

1-1-1980

Honga : the leader, v. 03, no. 01

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

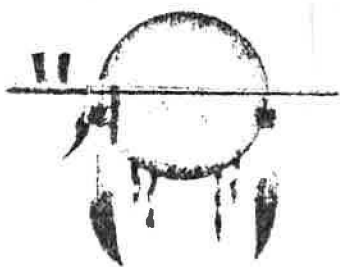
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HONGA

"THE LEADER"

OL. III - NO. 1

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

JANUARY 1980

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Indian Community & Supporters:

We would like to welcome the readers of HONGA (The Leader). Many thanks we extend to our Indian community for their active participation in the activities of the CENTER and to the many supporters for their continuing efforts and assistance. The contents of HONGA (The Leader) are basically an update on Indian affairs from across the nation and within the state. It also presents our progress status to date.

In this month's edition, we have two issues which need to be brought to your attention for review and comment. These issues are:

1. Energy Crisis Assistance Program (ECAP)
2. United Way of the Midlands of Omaha and Council Bluffs (U.W.M.)

The goals of ECAP are to defray/assist the economic, disadvantaged poor people of our nation to survive the energy costs of our severe winter months. Last year the American Indian Center received a grant for \$42,000 from ECAP to assist American Indians in this area of energy needs. This year, however, the State of Nebraska refused to directly fund us, even though we had an excellent administrative performance on funds/assistance. The Nebraska State Technical Assistance Agency led the Nebraska Indian Commission, the Lincoln Indian Center, and the American Indian Center of Omaha to believe that we were going to be funded. Once again the State of Nebraska got involved in politics and bureaucracy to "beef-up" their local friendly programs.

To this date the monies for these ECAP services have transferred by the state to GOCA first, and now it's in the hands of the Douglas County Welfare offices. We have taken this local issue and put it in the hands of our Governor and national Washington, D.C., CSA offices to try to get the American Indians in the state of Nebraska serviced. It seems that the people whom we put into State/National offices cannot make decisions in our behalf. One of our fellow American Indians commented, "This might be a new relocation plan to get American Indians to move to the southwest where heating is not a problem." Hopefully in the next edition of HONGA we can provide more positive information from what has become another major American Indian issue across our Indian country.

The second issue is United Way of the Midlands of Omaha funding. Do you realize the American

HAPPY RETIREMENT

Harrison Harlan, an Omaha Indian, will retire February 8 from Arkansas Best Freightlines after 28 years as a truck driver. He belongs to the No. 544 Teamsters Union. He and his wife, Regina, plan to remain in Omaha after retirement to be near their children and grandchildren.

The American Indian Center takes pride in wishing them a happy retirement.

INCOME TAX SERVICE

The Accounting Department of the American Indian Center is offering a new service to the Native American community. Effective immediately, we will process income tax returns, utilizing the expertise and experience of our existing staff.

Our service is offered to individuals, partnerships, corporations (both regular and Sub-S), farmers, and investors. All returns are completely confidential as dictated by the Privacy Act.

Our fiscal officer, Pauline Blangy, has 25 years of accounting experience. Charges for this service are 75% of the regular charges of other tax services in the area and proceeds will be 100% utilized to defray operating deficits of the American Indian Center. Individual rates will be quoted by our receptionist upon request (Call Sherry Pappan for appointment 344-0111). Open evenings -- Saturdays by appointment.

Indian Center of Omaha receives approximately .00275% of \$6,000,000 which amounts to \$18,000. Can you believe that this figure is only 1/4 of 1%? We all are under the impression and have been over the years that these contributions are for the ethnic and poor peoples of Omaha. The American Indian Center of Omaha has been in operation 15 years in providing services to American Indians in numerous ways with very little or monies from any city group or government. Presently we are very disappointed with our 1980 United Way funding but in order to provide civil legal service we must accept it for our Indian Community. In our next issue more information will be provided on United Way 1980 allocations. Respectfully,

Timothy F. Woodhull
Timothy F. Woodhull, Executive Director
American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.
Urban Rep., Nebraska Indian Commission

HONGA (The Leader) is published monthly by the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., with grant funds appropriated by Administration for Native Americans (ANA) and approved by the AICO Board of Directors. HONGA (The Leader) is mailed free to native Americans and other interested persons/organizations upon receiving a written request and has a circulation of 1,500 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.

