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## Honga : the leader, v. 03, no. 06

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

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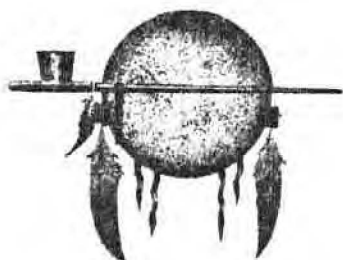
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# HONGA

"THE LEADER"

VOL III - NO. 6

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

JUNE 1980

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### DEAR INDIAN COMMUNITY & SUPPORTERS:

This month's edition of the HONGA will focus on our newly elected board of directors of the American Indian Center of Omaha, and the activities surrounding our annual election held in conjunction with our annual picnic.

More than four (400) hundred Indian people of all ages turned out for these events. Seventy-two (72) registered American Indians voted in the annual election held at Hanscom Park on May 30. This was the biggest turn out from previous years. The ballot count and results was handled by the Women's League of Voters. The new board of directors are:

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Richard Barea       | 6. Thomas Harlan    |
| 2. Louie Crispin       | 7. Floyd J. Pilcher |
| 3. Thomas Davidson Jr. | 8. Mario Zendejas   |
| 4. Logan Fontenelle    | 9. Louis Warner     |
| 5. Dr. Herb Grandbois  |                     |

Everyone enjoyed the picnic dinner and visited with old and new friends alike. Some remarks were made to the effect that we should hold pot-luck picnics where our community can donate food, and we can set up different activities for entertainment. If anyone wishes to participate in such events, please call or stop in to see us.

This coming year, we look forward with enthusiasm to a very active board of directors and a lot of progress. Let's all get together in providing full support and encouragement to our new board of directors! Many thanks to our past board of directors for their selfless work and efforts.

Being a board member is a very demanding task. It's hard to make decisions for the total betterment of our Indian community during these days and times. Presently everyone seems to be cutting back on funding. Everything is becoming very competitive, especially in the areas of funding of new programs.

### Services available:

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Legal              | 4. Indian Hlth Careers |
| 2. Health & Nutrition | 5. Social Services     |
| 3. Alcoholism         | 6. Emergency & Transp. |

In closing, we ask your continuous support and involvement for the duration of the 1980's.

(Cont'd next column)

Please stop by at your convenience and have a cup of coffee and visit a while.

Respectfully,

Timothy F. Woodhull  
Executive Director

Member, Nebraska Indian Commission



## VALENTINE PARKER SR.'S FIRST MEMORIAL MEETING & DINNER COMMEMORATED

In observance of Valentine Parker Sr.'s first memorial meeting and dinner, more than three-hundred tribal members and friends participated in this memorable occasion last weekend. He was a spiritual leader of the Omaha Tribe.

A peyote meeting was held in his honor followed by a feast the following day sponsored by his family. The meeting and dinner was conducted by Valentine Parker Jr.

Valentine Parker Sr. will be remembered for his many good deeds that he provided to all people. It was Russell Means mother, Theo, who also has passed on, who said, "Valentine Parker was most helpful to me with comforting prayers and talks when my sons were in trouble. Through his years of unselfish ways he touched the lives of many people and families, giving support, strength and encouragement. Hopefully in the future the goodness shared through his life will be carried on by everyone who knew him, supported him and were touched by his involvement.

As we remember all the good things that he has done, it should be every one's desire to continue the traditional ways which he has taught us and for which the Omahas are widely known. Our deepest regards are extended to Minnie Parker, wife of Valentine Parker Sr. and all his children and relatives and friends and the Native American Church.

A granite gravestone marker for him was unveiled which read, "Father, Valentine Parker Sr. Expressed his love for his wife, Minnie, all his children and Native American Church, 1906-1979."

Valentine Parker Sr. had served on the Omaha Tribal Council for more than fifteen years.

