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American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

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A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, A MESSAGE TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY:

Dear Indian Community:

We would like to welcome and thank all the readers of our Indian Newsletter which is published monthly.

Since our last newsletter went to press, there have been some very interesting activities in our Nation, State, city and reservations involving our Indian peoples. Through the efforts of the American Indian Center staff and board of directors, we shall keep you abreast of these ongoing activities as they occur on a monthly basis.

We hope through the formulation of our monthly publication, we have covered the Indian scene in our country as it exists. If anyone is interested in submitting articles, opinions on issues and or announcements, please contact your American Indian Center Newsletter Editor for consideration for publication for the Indian community.

We would like to encourage all subscribers to read the publication thoroughly and interpret this information coverage of our activities/services to your children and pass the news along to a friend. Your involvement is critical in the enhancement of the credibility and image of your American Indian Center. It is the goal of the Board of Directors and the staff to make the American Indian Center work for you.

If you would like more information on the news items appearing in this publication, visit the Center and read the current news media available.

CARTER'S CUTBACK TO REDUCE INDIAN HEALTH CENTER'S STAFF (AP)

Indian Health Services will lose 80 staff positions in North and South Dakota and parts of Nebraska and Iowa as part of President Carter's cutback in federal spending.

The health program faces a 7.5 percent across-the-board staff cut in the four states, said Dr. Rupert Clark of Aberdeen, S.D., acting area director of health services.

Clark said an initial plan to eliminate 70 positions at Sioux San Hospital in Rapid City was shelved in favor of reducing area staff.

Richard Bad Moccasin, acting unit director at Sioux San, said the cuts would have little impact in Rapid City. But he said service centers at the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian reservations could be affected.
CHIPPEWA OFFICIAL REINSTATED
(From the Omaha World Herald)

Red Lake, Minn. (AP) - Stephanie Hanson, whose dismissal as treasurer of the Red Lake Indian Reservation Tribal Council touched off a weekend of violence, was returned to office Tuesday.

The announcement by Nathan Joe Head, acting Bureau of Indian Affairs superintendent, came as FBI agents entered the reservation in northern Minnesota that is home for about 3,000 Chippewas.

Agents said they encountered no trouble Tuesday at the reservation, where property damage has been estimated in the millions of dollars after a weekend confrontation between two tribal factions in which Allen Cloud, 17, and Vernon Lussier, 15, were killed.

The tribal council voted 6-4 Friday to fire Ms. Hanson. Head, whose appointment as superintendent Sunday helped end the violence, said he was authorized to rule on the validity of council resolutions.

"There are no means under the (tribal) constitution for her removal," said Head. He said the council could appeal the ruling to the secretary of the Interior Department.

Mrs. Hanson said she would give the FBI documents in her office that would validate allegations of waste, mismanagement and fraudulent reporting against tribal Chairman Roger Jourdain and others.

Arrangements for the transfer of documents were being handled by Head. Mrs. Hanson said she wanted a neutral party to witness the exchange to verify the documents had not been altered.

She also said she will ask the FBI to provide her with a security guard to prevent attempts on her life.

Her husband, Harry, leader of the insurgents, had pressed for an FBI investigation. He said he met with FBI agents Tuesday morning and described all that took place during two days of violence.

One of the FBI's main tasks will be to investigate the shooting deaths of the two youths. BIA police said almost nothing is known about the circumstances of the deaths. The bodies were taken to Blackduck, Minn., where autopsies were to be performed, according to BIA criminal investigator Eugene Trottier.

OFFICIAL NAMED IN MEANS SUIT
(From the Omaha World Herald)

Sioux Falls, S.D. (UPI) - U.S. District Court Judge Fred Nichol Tuesday asked persons named in a suit filed on behalf of Russell Means to show why the Indian activist was removed from a work-release job in March.

The suit named Gov. William Janklow, prison warden Herman Solem and the State Parole Board.

Nichol ordered the defendants to reply within 15 days and said a hearing date would be set after the response were filed.

Means, who is serving a four-year sentence for a 1975 riot conviction, claimed he was deprived of due process when he was taken from his job as acting director of the Rapid City Indian Service Council and returned to the state penitentiary in Sioux Falls. He contended he was entitled to a hearing to find out why he was being removed.

