier to share the information he wanted to present and he refused. Therefore, no special meeting was scheduled.

5. Have copies of the current Tribal Council oaths available as handouts at the next Tribal meeting.

Follow-up: The current Council's Oaths of Office will be available at the April 2nd Tribal meeting as requested. ♦

Calendar

Onerahtohko:wa / May

- 5th - Friends of the SRMT Animal Control Program - 4:30 pm - Community Building Upstairs Boardroom
7th - Tribal Caucus - 10:00 am - Community Building Lobby
10th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Tribal Clerk's office
11th - Wildlife Management Plan - 6:00 pm - Community Building Lobby
14th - Tribal Monthly Meeting - 10:00 am - Community Building Lobby
30th - Memorial Day Holiday - Tribal offices and transfer station closed

New Faces

Kayla N. Point

Human Services - Intensive Preventive Program

Youth Advocate

Danny McDermott

Human Services - Family Support

Registered Nurse

Joan I. Westcott

IHS - Pharmacy

Pharmacist

Giving Back

Sports - \$500

Community Assistance - \$2,000

Community Events - \$1,000

Community Development - \$1,500

Community Elders - \$4,800

Jobs

Administrative/Production Assistant - Public Information Office

Receptionist / Administrative Assistant - Alcoholism / Chemical Dependency and Mental Health Programs

Mechanic - Maintenance

Summer Recreation Director and Workers - JOM

Counselor - Partridge House

Summer Interns (2) - Environment

Business Office Clerk - IHS

Home Finder/Caseworker - Social Services

Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant - IHS

Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov

Whether it's Cold or Whether it's Hot, We Shall Have Weather, Whether or Not!

By Angela Benedict, Air Quality Program Manager

Atmosphere, meteorology, pressure, winds, evaporation, condensation and precipitation are some of the words you might hear when you listen to the weather report. Other things you may hear are Nor'Easter, El Niño, supercell, tornado, blizzard and hurricane. So what do these all mean? Well, weather is very complicated. There are many factors to look at when trying to forecast the weather. Just ask a meteorologist like Ryan Finn who does the weather for Your News Now on Time Warner Cable. A meteorologist is a person who can do weather forecasting.

The way they forecast weather is to look at different atmospheric properties like pressures, winds, jet stream and temperature. They also use models (computer programs) to help determine what's happening next with the weather.

Different pieces of equipment can help predict what the weather will be like. Meteorologists are always saying something like, "The Doppler Radar shows rain in our forecast." What exactly is Doppler radar? Well it is a type of radar, (usually a pulse-type) that allows a meteorologist to see things like precipitation. Doppler radar is also used in aviation, sounding satellites, police speed guns and radiology. Doppler is the last name of the scientist that proposed the effect back in 1842. Enough history for today --back to the weather.

Wind is one of the major components of weather. Wind blows from high pressure to low pressure. The pressure difference depends on the speed or velocity of the wind. In the northern hemisphere (where we are) winds blow clockwise in high pressure areas and counter-clockwise in low pressure areas. And as we all know, wind is energy so if you think about wind and energy, the higher the energy, the faster the wind. The higher the wind, the faster the wind and the fiercer the storm.



Something else to think of when talking about wind is tornados; I have always wanted to see one. I even did an internship in Boulder, Colorado at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and do you think I saw even one tornado? Ten weeks and not one tornado.

Who would have thought? But then again I wasn't in Kansas. Anyway, talking with meteorologist Finn, I guess NYS gets about 10-12 tornados a year. The good news for the community is that they rarely happen around here and if they did they would probably be so weak we might not even notice. Western NY, mid-Hudson and western Massachusetts are the more than likely places to see tornados.