\* \* \* \*

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Alcoholism Program.....Whitman Harry  
Legal Services.....Diane Webb  
Health & Nutrition.....Elsie Harlan  
Ellen Cunningham  
Employment assistance.....Elmer Necklace  
Health Careers Recruitment.....Josephine Clinchers

#### INDIAN CENTER DIRECTOR RESIGNS

Lincoln (AP) -- Citing job pressures and a desire to spend more time with his family, Marshall Prichard, executive director of the Lincoln Indian Center, has resigned. He is a member of the Northern Ponca Tribe.

"When you take the job home with you and agonize over the hurt and worry and pain that comes with our (Indian) community on a regular basis, it takes its toll," he told the board during a special meeting. "I suspect that if the stress and responsibility continued for me, I would probably leave the Indian Center feeling angry and filled with self-delusion."

The resignation was effected May 30.

In accepting the resignation, the board unanimously voted to retain Prichard by contract as a special consultant to the center and the board for one year as long as funds remain available.

The board also unanimously voted to appoint assistant director Alice Roach as interim executive director until a decision on a new director is made.

Board Chairman Webster Robbins said Prichard will continue to work with planning, grants and programs with which the center is or soon will be involved.

In addition, Prichard said he would resign as a  
(Cont'd next column)

member of the State Indian Commission and the Lincoln Community Development Task Force, as president of the National Association of Indian Center, as chairman of the Region 7 Indian Center Association and as a member of a Native American agency within the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Prichard, 33, was named in January 1977 as director of the center, becoming the center's 21st director in nine years. He has served the longest as executive director of one of 73 Indian Centers nationwide.

Prichard initially accepted the position for one year after taking a leave of absence from his job as director of news and public affairs for KLMS radio station.

#### AICO ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM NEWS

The AICO alcoholism program has three new additions this past month. They are Frank Bearkiller, certified alcoholism counselor; Nick Necklace, career development specialist; and Alvin Cox, weekday manager. We are happy to have them all on our staff.

Fred LeRoy has left our program May 21 to work with OPPD. We appreciated Fred for all he did for us. Fred also said he thanks us all for giving him the opportunity to work with the Indian community and the American Indian Center Alcoholism Program.

Whitman Harry, program director, traveled to two conferences -- at Louisville, Kentucky and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Both conferences had to do with Indian Alcoholism Programs, funding, Indian health, etc.

Residents have in-house AA meetings at the Alcoholism Program on Friday nights, starting at 7:00 p.m. We encourage the Indian community to attend. If you wish to find out more about the AICO alcoholism program or Indian alcoholism in general, please call or come in to see us at 4601 North 36th Street, Fourth Floor in the COMMUNITY PLAZA FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, 402 451-3714. Anyone of our alcoholism staff would be happy to assist you with your needs:

Whitman Harry, Program Director  
Carolyn Williams, Secretary/Recreation  
Alfred Hallowell, Chemical Dependency  
and Court Referral Specialist  
Nick Necklace, Career Developer  
Art Patlan, Halfway House Cook  
Dave Walker, Halfway House Weekend Manager  
Alvin Cox, Halfway House Weekday Manager

In 1862-67 The U.S. Government spent more than \$100 million upon wars with the Sioux, Cheyenne and Navajo Indians

In 1824 U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs was created by Secretary of War John C. Calhoun.\*

## VET CENTER REPRESENTATIVE TO HAVE OFFICE AT AICO

Please Let Us Introduce:

Robert (Bob) Rowsey from the Vietnam Era Vet Center located at 2510 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska, Phone 402 291-4790.

Bob is the job developer specialist from the Vet Center. He also does some outreach work and coordinating work with various other local agencies for most types of assistance.

The team is made up of Vietnam era veterans. They understand the problems these vets have with delayed stress, drug and alcohol abuse, agent orange concern, P.V.S., employment and various other problems and are willing and capable of assisting you with these problems, if you will call or come in and see them.

Mr. Rowsey, will be at the American Indian Center every Wednesday afternoon from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please come in and talk to him about any problems you may be experiencing.

## AN INVITATION

The Community Plaza Health Center invites you and your family for total health care.