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER NEWSLETTER
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Karen Biscone, Health & Nutrition
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Daizen Victoria, Standing Bear Proj.
Fred LeRoy, Employment

(All Native Americans are welcome to submit material for consideration for publication in the Newsletter).
INDIAN CRUSADER DIES IN JOPLIN, MO.

Joplin (AP) - RoMere Darling Martin, a Pottawatomie Indian who turned her back on a Hollywood acting career to settle in southwest Missouri, died in March at a Joplin hospital. She was the leader of a yearly four-state Christmas charity drive for needy Indians.

Mrs. Martin, who was born July 20, 1911 on a Pottawatomie reservation near Holton, Kan., later moved to Phoenix, Ariz., where she was named Miss Original America in 1938.

In the late 1930's she went to Hollywood and appeared in such movies as "Anchors Aweigh" and "Unconquered," and toured with singer Tex Ritter as an Indian dancer.

FBI THUMBS DOWN ON ROUBIDEAUX

Washington, D.C. - Recommended by Senators George McGovern and James Abourezk for the position of U.S. Attorney for the state of South Dakota was Oglala attorney Ramon A. Roubideaux.

The Justice Department has refused to recommend Roubideaux's nomination to President Carter. They received an "unfavorable report," they stated, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Roubideaux who represented the Indians at Wounded Knee in 1973, has asked repeatedly for an opportunity to answer any criticism or charges against him. His requests have been ignored.

The 54-year old attorney, however, has been enthusiastically recommended by a number of jurists across the state.

INDIANS ASSURED SEATS ON THURSTON COUNTY

Omaha, Neb (AP) - A consent decree filed in U.S. District Court here assures Indians in Thurston County of representation on the County's board of supervisors by 1980.

In what was called the first lawsuit of its kind involving Indians, the Justice Department last year accused Thurston County of depriving Indians of access to the election process.

Indians living in and around the Winnebago and Omaha reservations made up nearly one-fifth of the northeastern Nebraska county's population, yet no Indians have been elected to the county board since 1971, when the at-large election system of supervisors began.

INDIAN COMMISSION DIRECTOR RESIGNING AT END OF MONTH

Lincoln, Neb. (UPI) - Felix White Jr. Wednesday resigned as executive director of the Nebraska Indian Commission, effective May 31.

"I've taken it (the commission) as far as I can go," White said. "I achieved what I went after."

White said he through the commission had fostered "100 percent unity of all Indians across the state," and had developed a firm base with the Legislature, Gov. Charles Thone and the state's congressional delegation.

White, 45, took over the commission three years ago amid controversy over his predecessor, Robert Mackey, dismissed by the commissioners in January 1976.

White stirred controversy two years ago when he began what he calls "cleaning out the deadwood" on the commission.

Using a statutory provision that allows dismissal of commission members who do not regularly attend quarterly meetings, White dismissed 13 of the 15 commissioners on the board when he became director.

White said he now thinks it is time someone with new ideas and new methods take over the commission.

He said he has received job offers from several other states but wants to stay in Lincoln. (Cont'd pg. 4)
"I came from obscurity, and I hope to return to it," he said.

The commissioners plan to appoint his replacement at a special June 15 meeting, White said.

WIC PROGRAM HAS STARTED IN OMAHA

WIC PROGRAM AVAILABLE

A special supplementary food program for women, infants and children (WIC) is now available in Omaha. The purpose of this program is to provide foods and nutrition education through local agencies to eligible persons.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

--Women who are pregnant, breast feeding their infants, or within 6 months of termination of pregnancy.
--Infants under 1 year of age
--Children up to age 5

WHY IS THE PROGRAM GEARED TOWARD WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN?

The most important states of physical and mental development occur during pregnancy and the first years after birth. An adequate diet for a pregnant woman, new mother or young child is of critical importance. Malnutrition can cause prematurity, low birth weight, respiratory illness, stunting of growth and mental retardation. In short, less food equals more chance of brain damage, disease and even death.

WHAT FOOD IS PROVIDED EACH MONTH?

The law mandates that nursing mothers can receive WIC benefits for one year and non-nursing mothers for six months. Breastfed infants receive fruit juice and iron-fortified cereal, while infants not being breastfed also receive iron-fortified formula.