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Timothy F. Woodhull, Editor-in-Chief
Wayne Tyndall, Associate Editor
Carolyn Williams, Layout/Mimeograph Operator/
Stencil Cutter

REPORTERS:

Alcoholism Program.....Bob Handy
Alcoholism Program.....Eddie Wolfe
Legal Services.....Diane Webb
Youth Recreation.....Filmore Walker
Health & Nutrition.....Linda Azuguo
Health & Nutrition.....Ellen Cunningham
Standing Bear Project.....John Pappan
Employment.....Fred LeRoy
VISTA.....Anne MacKennon

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS.....

CHRISTMAS BASKETS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES

On December 21, the American Indian Center gave Christmas baskets to forty-five needy Indian families in Omaha. These baskets were filled with food, candy and toys, all of which were donated by area churches, organizations, businesss and individuals. Forty eight gift certificates for food items were given to clients by the Good Fellows, Omaha World Herald. At the end of the day, a drawing was held for a bicycle to be given away. The winner of that drawing was Miss Billie Miller, daughter of Thomas Miller. A total of 93 families were assisted.

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

A clothing giveaway was held on Thursday, December 27, at the American Indian Center. A total of twenty-six families were assisted in meeting their winter clothing needs. These clothes were a part of the donations provided by the community for Christmas clients.

THANK YOU!

The American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., would like to extend a special thanks to all those persons responsible for donations of

(Cont'd next column)

clothing, food, toys, candy, etc., which were used in our holiday projects. Through your generous givings, we were able to make Christmas a little brighter for many Native American families throughout the city. We just want to take this opportunity to say "thank you" and wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!

MARY THOMAS JOINS ARMED FORCES

Mary Thomas, nutrition counselor at the American Indian Center since last May, has recently taken a position with a branch of the armed forces. Mary is currently undergoing six months of basic training at a base in South Carolina. Upon completion of that assignment, she will then transfer to Fort Sam, Houston, Texas to continue her career. Her presence at the Indian Center will be missed and we all wish her the best of luck in all her endeavors.

INDIAN TAPES AVAILABLE AT INDIAN RATES

If you are interested in excellent Indian music in 8-track or cassette tapes, please contact Wayne Tyndall at 344-0111 for your New Year's purchase. Due to our 'Indianness' we will be able to provide an Indian discount.

Tapes which are available are in the following categories:

Northern Plains	Northwest States
Sioux	Southern Plains
Inter-tribal	Midwest
Western Canada	Southwest

There are other selections from which to choose.

INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPUTY TURNS IN RESIGNATION

Washington (AP) -- Forrest J. Gerard has resigned effective January 19 as assistant secretary for Indian affairs in the Interior Department, the department announced.

Gerard, born in Montana and a member of the Blackfeet Tribe, said he made the decision to resign reluctantly, but that he wanted to return to private business.

ANDY'S TRANSMISSION SERVICE

1602 Sprague -- Phone: 344-3373

EXCHANGED - REBUILT - OVERHAULED

SERVICES: 1) Check Cars
2) Provides Advice on Car buys
3) Other auto services

HALFWAY HOUSE FOR RECOVERING ALCOHOLICS
OPENS IN JANUARY

The transitional living center (halfway house)
(Cont'd next page)

of the American Indian Center of Omaha will open for resident clients by January 15. Renovation, furnishing and equipping of the 15-bed unit is completed, and the counseling staff is screening applicants for admittance.

Located at the Community Plaza for Human Resources at 4601 North 36th Street in Omaha, the halfway house facilities include sleeping quarters, lounges, kitchen, dining room, resource center, arts and crafts room, laundry, counseling rooms, offices and reception area. All rooms have been named in honor of famous American Indians of the past and present, including Indian Hall of Fame.

Applicants should have completed a minimum 28-day alcoholism treatment program before seeking admission to the transitional living center.

The program is funded by the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

The use and misuse of alcohol is the number one health problem among American Indians. An important phase of care at the Omaha Center will be sessions in traditional culture and values with emphasis on the spiritual needs of clients.