From Pre-Natal Health Care to Health Care for the Elderly, Community Plaza Health Center can provide for your health needs.

FAMILY PRACTICE CLINIC  
DENTAL CLINIC  
PEDIATRIC CLINIC  
WIC PROJECT  
(Women, infant & Children)  
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM  
OB/GYN CLINIC  
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
X-RAY, LABORATORY,  
PHARMACY, SOCIAL SERVICES,  
NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING

If you ever need a doctor or dentist but think that you cannot afford one, we can help. For Further Information phone or visit:

COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAZA HEALTH CENTER AT 4601 N. 36TH, OMAHA, NE 68111 PH 402 444-7700.

## CLASS AT NORTH HIGH RAISES MONEY FOR PARALYZED CHILD

An American Indian Literature class at North High School has donated \$867.50 to a fund to help Cheri Otero, 3, who became paralyzed four months ago.

The 25 juniors and seniors raised the money by holding a bake sale and a raffle of Indian jewelry, said their teacher, Irene Smith.

(Cont'd Next Column)

The American Indian Center, 613 South 16th Street, has set up an account at the Omaha National Bank to assist Cheri. To date, \$1,495.89 has been raised, said Ellen Cunningham, outreach social worker at the center.

Doctors at St. Joseph Hospital and at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., have been unable to determine the exact cause of the paralysis, said Cheri's mother, Mary Otero. "They think it could have been a virus of some kind."

The next step may be a trip to the Shrine Hospital in Texas or Minneapolis this summer. Mrs. Otero said money that has been donated will be used to finance the trip.

Meanwhile, Cheri is undergoing therapy at St. Joseph Hospital. Mrs. Otero said some money also may be used for equipment suggested by therapists.

## UMONHAS HOST ALL-INDIAN WORLD'S FAIR

(Taken from the UMONHA NEWS, May 1980)

Greetings from the All Indian Hall of Fame Association.

The second Annual National All-Indian World's Fair Pow Wow invites your participation in this unique historical event to be held at Macy, Nebraska on the Omaha Reservation.

The original home site of Pow Wows was selected by the All-Indian Hall of Fame Association to celebrate the land case victory that went through the highest courts of this country and won.

People from all corners of this great country will be coming to the Land of the Omahas to celebrate this great victory -- to feast, dance, and give thanks to the Great Spirit for the return of land that was severed from its Mother Land and squatted on by non-Omaha people.

The Association wants to properly recognize the Omaha Tribal Council for their selfless efforts in this great victory so we have designated August 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 to have this unique, colorful spectacular celebration.

During this historical celebration you will have the opportunity to participate in all Arts and Crafts competitions, championship rodeo, team sports events, ceremonial events and competitions and much, much more.

The Association has selected and designated the follow persons: Alfred Gilpin, national coordinator; Elmer Blackbird, national assistant coordinator. And, as I have been informed by the Omaha Tribal Council, this affair will be held in conjunction with the regular Omaha Tribal Annual Pow wow. --Alfred Gilpin



## FOR AN EVENING OUT

If you like good eating at inexpensive costs you should try eating at AKROMIS BAR & RESTAURANT located at 33rd & Q Streets, featuring Authentic MEXICAN FOOD -- The Tacolada also burgers and curly Q fries. Eat in and Take out. Operated by Lena Gonzales. Hours are from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. \* \* \*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

May 27, 1980

Editor, HONGA  
American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.  
613 South 16th Street  
Omaha, NE 68102

Mr. Woodhull,

I would like to be put on your mailing list for your newsletter "HONGA." I didn't even know Omaha had an Indian Center until a few months ago.

I am currently working here at the Indian Center as a Housing Officer. We are deeply involved in trying to get Grant monies for low-cost housing for Urban Indians in the Los Angeles area.

I just read your copy for May 1980, very informative. Just reading some of the names of the people in your newsletter brought back old memories of my childhood days in Walthill. I and my wife graduated from California State University Long Beach in 1978. Being an Omaha, I'd like more news of the people.