For infants 6 to 12 months old, whole or evaporated milk may be substituted for formula. Low-calorie formula can be substituted with approval by a medical professional.

Pregnant women, new mothers and children one to five years old can receive milk, cheese, eggs, cereal and fruit or vegetable juice.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR WIC BENEFITS?

To apply, potential participants should go to the local WIC clinic and ask to be placed on the WIC program.

WIC certification is a very simple process. Applicants must answer brief questions about place of residence and income. In addition, a simple medical and nutritional assessment is done. Once determined eligible for the program, a participant should either receive food vouchers or food within ten days. If an agency decides that an applicant is ineligible, the applicant may appeal the decision.

For more information, or assistance in making an appointment, call 344-0111, or contact the University Medical Center, 541-4316.

CONSUMER TIPS OF THE MONTH

By Linda Azuguo

---Do you drive several miles to a less expensive store to save a few dollars? Perhaps your gas bill is greater than your savings.

---Private label or store brands offer the same quality of food products but are usually more economical than brand names.

---Try this collection of "instant nibbles" that are packed with nutrients and often less expensive than typical foods. (fewer calories too!)

...a plumb juicy orange
...a box of raisins
...a handful of peanuts
...a dish of instant pudding
...a hard-cooked egg
...fresh, whole strawberries dipped in vanilla yogurt
...a bunch of fresh grapes
...celery sticks stuffed with cheese.

NEW STAFF ARRIVE

The American Indian Center is happy to welcome three new staff members aboard. They are listed with job titles:
Karen Biscone, Health & Nutrition Educator
Mary Thomas, Nutrition Counselor
Sherry Warner, Receptionist
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

By Mary Thomas

A. INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

The American Indian Center, Omaha, Nebraska, has the Indian Health Service (IHS) Scholarship Application Kit for the IHS Scholarship Programs authorized by Title I of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (PL 94-437).

If you are interested in Engineering (Biomedical, Environmental, mechanical, civil, sanitary, general engineering), dental hygiene, nutrition, medical records administration, X-ray technology, dietetics, medicine/osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, veterinary medicine, optometry, pharmacy, baccalaureate nursing, and master's degree: nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, community health nursing, and public health nutrition, you can receive scholarships support through the National Health Services Corp (NHSC) Scholarship Program. Deadline for applications is June 29, 1979.

B. SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

The University of Nebraska Medical School at Omaha will be conducting 2 summer programs:

1) Secondary Level Summer Program--For the purpose of providing 15 high school seniors (12th graders) and recent high school graduates the opportunity of becoming better prepared for enrollment and success in pre-Health Professions (collegiate) education.

2) Baccalaureate Level Summer Program--For the purpose of providing college sophomores or juniors the opportunity for academic enrichment in areas represented on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), and Dental College Admission Test (DAT).

If you are interested in the Summer Enrichment Program or Indian Health Service Scholarship Program contact Mary Thomas, A.I.C., Phone 344-0111 for necessary information.

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER IS PLANNING EAR-NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC

Ear Infections "Tis the Season"

By Karen Biscone

Winter is over—summer is almost here and unfortunately "Tis the Season" for the earache. The most common ear infection in children is called "acute otitis media" and this usually occurs after a respiratory tract infection (a cold, or sometimes a flu which involves a cough, runny nose and/or fever).

The infant with otitis media usually tugs at or rubs his ears and is more irritable than usual. The older child frequently complains of deafness as well as popping noises in his ears. In the presence of a mild infection a dull throbbing earache, nausea and vomiting also occur. The infectious process usually subsides once the patient receives antibiotics such as penicillin and/or ampicillin. If otitis media is not detected, hearing loss may occur and slow language development may become evident at a latter date.

The American Indian Center hopes to offer the Omaha community a free ear-nose and throat clinic within the month of June. The primary target of this Clinic will be in detecting ear infections in children. Acute otitis media (inner ear infection) and subsequent hearing loss are major problems with the North American Indians. It has been reported that there is a definite rate of increased incidence amongst the Indian-children—more so than in any other ethnic group within the United States. Many times a simple earache is overlooked and goes untreated or is maltreated and more often than not leads to a ruptured ear drum, which may result in hearing loss.