The last thing I would like to discuss is lightning. Meteorologist Ryan Finn explained to me that there is no such thing as heat lightning --big misconception

on my part. Lightning that you can see but not hear is just lightning that is real far away. Sure it lights up the sky, so it doesn't look like real lightning, but it is. And it is not just in the hot summer months, lightning can happen at any time and does. It can happen in lake effect snow also. Heavy bursts of snow can cause lightning. "How?" you ask. Well, apparently you just need to be negative, just kidding, but what happens is the balance between negative and positive charges. At peace, positive = negative. At times of storms the earth, ground, buildings or even humans are positively charged and the atmosphere is negatively charged. When they are imbalanced, they create a charge between the two and there you have it: lightning. Of course it's not that simple -- there are other factors that help like distance between the positive and negative charges. Lightning is very dangerous so if you see it don't go running around in it.

While we were talking I had to ask the all important question (at least to me because I find it interesting): do you believe in climate change? Meteorologist Finn's answer: YES! It seems there are some meteorologists and scientists that don't believe in it and some that do. It's about 50/50.

So it seems that whether you like it or whether you don't, the weather will continue to affect us and guide us today and for the next seven generations. ♦

There is little chance that meteorologists can solve the mysteries of weather until they gain an understanding of the mutual attraction of rain and weekends.

~Arnot Sheppard



Environmental Assessments

The Environmental Assessment (EA) process was developed in order to keep our tradition of looking seven generations ahead to make decisions affecting the community. As we all know, our resources are limited and dwindle down each year. Subsequently we as a community must protect and manage them to the best of our ability.

With a new construction season approaching we remind the community that any commercial or large-scale development in the community is subject to an Environmental Assessment to protect our resources. A thorough environmental review protects the people and the environment and ensures that no proposed development will cause significant environmental degradation. In the event a project may cause environmental damage, the project is presented with alternatives and mitigation measures to protect all interests.



Bulldozer in Action

*By Matthew Thompson,
Environmental Resources Coordinator*

The SRMT Environment Division again reminds the community that we are here to help advance any proposed development through the Environmental Assessment process. Applications for an Environmental Assessment are available at our office; 449 Frogtown Rd, Akwesasne, and the EA Coordinator Matthew V. Thompson will assist community members with determining the need for an Environmental Assessment.

Additional information and environmental forms can be found online at: www.srmtenv.org.

org. ♦

Higher Education

Hey, have you got your FAFSA done for next year? Why not? What are you waiting for?

Don't forget your TAP application also.

While you are at it, get those other reapplications done before July 15. Remember, as the times get tougher, the rules get stricter.

New Course Offering

St. Lawrence University is offering a graduate course beginning the week of May 17, 2011. The course will end June 16, 2011.

EDPS 509: Seminar in Human Sexuality for Counselors from 4:00 pm to 6:45 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in Akwesasne (Hogansburg) NY.

By Rod Cook

A survey of the physiology and psychology of human sexual response. The varieties of sexual behaviors and values will be explored along with particular problems of sexual functioning which are often brought to counselors. Adequate opportunity will be provided for students to examine myths about sex and to explore their own values with regard to masculine and feminine roles in contemporary society and various forms of sexual behavior.

For more information, contact Rod Cook, 518-358-2272 x 215. ♦

How Are We Doing It?

Sustaining in Tough Economic Times - Part 4

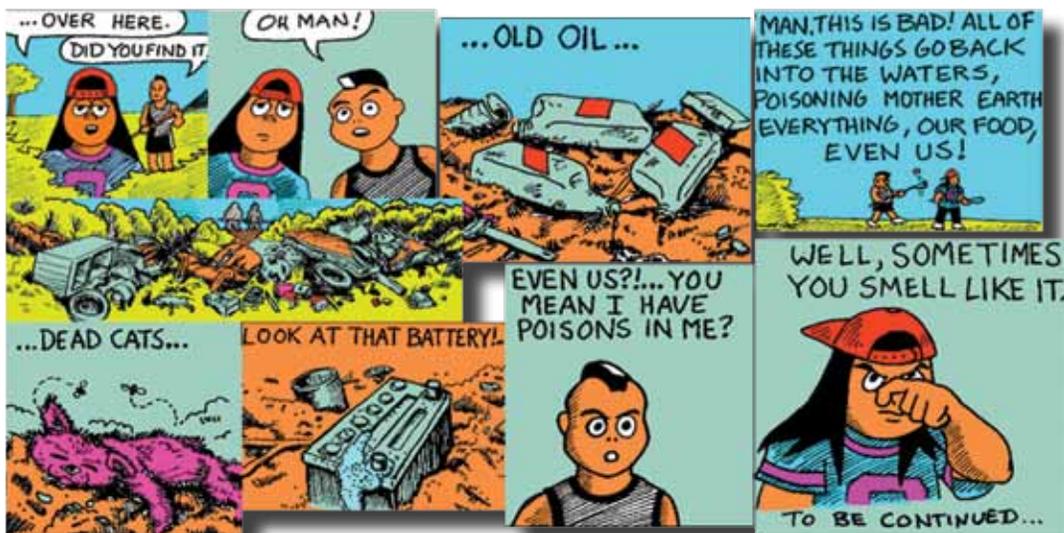
By Laura J. Weber, Solid Waste Program Manager