Thank you.

Louis Hinman  
1864 Locust #7  
Long Beach, Ca. 90806

## 6TH ANNUAL WAR EAGLE POW WOW ATOKADA PARK SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NEBRASKA--JUN 27,28,29

The 6th Annual War Eagle Pow wow will be held June 27, 28 and 29, 1980, at ATOKADA PARK, South Sioux City, Nebraska. Contest categories: Men's Fancy, Women's Shawl, Drum Contest, Men's and Women's Traditional, Junior Girls, Junior Boys' Fancy and Traditional and Tiny Tots. Agenda: Friday, 7:00 p.m., Evening Performance (no contest), Saturday, 2:00 p.m., Grand Entry, 6:30 p.m., Registration Closes, 7:00 p.m., Grand Entry. Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Grand Entry (finals).

There will also be Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament at Klasey Park, South Sioux City, Neb. -- Winnebago, Nebraska. Double elimination -- 12 teams. Camping available. For more information contact: SIOUX CITY AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER PHONE: (712) 255-8957.

## NUTRITION AND HOW IT CAN HELP YOU

By Elsie Harlan

On June 11th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. a meeting will be held at the Woodsen Center at 3009 R. Street.

Mrs. Emma Navarette, nutrition aide from the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program, will speak on nutrition and how it can help you.

People differ widely on how much they want to know about nutrition, but everyone needs to know a few facts about food and health as a basis for selecting the foods to eat, according to Family Fare, a guide to good nutrition.

Make plans to attend this meeting. Transportation will be provided upon request. Contact Ms. Elsie Harlan, health educator, at 344-0111 for more information.

## WAKONDA (SOURCE OF ALL THINGS)

WAKONDA to the Omahas did not mean "the great spirit." Equally improper would it be to regard the term as a synonym of nature, or of an object god, a being apart from nature. WAKONDA stands for the mysterious life power permeating all natural forms and forces and all phases of man's conscious life. The idea of WAKONDA is therefore fundamental to the Omaha in his relations to nature, including man and all other living forms. As has been said by a thoughtful member of the tribe, "No matter how far an Omaha may wander in his superstitious beliefs and attribute godlike power to natural objects, he invariably returns to WAKONDA, the source of all things, when he falls into deep and sober thought on religious conceptions."

Visible nature seems to have mirrored to the Omaha mind the ever-present activities of the invisible and mysterious WAKONDA and to have been an instructor both in religion and in ethics. The rites pertaining to the individual reveal clearly the teaching of the integrity of the universe, of which man is a part; the various tribal rites emphasize man's dependence on a power greater than himself and the idea that supernatural punishments will follow disobedience to constituted authority. An old man has said, "Wako'n'da causes day to follow night without variation and summer to follow winter; we can depend on these regular changes and can order our lives by them. In this way Wako'n'da teaches us that our words and our acts must be truthful, so that we may live in peace and happiness with one another. Our fathers thought about these things and observed the acts of WAKONDA and their words have come down to us."

Taken from the Omaha Tribe by Alice Fletcher and Francis LaFlesche

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OMAHA

TE NU GA MI GA UNA IKE  
THE BUFFALO BULLS HUNT THE COWS.

JUNE

SIOUX.

HECEL IENA OYATE KIN NIPi KTE  
THAT THESE PEOPLE MAY LIVE.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Nutrition Meeting 1-3p.m. Vets Center Rep. at A.I.C.O	12	13	14 Birthday Dance for Rose Thomas, Macy, Nebraska
15 Fathers' Day	16 State Wide NUFF mtg. at Lincoln. 10am-3pm	17	18 Omaha Nuff mtg. 1p.m - 3p.m. Vets Center REP. at A.I.C.O.	19 Board of Dir. mtg. A.I.C.O 7:30p.m.	20	21
22	23	24	25 Vet. Center Rep. at AICO	26	27	28
29	30				6th Annual War Eagle POW-WOW,	