VIDEO/FILM OF STANDING BEAR PLAY NEARS COMPLETION

A famous American Indian play, "Footprints in Blood," was premiered in Omaha under the sponsorship of the American Indian Center. Over 19 hours of raw videotape of all five performances is being edited and enhanced for public service, television and rental/sale to colleges, communities, reservations and other groups interested in the richness of native American heritage.

The Standing Bear play is based on one of the most famous civil rights trials in American history. In his decision, the federal judge declared the Ponca Chief "a person within the meaning of the law and therefore entitled to the protection of the U.S. Constitution." Standing Bear was the first American Indian to become a human being in the eyes of the Government. The year was 1879.

Tom Hergert, producer, is editing a 1-hr. version of the play which featured a professional cast of 40 actors, dancers, singers, musicians and technical staff. A portion of this magnificent work was showcased to members of the board and staff this past week.

We believe the drama by Christopher Sergel, playwright for "Black Elk Speaks" is a landmark achievement in American theatre. It is hoped that the lives of millions of people will be enriched by this production in the near future.

(Cont'd next column)

Please contact us if you wish to rent and/or purchase the videotape and film of "Footprints in Blood."

POSTERS FOR SALE

Standing Bear posters are available in two versions. One is a brown photograph of Standing Bear at \$2.50 and the water color drawing version at \$3.00 each. Standing Bear booklets are still available at \$3.50 each. Anyone interested in purchasing one or more of the items which have become a collector's item please contact John Pappan at the AICO.

COMMUNITY FOOD & NUTRITION PROGRAM EMPLOYEES

New employees for the CSA-funded Community Food & Nutrition Program are:

Linda Azuogu.....Food & Nutrition Project Coordinator
Elsie Harlan.....Nutrition Education Specialist
Ellan Cunningham..Outreach/Social Worker
Sherry Pappan....Nutrition Counselor
Fillmore Walker..Driver/Community Aide

CONSUMER TIPS OF THE MONTH

by Linda C. Azuogu, Home Economist

BUYING FRESH FRUITS & FRUIT PRODUCTS:

1. In general, do not buy overripe, soft, bruised, or moldy fruits.
2. Buy citrus fruits (such as oranges, grapefruit, lemons, limes, etc.) and pineapples that feel heavy in relation to size; they will be juicy.
3. Select fruits with good color and aroma. These will be signs to ripeness; for example, strawberries should have a bright red color and a rich aroma.
4. Bananas, pears, avocados, and apples are some fruits that ripen after harvest. They are safely purchased while unripe.
5. Both at the supermarket and at home, handle fruits gently; bruising hastens spoilage.
6. Buy bananas when yellow with green tips. When speckled, they are at their prime. Refrigerate them with caution; though they may lose quality, they will be suitable for such uses as making banana cake or bread.
7. Read labels on beverage and drink containers and on mixes for punches, ades and drinks. These products may not contain any natural ingredients only sugar, water and flavoring.
8. When buying canned fruits, try several different brands. The most expensive may not

(Cont'd next page)

be the best for flavor. Packs composed of pieces irregular in shape ought to be low in cost and may be quite flavorful.

9. Frozen fruits have good flavor but may have poor texture.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

By Fillmore Walker

The American Indian Center's Golden Eagles are now about halfway through their first season and they have a record of two wins and three losses. Although our two wins were by forfeit, we are looking forward to the second half of the season for our first real victory. We stand a better chance of winning the rest of our games since we have acquired a number of new players.

I am still interested in coaching a team of boys 14 - 16 but if I don't hear from anyone by January 5 I will have to drop the idea. Maybe another idea would be a girls' volleyball team. If you have any ideas along this line let us know.

Also it looks as though Indian youth will have the opportunity to see some of our area's fine college basketball teams (Creighton, UNO, etc.) in action -- courtesy of their athletic departments. If this sounds like fun to you, ring the phone at 344-0111.

