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American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Indian Community,

I would like to welcome the readers to the American Indian Center Newsletter. We hope to print a newsletter every month on issues and concerns, or announcements, for our Indian Community. Your input in any area of concern is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Timothy C. Woodhull,
Executive Director

A.I.C. OUTLOOK FOR 1978

The American Indian Center has been in operation since 1963, developing programs to meet the needs of the American Indian Community. Presently the A.I.C. programs are: Social Service, Legal Service, Alcoholism Service, and Adult Basic Education (evening classes).

Future programs, based on our current grant applications, are:
- Runaway Youth Program
- Recreational Adult & Youth Program
- Alcoholism Halfway House & Referral
- Prime Sponsorship of Indian Manpower Program (CETA III)
- United Way - Social Services
- VISTA Volunteers

INDIAN TALENT IS NEEDED

Do you have skills in these areas:
1. Carpenter
2. Bricklayer
3. Iron Worker
4. Cement Finisher
5. Teamster
6. Operating Engineer Crafts

Mr. Peter Kiewit Sons' Company is presently looking for American Indians in these areas for future employment possibilities. The construction industry is big business and if you are skilled in the above areas, you can be part of it.

Contact this address: Peter Kiewit Sons' Contractors
3921 Mason Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68105

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Do you have a High School Diploma? Do you want to go to college? Are you employed and having difficulty with promotions because of lack of a High School Diploma?

The American Indian Center is the place to get started towards higher education and a better life for you and our Indian children.

A.I.C. Adult Basic Education classes are free. All supplies & books are being provided by the Omaha Public Schools. Our teacher is Ms. Rita Melgarus. Rita is very aware and sensitive to the American Indians needs in education. She is doing an excellent job with our current enrollees for classes. If you are interested, Rita would like to talk to you.

Our class schedules:
Wednesday: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Thursday: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

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INDIAN CULTURAL CLUB
SEeks Members

The Urban Indian Cultural Club is seeking new members. Membership is open to anyone. The annual fee is $2.50.
Joe Hallowell, Chairman of the Club, states this is one means of raising money for the Pow-Wow.

The Club has been working diligently for the past eight years to sponsor cultural activities to retain the traditional way among the urban Native community in Omaha.

Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Benson Presbyterian Church, 5612 Corby St.

For more information, contact Mr. Joe Hollowell, Chairman, at 342-5375.

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INTOXICATION DECRIMINALIZED BY
STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislative Bill 593 was passed by the state legislature and signed by the Governor April 20, 1978.

This new law prohibits counties, municipalities, and other political subdivisions from adopting or enforcing any local law, ordinance, resolution, or rule that makes drinking, being a common drunkard, or being found in an intoxicated condition, a crime.

Laws regarding drunken driving, committing criminal acts while intoxicated, and purchase or possession of alcoholic beverages, remain the same.

Law officials who pick up an intoxicated person are allowed to take them to any hospital, clinic, alcoholism center, or M.D. as may be necessary to preserve life or to prevent injury.

As there have been 3,177 Native American adult arrests for Intoxication in the past four years, in Omaha alone, this is a welcome change!

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INDIAN CRAFT/ART EXPOSITION ANNOUNCED

The First Annual Plains Indian Craft, Merchandising and Art Exposition will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota, September 13 - 16, 1978.

Highlights include a Pow-Wow and "Miss Plains Indian" Contest. Exhibits and Offering of Indian Paintings, Sioux Beadwork, Quill Crafts, Painting on Rawhide, Shell & Bone Crafts, Silver Crafts, etc.

For reservation of booths and space, contact: Plains Indian Craft, Merchandising and Art Exposition 919 Main - Dusek Bldg., Rapid City, South Dakota 57701 Phone: 605-348-5300

This group is looking at foreign markets, so don't miss this.
The American Indian Center will coordinate activities for twenty youth this coming June in areas of:
1. Cultural Awareness
2. Educational Opportunities
3. Recreational Activities
4. City Structure
5. Tours
6. Fund Raising for Athletic Equipment.

If the Indian Community has any ideas for our youth in any of the above areas, please give us a call to see what we can do to better their summer.

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The University of Nebraska Medical Center's Office of Minority Student Affairs is sponsoring a Summer Enrichment Program for Minority and Economically Disadvantaged Youth who are interested in pursuing health careers.