We are continuing our series on sustaining in tough economic times. Last month, we introduced the first component of our sustainable model – the Solid Waste Management Code. The Code is designed to protect our community from the negative impacts associated with the improper disposal of solid wastes. We also gave you an “Action to Sustainability Challenge.” How did you do with last month’s challenge? What did you learn from the Kwis & Tiio tip sheets? Did you incorporate some of the practices into your life?

The second component of the sustainability model is our 4 R’s cultural educational program. You may be familiar with the 3 R’s – reduce, reuse, & recycle. The 4th R is respect. The purpose of the program is to motivate people to respect themselves,

our community, and environment; respect leads people to take ownership for the overall well-being of our community and creates positive choices with respect to solid waste management decisions. We use innovative approaches in showing the condition of the Mohawk environment and community is directly impacted by our choices for disposing of our wastes.

Kwis (*gwis*) and Tiio (*dee-ob*) came to life in 1997. They are Mohawk cartoon characters featured in several cartoon series. The cartoons deliver powerful environmental messages with humor and show that our decisions impact the condition of our community. Several of the cartoons are available for viewing at this website: <http://www.srmtenv.org/index.php?spec=srmtswkt>. ♦



Action to Sustainability Challenge

(Applying knowledge learned to make sustainable decisions in your life).

Review Kwis & Tiio’s cartoon at this website: <http://www.srmtenv.org/index.php?spec=ktrrr>. Discuss with your family ways that you can incorporate the 4 R’s into your daily lives. Especially talk about respect and the importance that it plays in choosing to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Hydrant Flushing

By Shawn Martin, Tribal Water Department

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Water Department will be performing spring hydrant flushing beginning the week of April 18 and continuing until the end of May. Please be advised that during hydrant flushing residents may experience lower water pressures than normal, while the work is being performed in your area. Hydrant flushing may also temporarily discolor the water and may cause staining of some clothing if you are doing laundry at this time. Please plan accordingly.



Use caution when hydrant flushing is occurring and drive slowly to prevent injury to operators. If you have any questions, please contact the Water Department at 518-358-4205 or the Water Treatment Facility at 518-358-6159.

As a reminder, **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF HYDRANTS IS PROHIBITED!** If you notice unusual use of any hydrant, please contact Tribal Police or the Water Department. ♦

Ahhh, The Smell of Spring

By Jessica Cree-Jock, Environmental Outreach

The warm spring air brings comfort to many that the long winter has passed and it brings many of us outdoors for yard clean up. This practice also tempts some to burn their yards and garbage releasing into the air harsh chemicals, particulates, or biological materials that cause harm or discomfort to neighbors and other living organisms. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Environmental Compliance Program reminds community members this practice is not permitted in Akwesasne.

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Environment Air Program does have a



permitting program that issues permits to community members for qualified burns. A permit must be obtained prior to the burn and the permit holders must consider their neighbors, friends and facilities nearby when conducting a burn. The issuance of a burn permit is not permission to cause a nuisance to anyone else. Applications for a burn permit can be obtained at the Environment Division Office.