Our primary aim at the American Indian Center is to prevent the infection from progressing to that of a ruptured ear drum. The Clinic we are planning will offer you services on detecting ear infections, and if they are present, or damage to the ear is evident, referral will be made to the appropriate sources.
AMERICAN INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES
By Diane Webb, Attorney

The American Indian Legal Services Department would like to announce this month that due to recent developments in funding we can no longer service criminal cases. This is in-court representation. However, if you have any questions, or need advice please feel free to call the legal dept. for an appointment to see our attorney.

Civil cases are still being accepted by our dept. We are presently looking for additional funding so that we may again represent the Indian people in criminal matters.

2415 Claims Compensation

Recently we have received information and Clients on the 2415 Claims Compensation. Clients needed assistance in filling out the Forms properly. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is making an appeal to reservation people and elder people to remember property rights violations which may have been committed against their families, friends or neighbors. They stress the urgency of the matter as far as time is concerned. Although the statute expires April 1980, landowners should file claims by August 1, 1979, which is just a short time away. This claim adheres to the following:

A. For the Unauthorized use of Indian Property.

B. For the use of sale of Indian property under an agreement or document which was not issued in accord with existing laws and regulations.

C. For damage to Indian property in using it.

D. For the use of property in a manner other than what was agreed upon.

E. Failure to adhere to the terms of a valid contract.

We have received several South Dakota Legal Services Newsletters concerning vital information for the landowners in South Dakota but which pertains to all tribes.

2415 Claims forms are included in this newsletter. Any additional information regarding this matter may be obtained by calling the American Indian Center of Omaha and or by contacting your local BIA claims coordinator in Nebraska or North and South Dakota.

SOCIAL SERVICES
By Larry Conger

The American Indian Center is a non-profit, tax exempt social service organization committed to equal opportunity for American Indians. Priority is placed on easing the transition from rural or reservation life to the more complex, often overwhelming, urban environment.

The Center provides direct services whenever they are not being adequately met by other public or private providers. Information is provided and referrals made to a wide variety of service agencies: health education, employment and social service institutions.

As the recognized spokesman for American Indians in eastern Nebraska, it promotes, initiates, and coordinates needed services for native americans coming to and living in metropolitan Omaha, Nebraska.

All clients needing assistance are encouraged to drop by to visit with us; we can help you with your needs.

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EMPLOYMENT

Omaha-Council Bluffs Sheet Metal Joint Apprentice Committee, intends to take ten new apprentices into the program-before making an application a person must:

1. Take aptitude battery test at 5404 Cedar St., Job Services, phone 554-3040 so they can schedule you for the test, the test will be given only on Tues. and Thurs. of each week.

2. Have a copy of high school or G.E.D. transcript and diploma.

3. Have three or more favorable references from employers or shop instructors.

Date for applications

Wed. June 20th - Fri. June 22nd
Mon. June 25th - Fri. June 29th
Mon. July 2nd - Tues. July 3rd
8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. for each of the above dates. Contact Fred LeRoy for further information on other related jobs at 344-0111.
The Standing Bear Project has had many new and interesting developments since the last newsletter went to press. On April 5 Christopher Sergiev (playwright of "Black Elk Speaks") gave his firm commitment to write the play which is now entitled "Footprints in Blood (Standing Bear's Struggle for Freedom and Dignity)." It is scheduled to play nightly at the Music Hall in the Omaha Civic Auditorium from August 31 thru September 3. Complimentary (free) tickets for Native Americans will soon be available at the A.I.C.

CETA funding has been secured for the SB staff which now consists of Daizen Victoria as Associate Project Director, Bob Handy as Producer and John Pappan as Media Specialist. The positions of Associate Producer and Secretary are still unfilled. Wayne Tyndall, administrative assistant, oversees the activities of the project and holds the title of Project Director.

The SB Project has been formally adopted as part of Septemberfest which has agreed to give $25,000 worth of free publicity in 7 Midwestern states. Septemberfest offered the SB Project a half-city block on the Septemberfest grounds to set up an Indian village and an arts and crafts display/sale. Indian artists and crafts persons who would like to participate in the display/sale event are urged to contact the A.I.C. for details. Also persons having teepees who would allow them to be used in the Indian village are urged to contact the SB staff at the A.I.C. Security will be provided. The Mayor's office has agreed to request Metro area Transit authorities to run a shuttle bus between the village site at Septemberfest and the pow wow grounds in Dodge Park.

