A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I would like to welcome and thank all the readers of our Indian Newsletter which we publish monthly.

Since our last newsletter went to press, there have been some interesting developments on the national, city, state and reservation levels involving our Indian people. Through the efforts of the American Indian Center staff and board of directors, we shall keep you abreast of these occurrences as they happen on a monthly basis.

We welcome the new Reagan Administration and hope that he can do a lot for the American people and in particular the Indian people around the nation. From reading various articles on President Reagan and knowing a little of his past I gather somewhat that we as Indian people may be in for a tough time. He has commented on the fact that he is in favor of Indian programs but, he also qualifies, as far as budget restrictions will allow him to be. Be that as it may, we Indian people are used to the hard fight and we will continue to press ahead regardless of what any administration plans hold for us. This is our way. We also have our own plans, and we shall not deter from these. Let us go forward together!

Respectfully,

Timothy F. Woodhill
Executive Director
Member, Nebraska Indian Commission

UP-DATE ON NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY INMATES' HUNGER STRIKE. - C. Tyndall

According to a telephone conversation with John Taylor, World-Herald Staff Writer who has been covering the story, the Governor of Nebraska, Charles Thone has now begun investigation into the prison disturbance that took place on August 22. The hunger-strike is now over for the time being and attempts at resolving the situation are underway. The hunger-strike lasted for about twelve days and from all indications it was successful. However, the final solutions are yet to be determined.

According to Dick Kurtenbach of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union in Lincoln, there appears to be some grounds for a lawsuit in behalf of the inmates. Also, disciplinary policies at the prison are to be proposed to the State Legislature for review.

The inmates who were participating in the hunger strike are: Michael Garza, Tony Larivate, Arthur Buff, Purl Holloman, Duane Jones, Vicente Garza, Dennis Tyndall, Kelon Strickland, and Curtis Hollowell. (The above was written by permission of John Taylor of the World-Herald)

SERVICES PROVIDED BY AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

Recently, we have been receiving many requests and questions as to the types of services that we provide at the Center. The following is a brief outline of these services:

1. Access to Federal Food Programs, i.e., Food Stamps, WIC, Supplemental Foods, Emergency Food Pantry.
2. Transportation - local bus tickets, and direct transportation by staff vehicles to appointments, etc.
4. Emergency infant supplies.(voucher)
5. General Assistance via Douglas County.
6. Legal Services via Legal Aid.
7. Nutritional Counseling.
8. Advocacy in Federal Food problems.
9. Outreach (Social services ).
10. Alcoholism treatment & Halfway House.
11. Employment and training through A.I.C.O. CETA Program.
12. Clothing & furniture when available.
13. Taping assignments.
14. Information and referral services.
15. Long distance phone calls in situations that warrant it.
16. High Blood Pressure Screening Site.
17. Voter Registration.
18. Youth Program.
19. Information on Indian Culture & Traditions, rituals, etc.
HONGA (The Leader) is published monthly by the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., with grant funds appropriated by the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) and approved by the AICO board of directors. HONGA (The Leader) is read by Native Americans and other interested persons/organizations upon receiving a written request and has a circulation of 1,700 copies. All correspondence should be addressed to: The Editor, HONGA (The Leader), American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., 613 South 16th Street, Omaha, NE 68102. (Full credit should be given HONGA (The Leader) when any material therefrom is reprinted.)

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Associate Editor.................... Clyde Tyndall

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Health & Nutrition................. Ellan Cunningham
SEDS............................... Brian Victoria
Employment Assistance.............. Elmer Necklace

VOLUNTEERS:
Mineograph Operators.............. Delilah Mesa
Gwynn Nugent
Receptionist........................ Gene Tritsch
Social Worker....................... Marian Warman
Newsletter......................... Fredrick Kemper
Glenna Slatter
Frances Vogel

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS...
VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE - Brian Victoria

The primary election for Omaha mayor and city council members will be held on March 27, 1981. The final election will be held on May 1.

These elections are very important for our American Indian community since the Mayor and city council members make many decisions, particularly concerning the use of city funds, which directly affect us. This year will be the first year in which city council members are to be elected from separate geographical areas (7 in all). This means that your one vote has more impact than ever before.

In the past, many of us did not take advantage of our right to vote in local elections. For this reason we lost a lot of city monies which should have gone to support our community. We must not let this chance slip by again!

From Monday March 2, thru Friday, March 20, the A.I.C.O. will be conducting a voter registration drive at both our administrative offices (613 South 16th Street) and at our alcoholism program (4601 North 36th St.) from 8:00 to 5:00 daily (except Saturday and Sunday). If you are eighteen years of age or older and have an address in Omaha, you can register to vote. (You need only be a resident for one day!)

When you visit our center we will provide you with information on the various candidates' platforms. You will be able to determine for yourself which candidates are really interested in supporting American Indian programs in Omaha.

Anyone can register to vote. American Indian or non-Indian, so bring your friends and come down to register. If you are already registered to vote, come down anyway and pick up our voter information materials. Your vote will make a difference. Let's make sure the new city government will be responsive to our needs! If you need a ride on election day, please let us know. We can furnish transportation to your polling place.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER TO VOTE!!