Thank you in advance for your compliance with the burn regulations and keeping your neighbors in mind when conducting a permitted burn. ♦

Project Sticker Shock Targets Underage Drinking

*By Melerena Back, CPS,
Alcoholism Chemical Dependency Prevention Program Coordinator*

Youth leaders and the Saint Regis Mohawk Health Services Alcoholism Chemical Dependency Prevention (A/CDP) Program are working together to create a safer, healthier lifestyle by educating the community about underage drinking laws.

In a recent survey, alcohol has been identified as the number one drug of choice for youth. Local community youth and the A/CDP Prevention Program joined forces in Project Sticker Shock, a youth initiative to educate the public and change attitudes about selling and serving alcohol to minors.

Stickers warning about the penalties for furnishing alcohol to minors are placed on alcohol products. The sticker spells out a strong reminder "IT IS ILLEGAL

TO BUY OR PROVIDE ALCOHOL FOR ANYONE UNDER 21!"

Underage drinking is a community concern and the most effective way to address it is through community involvement and participation. The youth leaders and the A/CDP Program thank the following businesses for their participation:

CT Convenience Store, Akwesasne

Truck Stop #9, Akwesasne

Kanienkehaka Fuels, Akwesasne

Collette's One Stop, Bombay

First Americans IGA, Akwesasne ♦



Tanner Beaudin Puts Stickers on the Cases



Emma Phillips and Leslie Loran Tackle the Cooler

JOM Program

By Corrina Bero, JOM Director

Washington Close-Up Program

From February 6 through 12, 2011 I traveled to Washington DC with seven students from Salmon River Central to attend the Washington Close-Up Program. Students who attended are Leslee Loran, Emma Phillips, Errolyn Bradley, Corrin Delormier, Marlee King-Jacobs, Anna Kelly and Cole Adams. The students missed out on a lot of the program last year due to a major snow storm that hit Washington DC. This year they were able to participate in a week full of activities, walking tours, visits to national monuments, U.S. Senate hearings and group projects. They also added some new and exciting activities for the teachers program.

This year's group project, presented to USET members, was on Akwesasne Teen Drug Use and their concern on the increasing use of Oxycodone and other prescription drugs. The students had a chance to sit down and have breakfast with Tribal Leaders, Pam Brown and Monica Jacobs, who were attending USET. The students introduced themselves and discussed any concerns or questions.

The highlight of the week was on our independent day (Friday) when we went to the BIA Office for a visit with Christian Jock and Babette Herne (both from Akwesasne) who work there. We were given a tour of some offices. Christian and Babette had a discussion with the students about their jobs, how they got where they are, the importance of education and reaching your goals. After our visit we walked two blocks to see the White House then to the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum for lunch. After lunch we visited the Holocaust Museum, which is always an interest to the students. The Holocaust Museum is not on the agenda with the week-long activities so it's always nice to hear that the students want to go there. It is a very intense museum. We ended our day with a little shopping at the Pentagon City Mall before heading back to the hotel for the evening banquet to end our week.



L-R: Emma Phillips, Leslee Loran, Corrin Delormier, Marlee Jacobs-King, Anna Kelly & Errolyn Bradley

Honor Roll Incentive Give-Aways

The JOM Program used to provide an end of the year trip for all interested honor roll students. This year we have been doing something different by providing honor roll incentive gifts for each marking period throughout the school year. We will draw a Grand Prize from all the names.

Prizes are for students in grades seven through twelve at both Salmon River and Massena Central Schools. All students who make honor roll for that marking period have a chance at winning. There is one prize per winner for each school.

The first marking period prize was a digital camera with memory card and USB flash drive. The winner from Salmon River was Shania Oakes and winner from Massena Central was Sierra Thomas-Burke. The second marking period prize was a Straight Talk cell phone with extra minutes. Winners were Brett Rourke (SRC) and Hunter Francis (MCS). The third marking period ends April 8, so when the honor roll list is submitted, the prize will be drawn for a waterproof video camcorder. The fourth and final marking period will end on June 24 and the prize is an iPod Touch 8G-new edition. All names will be entered for the grand prize which is a laptop computer. (One winner per school).