The six-week summer program is designed to enhance the academic standing and motivation of interested 11th and 12th grade students.

Application deadline is May 28, 1978.

You may call 541-4448 for application forms.

As this program will be funded by the federal government, all expenses will be paid.

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The Second Annual American Indian Pow Wow of St. Louis will be held
June 9-11, 1978

Contact: Amy Hays
(314) 524-1690

Our ways are good but only in our world.
If you like the flame on the white man's wick learn of his ways, so you can bear his company, yet when you enter his world, you will walk like a stranger.

As I see beyond the days of now I see a vision: I see the faces of my people, your sons' sons, your daughters' daughters, laughter fills the air that is no longer yellow and heavy, the machines have died, quietness and beauty have returned to the land.

The gentle ways of our race have again put us in the days of the old.

It is good to live!
It is good to die!
--This will happen.

... Chief Dan George

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ELECTION NOTICE

To All American Indians living in the Omaha Metropolitan area. Please be advised that the American Indian Center of Omaha, 613 So. 16th St. will hold their Annual Board Election on June 27, 1978 from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

To be eligible to vote you must register with the American Indian Center's Executive Director thirty (30) days prior to the election. You must be eighteen (18) years old. You must have proof of residency.

Petitions are available at the American Indian Center if you are interested in being a Candidate for the Board of Directors. Contact the Executive Director.

Candidates running for the Board of Directors must submit their petitions to Executive Director one (1) week before the election. Date of petitions submission is June 20, 1978 at 5:00 P.M.

HUMAN RELATIONS FIRST ANNUAL DINNER — A SUCCESS

The American Indian Center of Omaha was recognized at the first Annual Dinner of the Human Relations Department, for its success in serving the Native American community. (See photos on page 5)

Mr. Homer C. Floyd, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (and former Executive Director of the Omaha Human Relations Board) was the Keynote Speaker at the May fifth Dinner.

Members of the 1978 Awards Committee were: Joyce Baskin, Helmut Dahlke, Jill Fennor, Faye Gomes, Larry Gomez, Vickie Krecek, Lawrence McVoy, Raymond Metoyer, Charles Washington, Gordon Wright, and Timothy Woodhull.

YOUTH IN THE NEWS . . .

Miss April Gladfelter, Omaha Tribe, will represent the Omaha Girl Scouts on May 30th at Tucson, Arizona. April has been quite active in this field and we are very proud of her.

Larry Gladfelter, Omaha Tribe, will fight in the Jr. Olympic Tournament Regional on May 27 & 28. Larry has had 109 fights & won most of them. He is the only Indian Jr. fighter going to the Junior Olympics.

CHAIRMAN ELECTED AS DELEGATE

Mr. Mario L. Poniska, Chairman of the AICO Board of Directors, was elected as a Delegate to the Douglas County Democratic Convention from Ward 11, on May 9, 1978.

The Convention will be held at UNO Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom, Saturday, June 3, 1978 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Several Groups and Individuals Are Honored For Human Relations Efforts

Ruth Jackson (left) Director Human Relations; stated to Homer Floyd (center), that when she was his secretary a few years ago she did not realize that some day she would be the director. That is what happens to a good follower as Ruth was. She has made a good and dedicated Human Relations Director. Mildred Brown of the Omaha Star looks on.

Presenting the awards were Mario Pensika, community relations specialist with the Human Relations Department, and Jill Fenner, director of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women.

Michael B. Adams, community relations coordinator for the Human Relations Department, served as master of ceremonies.

(From left) Tech students recognized... Pensika, Nancy and Tommy.
INTRODUCING --- A FEW OF THE A.I.C.O. STAFF MEMBERS

PICTURED BELOW ARE THE STAFF MEMBERS CURRENTLY BEING FEATURED ON OUR PUBLIC SERVICE SPOT ANNOUNCEMENT ON OMAHA TELEVISION STATIONS.

DIANNE WEBB, ATTORNEY; BEV MAZUR, ALCOHOL COUNSELOR; & ART BLACKCLOUD, PARALEGAL

ELLAN CUNNINGHAM, SOCIAL SERVICE COORDINATOR

TIMOTHY WOODHULL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (SEATED) WITH STEVE CLASSE, AUDITOR

ART BLACKCLOUD, PARALEGAL; BRUCE KING, LEGAL SERVICES COORDINATOR (CENTER); AND DIANNE WEBB, ATTORNEY