POSITION VACANCY

Applications are now being taken for the position of Health Careers Recruiter. This program will be offering the Indian community via the public and reservation school systems information and counseling regarding futures in health careers. This person will be going out into the school systems of Omaha, where the majority of Indian children attend, and will be presenting information about the various health-related careers, the schools offering these programs, and scholarships which are available, whether they be specific Indian-Education scholarships or others. Direct counseling and guidance will be part of the duties. All interested persons are encouraged to come to the AICO and fill out an application.

EMERGENCY ENERGY CRISIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ECAP)

Presently we have been referring clients seeking Emergency Energy Crisis Assistance to GOCA. Meanwhile AICO, Lincoln Indian Center and the Nebraska Indian Commission have been seeking an audience with Governor Thone to receive direct ECAP funds as in the previous year. However, we will continue to refer those clients seeking assistance to GOCA, Greater Omaha Community

(Cont'd next column)

To qualify for these services, you must have fuel/utility/energy needs, and your income must fall within the applicable guidelines. If you are certified, you will be assisted in meeting the heavy financial burden which will be the result of both the high cost of energy and the anticipated severity of the existing winter.

The ECAP effort will continue until late September 1980 so to ensure timely attention to your needs, if you think you may be eligible or would like more information, contact Ellen or Linda at the American Indian Center at 344-0111, as soon as possible.

AMERICAN INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES

The American Indian Legal Services program has again been funded by United Way of the Midlands. These monies will be used to continue paying our attorney's salary for the 1980 year. We have not been funded for our legal secretary position as of yet. Other proposals have been submitted and are pending for approval soon. We hope to secure funding for our legal secretary by February 1, 1980.

Our Civil caseload continues, and we hope we will soon be able to establish appropriate funding for Criminal representation.

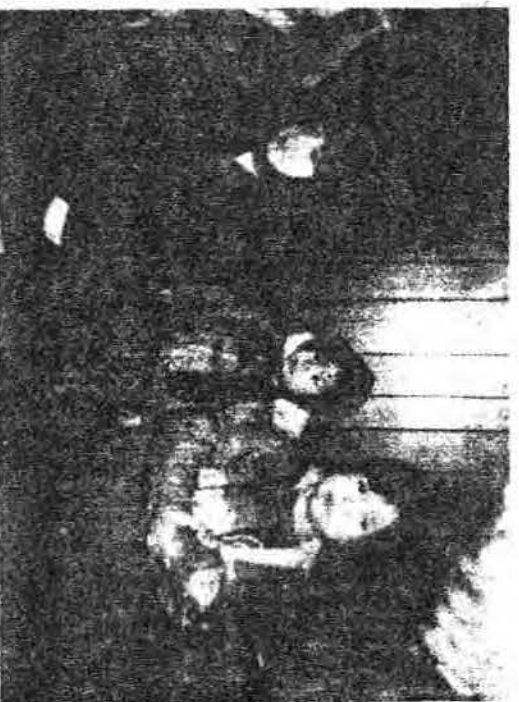
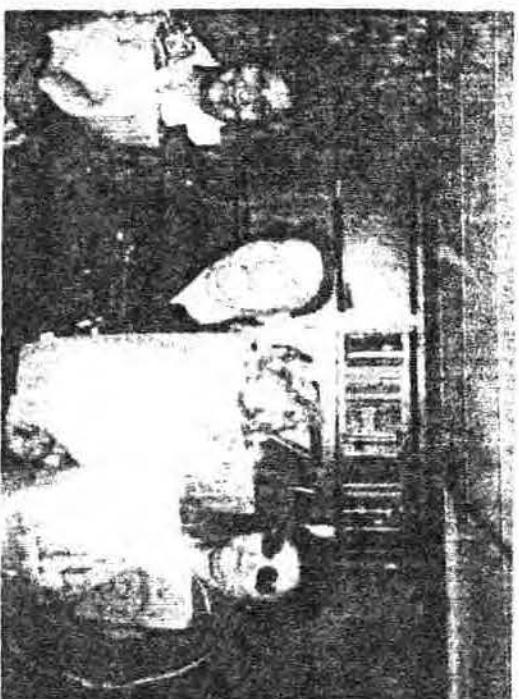
It is through our concern and effort that we continue to keep the American Indian Legal Services Program active and ready to serve the Indian community.