2011 Summer Program

Youth Programs will meet mid-April to discuss group efforts for a more effective summer program. Job postings and registration will take place end of April, or possibly mid-May. More information will be available at later date. ♦

COPE - Human Services

By Mona Romeo, Human Services Staff Development Coordinator

The winter months have been very exciting for select staff of the Human Services Division. To better meet the needs of our staff, clients, and community members the Division have completed a six month training and consultation experience with Dr. Barbara Walker and her associate Pat Kelley of COPE Consulting Services.

Dr. Walker and her business partner, Pat Kelley, provide professional development training to employees of many types of businesses and public agencies. Dr. Walker has provided professional development instruction to staff of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe for over 30 years.

The workshops began in October 2010 and concluded in March 2011. Front line staff from the Human Services Division engaged in several trainings over the six month period. The topics included, documentation, team building, professional communication, preventing burnout and dealing with difficult people. Although time constraints and job responsibilities made attending the trainings a challenge, many of the staff were able to attend all workshops. Response as to the content and value of the trainings was favorable.

The topics presented to the supervisory participants included how to write yearly performance reviews, which offered a more comprehensive approach to



*Top: Dave Barnum, Jeremiah Pond, Marcel Almond, Sherry Bowan, David LaPlante, Jeffrey C. Whelan
Middle: Agatha Thompson, Michelle Farnsworth, Kim Vallence, Nancy McMann
Bottom: Theresa Thompson, Bobbi Jo Wells, Theresa Martin, Bethany Barse, Racine Johnson*

The educational series conducted this winter was developed after a “needs assessment” was conducted by COPE Consultants. Staff and supervisors worked together to customize the workshops they felt would best enhance the skills they use in the performance of their job responsibilities. Each of the workshops was designed to reinforce skills already in use and introduce new ones to improve services offered through the Division. In addition, each training session built upon the content of the previous training.

assessing employee performance. Supervisors also participated in communication profiling training. The purpose of this workshop was to assist supervisors in understanding their communication style as well as the styles of those they work with.

The series concluded in March with a pizza lunch hosted by COPE consultants and presentation of certificates by Human Services Director Jeffrey Whelan. ♦

Commission Report

Tribal Gaming Commission

By Kyrie A. Ransom, PIO Administrative Assistant

Have you ever wondered while at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino or Mohawk Bingo Palace how you can be sure that you are getting a fair deal? I've heard many people in passing angrily say that the machines are rigged. How can patrons be sure that the Tribal Gaming Facilities operate with integrity and fairness?

The answer is the Tribal Gaming Commission (TGC), whose oversight falls into the departments of Licensing, Audit, Gaming Inspectors and Gaming Networks. "This is a heavy responsibility that has changed a lot even in just the last six years. The games that are played are very complex now and the machines are basically mini-computers," said Chairman Vaughn Aldrich.

The Gaming Networks Department tests all slot machines before they are brought onto the gaming floors to ensure that they are operating as they should. The machines on the floor are upgraded on a regular

basis. The software is challenged in their testing lab by a network security firm hired by the TGC.

"With the growth of both Tribal Gaming Facilities and how things have become so much more professional have improved the efficiency of the operation," said Commissioner Peter Garrow. "The ongoing success of the facilities has been exciting."

The TGC has daily responsibilities to ensure that correct procedures are being carried out, like having the money properly handled. They also provide due process and will investigate any patron complaints. The Tribal-State Gaming Compact stipulates that the gaming facility cannot operate without the TGC.

The next time you are attending a promotional event at either the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino or the Mohawk Bingo Palace and wonder about the fairness of the draws, remember that the TGC has Inspectors onsite to make sure that all is fair. ♦



All About Footprints

By Laura Murphy, Dept. Head for Disabilities Services

A child is diagnosed with autism once every twenty minutes, with one of ninety-one children diagnosed with autism.