In other public-related events the SB staff was involved in the April 21 ceremony commemorating the end of toll charges on the Mormon Bridge. Further, the SB staff, together with the North Omaha Commercial Club, organized the May 12 dedication ceremony of Lake Standing Bear. On May 11 the previous day, Wayne and Daizen discussed the SB Project and the Indian Center activities with Gary Schweikhart on his KLNO radio talk show. At a press conference on May 9, Mayor Al Veys officially declared May 12 as "Standing Bear Day" and 1979 as "Standing Bear Year."

Finally, on May 19 the SB staff organized a unit in the Florence Pioneer Days Parade and distributed leaflets on forthcoming Standing Bear-related events.

The American Indian Center has a current operating budget of $422,055 as of May 1.

SELF-EVALUATION OF CENTER

Justin P. Orr, Native American Program Specialist from Region VII, Kansas City, Missouri, conducted the on-site assessment of the Indian Center's ANA self-evaluation instrument.

This is an annual project of the Indian Center and its findings will be reported in the June Newsletter. Mr. Orr seemed very pleased with the evaluation results before he left.

ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM NEWS

By Alcoholism Staff

The Urban Native American Alcoholism Center, UNAAC, has completed a special drug training workshop, sponsored by the Mexican American community. The session was held at the Southwest Training Institute conducted by Southwest Community College.

The main objectives of the frontline counselor training program is to upgrade the skills of counselors and para-professionals, so that they will be able to provide more effective services to their clients.

Emphasis is on the improvement of the quality of service to the Hispanic population, but can be realistically applied to other ethnic groups in general.

The Alcoholism Program and Staff are available for services to the people in need of alcoholic counseling and all related problems.

The staff is trained to deal with alcohol and drug problems which is being monitored by the State Division on Alcoholism. All Alcoholism staff are working toward State Certification which will ensure the individual staff member and the public of quality service.

The alcoholism staff would like to welcome the public to visit with the staff and obtain more information.

So far, the alcoholism program is providing these services:

1. Intake

(cont'd pg/8)
2. Admission (Detox & Treatment)
3. Family Involvement
4. Employee Assistance Program
5. Assessment and Referrals
6. Court Referral
7. Follow-up Growth Groups
8. Youth Counseling

Anyone wishing to request services or home visits, please feel free to call the American Indian Center.

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KOORY MOTOR SALES
2302 Vinton Street
345-9998

*1970 Olds V-8 Automatic,
Power Steering, Air $495

*1969 Chevy Pick-up V-8 4 Speed
72,000 MILES $995

*1972 Monte Carlo, Automatic
Air, runs Good. $995

*1972 Ford Ranchwagon
Good Transportation $295

ANDY'S TRANSMISSION SERVICE
1602 Sprague - 344-3373

Exchanged - Rebuilt - Overhauled
Services: 1. Check Cars
2. Provides advice on
   car buys.
3. Other auto service

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REMINDER........TO ELIGIBLE CLIENTS

EMERGENCY ENGERGY CRISIS PROGRAM EX-
TENDED UNTIL JUNE 29, 1979

Those of you who have not yet been in
to take advantage of this service are
encouraged to come to the Indian Center
as soon as possible. June 29 is the
last day this service will be available.

The American Indian Center currently
has available certain funds for those
persons/families who are unable to pay
utility bills and have been threatened
by cut off notices. Other items avail-
able are food, emergency rent payment,
clothing, bedding and in some cases
emergency medication bills. To qualify
you must meet the poverty guidelines:

- A social security card
- A rent receipt
- A 1978 W2 Form
- Rent pay stubs from 1/1/79
- Delinquent or cutoff notices
  (Persons collecting other public assist-
  ance, such as SSI, ADC, Social Security
  etc., should also bring proof of these
  sources of income.)

Again, pass the word to others who may
qualify for these services. Remember,
June 29th (Friday) is the last day to
apply. * * * * * * * * *
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*Community Health Institute workshop at Omaha Hilton.*

*AIC Board of Directors Meeting at 7:00pm.*

*Last day for emergency energy crisis program. Deadline for Indian Health Scholarships.*