TRIBAL HISTORIES

We plan to write brief histories of Indian tribal groups which are represented in Omaha and we need to talk with tribal members familiar with their respective tribe and its history. We would like to identify tribal histories, their culture and social structure and traditions as well as other areas of interest. Contemporary histories are also invited. Material on these subjects may be mailed to the AICO or the person may come for an interview and the information written down. We believe that many Indian people have knowledge of tribal histories which should be written down and preserved for future generations to come. Please plan to participate in this important project. Call Wayne Tyndall, assistant director of AICO, at 344-0111 of your interest to share in this project.

1980 CENSUS WILL BE TAKEN

Don't forget to have your census taken this winter. The urban Indians and tribal groups lose out in funding, services, programs and other things by being under-counted. More information on this subject will be printed in the next month's issue of the BORIA.



AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER

ANNOUNCES

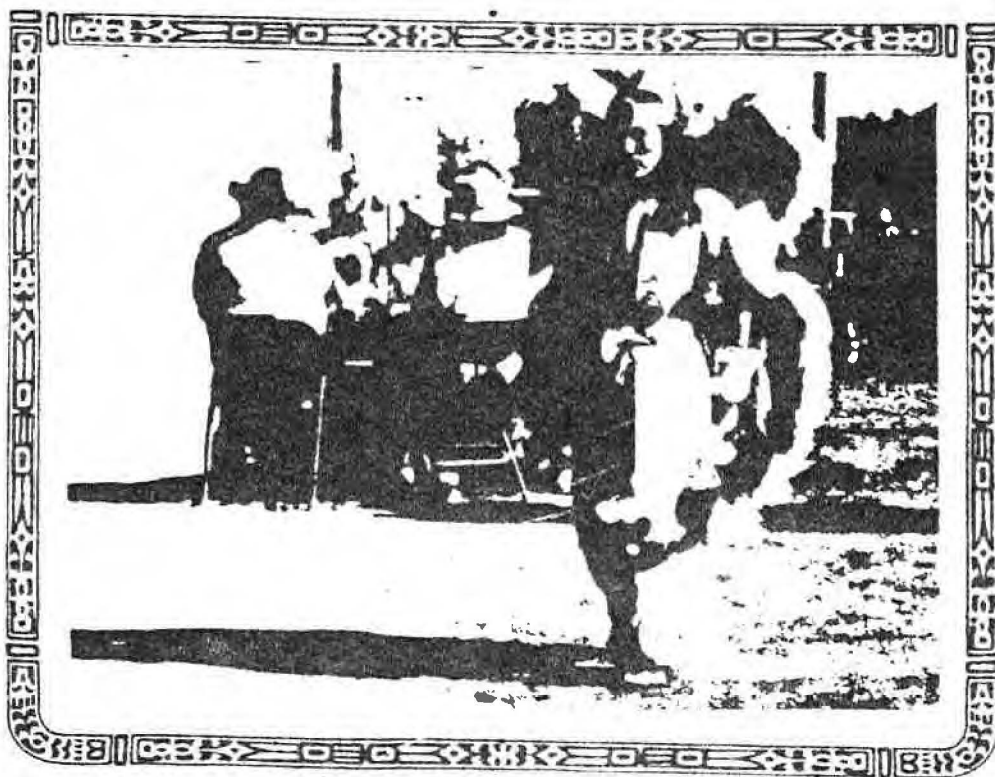
GRAND OPENING

ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM

JANUARY 26, 1980 - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

4601 N. 36TH ST. (4TH CENTER)

GOURD DANCE - WAR DANCE - FEAST



AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

TIME: 2 P.M. - 12 P.M. - JANUARY 26, 1980
WHERE: FT. OMAHA, BLDG. 80 (STUDENT CENTER) (30TH & FORT STREETS)

HEAD LADY DANCER: MS. ALVINA ESAU

HEAD MAN DANCER: MR. PAIGE PARKER

HEAD SINGER: MR. CARROLL STABLER

MC'S: MR. JOE KEMP AND MR. CLIFFORD WOLFE SR.