Footprints started as a small thought about two years ago, in an effort to design something unique and different for children diagnosed on the autism spectrum. Our program is housed in natural country surroundings, with exposure to all of the sensory experiences the land has to offer: gardens, trees, open fields, water and animal life, both wild and tame.

As springtime 2011 unfolds, so will the second phase of *Footprints*. The remainder of the land extending to the first tree line will be fenced.



Gardens of corn, beans, squash and various herbs will be planted along with a few hills of pumpkins and eventually sweet grass ~ all planted near the shelter of a new white pine. We hope to someday sell our garden produce, eggs and woodworking projects at the Farmer's Market.

As the year progresses, small barns and sheds will be built to house goats, chickens, rabbits and perhaps a pony or two. Our barns will be built by the teenagers and adults who participate in our Family Support Program, under the guidance of our woodshop staff. The gardens will be planted by the children at *Footprints*, with help from others in our program. In evenings and on weekends, the animals will be tended by a few of the residents from the Individual Residential Alternatives (IRA) Program. In the future, job placements may be

available to those who receive services from the Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (TVR).

Eventually, we anticipate small field trips and learning activities for our Head Start and Day Care children. What better way to learn about cooking and sharing than picking the ingredients from your own garden and making lunch or dinner with your friends? Singing, dancing, drumming, stories and language in many forms will happen here, starting with the very young children on the autism spectrum and branching out to provide opportunities for other Akwesasne youth.

Sensory input, unique modes of communication and learning to be friends with others are all

important learning tools for children with autism. We will be building the *Footprints* program on these basic strategies, utilizing the natural world on a daily basis for children to learn through hands on experiences. For those families who may prefer a more structured, clinical approach to helping their children, we will also be providing ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) drills in our small ABA rooms on a daily basis.

Does this sound like a big dream? It is! It has been said that children with autism leave a footprints on our hearts. We believe this to be true. Heartfelt thanks are extended to the parents of the *Footprints* children, for their fundraising, interest, knowledge and talents in helping to develop the ideas for this project. We think your kids are great! ♦

New TV Show

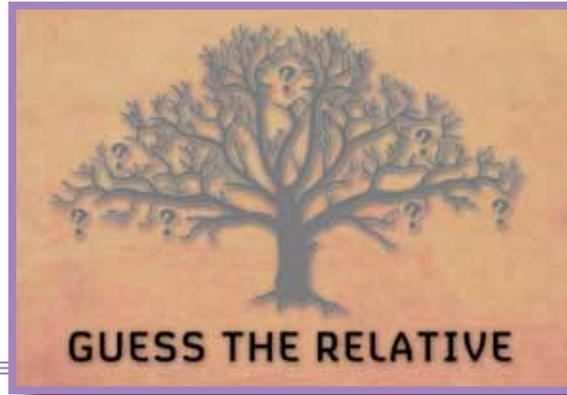
By David Staddon, Editor

Dragonfly TV in London, England produces award-winning TV documentaries that are shown throughout the world. They are currently making an exciting new TV series called *Guess the Relative* (working title) and it's a fun and entertaining show all about family history and our distant living relatives.

In it, people from around the world will get the chance to travel to Britain to discover living British relatives, who they never even knew existed.

Dragonfly TV is currently looking for people from the USA who think they may have a distant ancestor from the UK. Their ancestor might be several generations back and come from England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland - but if they have any link to the UK whatsoever, we want to hear about it!

This is a great opportunity and below is a brief ad detailing who they're looking for and how they can get in touch. ♦



Do you think your family tree might have British roots? Would you like to travel to Britain to discover your living relatives?

Dragonfly TV is making an exciting new game show featuring families, ancestors and long-lost relatives. We're searching for people from all over the world, who think they may have British ancestry, who would like to take part.

Whether your Great Great Grandfather was born in England or your Great Aunt lived in Scotland... If you think you, or anyone you know, may have any British ancestry, we want to hear from you! Contact the production team NOW to find out more: Email: relatives@dragonfly.tv Phone: +44 207 033 2319 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GuessTheRelative> www.dragonfly.tv



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