CETA SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM - Ellan Cunningham

The American Indian Center will be able to get ten (10) CETA Summer Youth slots for Native American Indian children to work at the Indian Center or the Halfway House this summer. The parents will need to contact the Indian Center by the end of this month (Feb.) to insure that their child will be working directly with the Center, otherwise if the child is not contacted by the deadline, the child will be assigned at other Summer Youth sites.

Child/parent must bring the following:
1. Social Security Card.
2. Birth Certificate.
3. At least one parent/guardian.
Your child must be 14-21 years of age. For further information contact Ellan Cunningham at 344-0111.

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE CONTROL PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 23.

Joan Garey, Health Representative of the American Indian Center and Advisory Committee Member for the High Blood Pressure Control Program of Douglas County will be attending a meeting at the Red Cross Building at 3:00 p.m., Monday, February 23 to discuss high blood pressure screening progress in the Indian community. The committee have reached a large number of people in the Indian community however, attempts are still continuing to reach our people because high (continued on page 3, column 1)
**ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

The American Indian Center would like to announce the appointment of Clyde Tyndall, Jr., Administrative Assistant for the Indian Center to the Board of Directors of Greater Omaha Community Action (GOCA). His appointment took effect on February 3, 1981. Mr. Tyndall will also be attending a Board Training Seminar in Kansas City as a new member of the Board of Directors of GOCA. We extend our congratulations to Mr. Tyndall in his new position.

**GAREY-ANNAN WEDDING IN MARCH**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Omaha) has been chosen for the March 28 wedding of Filipina Kim Carey and Steve Annan.

Miss Garey is the daughter of Mr. Philip Carey and Joan Carey.

The future bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Annan.

Miss Carey is an Instant Cash Service Representative with the U.S. National Bank of Omaha. Mr. Annan is a graduate of Bellevue College and is employed with Pella Products as Foreman.

**BIRTH OF BABY GIRL TO MICKIE LAMORE AND ALBERT McINTIRE III**

On February 3, 1981 at 9:13 a.m., a baby girl, Stephanie McIntire, 5 lbs. 9 ozs. was born to the proud parents of Mickie Lamore and Albert McIntire III. Her grandparents are Janice and Wayne Webster active members of our Indian community.

On February 6th, her Indian name was given to her by great-grandfather, Mr. Raymond Walls. A “baby shower” was given by grandparents followed by a dinner. Janice would like to thank all who attended the dinner in honor of the birth of her granddaughter.

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**INDIAN CHILD WELFARE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO ABERDEEN.**

The Indian Child Welfare Proposal from the American Indian Center of Omaha was hand-delivered by the Executive Director to Aberdeen, South Dakota February 9. If approved, AICO will administer the grant consisting of a Temporary Foster Care Shelter for Indian children, legal representation for children and parents, and coordination with local courts and child care protective services to have Indian children referred to us in child welfare matters. Many of us remember instances where we or friends and relatives were taken away from our parents when we were small and as a result our Indian traditions and customs were almost lost. This is what we are trying to prevent and this is what the 95th Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 specifically for. The need for such a program in our Indian community of Omaha is great and this was pointed out in great detail in the proposal. We would like to thank the community for your support signatures.

With our Love,

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**(continued from page 2, column 2)**

Blood pressure remains a serious problem.

High Blood Pressure Screening will be conducted at the Indian Center for those who wish it every Tuesday night during the Cultural meetings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. We strongly urge you to have your high blood pressure screening taken!

**AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER CETA PROGRAM BEGINS MONDAY FEBRUARY 23.**

On Monday, February 23 the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.'s CETA Program will commence. Evaluation and Assessment to determine if applicants are qualified for the program will be conducted. Once selected, applicants will be assigned to CETA Training or Direct Employment Placement. This training is for the Indian community in Douglas and Sarpy counties only.
AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER AND WASHING 10 GE
ANNOUNCES
2ND ANNUAL TRADITIONAL SPRING DANCE

GOURD DANCE—WAR DANCE—FEAST

GOURD DANCE HEAD STAFF

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HEAD SINGER : VAN SHERIDAN - OMAHA TRIBE, MACY, NE.
HEAD MAN DANCER : RAYMOND WELLS - OMAHA TRIBE, OMAHA, NE.
HEAD LADY DANCER: GRACE ESAU - OMAHA TRIBE, OMAHA, NE.
HEAD BOY DANCER : LANCE McINTIRE - OMAHA TRIBE, OMAHA, NE.
HEAD GIRL DANCER: VANESSA MOOREHOUSE - OMAHA TRIBE, OMAHA, NE.
MC : JOSEPH KEMP, SR. - OMAHA TRIBE, OMAHA, NE.

WAR DANCE - ALL DRUMS & DANCERS WELCOME

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PLEASE BRING DISHES, CHAIRS - PUBLIC INVITED!!:

TIME : BUILDING OPENS AT 12:00 NOON,
       DANCE FROM 2 P.M. - 12 M IDNIGHT.
PLACE : FORT CALHOUN JC BUILDING
DATE : MARCH 21, 1981 SATURDAY

IF FURTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF
OMAHA, INC. PHONE NUMBER: 344-0111
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FEBRUARY 1981

REL EL IMA OYATE KIN WIPIN'

That these people may live.