PLEASE BRING:

1. SALADS - CAKES - POT LUNCH
2. DISHES
3. CHAIRS
4. ALL DRUMS AND DANCERS WELCOME TO THE WAR DANCE

SPECIAL RETIREMENT DANCES FOR:

MR. ALBERT DICK -- OMAHA COLD STORAGE

MR. HARRISON HARLAN -- ARKANSAS BEST FREIGHTLINES

LET'S CELEBRATE THESE SUCCESSSES IN OUR INDIAN COMMUNITY,

SPONSORED FOR THE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY OF OMAHA BY: AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER AND ORPHANS AIDES OF OMAHA.

INDIAN ALCOHOLISM HISTORY IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA - 1975 - 1980

In 1976 these concerned American Indian community members got involved for the purpose of having a voice in Indian Alcoholism destiny:

Mr. Joe Kemp	Mr. Frank V. Love
Mr. Harrison Harlan	Mrs. Josephine Clinchers
Mr. Nate J. Parker	Mr. Timothy F. Woodhull
Mr. Alex Lunderman	Mrs. Eva J. Nichols

In 1977 this Corporation "Urban Indian Health Association, Inc." under the Douglas County Hospital Administrators, Mrs. Delia Robinson and Mr. Harold Rogers put together a grant application for funding from National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. These American Indian staff members did the work and were funded:

Mr. Timothy F. Woodhull, Executive Director
Mr. Wayne M. Tyndall, Grantsperson/Planner
Ms. Elsie Harlan, Health Educator
Mr. Mario Zendejas, Urban Health Representative
Mr. Dan Smith, Urban Health Representative

Board of Directors:

Mr. Roland McBride	Mr. Joe Kemp
Mrs. Jean Lovejoy	Dr. Ronald Deriana, DDS
Ms. Donna Cantu	Mr. Joe Hallowell

In 1978 Mr. Timothy F. Woodhull, Executive Director, and Mr. Wayne M. Tyndall, Grantsperson/Planner of the Urban Indian Health Association, Inc., transferred this grant to the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., in following the goals and objectives that the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., be a community based Indian Center.

In 1978 this Board of Directors of the American Indian Center of Omaha accepted the transfer of the grant:

Mr. Mario Peniska	Mrs. Julia Morris
Mr. Joe Kemp	Ms. Norma Levering
Mr. Gene Crawford	Mr. Mario Zendejas
Mr. Fred Grant	Mrs. Grace Mantich
Mr. Rick Sayers	Mr. Dan Smith
Mr. Timothy F. Woodhull, Executive Director	

In 1980 this Board will implement all administrative, fiscal management, programmatic aspects of our American Indian Center of Omaha Alcoholism Program Halfway House and Treatment for our American Indians in Omaha which make up the 1/3rd of our Indian population in Nebraska.

Board of Directors 1980:

Ms. Diana Walker, Chairperson	Ms. Norma Levering, Co-treasurer
Mr. Joe Kemp, Vice Chairperson	Mr. Eugene Crawford, Member
Mr. Louie Crispen, Secretary	Mr. Joe Hallowell, Member
Mrs. Doris Rodgers, Treasurer	

The total administration/management of this alcoholism program was directed by Mr. Timothy F. Woodhull, Executive Director, of the:

Urban Indian Health Association, Inc., 1974 - 1977

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., 1978 - 1980

OFFICIAL OPENING DATE January 15, 1980

OFFICIAL GRAND OPENING DATE January 26, 1980

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8
0OMAHA

JANUARY

SIOUX1
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8
0

HONGA-MI-OO-MUBLTHI-IKE
"WHEN THE SNOW DRIFTED INTO
THE TENTS OF THE HONGA"



HECEL-LENA-OYATE-KIN-NIPI-KTE
"THAT THESE PEOPLE MAY LIVE"

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	1825 First execution of a white man in the U.S. for murder of an Indian at Pendleton, Indiana.
13	14	15 1890 - Kicking Horse surrenders rifle to Gen. Miles ending Ghost Dance	16	17 AIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - 7 PM - AIC	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	*NOTE: Monthly Food Fair - Everyone welcome - Feb. 4th 2 p.m., AICO; Coffee & Rolls served.	